CONNECT: Global Connections and Changing Resource Use System in the Arctic

Call: Arctic Observing and Research for Sustainability
Type of Project: Type 2 - Small Synthesis Grant
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Sponsored by: NSERC, RCN, NSF

The CONNECT team will investigate how adaption and adoption mechanisms to global connections change land use and ecosystem services, thereby identifying sustainable pathways of relevance to the local and regional contexts. A conceptual model guides synthesis building on the following datasets collected by our team: 1) Community interviews, socioeconomics and data on ecosystem services in 28 Arctic communities in Norway, Canada, Alaska and Russia; 2) high resolution remote sensing images analyzed for the same communities; 3) spatial and longitudinal data on socioeconomics, mining and tourism collected for the whole Arctic; and 4) longitudinal datasets on socio-ecological systems based on reindeer pastoralism and caribou hunting. The qualitative or quantitative analyses of these datasets will be supported by literature reviews. Two work packages are devoted to the inclusion of end users in the synthesis effort. In the first year local perspectives will be gained through community workshops in all four participating countries and by producing a report in collaboration with users. By the end of the project, feedback from decision makers will be included in reports exploring the sustainability of alternative pathways for the Arctic.