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**Food (in)Security in the
Arctic: Contribution of
Traditional and Local Food to
promote Food Security with
Particular Reference to the
European High North.**

**Second Workshop Report
2018**

Authors: Karolina Sikora & Punam Jahan Noor

Arctic Centre
Rovaniemi

“Food (in)Security in the Arctic: Contribution of Traditional and Local Food to promote Food Security with Particular Reference to the European High North” project team has gathered on the 11th of October 2018 at the Arctic Research Centre (Arcum), the Umeå University, Sweden. This was the second workshop in which participants discussed the progress of their research and presented drafts of chapters, which will be a part of the upcoming book.

Participants were from the Arctic Centre (University of Lapland), the Arctic Research Centre (Umeå University), the University of Helsinki, The University of Tromsø - The Arctic University of Norway, the University of Hannover, the University of Toulouse, the Altai State Technical University Siberia, the Murmansk Arctic State University, the Rovira i Virgili University, the University of Montreal, the Västerbotten County Counsel, the Northern Arctic Federal University (NArFU) and the Global Harmonization Initiative (GHI).

The workshop has attracted sixteen interesting academic presentations highlighting various aspects of food (in)security applicable to the Arctic. Participants approached their topics from the perspectives of different disciplines including: political science, biology, economics and ethics. Such variety of fields provided multidisciplinary character of the workshop. The workshop was followed by the editors’ meeting of upcoming book publication related to the project.

The project is hosted by the Northern Institute for Environmental and Minority Law at the Arctic Centre of the University of Lapland, and funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers. The Principal



Investigator of the project, Research Professor Kamrul Hossain, is also the lead of the UArctic Thematic Network on Arctic Law.

Project development:

Food (in)Security in the Arctic project has had one previous workshop, held in Stockholm on 13th October 2017. That workshop constituted a kick-off meeting for the project and served to introduce the project and its objectives. The meeting aimed at addressing the substance of the project, and discussing the individual academic contributions. It also served as the first meeting for all contributors. In this regard, the participants offered short presentations about their potential contributions for the project. More information about the event can be found under the following link: <https://www.arcticcentre.org/loader.aspx?id=5f12e50e-e4bc-4fc5-9f6d-4e4d999412a7>.

Summary of the panel sessions:

The workshop started with the welcoming words by the host, **Peter Sköld** – the Director of the Arctic Research Centre at the Umeå University (Arcum). He outlined the history of Arcum, fields of research conducted by the research center, he also presented the Swedish food security policy. Furthermore, Peter Sköld pointed out sustainable development goals related to food security in the Arctic.

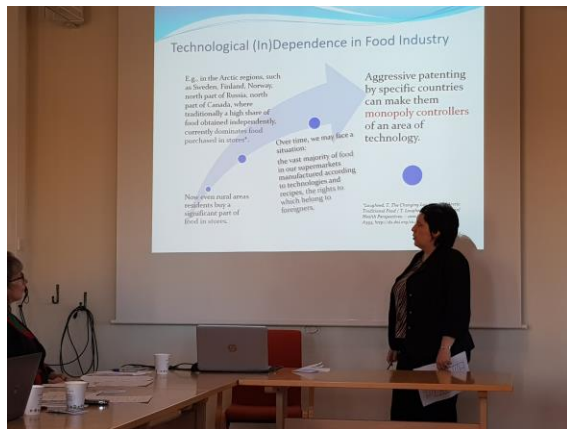


Afterwards, the Principal Investigator of the project, Research Professor **Kamrul Hossain** (Arctic Centre, University of Lapland) continued with an overview of the main components and objectives of the project. He reminded that the concept of human security, as it applies to food security, has already been widely discussed in Canada, but not in the European High North. This triggered the creation of

the networking project, which will be applicable to the mentioned region in particular.

Session 1:

The first session chaired by Lena Maria Nilsson (Umeå University), started with the presentation by **Maxim Shishaev** (Murmansk Arctic State University), titled *Modern Intellectualized Techniques to Operate Information on Food Security*. Shishaev addressed the question of IT readiness of food security in the Russian North. In the beginning, he described the food security concept in Russian discourse as well as applicable framework. He listed actors involved, threats and possible instruments to deal with them. The second presentation was given by **Maria Victória Soldevila Lafon** (Rovira i Virgili University). She explored the topic of *Food security in the Arctic from food regimes perspective*. **Soldevila Lafon** presented



the definition of food security underlining the difference between food security and food regimes. She gave a general overview of three food regimes, paying special attention to the differences in conceptualization of food security according to the regime. **Soldevila Lafon** expanded more in depth the concept of third food regime as an applicable to the Arctic region.

The third presentation in the panel session was given by **Olga Musina** (Altai State Technical University Siberia). She introduced *Patent Literature Report: Contribution of the Domestic European High North Applicants' Activity to promote Technological (In)Dependence in Food Industry with Particular Reference to the Cheese-Making Industry*. Musina drafted the situation in Sweden, Norway, Finland and Russia concerning patents' ownership by foreigners, using as an example the cheese industry. She considers lower domestic applications, and high share of foreign applications, for patenting causes dependence on external production, which negatively influences local cheese production.

The last presentation in this session was given by invited guests: **Veslemøy Andersen & Huub Levievel** (Global Harmonization Initiative). They



addressed the question: *Why harmonize food regulations and how to make it work*. The speakers introduced a social dimension of food security, indicating such aspects like education, harmonized test methods, harmonization of nomenclature or expressions. They explained the term of food crimes, describing them as the illegal actions to make more profit, and to prevent food from spoilage. Levieveld paid special attention on the problem of food terrorism.

Session 2:

The second session was chaired by Kamrul Hossain (Arctic Centre). It started with the presentation by **Christer Henrik Pursiainen** (Arctic University of Norway), titled *Food Crisis Management*. Pursiainen explored his topic by indicating illustrative cases of possible food crisis relevant to the Arctic. He pointed out for example radiological fallout and contamination, climate change and oil spills. On the example of Chernobyl disaster, he explained the factors of risk assessment. **Hinnerk Gnutzmann** (University of Hannover) introduced the second presentation within the session. He concentrated on *Fertilizer Supply and Food Security*, introducing his current research, which will result in the planned chapter. Gnutzmann viewed Arctic Contribution to Food Security as highly politically dependent. He drew attention to the fact that phosphate is the essential fertilizer and cannot be substituted by any other substance. Moreover, phosphate rocks' resources in Europe are not sufficient. The biggest deposits are concentrated in Kola Peninsula, Russia and in other politically unstable places.

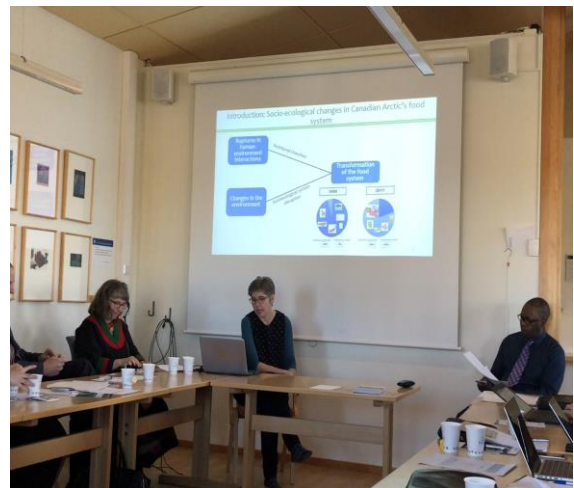
The next speaker **Bamidele Raheem** (Arctic Centre, University of Lapland) gave a presentation on *Bridging Food Security Gaps in the European High North through the Internet of Food*. Raheem discussed the issue from the perspective of Generation "Y", which constitute 1/3 of the whole population. He addressed the questions how industrial revolution can foster the food security implementation. He depicted socio-economic drivers concerning food security, (such as markets factors, policies, science and technology, social organizations and individual factors), food system activities and environmental drivers. Afterwards, he indicated also food security gaps in the European High North.



The last presentation of the session, given by **Anne Ouma** (Umeå University), was titled *Building Traditional Food Knowledge. An approach to Food Security through North-South Dialogue*. She introduced the topic by discussing indigenous disempowerment and non-inclusion in environmental policy and decision-making process. Ouma outlined the problem of land stewardship of indigenous peoples, as linked to food security.

Session 3:

The third session was chaired by Bamidele Raheem (Arctic Centre, University of Lapland) and it began with a presentation by **Thora Herrmann** (University of Montreal) on *Greenhouse and Community Gardening Projects in Nunavik: an Innovative Response to Food Insecurity*. In her presentation, she discussed socio-ecological changes in the Canadian Arctic's Food System and explained the transformation of the food system. She addressed the matter of socio-cultural representation related to the current food system in Nunavik and the different food resource procurement strategies used by Nunavummiut. She also referred to the interesting context of food maps made by individuals.



The second presentation of the session was on *Sami reindeer herders and the radioactive reindeer: food security from different voice* by **Moeko Minagawa** (University of Toulouse). Her presentation involved the impact of the nuclear disaster of Chernobyl on the food security of Sami reindeer herders. She focused on how the Sami reindeer herders struggle to obtain food safety and adjust themselves or resist to changes induced by the Chernobyl power plant accident. She also referred to the standing of food security within the dimension of human security. The discussion was followed by the important specification of the reindeer husbandry areas, which were contaminated across Norway and Sweden.

In addition, the attitude of the public administration towards measurement levels was highlighted. She further spoke about the Sami peoples' suffering from the perspective of 'care approach'.

The third presentation was by **Elena Bogdanova** (Northern Arctic Federal University) titled *Traditional nutrition of indigenous people in the Arctic zone of Western Siberia: challenges and impact on food security and health promotion*. She spoke about traditional nutrition being a part of traditional culture of nomadic indigenous population in the Arctic zone of Western Siberia. It included matters relating to how traditional nutrition is an effective preventive means and remedy to adapt to cold and geomagnetic activity for the indigenous population. She reflected on the significant tendencies of reindeer herding in the High North and their impact on food security and food sovereignty.



The final presentation of the session was by **Noor Jahan Punam** (University of Lapland) on a chapter coauthored with Kamrul Hossain titled *Human rights begin with breakfast: Maintenance of, and access to, stable traditional food system with focus on the European High Arctic*. She reflected on the importance of food systems stability whilst highlighting the significance of traditional food systems and its stability within the European High Arctic. She brought up the issue of how creating an interface between the traditional food systems and human rights framework can enhance food security and food sovereignty on the basis of Article 8(j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Session 4:



The final session of the workshop was chaired by Maxim Shishaev (Murmansk Arctic State University). The first presentation in this session was made by **Lena Maria Nilsson** (Umeå University) titled *Some reflections on food security strategies in Northernmost Sweden from a Sami perspective*. She reflected on the low level of food sovereignty in Sweden and the further decline since the entry into the EU in 1995. Her presentation also included the recent National Swedish Food Strategy 2017, which aimed

at simplifying regulation, making market competition more efficient and increasing productivity by knowledge and innovation. She focused on backward calculation of fish stock and governance of economic transition. By focusing on these issues, her discussion aimed to look at the National food strategy from the Sami cultural perspective.

The second presentation by **Corinna Casi** (University of Helsinki), was titled *Food (In)Security in the High European North: An Ethical Perspective on Sami People Food Culture*. She took a standing on food insecurity from a philosophical context. In that, she spoke about Sami food traditions, the terminology of food security along with the value of food. She reflected on the definition of value of food by FAO which fails to accommodate the cultural and social importance of salmon for the Native Americans. She also considered the fact that the matter of food is of specific importance to the Sami identity. She highlighted the issue of reindeer husbandry being in jeopardy. She opined out that Sami food traditions have overriding value considering deontological theories. She concluded by arguing that Sami traditional food choices are not only matter of consumerist preferences of some food over others but they are part of Sami lifestyle.

The third presentation was given by **Johanna M. Castilla** (Arctic University of Norway). It was titled *The Role of Stockfish in Local and Global Food Security: Traditional Knowledge, Transmission and Change in Lofoten, Norway*. She explained what stockfish is and the importance of stockfish in regard to local perceptions with specific focus on food security in the region. She emphasized on how stockfish is available all around the year and it can have expiry dates up to 10 years after being processed. She also spoke about its significance for the local and national economy. She highlighted the importance of traditional ecological knowledge in continuing the practice of processing stockfish.





The final presentation at the workshop was given by **Assi Harkoma** (Arctic Centre, University of Lapland). Her chapter is titled *How Sámi Traditional Knowledge Can Promote Food Security in the Arctic: Question of Rotational Grazing*. She presented a case study from the *Käsivarsi* area (Finnish Lapland). She reflected on the food insecurity in the area owing to the declining lichen pasture condition highlighting the reasons behind it - climate

change, increased human activities, long-term grazing/overgrazing amongst other issues. She explained that especially the Sámi reindeer herders are accused of overgrazing the pastures and diminishing the pastures in the *Käsivarsi* area. In Finland suggested solutions to the problem are: reindeer reduction policy or traditional knowledge based pasture management (rotational grazing system). She further highlighted the second option, proposed by the Sámi, where the Sámi traditional knowledge can promote food sovereignty and lead to a more sustainable reindeer herding in the Arctic.

The workshop was concluded by Prof. Kamrul Hossain's closing speech where he explained the next steps of the project specifying the deadlines for chapter submissions, and inviting all of the participants of this workshop to attend the next year's workshop. Overall the workshop was very fruitful as there were stimulating discussions amongst the participants both during the sessions as well as during breaks. Through this workshop, the participants have further strengthened this wonderful network of scholars addressing the discipline of food security as it applies to the Arctic.