Karelian Research Centre
Russian Academy of Sciences
Experience of implementing North European cross-border cooperation projects
KarRC RAS is one of largest regional sub-entities of RAS in the North-West of Russia (15), over 800 employees.
History of KarRC RAS

- **1930** - The **Complex Karelian Research Institute** was founded
- **1946** – founding of **Karelian-Finnish Research Base of the USSR Academy of Sciences**
- **1956** - renamed into **Karelian Branch of the USSR AS**
- **1990** – transformed into **Karelian Research Centre of the USSR Academy of Sciences**
- **1991** - transformed into **Karelian Research Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences**
- **2017 г.** – rearranged into **Federal Research Centre “KarRC RAS”**
Aims and objectives of KarRC RAS activities

• Conducting of fundamental and applied research
• Implementation of scientific achievements
• Contributing scientific knowledge to comprehensive development of the region, interaction with stakeholders
• Training of highly-qualified professionals (Doctoral studies)
Focus on interdisciplinary studies and Arctic research
Aims:

- Launching of “umbrella” programs and projects based on interdisciplinary research
- Support and development of prospective interdisciplinary studies within KarRC
- Development of scientific infrastructure and accessibility of analytical equipment for researchers
Research in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation

Integrated systematic studies of the White Sea:

- issues of socio-economics, geology, hydrology, oceanology, ecology

- aspects of international cooperation within the Barents Euro-Arctic region

- the transfer of problems from the rank of scientific, academic to national and international
New laboratories within the national project “Science” in December, 2018:

- Plant Biotechnology Laboratory
- Laboratory for Environmental Monitoring and Modeling
- Laboratory of Digital Technologies for Regional Development
790 people work in KarRC, of them 379 are researchers. 40% is younger than 40.
- Doctoral studies department
- Scientific library
- Scientific archives
- Editorial and Publishing Department
- Editorial Office of “Transactions of KarRC RAS”
- Department of International Cooperation
- Equipment centres
- Innovation and technical center of KarRC RAS
KarRC RAS infrastructure

- 12 research stations
- 2 research vessels
- Museums: Precambrian Geology, Archaeology
- Herbarium collections - Biology and Forest Research Institutes
- Audio archives
- Analytical laboratories (IG, IB, FRI, NWPI)
- Car fleet
- etc.
International cooperation of KarRC RAS
International cooperation

• Around 40 international projects each year

Connections:

• More than 80 organizations from 21 countries
  (Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Czech Republic, Poland, Estonia, Belarus, Ukraine, UK, Switzerland, Spain, Japan, USA, South Korea, India, etc.)
Spheres of international projects

- Ecology and nature conservation
- Natural recourses studies and management
- Zoology
- Plant physiology
- Soil science
- Biochemistry
- Hydrology and water resource studies
- Mineral resources and geology
- Economy and sociology
- Ethnology and political science
- History
- Folklore

About 50% of all projects
Early in the 1990s, Karelian and Finnish scientists put forward the idea of establishing the “Green Belt”

Creation of a network of near-border PAs with management plans, aimed at sustainable development and adherence to interests of nature conservation, society and economy
Green Belt of Fennoscandia

- **2010** – Memorandum of Understanding between governments of Russia, Finland and Norway on cooperation on the development of the Green Belt of Fennoscandia
- **Joint Working group** on development of GBF
- **Core** – existing and projected PAs: 15 in Russia (9,700 km²) and 36 in Finland (9,500 km²)
- **Length** – 1350 km (800 km in Karelia)
Current international projects in 2019-2021
Projects in the ecological sphere

Sustainability Under Pressure: Environmental Resilience in natural and cultural heritage areas with intensive recreation (SUPER), (Karelia CBC)

Collaborative Data and Information Exchange Network for Managing Invasive Alien Species (DIAS), (Karelia CBC)

Fish and Freshwater Pearl Mussel – Riverine Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity in the GBF (Salmus), (Kolarctic CBC)

SHEM-WP project - Shungite water treatment technologies (South-East Finland-Russia CBC)

BSUIN project – cooperation of innovative network of underground laboratories, Interreg BSR progr.
Projects in the forest management sphere

Cross-border tools for biodiversity hotspots preservation via monitoring and prevention of forest fires along Russian-Finnish border (BIOKARELIA) (Karelia CBC)

Diverse and clean forests-successful bioeconomy (Karelia CBC)

WAMBAF Tool Box (Interreg Baltic Sea Region) (improvement of water quality in rivers)

Advanced forest nursery (Karelia CBC)

Boosting Forest Cluster SME Business in two Karelias (Karelia CBC)
Projects in the sphere of entrepreneurship and culture

Cross Border Business Opportunities Creation Empowered by Modern IT and IoT Technologies (Karelia CBC)

Kalitka – the development of cross-border gastronomic tourism (Kalitka) (Karelia CBC)

WasteLess Karelias (Karelia CBC)

SEMPRE Accelerators for Service Co-Creation (Interreg BSR)

Ethno-cultural potential in tourist industry of border territories (micro-project, Karelia CBC)

Ordinary Man in a Great War (Karelia CBC)
Thank you for your attention!

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