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International Research Staff Exchange Scheme

Call: FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IRSES

PART B

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List of Partner Organisations

Partner N°	Partner Name	Partner short name	Country
1	University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines	UVSQ	France
2	North-Eastern Federal University	NEFU	Russia
3	Southern Patagonia National University	UNPA	Argentina
4	Lund University	LU	Sweden
5	Kaunas University of Technology	KTU	Lithuania

Project summary

This project intends to undertake a comparative study of three different regions: Siberia (Russia), Scandinavia (Sweden) and Patagonia (Argentina). These regions have a series of common features as regards their natural and cultural heritage, and are destined to experience similar changes due to the global warming and globalisation processes.

The protection and the promotion of cultures, territories and heritages strengthen a socio-economical development process for local communities. Such sustainable valorization should generate high level know-how and good practices that can be transferred to specific territories with national and international protection (National Park, National Reserves, UNESCO labels, etc.). Huge natural spaces in Arctic and Sub-Antartic regions get specific attention from international community (UN and EU) due to current global warming and the impacts of climate change on cultures and territories. These regions have fragile ecosystems that can be rapidly damaged by mass tourism or by a not well-controlled development strategy implemented by public institutions or private companies. This project aims at studying these extreme regions, training professionals working in public administrations in order to improve their educational background, and students with postgraduate curricula linked to tourism, geography, natural heritage, politics and social economics. Cross-cultural training transfers and valorization processes applied to the fields of tourism studies and the tourism industries, as well as cultural heritage and regional development of territories will be offered. Long term sustainable actions will be implemented at international level, such as an International Network of Regional Tourism Observatories and e-Learning platform to diffuse collected data, surveys and pedagogical materials.

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B 1 Quality of the exchange programme

B 1.1 Objectives and relevance of the joint exchange programme

With the increase of mass tourism and global warming, natural and cultural heritage sites have to cope with new interrelated challenges (politics, economics, conservation, etc.). Worldwide threats have already had considerable impact on fragile ecosystems reserves, environment and cultures. The POLARIS project aims at focusing its activities, research axes, recommendations and applications on comparative territories for case studies in Russia (Arctic regions) and Argentina (Sub-Antarctic regions). Numerous natural and cultural heritage sites are concerned by these phenomena in Europe, the Arctic and Latin America. UNESCO has developed specific programmes to assess the impacts of climate change by reviewing the nature and scale of the risks to World Heritage sites, by developing a strategy to assist decision makers to implement appropriate management responses; and by preparing a joint report on "Predicting and Managing the Effects of Climate Change on World Heritage" (Examined by the Committee during its 30th session, Vilnius, 2006). As relevant examples, we can mention the melting of glaciers located in these territories and concerned by these threats: glaciers of Patagonia and Terra del Fuego in Argentina and permafrost of the Lena River delta in Yakutia (Russia). Conversely, well-managed and well-preserved natural and cultural heritage sites can generate sustainable socio-economical resources for territories and regions.

- RUSSIA: Selected sites in the mountains of Verkhöiansk and Lena valley (Yakutia, Russia), in the mountains of Kamchatka (Bystraja region) and the Amur Basin.
- ARGENTINA: Selected sites in austral Patagonia (National Parc of Glaciers) in Terra del Fuego (Argentina)
- SWEDEN: Selected sites in Swedish Lapland (Laponia) in the National parks of Abisko and Kebnekaise.

These isolated areas have similar geographical characteristics and historical backgrounds, endangered by the decline (or even disappearance) of indigenous people following the arrival of foreigners: previously they were lands of exile (Gulag, Presidio of Tierra del Fuego) before becoming the sites of exploitation of natural resources and, more recently, developing wilderness tourism. In order to overcome the reduced impacts and promote future economical and social developments derived from such UN orientations and recommendations, POLARIS' main purpose is to carry out cross-cultural research on valorization, education, conservation and sustainable development in these three regions (Patagonia, Scandinavia, Siberia). Particular attention will be payed to emerging and developing touristic clusters in the provinces of Santa Cruz (El Calafate/ El Chalten) and Terra del Fuego (Ushuaïa) in Argentina, in regions of Yakutsk, Khangalassky, Verkhöiansk, Kamchatka and Amour in Russia, as well as the areas of Abisko and Kebnekaise in the Swedish Lapland. As a result of the performed studies, training programmes will be designed on an e-learning platform for higher education institutions and local stakeholders. These training programmes will be based on thematic core modules linked to areas (Europe, Russia, Argentina). All the didactical materials will be diffused through the e-learning platform and the project's website (UVSQ, France) in order to reach a larger audience (local agencies, ministries, local populations and communities, civil society, tourism sector, etc.). In addition, a series of workshops will be organized in these three geographical areas in order to better assess needs, impacts and local recommendations. Long term activities will be designed in order to better understand local features linked to cultures, environment and nature. The creation of Tourism observatories and the implementation of an International Network of Regional Tourism Observatories will be an important output of the POLARIS project, that will generate new economic opportunities in selected regions and improve living conditions. Such institutional structures will be useful for regional, national and international administrations and research centres in order to get relevant information to make strategic decisions, assess potential damage and its impact, but also to make local stakeholders aware of the potential risks for the sustainability of those territories.

Russia is the largest state of the planet with huge territories including Siberia. Its natural and cultural heritage is located in a cold and extreme climate, such as Patagonia in South of Argentina. Local communities are living in a permanent economical interaction with nature (as their cultures illustrate: myths, oral literature and performance, material and immaterial heritage, etc.). These specific local heritages (Siberia and Patagonia) will be studied in depth by the consortium in order to identify common features of comparative Arctic and Subantarctic heritage (culture, biodiversity, etc.).

These scientific studies and cross-cultural valorisation processes will be carried out by an international and interdisciplinary team, composed of scientists from the EU (France, Lithuania and Sweden), Argentina and the Russian Federation. Scandinavia, Patagonia and Siberia are three regions remote from each other but offering promising results in terms of comparative field case studies (extreme regions). Within this framework, IRSES People has been identified

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by the consortium as the best funding scheme for POLARIS' application. POLARIS will require a variety of actions to be scheduled over a period of 48 months involving notably specific mobility of early stage and senior researchers between EU, Argentina and Russia, including a summer university, training programmes and scientific studies located in the territories identified by the project. These actions include:

- Scientific survey following an interdisciplinary approach (geography, economics, cultures, tourism, politics, education, etc.) in connection with the selected sites in Russia and Argentina
- Evaluation of existing potential following an interdisciplinary methodology in order to generate new opportunities and improve living standards of communities
- Exchange experiences and good practices linked to cross-cultural valorisation of cultural and natural heritage, sustainable tourism and development
- Stimulate and strengthen new economical opportunities in public and private sectors, especially with tourism industries
- Creation of a sustainable Tourism Observatory with local/regional/national data and analyses. Collecting and distribution of these field data (statistics, policies, enquiries, analyses, etc.) in order to stimulate research development and dynamics at micro and macro levels
- Strengthen the ERA by jointly addressing global issues relative to climate change consequences, and regional needs specific to the three selected areas (Siberia, Scandinavia, Patagonia)
- Creation of higher education and tourism networks (EU, Argentina and Russia) in strong collaboration with local (indigenous) population, universities, civil society and tourism industries.

In order to implement these actions the 165 mobilities and field work of European, Russian and Argentinian teams will be undertaken through the following Work Packages:

Table 1: List of Work Packages

WP N°:	Work Package title	Beneficiary/Partner Organization short name	Start month	End month
1	Methodology of valorization: territories, identities and local heritage	UVSQ, NEFU, LU, KTU, UNPA	1	48
2	Understanding of local heritage: interpretation and education	UVSQ, NEFU, LU, KTU, UNPA	7	48
3	Pictures from the North: textual and visual representations	UVSQ, NEFU, UNPA, LU	1	48
4	Socio-economical valorisation of regional resources and tourism development	UVSQ, NEFU, LU, KTU, UNPA	1	48
5	Regional observatories of tourism	UVSQ, NEFU, LU, KTU, UNPA	1	48
6	Scientific valorisation: communication, awareness raising and diffusion	UVSQ, NEFU, LU, KTU, UNPA	1	48
7	Management	UVSQ, NEFU, LU, KTU, UNPA	1	48

Table 2: Work Packages

Work Package number	1	Starting date or starting event	Month 1-48
Work Package Title	Methodology of Valorization: Territories, Identities and Local Heritage		
Beneficiary/Partner Organisation Short names	P1 - P5; WP Leader: P5 Other Beneficiaries: Communities, Other local universities, Civil Society and Local Stakeholders.		

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Objectives Design and implement efficient methodology of valorisation process, mixing scientific research disciplines (communication, tourism, geography, anthropology, economics, new technologies, education, etc.) in order to set up an integrated method of Polar heritage valorisation. Indeed, local heritage has specific features linked to its complexity: cultures, transmission (time), territory (space) and societies (identity). In a global context, local heritage has to be integrated in an adapted management plan of valorisation with the scope to be better studied and preserved. In Patagonia and Siberian regions, cultural heritage has a strong connection with nature due to extreme environment (winds, snow, forests, wild life, etc.). Therefore, this WP has the aim to study complex field elements (“heritage (nature/culture), territory and societies”) based on collecting data, surveys, field expertises and cross-cultural method exchanges (EU, Argentina, Russia).

Description of work

Task 1.1: Establishment of an interdisciplinary method of valorization based on theoretical approaches to specific territories with researchers and method exchanges (EU, Argentina, Russia). Russian and Argentinian teams, involved in this task will come to France (P1) for a workshop of preparation of this method (month 2).

Duration of the task: 6 months, month 1-6

Task Leader: P1

Task 1.2: Inventory and perception of local heritage as a possible resource for tourism evaluation. Three workshops will be organized in Argentina, Sweden and Russia (Month 3 – P3, Month 8 – P4, Month 12 – P2) with Russian, Argentinean and Swedish teams, possessing important knowledge in local heritage and European teams, specialized in tourism, sustainable development and valorization of territories. Early stage researchers will perform more long term field work.

Duration of the task: 12 months, month 1-12

Task Leader: P2

Task 1.3: Establishment of an integrated management plan for Polar regions as a tool of sustainable development for local stakeholders, civil society (ministries, etc.) and training centers (university, etc.). In order to establish that plan, and to familiarize local teams with it, a workshop will be organized in Sweden (month 43 – P4) involving Russian, Argentinean and European teams.

Duration of the task: 8 months, month 42-48

Task leader: P5

Deliverables

D1.1 Valorization method description document, month 6

D1.2 Societal and biodiversity database on specific territories (Siberia, Patagonia, Lapland), month 12

D1.3 Methodological integrated management plan for Polar regions for local stakeholders (Russia, Sweden, Argentina), month 48

Researchers involved

Task 1.1: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 17, 22, 23, 24, 27, 30-32

Task 1.2: 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12-15, 18, 19, 20-25, 26-29, 31

Task 1.3: 5, 7, 16, 17, 20, 21, 25, 26-29, 31

Work Package number	2	Starting date or starting event	Month 7-48
Work Package Title	Understanding Local Heritage: Interpretation and Education		
Beneficiary/Partner Organisation Short names	P1 - P5; WP Leader: P2 Other Beneficiaries: Communities, Other local universities, Civil Society and Local Stakeholders.		

Objectives Understanding and interpreting natural heritage in connection with culture, societies and representations (written, oral and visual). This WP has the scope to study local complexity and external interactions (practices, artefacts, representations, etc.) in order to decompose them with the aim to render natural and cultural heritage more understandable for foreign visitors in these our times of globalization. Strengthen cross-cultural exchanges (Scandinavia, Patagonia, Siberia) on local heritage that is kept by local communities and is transmitted from one generation to the next (ethno-cultural approaches, analysis and cultural interpretations, socio-cultural practises and dynamics changing according to economic and cultural shifts due to social external actions and impacts). Special attention will be focused on educational and interpretation tools developed by local institutions (museums, etc.) to diffuse relevant information to audiences (local, regional and international).

Description of work

Task 2.1: Identification of specific tools developed by museums and dealing with local heritage: a selection of interpretation and educational tools will be analysed as case studies with cross-cultural and sustainable recommendations for international visitors. This task is complementary to task 1.2, this is why three workshops for these two tasks will be organized at the same time and in the same places (Month 3 – P3, Argentina, Month 8 – P4, Sweden, Month 12 – P2, Russia), with Russian, Argentinean and European teams working together.

Duration of the task: 6 months, month 7-12

Task leader: P2

Task 2.2: 3 short courses on interpretation applied to cultural/natural heritage (Russia, Lithuania and Argentina).

These training courses have the aim to adapt specific Western tools to heterogeneous local environments (reception, languages, translation, sense, etc.) and better understand needs from different audiences (local, regional and international). They are designed for undergraduate students, but also local and regional actors such as ministries, local policy-makers, enterprises, tourism industry actors, civil society actors. These courses, which all of the participants will be involved in, are important tools for the transfer of knowledge between the partners with different but complementary competences. They will also help to familiarize the third country partner-organizations and local actors with regional valorization methodologies developed by European countries, and to adapt them to the local contexts. (Month 9 – P5, Lithuania, Month 12 – P2, Russia, Month 35 – P3, Argentina)

Duration of the task: 42 months, month 7-48

Task leader: P5

Task 2.3: An international scientific conference will be held month 24 in France (P1) on “Understanding Cultural and Natural Heritage in Polar Regions”. This mid-term conference will be one of the major events of the project and will mobilize most of the participants. The event has the scope not only to implement dialogue and exchanges, but also to present regional points of view (Lapland, Siberia and Patagonia) in the field of heritage and discuss them according to a cross-cultural approach. The conference will be mainly destined to experienced researchers, but also PhD students and undergraduate students in cultural heritage studies (cultural policies, economics, tourism, sustainable development etc.) The papers will be put online on the POLARIS website.

Duration of the task: 12 months, month 12-24

Task leader: P1

Deliverables

D2.1 Museum database on specific territories (Siberia, Swedish Lapland, Patagonia, etc.); survey on tools developed by museums dealing with local heritage in Russia, Europe, Argentina - month 12

D2.2 High level students and local population training courses support materials (in-situ and on-line) – month 37

D2.3 International conference on understanding the specific heritage of Polar regions publication – month 24

D2.4 Implementation of a network concerning Polar museums (Russia, Argentina, EU) through the Web site of the project (WP6) – month 45

Researchers involved

Task 2.1: 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 29, 30

Task 2.2: 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13-16, 22-24, 26, 27, 30, 32

Task 2.3: 1-4, 6, 8, 7, 9, 12-20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 30

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Work Package number	3	Starting date or starting event	Month 1-48
Work Package Title :	Pictures from the North: textual and visual representations		
Beneficiary/Partner Organisation Short names	P1 – P4; WP Leader: P1 Other Beneficiaries: Communities, Other local universities, Civil Society		

Objectives: The aim consists in working on mental maps of the North and conventions of textual (oral and written), as well as visual representation (tropes, metaphors, symbols, stereotypes etc.) with a particular focus on Northern Europe, the Russian Far North and Tierra del Fuego in Argentina. Research will focus on travel writings and visual material (film and photography), as well as interviews of Northerners and people interested in traveling up North. These materials, linked to those developed in WP1, will then be used as an important resource for regional heritage valorization and development for touristic itineraries. A comparative approach between Arctic and Sub-Antarctic regions, which have many common features in their cultural and natural heritage, will be applied.

Description of work

Task 3.1 collecting of data in relation to the conventions of Northern and Subarctic, but also Sub-Antarctic representations (travel writings and visual material); This task will need field work, that will be mainly performed by early stage researchers. Three workshops will be organized with European and local teams in month 6 in Russia (P2), month 8 in Sweden (P4) and month 18 in Argentina (P3)

Duration of task: 18 months, month 1-18

Task leader: P1

Task 3.2 interviewing of people who live in subarctic and subantarctic regions, people who have travelled there and people who intend to do so (filmed interviews). Fieldwork and workshops for this task will be held at the same period of time that for the task 3.1

Duration of Task: 18 months, Month 1-18

Task leader: P2

Task 3.3 projection of films and public readings about the Arctic in Northern and subarctic communities in order to record reactions of local population. Performed by European teams, this task will need an important implication of local teams to create links with local communities, but also for logistics issues. Studies led in Russia (month 6) and Sweden (month 14) will be used further as a model for similar studies, performed by European and local teams in Argentina (month 18).

Duration of the task: 18 Months, Month 1-18

Task leader: P4

Task 3.4 Analysis of collected results from archives and field work (travel and missionary accounts, ethnographies, songs and myths) and creation of a linguistic and semiological database. This task will mobilize Russian teams with rich competences in ethnology, history, linguistics, mythology etc. To analyze and compare the data, and create the database, two workshops will be held in Russia and in France (month 31 – P1, and month 40 – P2) involving Russian, Argentinean and European researchers. The results will be presented at a scientific conference (month 41 – P2), published in a collective volume and on the website of the project.

Duration of the task: 18 months, month 25-42

Task leader: P2

Deliverables

D 3.1 Bibliography of sources collected for the analysis - month 18

D 3.2 A documentary featuring the interviews - Month 18

D 3.3 Pages on the project's website documenting reactions recorded by task 3 – Month 18

D 3.4 Linguistic and semiological database – month 41

D 3.5 Minutes of scientific conference – month 42

Researchers involved

Task 3.1: 1, 3, 8, 10, 12-15, 18, 19, 21, 24, 25, 26, 29

Task 3.2: 1, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 22, 24, 25, 27, 29

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Task 3.3: 1, 8, 10, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 27, 29

Task 3.4: 1, 8, 10, 12-19, 21, 22, 29

Work Package number	4	Starting date or starting event	Month 1-48
Work Package Title	Socio-economical valorisation of regional resources and tourism development		
Beneficiary/Partner Organisation Short names	P1 - P5; WP Leader: P3 Other beneficiaries: Communities, Tourism Industry actors, Enterprises, Civil society actors		

Objectives Analysis of the potential and the modalities of the tourism scheme as a factor of local development based on a socio-economical valorisation of specific resources in the studied areas (Patagonia, Siberia and North Scandinavia).

A cluster and touristic corridor analysis will be developed in relation with their conditions of insertion in the local productive system and the global chain of tourism.

Description of work

The conditions of the tourism schemes in North Scandinavia, Siberia and Patagonia have several similitudes: large spaces characterized by the dominance of natural conditions, the peripheral situation and relative isolation, low density of population, significative activities of extraction. Beside the generic natural resources which do not necessarily contribute to the revenues of local populations, it is possible to identify some specific regional resources, socially embedded and expressing a form of identity. In relation to the forms of tourism, this WP deals with the valorisation of natural and cultural heritage, such as ecotourism, cultural and community tourism, or hunting and fishing tourism as a modern form of rural development.

The activation of the patrimonial resources (WP1), which satisfies some categories of tourists (WP3), can lead to the training of local productive and touristic systems. The notion of cluster applied to the process of local development based on the touristic activity is appropriate for analysis, because tourism requires the building of networks implying different actors and causing several multiplicator effects. The articulation of the regional destinations within the touristic corridors refers to some logics of spatial accumulation.

The relationship dynamics between actors, their activities and the touristic sites will be highlighted through the social network analysis. The approach aims at identifying some development trajectories based on the regional resources, their heritage conservation and the qualification of territories by embedding them within their context in order to analyze the value chain and the local impacts of tourism in terms of economic, social, cultural and environmental aspects. The uses, conflicts and competition for access to resources will be analyzed through regional planning and development issues.

Task 4.1. : State of art and complementary investigation on the touristic assessment of the patrimonial resources in the selected regions. Collection of data and statistics. Institutional context, legal provision and public policies for the promotion of tourism. Identification of clusters or potential clusters organized around ecotourism and community tourism. Fieldwork and 2 workshops – Month 11 (P2, Russia), Month 17 (P3, Argentina)

Duration of the task: 18 months, month 1-18

Task leaders: P2, P3

Task 4.2. : Survey of actors and organizations (private, public, association) in Sweden, Russia, Argentina and Lithuania in relation with touristic activities in order to identify their characteristics, their forms and strategies of management, their innovation capacities, their contribution to environment and their relationship network. Data will be confronted with the expectations of tourists, their expenses and their degree of satisfaction. Fieldwork and workshops (Month 9 – P5, Lithuania, Month 17 – P3, Argentina, Month 25 – P4, Sweden, Month 28 – P2, Russia)

Duration of the task: 24 months, Month 7-30

Task Leader: P5

Task 4.3. : Integration in a Geographic Information System of data related to the firms' location, to their access to technical networks and to relationship embedded in their near and distant environment in order to build a mapping of social networks, to analyze the regional and local organization and the agglomeration dynamics. Workshop month 34 – P4

Duration of the task: 24 months, Month 13-36

Task leader: P4

Task 4.4. : Analysis of clusters and potential clusters around ecotourism, rural, cultural and community tourism (Sweden, Russia, Argentina). Quantification and qualification of the different kind of flux generated by the actors in particular characterization of the density and the structure of the social network, the induced models of accumulation, their local impacts and their consequences in terms of regional planning and development. Evaluation and valorization of this regional potential, and the added value brought by the comparative approach, will help to create new economic opportunities and jobs, and can be highly beneficial for the development of selected regions.

Fieldwork and workshops (Month 25 - P4, Sweden , Month 28 – P2, Russia, Month 35 – P6, Argentina) on similar issues but held in different countries will help to get the necessary comparative approach. The data collected will be used for building regional observatories of tourism (WP5) and disseminated through participative workshops and scientific publications (WPs 5 and 6).

Duration of the task: 18 months, month 25-42

Task leader: P1

Deliverables

D 4.1. : State of the art report and inventory of specific regional resources (will be valued with reference to touristic activities) – month 18

D 4.2. : Survey of the actors and organization (public, private, civil society) – month 30

D 4.3. : GIS integrated and working – month 30

D 4.4. : Survey on clusters and potential clusters around eco-tourism and community tourism (on two geographical zones) - month 42

Researchers involved

Task 4.1 : 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 28, 29, 32

Task 4.2 : 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 18, 19, 22-25, 27, 29, 31, 32

Task 4.3 : 5, 7, 11, 17, 21, 23, 25-28, 31, 32

Task 4.4 : 4, 5, 11, 13, 16, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 31

Work Package number	5	Starting date or starting event	Month 1-48
Work Package Title	Regional observatories of tourism		
Beneficiary/Partner Organisation Short names	P1 - P5; WP Leader: P4 Other beneficiaries: Local Communities, Civil Society actors, Tourism Industry actors, Higher Education Organisations		

Objectives The objective of this WP is an establishment of a network of Regional Tourism Observatories (Southern Patagonia, Siberia, Swedish Lapland), to preserve and store the reference data, related to tourism: replace this activity in its territorial context and ensure regular monitoring of projects through monitoring and spatio-temporal analysis of tourism stakeholders' behavior. The idea is to produce interoperable geo-information, interactive and spatially localized, opening the way for a shared learning between the actors in the same territory and the exchange of experiences between regions.

Description of work

The goal is for each study region to combine the databases created in the Work Package 1 (societal and biodiversity data), the Work Package 2 (museum data) and the Work Package 4 (institutional, economic and environmental data, tourism and stakeholders behavior in tourism), with interoperable geographic information systems (GIS), associated with spatial analysis geo-economic models to assess the competitiveness and sustainability of tourism businesses, as well as the dynamism of the clusters identified. This will be done at different scales, combining macro, regional, and local, with micro-targeted tourism stakeholders, and using common indicators developed from statistical data on tourism and stakeholder surveys, tourists and resident populations in each of the clusters studied. The modular architecture recommended for each regional observatory

should combine three articulated elements to each other:

- A macro-based sectorial component on composite indicators developed from statistical data on tourism at national and regional level;
- A micro-fueled territorial component by field surveys conducted at the local level based on issues related to vulnerability, competitiveness and sustainable development of tourism clusters;
- A spatial component and inclusive in incorporating GIS data and localized thematic on tourism in other layers of information on the natural environment, population and economic activities.

The observatories will be created on the base of solid European experience (France, Lithuania and Sweden) and, after a transfer of knowledge, will be maintained, through a regular monitoring, by local university teams (NEFU and UNPA) with the support of the Ministry of Tourism and Entrepreneurship of Yakutia in Russia and the Ministry of Tourism of the Province of Santa Cruz in Argentina. Russia and Argentina being federal states, these ministries play a very important role on regional level in both countries. NEFU and UNPA work in close interaction with regional government. The participation of these universities in the project and the support we got from the two ministries is an important factor to ensure the sustainability of the tourism observatories and of the project's results.

Task 5.1.: State of the art and experience analysis and comparison of different observatories. European, Argentinian and Russian teams will perform several sessions of field work in Russia, Sweden, Lithuania and Argentina.

Duration of the task: 6 months, month 1-6

Task leader: P1

Task 5.2.: Building of geo-located interoperable standardized database for storing available information on tourism resources, tourism organizations and statistics, in consultation with the administrations in charge of tourism. Workshop Month 34 – P4, Sweden.

Duration of the task: 30 months, month 7-36

Task leader: P4

Task 5.3.: Merging different geo-localized, geo-referenced, geographical and spatial databases in geographic information system from the meta-model developed in Task 5.2. Integration of different layers of information on the physical environment, population distribution, land use and the main economic activities, etc. Workshop month 35 – P3, Argentina

Duration of the task: 30 months, month 13-42

Task leader: P3

Task 5.4.: Design Geographic information system (from databases generated by the Task 5.3.) on tourism stakeholders from a simulation model integrating the indicators of competitiveness and sustainability, to promote an open benchmark and a shared learning aimed at interested beneficiaries. The work will be focused on the representation of relationship networks forged by tourism stakeholders (market relations, strategic alliances and cooperative practices, information exchange, membership in professional organizations or other types of institutional relationships). To design the system, two workshops will be held in France (month 31) and in Lithuania (month 38), with participation of Russian and Argentinian teams.

Duration of the task: 17 months, month 30-46

Task leader: P4

Task 5.5.: Organization of two participative workshops (in Russia and in Argentina) with tourism stakeholders to familiarize them with the use of tourism stakeholder's geographic information system and analyze the factors defining competitiveness and sustainability determinants of their activities. Workshops Month 40 – P2, Russia, Month 43 – P3, Argentina.

Duration of the task: 12 months, month 37-48

Task leaders: P2, P3

Task 5.6.: Networking of regional observatories for the exchange of experiences and mutual learning between different territories. Workshop month 45 – P4, Sweden

Duration of the task: 8 months, month 41-48

Task leader: P1

Deliverables

D 5.1.: Methodological plan for the design and establishment of an observatory of tourism in the concerned regions - month 6

D 5.2.: Geographic and geo-referenced tourism database, meta-model – month 36

D 5.3.: Geo-tourism interoperable standardized database - month 42
 D 5.4.: Tourism Geographic information system, Simulation model for systems of information on tourism stakeholders – month 46
 D 5.5.: Assessment and results on key elements related to the management of cooperation projects between universities and economic actors or institutions working in tourism – month 47
 D 5.6.: Publications of regional tourism data on the web site - month 48

Researchers involved

Task 5.1. : 3-7, 11, 13, 16, 17, 19, 22, 24, 25, 27, 29, 31, 32

Task 5.2. : 4-7, 17, 21, 23, 25, 26-29, 31

Task 5.3. : 7, 21, 25, 26-28

Task 5.4. : 1, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 20, 21, 22, 25, 27, 28, 30-32

Task 5.5. : 5, 7, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20-25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 32

Task 5.6. : 3-7, 11, 12, 13, 22, 24, 25, 26-29, 32

Work Package number	6	Starting date or starting event	Month 1-48
Work Package Title	Scientific Valorization: Communication, Awareness Raising and Diffusion		
Beneficiary/Partner Organisation Short names	P1 – P5; WP Leader: P4 Other Beneficiaries: Communities, Other local universities, Civil Society and Local Stakeholders.		

Objectives

Diffusion of the results of the project through information and multimedia tools in order to communicate on the contents of the project and to make local stakeholders (universities, tourism agencies, ministries, City halls, NGOs, etc.) become more aware of the importance of the study, protection and conservation of natural and cultural heritage for a cross-cultural and sustainable scientific valorisation process and tourism development.

Description of work

Task 6.1: Creation of a Website and diffusion of all scientific materials (studies, reports, database, etc.) produced by all partners.

Duration of the task: 48 months, month 1-48

Task leader: P1

Task 6.2: Creation of an e-learning platform (P4) in order to set up interactive didactical materials and learning exchanges (Argentina, EU, Russia) linked to WP1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Short training courses (WP5) will be accessible on line through the e-learning platform.

Duration of the task: 40 months, month 4-43

Task leader: P4

Task 6.3: Production of multimedia and communication supports (videos, leaflets, brochures, etc.) linked to the specific tasks of the project.

Duration of the task: 36 months, month 7-48

Task leader: P1

Task 6.4: Strengthen regional networks and links with local community actors through the e-learning platform of the project on specific topics developed and implemented in the project.

Duration of the task: 42 months, month 6-48

Task leaders: P2, P3, P4

Task 6.5: Communication with local community actors, cultural and tourism industry organisations through 3 dedicated workshops (month 18 – P3, Argentina, month 25 – P4, Sweden, month 40 – P2, Russia) and 3 final conferences (month 35 – P3, Argentina, month 45 – P4, Sweden, and month 47 – P5, Lithuania), in order to present the final results, recommendations and following steps at local and regional level.

Duration of the task: 36 months, month 13-48

Task leader: P1

Deliverables

- D6.1 Specifications of the public web site – month 4
 D6.2 Specifications of the e-learning platform – month 5
 D6.3 First release of the web site; leaflets, brochures – month 12
 D6.4 First release of the e-learning platform – month 12
 D6.5 Communication supports: videos, leaflets, brochures – month 40
 D6.6 First release of a virtual forum on specific topics linked to the project – month 42
 D6.7 3 Workshops' and 3 conferences' summaries and minutes – month 47

Researchers involved

- Task 6.1: 1-4, 12, 20, 26, 30
 Task 6.2: 1-4, 12, 20, 26-29, 30
 Task 6.3: 2, 3, 4, 12, 20, 26, 30
 Task 6.4: 2-4, 11, 13, 17, 22, 26-29, 30
 Task 6.5: 1-37

Work Package number	7	Starting date or starting event	Month 1 - 48
Work Package Title	Management		
Beneficiary/Partner Organisation Short names	P1 - P5; WP Leader: P1		

Objectives

The main objective of this Work Package is to ensure:

- an efficient functioning of the mobility scheme and its adequacy with the project's tasks and timing
- an efficient coordination of scientific and technical activities
- overall administration of the project

Description of work

Task 7.1: Coordination of the exchange programme

The monitoring of the staff exchange process will be performed by the **Management Team**, composed of **Scientific/Technical manager** (Isabelle Brianso) and **Administrative/financial/legal manager** (Eugenia Shadlova), under the control of the **Scientific Coordinator** (Jan Borm). They will work in close cooperation with the Steering Committee, composed of one representative from each partner organization and the project Officer from the European Commission.

They will be in charge of: (a) the control of the good functioning of the exchange scheme and the timely achievement of the planned actions; (b) managing the attribution of human and financial resources, maintaining the project's budget; (c) enhancing the communication inside the consortium in order to reinforce the lasting cooperation between the partners

Duration of the task: 48 months, month 1-48

Task leader: P1

Task 7.2: Scientific coordination

The **Scientific Committee**, composed of Work Package leaders and headed by the **Scientific Coordinator and the Scientific Manager**, will be in charge of monitoring the scientific and technical progress of the project activities related to the objectives foreseen, and the efficient transfer of knowledge between the partners. They are responsible for the content of the workshops and conferences organized within the project, they follow up and provide Activity Reports, Deliverables and other scientific reports specified in the work plan.

Duration of the task: 48 months, month 1-48

Task leader: P1

Task 7.3: Quality Management

The **Management Team**, with the support of the **Scientific Committee** will be in charge of the quality

management of the project. This task will ensure the smooth interaction and exchange between the researchers with different cultural backgrounds. They will manage and control the quality of common activities: conferences, courses etc, but also the quality of deliverables, common publications, scientific reports etc.

Duration of the task: 48 months, month 1-48

Task leader: P1

Task 7.4: Administrative, financial and legal management

The day-to-day management of the project will be ensured by the **Administrative Manager**, who will be responsible for administrative, financial and legal issues. She will be in charge of logistics and technical organization of staff exchange, project-related activities and management meetings. She will work in close cooperation with the representatives of the Steering Committee. The Administrative Manager will follow up human and financial resources justified by the consortium, and will be responsible for gathering and submitting project progress reports, cost statements and activity reports to the European Commission. She will be the interface with the EC services and the contact point of the consortium for all administrative, financial and legal issues.

Duration of the task: 48 months, month 1-48

Task leader: P1

In order to reduce as much as possible the management and logistics costs, management meetings will be held at the same place and during the same period that the mobility activities related to the project, or virtually.

The Scientific Committee meetings constitute the major tool for the coordination of project activities and the control of the efficiency of the transfer of knowledge. They will be held twice a year. After the kick-off meeting, there will be 7 Scientific Committee meetings.

The Steering Committee meetings will be held once a year and will include at least one representative of each partner organization.

Deliverables

D 7.1 Periodic report - month 24

D 7.2 Periodic report - month 48

D 7.3 Final report including the final plan for use and dissemination of foreground – month 48

Researchers involved

Task 7.1: 1, 2, 3, 12, 20, 26, 30

Task 7.2: 1, 3, 5, 7, 12, 20, 26, 30

Task 7.3: 2, 3, 12, 20, 26, 30

Task 7.4: 2, 15, 20, 26, 30

Table 3 List of milestones

n°	Milestone name	List and schedule of milestones			Comments
		WP n°	Lead beneficiary/Partner organization short name	Delivery month	
1	Kick-off meeting	7	UVSQ and all partners	1	
2	The interdisciplinary method of valorization of territories established	1	KTU and all partners	6	Method based on theoretical approaches for specific territories
3	Inventory of local natural and cultural heritage completed	1	KTU and all partners	12	Concerning the three selected regions
4	Specific tools developed by museums dealing with local heritage identified	2	NEFU and all partners	12	

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5	Potential clusters around ecotourism and community tourism identified	4	UNPA and all partners	12	Touristic clusters in polar regions
6	E-learning platform up and running	6	KSPI and all partners	12	Will be developed by P4
7	Travel, visual and textual materials in relation to the conventions of Arctic and Sub-Antarctic representation collected	3	UVSQ, NEFU, UNPA	18	A comparative approach will be applied to Arctic and Sub-Antarctic regions
8	Scientific conference on « Understanding of cultural and natural heritage of Polar regions » held	2	NEFU and all partners	24	
9	GIS integrated and running	4	UNPA and all partners	36	GIS of data related to firms location and their networking
10	Linguistic and semiological database created	3	UVSQ, NEFU, UNPA	42	
11	Geo-tourism interoperable standartized database created	5	LU and all partners	42	
12	Integrated management plan for polar regions established	1	LU and all partners	46	
13	Tourism stakeholders familiarized with the GIS	5	LU and all partners	48	
14	Local community actors familiarized with project's achievements	6	NEFU and all partners	48	
15	Local stakeholders familiarized with the integrated management plan for polar regions	1	LU and all partners	48	Through especially dedicated workshops organized in Russia , Sweden and Argentina

B. 1.2 Research quality of partners

POLARIS partners have significant experience in different scientific fields involved in this multidisciplinary project: geography, ethnography, anthropology, economy, ecology, tourism, culture, literature and languages of indigenous populations of Arctic and Sub-Antarctic regions. The roles of partners and their input to the project have been defined according to their experience and area of expertise, and in order to contribute to the mutual transfer of knowledge and to better exploit the added value of the exchange.

Prof. Jan BORM (P1) - scientific coordinator of POLARIS. PhD and habilitation in British literature and specialized in travel writing, is the director of the European Center for the Arctic (CEARC) at UVSQ since the center's creation in 2009. Jan Borm has published widely on travel writing and narrative ethnography. He will be the scientific coordinator of POLARIS. Jan Borm has relevant experience in managing collaborative scientific projects, on national and on international scales. He is a member of several international advisory boards. Since 2009, he is coordinator at UVSQ of the European Union-financed Marie-Curie consortium ENGLOBE (Enlightenment and Global History, 2009-2013) chaired by the University of Potsdam. He is a member of the « Green Greenland » consortium, a multi-disciplinary project on the impact of climate change financed by the French National Research Agency starting in March 2011. He is co-director of the international Master programme « Arctic Studies » which opened at UVSQ in September 2010.

He has organized several international conferences. In 2007, at the first French scientific event of the International Polar Year, he co-organised the international conference « Arctic problems: environment, societies and

heritage ». He has initiated a number of exchange programs, notably 10 ERASMUS agreements including the University of Lapland at Rovaniemi (Finland), the University of Applied Sciences of Kemi-Tornio (Finland) and the University of Greenland at Nuuk.

Gianni GIARDINO (P1) was originally physicist and is now involved in knowledge, mediation and the didactics of sciences. Senior lecturer since 1993, he is now attached at the Cultural History of Contemporary Societies Centre (CHCSC-UVSQ) as researcher in the Cultural, SCientific and Artistic MEdition (MECSCIA-UVSQ) research group. He is also associate researcher in the Didactic and Sciences Epistemology Laboratory (LDES, Geneva university). Since 2002, he has been Head of the Sciences, Arts, Culture, Innovation and Multimedia department (SACIM-UVSQ) and of the professional Master in Cultural and Communication Engineering (ICC). Comity member of the International Workshop on Scientific, Technical and Industrial Educations (JIES) (2008), he is also (2004) member of the Communication, Educational, Scientific and Industrial Culture team (CECSI), member (2003) of the team group Scientific and Cultural Mediation in Research and teaching for higher education on Sciences. He is also member of the European Network of Cultural Administration Training Centres (ENCATC / UNESCO Directory). Since 2007 he is UVSQ delegate in the Scientifically, Technical and Industrial Culture Centre of the Saclay-Scientipôle - Sciences, Knowledge and Societies and of the UNESCO – University and Heritage (FUUH) Forum program.

Didier RAMOUSSE (P1) PhD in Geography and Regional Planning in Latin America, Associate Professor of Geography at UVSQ, he is the head of the Master “Tourism and Environment” and the coordinator of the PREFALC Project (Regional Program of Cooperation France – Latin America – Caribbean area) on “Tourism, Environment and Development” supporting a network of Masters/Maestrias between UVSQ, National University of Salta (Argentina), Central University of Venezuela, Catholic University of Valparaiso (Chile) and Autonomous University of Guerrero (Mexico). This experience was the starting point for the organization of the international symposium COOPINTOUR “International Cooperation for a Responsible Tourism and a Tourist Development of Territories”, UVSQ (November 30th – December 1st, 2010).

Co-head of the CeMoTeV (Centre for the Study on Globalisation, Conflicts, Territories and Vulnerabilities), Didier Ramousse currently participates in two research projects:

→ Multidisciplinary CNRS Energy Program on “Governance of Energy Networks and Regional Development in Emergent Countries of Latin America” (2008-2011).

→ Project Ecos-Venezuela “Oil, Production System and Tourism in the Orinoco Basin : Options for Sustainable Development of Territories ?” (2010-2013).

Isabelle BRIANSO (P1) got a European PhD (France, Spain, and Italy) on information and communication sciences. She has been nominated in 2010 to the European award “Cultural Policy Research Award” financed by the European Cultural Foundation. Researcher and associate professor at UVSQ (CEARC), her research deals with the interpretation of cultural and natural heritage and complexity in times of globalization. Since 2006, she has been involved in international projects (6th and 7th Framework Programme: INCO and People). Since 2008, she has been involved in the Franco-Russian university co-operation between UVSQ and the Federal University of Yakutsk (Russia). Within this framework, she co-organised an international conference on Siberian heritage and tourism in Yakutsk (June 2009). Finally, she works in Latin America (Mexico, Argentina and Brazil) through specific Spanish co-operation projects (AECID) and European projects (People) co-ordinated and managed by the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain).

Sébastien GADAL (P1), PhD, Associate Professor of Geography in Geomatic at UVSQ/OVSQ. He is working on the Geospatial Sciences area (remote sensing, image processing, GIS, 3D simulation), in Urban Geography, Land Planning, and in E-Learning Pedagogy. He was until the end of 2009 World French Speaking University Agency (AUF)’s e-learning leader in GIS, Remote Sensing and Data Analysis interactive distance lectures. He participates in research programs in urban geomatic spatio-temporal monitoring systems using remote sensing, image analysis developments, complex GIS building and 3D simulation in developing and post-communist countries. Part of his research is focusing on the development of Tourism GIS in the framework of globalization and metropolization, and in Remote sensing dynamic territorial monitoring system. He is in charge of the development of GIS Tourism Heritage in India (Jaipur, Benares), and researches program on Spatial monitoring systems and image processing. Co-Head of the dept. of geography, NASA Scientific advisor, Head of the Master Remote sensing and geomatic for environmental applies, Visiting Professor at Klaipeda and Kaunas University of Technologies, he is doing scientific and academic cooperation expertise’s missions for the French Foreign Office. He was expert for Tempus 3, EU Framework Program 6 and FSP Ripiecsa, etc. He had published 50 peer reviewed scientific papers and book chapters.

Mathieu SOURDEVAL (P1) is an Associate Professor at UVSQ (CHCSC) since 2007. He has published 5

articles in peer-reviewed journals during the first part of his research career in the field of toxicology and cellular biology. He turned his research activity in 2009 to the fields of scientific information and mediation. His research leads to implications as member of the Cultural, Scientific and Artistic Mediation (MECSCIA-UVSQ) research group, as Co-Head director of Sciences, Arts, Culture, Innovation Multimedia department (SACIM-UVSQ) in charge of studies, scientific program and languages and as a member of the Center for Knowledge Popularization CVC (<http://www.cvc.u-psud.fr/index.php>).

Alexandra LAVRILLIER (P1) is a researcher-lecturer in Social Anthropology at UVSQ (CEARC). She had lead her researches in several institutions in Europe and Russia (Max Planck Institute at Leipzig; EPHE, CNRS and INALCO in France, Universities of Yakutsk and Blagovescensk and Russian Academy of Sciences, etc). She benefited from various research foundations (Funds L. Dumont, Polar Institute IPEV, Foundation Fyssen, CNRS-GSRL, CNRS-GDRI, etc.).

Focused on the study of human-natural environment relationship, the topics analysed by AL are various such as traditional techniques of reindeer herding, hunting and fishing, landscape organisation, shamanistic ritual practices, renewal of the traditional festivals after the fall of the Soviet System, urban indigenous communities in the Russian towns, adaptation to industrial pollution, projects of development by indigenous peoples, cultural and linguistic documentation. She performed around 8 years of fieldwork – 6 of which she spent among the nomadic reindeer herders and hunters. She speaks French, English, Russian and three Siberian languages. Since 2008, her research is focusing on the shifts implied by climate change, market economy and ethno-tourism among the Even, Evenk and Nanaij (Yakutia, regions of Amur and Khabarovsk).

Dariya NIKOLAEVA (P1) a PhD student in social and cultural history, at UVSQ. Her research thesis: Yakut Culture, emergence and evolution in the Siberian area (XVIII-XX centuries). Thesis issue: to study Yakut culture and patrimony in a wider geographic area which include Siberia, Altai mounts and a part of Central Asia during the XVIII and XX centuries with a vision of former centuries in order to understand the original facts of that culture. Before she arrived in France in 2008, she graduated from the University of Yakutsk, Republic Sakha (Yakutia), Faculty of History. She continued her studies in France, where she got Master II degree research at UVSQ. During six years (2004-2010) she participated in the archaeological missions in Eastern Siberia under the aegis of UNESCO. In 2009, she participated in a workshop at international conference on Siberian heritage and tourism in Yakutsk (June 2009).

Isabel VAZQUEZ (P1) obtained her Master II “Tourism and Environment” in 2002. Since then, she has been working for the public sector in sustainable tourism projects. She participated in a national sustainable tourism experimentation led by the French national tourism development agency (ATOOUT France). The aim of this experimentation was to work on new methods of building sustainable tourism policies by promoting participation of local actors. As a manager of a local tourist organisation she developed a good knowledge on the touristic organisations and a solid know-how on building tourist networks. Finally, in the framework of the European call for tender “Touristic innovation in rural areas” she was involved in the implementation of a touristic cluster. After all those years of field work she is back to Versailles St-Quentin-en-Yvelines as a PhD student. The subject of her research is the participation of local actors in the definition and implementation of sustainable tourism policies.

Joanna KODZIK (P1) is currently finishing her PhD on perceptions of the Polish court ceremonial and Poland in early modern Europe at the University of Torun in Poland. She has given lectures and published articles on Polish-Prussian cultural transfers, notably within the framework of the ERASMUS Intensive Programme *CompaRaisons (Compared Enlightenments)*, piloted by the University of Potsdam in the years 2008-10, to which she contributed a presentation on the theme of “Enlightened Citizens of Torun as seen through gastronomic consumer behaviour“. She has also presented a paper entitled “Visits of the Polish Sovereign to the towns of Torun, Elblag and Gdansk“ at the conference “Intercultural Dialogue in Royal Prussian Towns“ co-organized by Potsdam and Torun in 2009 (papers to be published in 2011). She published an article untitled „Culture shock“ for the University of Hagen, and she is interested in history of Polish exiles and their descendants in Siberia.

Eugénia SHADLOVA (P1) has a Master degree in European Projects’ Management. After the first experience within a French public company where she managed two European projects and was member of two European NCP Networks, she joined UVSQ/CEARC in 2010 where she currently manages administrative and financial issues of one European and one national collaborative project, and participates in the preparation of other proposals.

Born in Russia and a native speaker of Russian, she is also responsible for the development of the scientific collaboration with the Russian Federation. In POLARIS she will have the role of Administrative Manager and will treat the day-to-day management issues, ensure financial reporting, deal with contractual documents, follow-up deadlines and resources etc.

Aitalina BORISSOVA (P2) specializes in History, Ethnic culture and linguistics, and tourism. She is Head of the

Culture and Tourism Department of the North-Eastern Federal University named after M.K.Ammosov, an associate professor, Candidate of Science (PhD) in Philosophy.

Aitalina Borissova has been working for 10 years in the tourist industry, she is Member of the National Academy of Tourism of the Russian Federation. Today, she is also General Director of the public-private enterprise Ethnic Cultural Tourist Educational Center "Aian-Travel". She is significantly involved in international cooperation projects, especially with Canada. She was a coordinator of the Sakha-Canadian project between Yakutsk State University and UNBC in 1991- 1998, and she won 3 grants of the Canadian government and took part in the meeting of non-governmental organizations in Alberta University and UNBC of Canada.

Liudmila EGOROVA (P2) Ph.D. in History, Associate Professor of The General History and Ethnology, Faculty of History SVFU. In 2004 she defended her thesis "Semantics of mythological term 'wolf' in the traditional culture of the Sakha" in the Institute of Mongolian Studies, Buddhist and Tibetan Studies, Siberian Department of the Russian Academy of Sciences (Ulan-Ude). Research interests - ethnology, history, culture, mythology, ancient world, ethnolinguistics, semiotics, hermeneutics, and spiritual ecology. She is particularly interested in the formation of ancient syncretic faith. She is member of the group in the department of tourism and spirituality, the Republican National Innovation Project Olonkholand, and coordinator of the annual Inter-University Research and practical conference "Sacred Landscape: Traditions and contemporary issues".

Claudia FEDOROVA (P2) is Head of the English Department at the Institute of Foreign and Regional Studies and Director of the Office of International Programs of the NEFU. PhD in Germanic Philology, her research interests lie in the area of semantics, comparative linguistics analysis on various levels, linguistic and cultural studies. She coordinated international projects "Elderhostel: Alaska-Siberia" joint University of Alaska- Yakutsk State University education project, "Community Connection Program" funded by Russian-American Cooperation Foundation", "Sumer in Siberia" language and culture program, UArctic project "Involvement of the Russian universities in the UArctic activities" (funded by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs), "Promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity of indigenous peoples of the North" supported by Canada Fund for local initiatives.

Mikhail PRISIAZHNYI (P2) PhD in Geography, Associate professor, Vice-rector on Natural Sciences and Mathematics in NEFU. He coordinates the activity of University departments on Natural sciences, Mathematics and Medicine. His research work was devoted to economical, social and political geography.

In 2001 he organized and headed the laboratory on economical-geographical monitoring of northern territories. In 2004-2010 he worked as a head of the University Department on academic and methodical affairs. Since 2008 he has been working as a head of the University Department of Northern studies. The Department is involved in the program of the Circumpolar studies of the University of the Arctic and research work on geographic study of northern territories. In 2000 he was awarded a title "The best young teacher" in Yakutsk for high results and achievements in development of education in the republic. In 2004 he became a laureate of the Federal scholarship program of Potanin Foundation as the best University lecturer. In 2005 he got a State Prize of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) in the sphere of Science and Engineering for contribution to the development of natural sciences, regional social-economic complex formation. He has more than 130 publications including 9 monographs, 7 teaching aids.

Liudmila ZAMORSHCHIKOVA (P2) PhD in French Philology, her research interests lie in the area of cognitive linguistics, linguistic psychology, language representation of ethnic culture. She serves as a project coordinator on promotion of cultural and linguistic diversity of indigenous peoples of the North, supported by Canada Fund for local initiatives (2011), a leader of the University of the Arctic's Thematic Network "World Images of the indigenous people of the North" since 2006, project leader for 4 scientific projects supported by the Russian Foundation for Humanities, Moscow (World Image of Yakut, Yukagir, Even, Evenk peoples) 2005-2009, a project coordinator for Soros foundation supported project involving the Lomonosov University in Moscow and the Yakutsk State University 2000 - 2002, local coordinator for a European TEMPUS-funded project, involving the Universities of Strasbourg, Bonn and Hull in support of the Yakutsk State University 1994 – 1998.

Elena TOTONOVA (P2) – is specialized in economics, tourism and international relations. PhD in geography and in economics, she is professor of International economical relations in North-Eastern Federal University, since 2000. She published widely on ecotourism as factor of regional development, global economy, globalization and development of Northern regions, promotion of natural resources for regional development, organization of tourism in arctic and subarctic regions. She has great experience of scientific cooperation with Canada, and she participated in several Russian Canadian conferences on tourism, economics and regional development issues.

Vera POTAPOVA (P2) is a PhD student and a lecturer of the Institute of Foreign and Regional Studies, NEFU. Her spheres of academic interest are psycholinguistics, language consciousness and ethnic identity. Since 2009 she has become a member of the University of the Arctic's Thematic Network "World Images of the indigenous peoples of the North". Since 2011 Vera Potapova has been working on creation of Associative Thesaurus of the

Sakha language. In 2011 she got a grant by High North Fellowship programme in Norway.

Marina KYSYLBAIKOVA (P2) is currently finishing her PhD on the Concept “Culture” in the language national consciousness (in the example of Yakut and English languages). Her research interests lie in the area of cognitive linguistics, linguistic psychology, intercultural communication. She got several national and regional grants. She has published 21 scientific articles, 3 of them are published in the peer-reviewed scientific journals, and took part in 12 scientific conferences on regional, national and international level.

Alejandro SCHWEITZER (P3) PhD in Geography, Land Management and Planning of the Université de Paris III – Sorbonne Nouvelle, France, he is a researcher at the National Research Council (CONICET) and professor of Land Use and Regional Planning at the UNPA. His research interests are linked to the area of territorial development, natural resources and regional integration, with particular focus on border regions.

He widely published on spatial/territorial dynamics and regional development, natural resources integration, territorial policies and cross-border cooperation. Since 2002 is director of research projects on regional development and natural resources and sustainability indicators, proficiency studies for land use activities (including tourism), at the UNPA, CONICET and National Agency of Scientific and Technological Research Promotion (ANPCyT), in 2012, “Biophysical skills for economic activities and human settlement in Patagonia. Indicators, geographic information and spatial units” with researchers of 4 national universities of Patagonia the CONICET (Puerto Madryn) and the National Agronomic Research Institute (INTA) in Bariloche. Since 2011 head of G2IES, Interdisciplinary Group of Social Space Research at the UNPA. He is coordinator of public land planning initiatives at local and regional scales.

Boris Gastón DIAZ (P3) is a Forest Engineer with a Master Degree in Watershed Management (Natural Resources Management) with Special Mention in Mountainous Watersheds, at La Plata National University (both titles), in Buenos Aires (Argentina). For 11 years since 1992 he participated in several forest research projects specially oriented to growth modelling, forest and timber yield, silviculture as well as wood technology. Since 2005, his main research interests are geography, cartography, GIS and remote sensing with special interest in land planning and management. Since 2005 he coordinates the Official Territorial Information System of Santa Cruz Province (SIT SantaCruz Project). In 2008 started several projects of mass production of digital cartography (between other objectives) for this region upon several cooperative agreements with national, regional and local institutions and governments, with the main goal of establishing a Spatial Data Infrastructure for the region in a medium time period. Since 2006, has participated in several research projects in fields of interest mentioned above specially in cooperation with researchers of Patagonia Austral National Univers. He currently participates in research project “Biophysical skills for economic activities and human settlement in Patagonia. Indicators, geographic information and spatial units” with researchers of four national universities of Patagonia, the CONICET (Puerto Madryn) and the National Agronomic Research Institute (INTA) in Bariloche.

Viviana Mariel NAVARRO (P3) is Tourism adjunct professor, in the National University of Patagonia Austral, UNPA and Tourism Professor of the Salesiano Higher Education Institute (ISES). Has important teaching experience in tourism. She is Headmaster in the training project of tourism degrees at UNPA-UARG University (UNPA National University of Patagonia Austral). Her scientific interests are: Tourism Sustainable Development, Tourism Resources value, Inventories, Tourism Heritage.

Prof. Navarro is member of the research projects related to Santa Cruz’s productive sectors and labour market, mainly related to the area of tourism. She has participated in dissemination activities as in the Patagonian Congress of Tourism in the cities of Rawson and Trelew, located in the province of Chubut, Argentina (Chubut- UNPSJB) and in the “Seventh week of Science and Technology” in UNPA-UARG.

Daniel Alberto SCHINELLI (P3) is specialized in Social Sciences, Management, Tourism and Economics. Has participated in research projects related to social and economic issues, lead by UNPA. He has Specialized Studies in Marketing, Management, Tourism, Economics and Social Research, in training of Microentrepreneurs, small and medium companies and social organizations. Currently, he teaches Tourism and Foreign Trade, in UNPA. He has worked as training professor at the State Department of Tourism in the province of Santa Cruz and for the National Ministry of labour. He is coordinator of the National Economic Survey of Santa Cruz province. In the private sector he is working as a consultant. He participates in lectures related to Economics, Tourism and Labour Market in UNPA and social organizations fields. He has published several documents and articles related to his working areas in provincial and national fields. He is coauthor of the book “Turismo en Santa Cruz, Herramientas de Gestión aplicadas al sector” (*Tourism in Santa Cruz, Management Tools applied to the field*) He participated in several congresses related to social topics and in the last years he had specialized in tourism area.

Enzo FASIOLI (P3), is a Engineer in Natural Renewal Resources (UNPA) and boursier at the National Agency of Scientific and Technological Research Promotion (ANPCyT) based at Río Turbio academic unity of the National

University Patagonia Austral. He is Candidate of Sciences in Geography at La Plata National University. His research interests are linked to the area of Territorial Development and Natural Resources, with particular focus on Rural – Territorial Development. Since 2008, has participated in research projects in fields of interest mentioned above at the Patagonia Austral National University. At the moment he participates in research project “Biophysical skills for economic activities and human settlement in Patagonia. Indicators, geographic information and spatial units” with researchers of four national universities of Patagonia, the CONICET (Puerto Madryn) and the National Agronomic Research Institute (INTA) in Bariloche. Since 2011 is part of G2IES, Interdisciplinary Group of Social Space Research at the UNPA.

Pablo GODOY (P3) is a Geograph Professor (UNPA) in Urban Geography and Geography of Global Space at the National University Patagonia Austral. He is Candidate of Sciences in Geography at La Plata National University. His research interests are linked to the area of Territorial Development and Natural Resources, with particular focus on Distributive Conflicts within enterprises, state and local – regional societies for access to the commons. Since 2004, has participated in several research projects in fields of interest mentioned above at the Patagonia Austral National University. At the moment he participates in research project “Biophysical skills for economic activities and human settlement in Patagonia. Indicators, geographic information and spatial units” with researchers of four national universities of Patagonia, the CONICET (Puerto Madryn) and the National Agronomic Research Institute (INTA) in Bariloche. Since 2011 is part of G2IES, Interdisciplinary Group of Social Space Research at the UNPA.

Ulrik MARTENSSON (P4) – PhD in Geography, Lecturer at the Department of Physical Geography and Ecosystems Analysis and the GIS-Centre at Lund University since 1985. He is also Co-founder and Director of the Environment consulting company DUMECO. Professionally experienced in the fields of geomorphology and geography, with a focus on land degradation, water resources and coastal environment and management issues, Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS). As a participant in various assignments also gathered insight in related fields such as social sciences, human geography, agronomy, forestry, coastal ecology and coastal sensitivity modelling. Several assignments related to implementation of new technology (GIS) in complex organisations (environment sector at national level) in LIC and MIC countries. Has long and thorough experience from management, planning and conducting university teaching programmes and job training. Dr. Martensson has a great experience in European and international cooperation projects (TEMPUS, Leonardo etc.), mainly with developing countries.

Jan Henrik NILSSON (P4) is specialized in economic geography and tourism. PhD in Philosophy, Social and Economic Geography, he is Senior lecturer in economic geography, department of Service Management, at Lund University and Head of the Master program in Tourism and Hospitality Management, and head of the specialization in tourism, within the Bachelor Programme in Service Management. He currently participates in R&D projects on the materiality of travel and the history of hospitality, Baltic eco-gastronomy, traumatic urban landscapes. In this project he will be mainly involved in the identification and analysis of clusters and potential clusters organized around ecotourism and community tourism.

Peter PILESJO (P4) PhD in Remote sensing and GIS and in Physical Geography, he has large competences in Multivariate Data Analysis, GIS, Climatology, Hydrology and Soil Conservation, and deep knowledge in hydrological modeling, topographical modeling/interpolation, coastal planning, morphometry, remote sensing and positioning (including GPS). He has long experience in organizing and conducting GIS courses and workshops in Sweden as well as in developing countries. Today Dr. Pilesjo is Director of Lund University GIS-Centre, and associate professor in Lund University. He is Head of Lund University Masters Course in GIS (LUMAGIS) with more than 2000 students from more than 90 countries, and responsible for all GIS education at the Department; Swedish coordinator of Erasmus Mundus International Master’s program “Geo-information and Earth Observation for Environmental modeling and Management” and Swedish coordinator of Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window lot 8, Iran, Iraq and Yemen since 2007, lot 10, ACP, since 2008, and lot 2, Egypt since 2009. He is member of many professional bodies, such as: AGILE – Association for GIS laboratories in Europe; ULI – Swedish association for GIS users and developers, SNAP – Swedish National Air Pollution and Health Effects Program etc.

Manuela KRONEN (P4) is, since September 2011, PhD student on the topic of sustainable tourism in rural areas at the Department of Service Management, Lund University. Her research interest is focused on the translation of sustainability from theory to practice. She has earlier worked on the topic of sustainability in her Master Thesis, “Climate change risk governance at municipal tourist offices in Sweden”, spring 2011, and been awarded the scholarship “Best Master Thesis in Service Management 2011”, financed by Sparbanksstiftelsen Skåne. In summer 2011 she participated at the international LERU Bright Student Conference in organized by Lund University. Through participation in international projects, such as the climate related “Act Now” project by Friends of the

Earth, 2009, participation in the UNFCCC meeting COP 15 in Copenhagen, 2009, as well as activities as facilitator of environmental school projects "Young Ideas for Europe", Robert Bosch Stiftung, 2009, she holds a rich experience of international cooperation and project management.

Eduardas SPIRIAJEVAS (P5) PhD in Physical Geography, „Impact of Tourism for Development of the Border Regions: Economic Geographic Study of the South-East Baltic Coastal regions“, he is currently teaching Common Cartography, Geography of Recreation and Tourism, Economic Geography and International Tourism at Klaipeda University in Lithuania. His scientific interests are: Impact of tourism for development of regions, and regional disparities of tourism development; differentiation of geography of economic branches; geographic problems of preservation of cultural heritage; application of GIS for socioeconomic researches. In 2009 prepared and managed Erasmus Intensive Programme (IP) Project “Sustainable Development in the Baltic Sea Region – BAREGIS”, implemented at Klaipeda University. In 2007 he prepared the Project for Interreg III A Neighbourhood Programme „Establishment of Bipolar Area of Science and Research Klaipėda – Kaliningrad (RESAREA)“, and participated as Project expert. According to the task, established the Center for Cross Border Studies, that he currently heads (www.kantiana.ru/resarea). In 2006 – 2007 participated in the Project „Intermodality and Interoperability in the Baltic Sea Region – INTERBALTIC“, Interreg III B.

Jūratė Kamičaitytė-Virbašienė (P5) Doctor of technological sciences, he is specialized in architecture and landscape visual quality analysis. His scientific interests are: landscape design, cognitive tourism, environmental research and management, evaluation and regulation by means of environmental design, analysis of social preferences evaluating landscape visual quality and use of the analysis results in territory planning, economic value of landscape visual quality, expression of sustainable development conception in building and architecture. He is executor of the project „Renewal of Study Programmes for bachelor's degree “Engineering Systems of Buildings”, “Civil Engineering” and “Architecture” financed by European Union and Republic of Lithuania. Member of organizational work group of the 4th urban forum of Lithuania “Urban Sprawl: Joint of Town and Country” which took place in November 2010. Chairman of organizational committee of republican conference “Developing and Developed Landscape” (April in 2007). Chairman of organizational committee of republican conference “Problems of Horizontal and Vertical Urban Sprawl” and Chairman of organizational committee of republican conference “Expression of Sustainable Development in Architecture and Territory Planning”.

Kestutis ZALECKIS (P5) Head of the Department of Architecture and Land Management at Kaunas University in Lithuania, Dr. Zaleckis is specialized in architecture and urban planning. The main interest of his scientific activities are modeling of cityscape, urban genotype and phenotype, urban history, history and usage of military architecture. He is member of 3 scientific councils for doctoral dissertation defence at Kaunas University of Technology and 2 scientific councils at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University. He participated in five international conferences; In 2001-2004 he was member of the management committee and work group of COST action C11 “Green Structure and Urban Planning”; since 2003 representative of Institute of Architecture and Construction and work group member of CIB WG69 “Housing Sociology” group; 2005-2008 participant of INTERREG IIIB “Baltic Fort Route” project and coordinator of KTU ASI activities in the project; since 2008 management committee and work group member of COST action TU0602 “Land Management for Urban Dynamics”; since 2009 management committee member of COST action TU0902 “Integrated Assessment Technologies To Support the Sustainable Development of Urban Areas”.

B 1.3 Complementarities and synergies between the partners

POLARIS partners have already a strong expertise in cross-cultural valorisation of cultural and natural heritage on regional territories. POLARIS has the scope to cross this expertise in different disciplines (economics, politics, history, literature, education, interpretation, tourism, etc.) on comparative issues and territories (Arctic and Subantartic). Two main territories will be studied (Siberia and Extreme South Latin America) with similar features and comparative data: territory, biodiversity, extreme climate, climate change, communities, etc.

POLARIS CONSORTIUM-PARTNERS

CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERTISE

Productions & Results

TRAINING

FIELD STUDIES

POLARIS

- Seminars
- Summer University
- Distance learning/platform

DIFFUSION

- Multimedia
- Communication supports/tools

- Collecting data
- Interviews
- Surveys

SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

- Data bases
- Inventories
- Tourism Observatory

- Applied sciences
- Conferences
- Expertise

POLARIS is an interdisciplinary project focused on three main geographical zones: Europe, Russia and Latin America. All the partners have already an extended experience on topics, field studies and scientific tools to develop and implement activities and objectives. Besides, they have also set up co-operation and scientific collaboration between these three areas through bilateral and multilateral programmes and projects (FP6, FP7, French National Research Agency etc.).

The partners are specialized in different areas, but their competences will complete each other within this project, what will allow an efficient and mutually beneficial exchange between them:

Researchers from UVSQ, France (P1) have important expertise in tourism, regional development, cultural mediation, cultural heritage of Polar regions, anthropology, biology, geography. They have good expertise in methods and tools used in Europe for regional valorization, that they will try to adapt to the particular context of polar regions, together with Russian and Argentinian teams.

Researchers from NEFU, Russia, (P2) and UNPA, Argentina (P3) have a deep knowledge of the natural and cultural heritage of their regions, rich expertise in ethnology, ethnography, linguistics, literature, mythology, but also tourism, land management and sustainable development. They start to put in place in their regions new forms of touristic activities, public-private enterprises and other local initiatives in order to better explore and preserve the rich natural and cultural heritage of these territories. The expertise of european partners of the project will be thus very relevant for them.

Partners from Sweden and Lithuania (P4, P5) are specialized in geography, tourism, Geo-Information Systems, sustainable architecture, land design and management. Their competences, complementary with those of French, Russian and Argentinean researchers are very relevant for the achievement of this project's objectives and for the transfer of knowledge to the third country partners and local actors.

The diversity of competences gathered in each team, but also a different level of development of the regions concerned by the project in terms of touristic clusters (Lapland, Patagonia and Siberia) form a solid basis for a mutually beneficial transfer of knowledge and best practice in the frame of this mobility program.

- The partner consortium is based on complementary actions in order to produce the best expertises, surveys and analyses in the three main geographical areas mentioned above (Scandinavia, Patagonia and Siberia).
- The consortium is already involved in bilateral and multilateral actions, programmes and projects (FP6, FP7, French National Agency for Research, etc.) that strengthen its scientific experience and capacity to manage such a project.

- The consortium has already an extended network on the topics composed of regional networks with universities, scientific centres, private sectors (tourism industries and agencies), civil society, etc.
- Many areas of knowledge, university disciplines and investigation are included in POLARIS project including bridges to the private sector and industry: GIS and cartography, geography, tourism, economy, literature, education, communication, biology, climate change, e-learning and education sciences, multimedia, media industry, laws, history, politics, etc.
- POLARIS is a multi-geo-linguistic project with strong scientific transfers between two regions that have little scientific collaboration (Siberia and South Argentina). This point is an added value for the European co-operation policy regarding countries with S&T agreement from the European Commission.
- POLARIS is based on prestigious research laboratories and departments (Europe, Russia and Argentina) having capacities, skills, networks and experience concerning the objectives and the activities proposed by the consortium.
- Knowledge transfers will be the main focus of the consortium regarding the studied areas, as the most important intellectual and applied synergy between participants (researchers, laboratories, departments, public and private sectors, etc.).
- POLARIS is implemented in a sustainable and long term vision with the establishment of a Tourism Observatory that will perpetuate POLARIS activities and actions undertaken during the 48 months duration of the project. This structure will be based on the experience of the consortium and the additional networks at local, regional, national and international levels.

B 2. Transfer of Knowledge

B 2.1. Quality and mutual benefit of the transfer of knowledge

The 165 scheduled exchange experiences have the scope to strengthen collaborations and scientific co-operation at mutual levels through research activities, training sessions and science and technology transfers within the identified areas (Swedish Lapland, Siberia and Patagonia), between EU countries and two countries with an S&T agreement with the European Commission (Argentina and Russia). POLARIS is an interdisciplinary project with case studies into two comparative regions (Arctic and Sub-Antarctic) located into extreme climate zones. In order to set up efficient transfer of required knowledge linked to the project (activities, actions, researches, training sessions, etc.), an initial kick-off meeting (Month 2) will be held with the aim to launch the agreed scientific programme and scheduled exchanges. During all duration of the project, the participants will be involved in series of workshops, common fieldwork, courses and conferences such as: inventory of local natural and cultural heritage, analysis of tools developed by museums, interviews of local population, analysis of touristic clusters, scientific conference (Month 24), short training courses with PhD and undergraduate students (Month 7-48), workshops with local stakeholders, case studies (Argentina and Russia) and international Observatory of Tourism (M 43-48). These activities will be completed by research actions and methodology (theoretical and applied) developed in the different work packages. The establishment of an international Observatory of Tourism will be an institutional and research achievement of POLARIS project. Indeed, it will have the aim to gather all collected information (field, theoretical, databases, interviews, statistics, etc.) in order to keep the partners involved in networks at local, national, regional and international levels.

The activities of the project have been grouped in a way to mix collaborations between EU, Russian and Argentinean teams, in order to allow an efficient transfer of knowledge and the mutual benefit, especially of Third country researchers. The mobility scheme was designed with the intention to explore the most the expertise and the potential of all the partners, their complementarities, with the main attention focused on the transfer of knowledge to the researchers from the third countries with S&T agreement with EU (Russia and Argentina).

Regarding **case studies**, in each country with an S&T agreement with European Commission (Russia and Argentina), a specific scientific study will be conducted on a target site in order to collect, assess and design a cross-cultural valorisation process.

The specialized **training courses** will involve academic staff (senior and junior researchers, PhD candidates and postgraduate students from EU/Argentina/Russia), centres of excellences, universities and institutions. These training courses will be focused on topics linked to POLARIS themes, such as: socio-economical valorisation of heritage, cultural tourism and technologies and cross-cultural interpretation of local heritage. The aim of these training courses is to strengthen transfer capacities and knowledge to researcher staff and scientist in the concerned regions of POLARIS project. They will be interdisciplinary, mixing sciences and human sciences in order to give a better assessment of a studied territory. Therefore, these training courses will focus their attention on (non exhaustive):

biodiversity, tourism development, sustainability, new technologies applied to tourism, representations from the North, cross-cultural interpretation and socio-economical valorisation of cultural and natural heritage. Besides, an e-Learning platform will be implemented during all the duration of POLARIS project in order to stock and diffuse didactical materials. This platform will be managed by LU (Sweden) as a virtual support for teachers, teaching and students. It will be a multilingual and open platform in order to facilitate the use of this educational tool. The training courses will be held in Russia, Lithuania and Argentina.

The **scientific conference** will be organised in France on understanding cultural and natural heritage in Polar regions, with the aim to, not only to implement dialogue and exchanges between POLARIS partners and additional participants, but also to present regional point of views (Scandinavia, Patagonia and Siberia) that could be discussed. This mid-term conference will be one of the major event of the project, that will involve the majority of participants, but also students, PhD students and public and private actors.

Finally, the **workshops with local actors** (regional and local powers, decision makers, civil society actors, enterprises, tourism and cultural industry actors) that will be held in Russia and in Argentina, will help to raise awareness of that actors with the issues of eco-tourism, polar heritage valorization and regional sustainable development, to familiarize them with the tools that will be developed in the project (WP1, WP4, WP5), and to ensure an efficient transfer of knowledge not only within the consortium members, but also to the other beneficiaries of the project. The links that Russian and Argentinean partners of POLARIS have with local community and industrial actors, will ensure the efficiency of that transfer of knowledge.

The activities of the project are based on the intention of transferring scientific, field and methodological knowledge and capacities to cover lacks, needs at local, national, regional and international levels. The final aim will be to put all collected information in the international **Observatory of Tourism**, and in the online database for stakeholders, researchers and communities and to produce an integrated and flexible management plan.

The main potential audience identified for the diffusion of POLARIS outputs, externally of the consortium will be as follows:

- Research communities located in extreme regions (Arctic and Sub-Antarctic) and interested in field research and methods;
- All the scientific communities working in EU, Argentina and Russia that could have a major interest in consulting these data, survey, researches and outputs;
- Local and regional stakeholders and policy-makers;
- Enterprises, policy makers and civil society actors actively involved in the international cooperation;
- Private sector, especially the tourism industry, that could have a great interest in the methods developed during the 48 months of the project;
- Civil society that could diffuse and inform audience about the collected data and the scientific productions set up, with a special attention regarding media (press, radio, TV, news papers, etc.) and non-specialised audience/reviews/diffusion.

POLARIS partners will increase their sustainable knowledge and benefit of transfer, by:

- Opening an Argentinean-Russian group of research exchanges, collaborations and research co-operation linked to socio-economical valorisation of territories taking into account local specificities for a sustainable process;
- Promoting high level methods of investigation and knowledge transfer on specific areas (Siberia, Patagonia, Scandinavia) in close collaboration with centres of excellence in times of climate change;
- Establishing efficient data bases on tourism that will be diffused and analysed as key indicators linked to territories and regions;
- Promoting cross-cultural understanding of cultural and natural heritage in time of globalisation in order to strengthen local private and public sectors to implement sustainable methods and strategy of development;
- Encouraging cross-cultural expertises and points of view in research, project management and good practices linked to cultural and natural heritage.

B 2.2. Adequacy and role of staff exchanged with respect of transfer of knowledge

The staff exchanged within this project have different but complementary competences and backgrounds. Experienced researchers as well as early-stage researchers will be involved in the project.

Experienced researchers from EU countries with solid competences in tourism and GIS design and implementation will play an important role for the transfer of knowledge to the third country partners, through especially dedicated workshops. The participation of third country experienced researchers, with deep knowledge of regional specifics and cultural and natural heritage of the focus-regions, but also the links they have with regional government and

local society, is crucial for the implementation of the project with the respect of the regional specifics and its sustainability. The exchange of that kind of knowledge between Russian, Argentinian and EU partners will ensure the essential comparative approach, and will help the project partners to jointly address global issues of climate change adaptation and meet regional needs specific to arctic and sub-antarctic regions.

Early stage researchers will perform more long-term fieldwork, data collecting and analysis. Their participation in the project will ensure the transfer of knowledge not only between different countries, but also between different generations of researchers on international scale, and secure the durability of project's results. The implication of early stage researchers from Siberia and Patagonia is highly beneficial for the transfer of knowledge: it will contribute to the training of a new generation of specialists in these regions, what in long term will help to modernize the regional economy and help it to face the global issues.

The staff indicated in the table below as managerial staff are also experienced researchers. In the project they will perform an important scientific work, but they will also assume the role of manager for their organisation within this project, and will represent their organisation in the Steering committee. The project's objectives will be achieved through series of activities and field work, organised in different geographical zones and involving international and multi-disciplinary teams with complementary competences. These activities and their organisation in different geographical zones, due to the context of this project, are crucial for the achievement of its objectives and for the efficiency of transfer of knowledge. The organisation of such activities needs important logistic and managerial efforts, that's why the exchange of the technical and managerial staff is absolutely indispensable for a good project's running.

Table 6 Adequacy and role of staff exchanged

N°	Code	Name	Partner
1	MANAG1	Jan Borm	UVSQ
2	TECHN1	Eugenia Shadlova	
3	ER1	Isabel Brianso	
4	ER2	Gianni Giardino	
5	ER3	Didier Ramousse	
6	ER4	Matthieu Sourdeval	
7	ER5	Sébastien Gadal	
8	ER6	Alexandra Lavrillier	
9	ESR1	Dariya Nikolaeva	
10	ESR2	Johanna Kodzik	
11	ESR3	Isabel Vazquez	
12	MANAG2	Claudia Fedorova	NEFU
13	ER7	Aitalina Borissova	
14	ER8	Liudmila Egorova	
15	ER9	Liudmila Zamorshchikova	
16	ER10	Elena Totonova	
17	ER11	Mikhail Prisyaznyy	
18	ESR4	Vera Potapova	
19	ESR5	Marina Kysylbaikova	
20	MANAG3	Alejandro Schweitzer	UNPA
21	ER12	Boris Diaz	
22	ER13	Viviana Navarro	
23	ER14	Daniel Schinelli	
24	ESR6	Enzo Fasioli	

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25	ESR7	Pablo Godoy	
26	MANAG4	Ulrik Martensson	LU
27	ER15	Jan Henrik Nilsson	
28	ER16	Peter Pilesjo	
29	ESR8	Manuela Kronen	
30	MANAG5	Kestutis Zaleckis	KTU
31	ER17	Jurate Kamicaityte	
32	ER18	Eduardas Spiriajevas	

B 3. Implementation

B 3.1 Capacities (Expertise/human resources/ facilities/infrastructure) to achieve the objectives of the planned cooperation

PARTNER 1 The University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines (UVSQ)/France created in 1991, UVSQ is a multi-disciplinary University. Its strategic sectors are Biology and Medicine, Chemistry, Physics in materials and renewable energy, Environment and Sustainable Development, Mathematics, Computing and Engineering Sciences, Cultures, Humanities and Social Sciences, Institutions and Organisations.

Its annual budget is 120 million Euros, with more than 17,000 students (the only French University with a regular growth since 8 years), 715 doctoral students, 35 research laboratories (12 associated with major French research organisations: CNRS, INSERM, CEA), a Universe Sciences Research Institute (OVSQ) and 3 research federations (in environment, physics and chemistry, biology/health).

In 2011 UVSQ entered in Shanghai ranking. UVSQ is a founding member of the PRES UniverSud Paris, composed of 21 organisations. UVSQ is member of Campus du plateau de Saclay (12 fields, Paris Saclay Innovation...) and of European and International organisations (Climate-KIC, FP7 research projects...). The development of scientific collaborations and international cooperation are the strategic priorities for UVSQ.

UVSQ Research Centres, involved in POLARIS project are: CEARC (European Centre for the Arctic), CEMOTEV (Centre for the Study on Globalisation, Conflicts, Territories and Vulnerabilities) and SACIM (Sciences, Arts, Culture, Innovation and Multimedia). The team from UVSQ will include specialists in geography, geomatics, tourism, cultural mediation, anthropology, linguistics. They already collaborate together on several scientific and educational projects.

PARTNER 2 North-Eastern Federal University (NEFU)/Russian Federation is one of the major actors in education and research of the North-Eastern part of the Russian Federation. The university is currently implementing 81 major academic programs; there are 8 institutes, 10 faculties, 5 research institutions, 3 branches. Its teaching staff includes 1,400 full-time teachers: more than 152 doctors and 660 candidates of science (PhDs). Over 22 thousand students study at the University. Graduates of the University represent the academic, cultural and administrative elite of the region. The University established long-standing and strong relations with many foreign universities. They are cooperating in the field of education, student and faculty exchange, holding joint conferences and symposia.

System-wide activities aimed at reforming and improving of the educational process, modernization of research process, radical improvement of human capacities and enrollment rate, infrastructure development, improvement of administrative and organizational systems of the University are included in the "New quality University project".

Program activities aimed at development of growth points on 5 priority areas of NEFU development which are grouped in 13 projects:

- Environmentally friendly and technologically efficient reproduction of mineral resource base, environmental management;
- High technology and production in the North;
- Quality of life in the North;
- Conservation and development of cultures of peoples in the Arctic;
- Analytical and staff support for innovative socio-economic development of the north-east of Russia.

POLARIS objectives correspond to the strategic priorities of NEFU and of the region. NEFU has modern infrastructure and human resources necessary to achieve the objectives of the mobility program, and to secure the durability of its results.

The multidisciplinary team from NEFU will include experienced researchers and PhD students with competences in history, ethnic culture, linguistics, tourism, ethnology, geography, biology and economics.

PARTNER 3 Southern Patagonia National University (UNPA)/Argentina, was constituted from the Southern Patagonia Federal University (Universidad Federal de la Patagonia Austral, UFPA). UNPA was originally created upon a treaty between Santa Cruz and Tierra del Fuego provinces on December 6, 1990, approved by Public Act No.2212 of Santa Cruz Province Government and finally founded by National Congress Act No.24446, to carry out the purposes established in National Law N0.24521 of Higher Education.

UNPA main goals include (a) to organize and to provide university higher education, through conventional classes or distance education, upon a curricular structure composed of basic, professional and postgraduate cycles, according to what is established by academic statutes; (b) to organize and to develop activities for knowledge creation and systematization through procedures of basic and applied research as well as experimental development and technological application, in agreement with regional, zonal and national demands and needs; (c) to organize and to coordinate extension activities and social functions promoting culture creation, preservation and dissemination; (d) to promote national and regional social and economical development through specific activities, as well as for environment conservation; (e) to facilitate and to coordinate actions on Education, Science and Technology carried out by other public and private institutions in the region; and (f) to provide consulting services, leased or not, to public or private institutions, as well as to establish partnerships for development and operation of physical or intellectual assets.

UNPA tends to integrate a network mainly composed by institutions that share the same academic purposes. To achieve this goal UNPA proposed the establishment of coordination channels with the original governments that allowed its foundation, as well as with social organizations and institutions, public agencies and companies in the region, capable of establishing a stable and permanent relation of cooperation and coordination with the university.

The academic organization of UNPA consists in four decentralized academic units currently located in four different cities: Rio Gallegos, Caleta Olivia, Puerto San Julian and Rio Turbio, all in Santa Cruz province. This organizational structure maintains consistency of its actions and its decisions through the leadership and coordination of a rectorate, a governing council and a university assembly.

UNPA team includes experienced and early stage researchers specialized in natural resources and land management, geography, administration, tourism and rural development.

PARTNER 4 Lund University (LU)/ SWEDEN. Established in 1666, it is today Sweden's strongest comprehensive research university and ranked as one of the world's top 100 universities. Around 46 000 students study at the University, which has some 6 000 employees. The majority of the University's activities are in Lund, but a number of education and research departments are based in Malmö. The University also has a growing campus in Helsingborg and a School of Aviation in Ljungbyhed. The annual budget of the University amounts to about 650 Million EURO.

LU is a research intensive university belonging to the League of European Universities (LERU) and the international [Universitas 21](#). Internationally renowned research is carried out at Lund University in several cutting-edge research fields, including nanotechnology, climate change and stem cell biology. With eight faculties covering engineering, science, medicine, economics, social sciences, fine and performing arts, law and humanities, together with a number of specialised research centres, Lund University has a breadth of research and a strong cross-disciplinary approach to finding solutions to today's world problems. The University is an important force in the expansive Öresund region, not least since two of Europe's largest research facilities, Max IV and ESS, will be built in Lund within the next ten years.

Internationalisation is one of Lund University's strategies to achieve the vision of standing among the very best European universities. As a part of this strategy Lund University cooperates with universities all over the world through bilateral agreements, educational and research programmes, networks and research collaboration. Today LU has over 680 partner universities in over 50 countries and welcomes over 3000 international Master's and exchange students every year.

The scientific role of Lund University in the project is to contribute with its extensive experience in development of e-learning courses and programs, to add new aspects of technical, pedagogic and scientific nature to

programmes that is going to be developed, both regarding campus and distance learning. Lund University has received accreditation of excellence for the Lund University Master's Program in GIS, totally Internet based, from the European Association for Distance Teaching Universities as the first university in Europe. This means that quality assurance and quality control are up to the highest possible European standards. The participants from Lund University have extensive (more than 25 years) experience from international cooperation and been involved in all types of activities related to tourism and natural resource management in sensitive environments, both in high and low latitude countries. Their participation in the project and the transfer of knowledge it makes possible, is crucial to achieve the objectives of the exchange program.

PARTNER 5 Kaunas University of Technology (KTU), Lithuania – the largest technical university in the Baltic States. Being one of the most dynamic schools of higher education in Lithuania, KTU has become a research and study leader in various fields. Key activities of the university are following: education, research. There are around 14000 students and 4000 teaching staff and researchers employed at the university. Studies of architecture started in Kaunas at 1921. In 1971 studies of architecture were transferred from Kaunas to Vilnius Department of Architecture and Land Management was recreated at Kaunas University of Technology, Faculty of Civil Engineering and Construction in 1993. Affiliations: KTU is a member of the Association of European Universities, Société Européenne pour la Formation des Ingénieurs, UNESCO international centre of engineering education, European Universities Continuing Education Network, Baltic Sea Region Universities Network, etc. The Department of Architecture and Land Management is a member of EAEE and ENHSA. In 2008, study programs of architecture at KTU were attested by an international team of experts without condition. At the moment, 250 students are enrolled in three study programs of architecture (one bachelor program and two programs of master studies). Teaching staff consists of researchers and practicing architects. Research topics of our department: urban genotypes and phenotypes, formation of landscape and its qualities, cultural heritage. KTU team, including specialists in architecture, environmental design, cultural heritage, urbanism and geography is complementary to both its European and third country partners.

B 3.2 Appropriateness of the plans for the overall management of the exchange programme.

The coordination of the project will be performed by UVSQ (P1), with the support of the Scientific Committee, composed of Work Package Leaders. The leadership for each work package is represented in the table below:

Table 7 Work Package Leaders

WP N°	Leader organisation short name	Partner N°	Contact person name
1	UNPA	3	Alejandro Schweitzer
2	NEFU	2	Claudia Fedorova
3	UVSQ	1	Jan Borm
4	KTU	5	Kestutis Zaleckis
5	LU	4	Ulrik Martensson
6	LU	4	Ulrik Martensson
7	UVSQ	1	Jan Borm

The Work Package leader-organizations have been designated according to their competences, the degree of their implication in each work package, but also their overall role in the project and their benefice of the project's results.

The Scientific Committee, headed by the project coordinator (Jan Borm), will be responsible for the monitoring of the scientific progress of the project, the efficiency of the transfer of knowledge, while controlling the achievement of the objectives foreseen and corresponding deliverables/milestones, identifying deviations from the established work plan and agreeing on necessary corrective actions. Decisions will be made by simple majority of votes. The Scientific Committee will meet twice a year. In order to reduce the logistics costs, these meeting will be held at the same period and at the same place as the project's activities (workshops, conferences), or virtually.

The control of the good functioning of the mobility scheme and its adequacy with the projects tasks and timing, will be performed by the Management team, composed of the Scientific Coordinator, Scientific Manager and Administrative Manager, with support of the Steering Committee, composed of one representative from each

partner organization. These representatives will be designated by each partner (mainly, the participants with important experience in international cooperation), and will be the main contact of the project coordinator for all management issues. The Steering Committee will be responsible for the piloting of the project and of the exchange scheme, and will meet once a year.

The quality management of the project, will be performed by the Management Team, with the support of the Scientific Committee. That will facilitate the interaction and the common work of the researchers with different cultural backgrounds. They will be responsible for the quality of common activities: conferences, courses etc, but also deliverables, common publications, scientific reports etc.

The day-to-day management of the project will be ensured by the Administrative Manager, with the support of the Steering Committee members. The Administrative manager will be responsible for all administrative, financial and legal issues related to the project. She will be the contact point of the consortium for these issues, and the interface with the EC services.

We consider that such management scheme is the most appropriate for this kind of scientific project, allowing on the one hand the good monitoring of the scientific progress of the project as well as the efficiency of transfer of knowledge, and, on the other, control of the good functioning of the exchange scheme, and more generally the overall smooth running of the project.

During the periods of mobility, the participants in POLARIS have their jobs and salary guaranteed, regardless the duration of the stays engaged. There will be no salary cuts due to research visits, because each university takes benefit of the planned mobility. Their nominal work will be redistributed internally within each partner organization. Teaching obligations will be partly rearranged and partly delegated in order to be available for secondment period. The long term stays (several months) will be mainly held in summer.

The scheduled exchange programme comprises 165 p/m (129 exchanges), 44 p/m EU to Russia, 40 p/m EU to Argentina, 42 p/m Russia to EU, 39 p/m Argentina to EU, as indicated in the table below:

Table 8 Exchanges scheduled

Partner	Country	N° exch.	To	Budget €	EU contribution requested €
UVSQ	France	53 p/m	29 p/m to NEFU, 24 p/m to UNPA	105500	105500
NEFU	Russia	42 p/m	16 p/m to UVSQ, 9 p/m KTU, 17 p/m to LU	79800	79800
UNPA	Argentina	39 p/m	11 p/m to UVSQ, 8 p/m to KTU, 20 p/m to LU	81900	81900
LU	Sweden	21 p/m	11 p/m to UNPA, 10 p/m to NEFU	42100	42100
KTU	Lithuania	10 p/m	5 p/m to NEFU, 5 p/m to UNPA	20000	20000
Total				329300	329300

B 4 Impact

B 4.1 Relevance of the proposed partnership to the area of collaboration and to the ERA.

The purpose of this project is based on reinvesting the experience and know-how accumulated during these last years in Europe, Russia and Argentina, with emphasis in peripheral spaces where a “pioneer” tourism of wilderness appeared recently. The training of students able to conceive and control projects of sustainable tourism in relatively virgin and fragile natural environments, exposed to the impacts of climate change, can be based on the French and Scandinavian expertise of tourism patrimonial valorization in this type of environment. The objective is to integrate economic, social, cultural and political dimensions, through the analysis of the representations and strategies deployed by the indigenous and new populations who cohabit in these peripheral spaces, where growing tourist flows replaced the travelers of the last centuries. The reflection started within our teams on observatories will find a field of application in these territories where recent tourist activity needs to be channeled and framed, in order to limit the negative impacts on more or less fragile ecosystems and populations, but also to optimize generating repercussions of local development while taking care of an advantageous insertion in the value chain of tourism. Several approaches can be combined in the installation of tourism observatories.

- A macro approach focused on the tourist offer and frequentation, using indicators worked out from the statistical data available.
- A specific approach on the basis of further enquiry carried out with the actors of tourism, according to the

techniques of the snowball interviews and the roasters recall interviews. From the data collected on a local scale, work will then move on to the dynamic trajectories of “clusters” around tourism, starting from the analysis of entrepreneurial behavior and socio-economic networks of relations woven by the actors on various scales (as well for their territorial anchoring or their insertion in the global value chain), by using the methodology of ARS (structural analysis of the social networks). This type of approach put into practice in Venezuela within the framework of an ECOS project in the Orinoco basin, will not only inform us about the attractiveness/and sustainability of the tourist destinations, but contribute to the installation of information systems having vocation to be inserted within the framework of observatories. The objective is to make evolve the behavior of the actors of tourism, thanks to a system of shared training, and to provide elements to direct the public policies in favor of local development.

- The whole of the macro and micro data relating to the tourist activity and its networks must be the subject of a specialization and integrated with other layers of information in Geographical Information Systems (GIS). That will make it possible to evolve towards multidimensional regional observatories focused on the interactions between natural environments and society, which could be placed in the network for the exchange of information and good practices.

The implementation of this type of observatories in tourist frontier spaces, where the actors and their networks can be encircled with a relative precision, should allow an experience feedback which could be useful to make the observatories of tourism evolve. Those are centered on data storage brought up to date regularly, used as instrument panels to direct public policies, but their interactivity and their capacity to make evolve the behavior of the actors remain limited.

The concept and foundation of observatories is to be directly related to the educational elements which represent one of its chief components. As noted, risk analysis on which we focus cannot be separated from adapted education programs. From this point of view a community awareness is essential and we will also focus on an awareness among local, regional and national actors. From this point of view, comparative educational analyses will be to establish under what has been done in terms of Environmental Education (EE) from 1977 and the intellectual shift operated from 2004 in terms of Education for Sustainable Développement (ESD). Systematic errors made in these domains and mainly in education will be considered and examined objectively to propose and build serious educational programs. These educational links are necessary to be included in the protection of communities' considerations, but also in the cultural and intercultural approaches that are at the core of this proposal.

Argentina and Russia have recently developed research investigation on environment topics due to globalization context. Moreover, these countries include regions highly affected by climate change. Climate change, biodiversity and sustainable development are key priorities in the field of investigation at european and international levels. POLARIS mobility program will help to strenghten the ERA by jointly adressing global issues relative to climate change consequences, and regional needs specific to the three selected areas (Siberia, Scandinavia, Patagonia). By creating interdisciplinary touristic clusters which will attract human and financial ressources, the program will help to boost the economical development of these regions, generate new opportunities, and thus contribute to its stability and improve the living conditions.

Scientific collaborations between Europe and Russia are quite tight. The European Union and Russia have entered into a political commitment to create a 'Common Space in Research & Education, including Cultural Matters' (the 4th Common Space)¹. S&T cooperation with Russia is considered as a long-term priority for ERA, giving the fact that Russia is a neighbouring country with significant S&T capacities and has been the most successful third country in FP6². Jointly adressing environmental issues and supporting the mobility of researchers are 2 of 11 priority areas in EU-Russia policy dialogue. Russia suffers from environmental problems brought by recent economical growth. Yakutia, the richest in natural resources Russia's region, that knows important economical development today is particularly concerned by these problems. The close partnership between EU and Russia on a number of strategic ecological issues is essential for ensuring sustainable environmental security worldwide.³

Arctic is one of priority areas of the revised EU Northern Dimension Policy, a common policy between EU, Iceland, Norway and Russian Federation⁴. To fill knowledge gaps, reduce and anticipate future anthropogenic

¹ Roadmap for 4 Commom Spaces, EU-Russia Summit, Mai 2005

² European Union – Russian Federation Scientific and technological cooperation. A roadmap for action 2010-2012.

³ Compendium of science and technology cooperation between European Union, EU member states and Russian Federation, 2011

⁴ Council conclusions on Arctic issues, Council of the European Union, 2985th Foreign Affairs Council meeting, Brussels, 8 December 2009

effects in Arctic region, ERA has to strengthen its international cooperation in arctic research.

Argentina was actively involved in FP5, FP6 and FP7 projects. S&T cooperation between EU and Argentina is complementary to the existing bi-regional initiatives, such as aLFA, AlβAN and @LIS. Environmental research in one of priority areas in EU-Argentina S&T cooperation, and integration of environment in all development policies is one of main EU-Argentina cooperation objectives⁵. Moreover, educational exchanges and researchers' mobility are very positive factor for regional development and social cohesion in Argentina.

POLARIS mobility program will help to reinforce existing scientific collaborations between European, Argentinean and Russian partners (both countries with S&T cooperation agreement with EU), and create new observation infrastructures and networks in arctic and subantarctic regions. The project will support sustainable tourism, in order to minimize its ecological impact, protect fragile environment of those regions and the advantages that local communities can take of it.

All these are the priority objectives of ERA in environmental research. By addressing it, the project will also form high level specialists (Experienced Researchers) on these issues and regions, who can be further experts for the ERA. Participation of Early Stage Researchers in the mobility program will ensure the continuity and sustainability of research on these topics, form a new generation of specialists and favorise young researcher's careers. By bringing together best specialists, with complementary competences, and applying a comparative approach between arctic and subantarctic regions, the consortium will gain in efficiency to tackle urgent global challenges.

POLARIS project is complementary with the existing European projects and programs in its area, such as FRONTERAS TURISTICAS (URB-AL), COMET-LA (FP7), European program Euroclima. Obvious synergies exist between the education acts carried out on regional level, within the framework of PREFALC, the research activities in Venezuela on "*Oil, productive system and tourism in the Orinoco basin: which options for a sustainable development of the territories?*" (2010-2013), and on French national level, with the project CLASSIQUE (ANR). There is also a synergy with the recent French initiative to create a Franco-Siberian cooperation platform in Tomsk (Ouestern Siberia) to support bilateral S&T cooperation on environmental issues. Complementarities and synergies with the existing projects and initiatives will help to avoid duplication of efforts and benefit from existing knowledge and infrastructures in the area.

All project partners are the Universities. Universities play a unique role within the ERA, by the interaction they create between research and education. The excellence of European Universities is crucial for the ERA. POLARIS mobility program will help to strengthen existing collaborations, improve scientific and academic excellence of staff exchanged, favorise their scientific careers and create possibilities to develop interesting and beneficial research ideas for future projects. Taking into account specific needs of arctic and subantarctic regions, the project will help to better link the activities of the Universities with society needs.

B 4.2 Potential to develop lasting collaboration with the eligible third country partners (Argentina and Russia), in particular in view of setting-up joint research projects.

UVSQ researchers involved in this project have long term experience of co-operation with Russia and Argentina, in connection with universities, international institutions, national agencies of development, public authorities and economic actors. Didier Ramousse and Isabelle Brioso have been particularly involved, since 2003, in cooperation with Argentina on the topics of the valorization of the natural / cultural heritage and of the tourist development.

Specialized in Latin America, Didier Ramousse carried out several missions of expertise in Argentina on behalf of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs between 2003 and 2008, in order to evaluate the tourist potential of development in Patagonia and the Argentinean North West to tie co-operations there, on the plans academic and operational. That led to: the organization of French-Argentinian workshops on the following topics: "*Regional integration and heritage valorization of peripheral spaces in the context of globalization: towards a development plan in Southern Patagonian*" (UNPA, Rio Gallegos, Oct. 2004); "*Heritage, tourism and sustainable development*" within the framework of the 5th International symposium of Sustainable development of the Andes (Jujuy, April 2005); actions of cooperation in the provinces of Santa Cruz, Salta and Jujuy (2004-2011), where students of Master Tourism and Environment of the UVSQ carried out their training course in connection with the projects where France was implied; a network of Masters / Maestrias on the topic of "Tourism, Environment, Development", within the framework of the Cooperation Program Regional France - Latin America - Caribbean (PREFALC), with the first two points of anchoring in Salta (Argentina) and Ciudad Bolivar (Venezuela) over the

⁵ Argentine, document de stratégie pays 2007-2013, Commission Européenne, 2007 (E/2007/753)

period 2008-2009, then an extension of the co-operation to Chile (Valparaiso) and Mexico (Acapulco) programmed during the following period (2010-2012).

Isabelle Brianso has been involved in several S&T projects and organization of international conferences with Latin America and Russia:

S&T projects: TRAINMONHER (TRAINing in MONumental HERitage); STRAVAL (IRSES, FP7), 2010-2014; CLASSIQUE (ANR:CEP&S), 2011-2015; Ruta 2010 (ruta del bicentenario):Inventario y caracterización de la bio y geo diversidad y del patrimonio monumental en el sector de la laguna de Cuitzeo, Michoacán, Mexico, financed by AECID

Conferences: International Conference (june 2009): "Tourism and Patrimony in Siberia", NEFU, Yakoutsk (together with Jan Borm and other UVSQ researchers) ; Symposium (April 2011) : Climate change: a challenge for the world heritage », Palais de la Découverte, Paris etc.

UVSQ has also long term history of research cooperation with Siberia. UVSQ is actively involved in the new French initiative, held by French National Research Centre (CNRS) and French Ministry of Higher Education and Research, to create, in Tomsk (Siberia) a french-siberian platform of cooperation for higher education and research on environmental topics. The project coordinator, Jan Borm (CEARC) is developing scientific and educational cooperation projects and networks with Russia, and particularly with NEFU. Co-director of Master program « Arctic Studies » at UVSQ, Jan Borm cooperates with NEFU for students' exchange. This multi-disciplinary program, created in 2010 at UVSQ, prepares future experts of this key-region. The knowledge generated by POLARIS will be widely disseminated via the teaching within this master program. JB is also participates in the russian initiative NETESDA - thematic educational network « ecological education in arctic regions ». In 2011 CEARC, research laboratory directed by Jan Borm became associate member of the University of the Arctic.

Anthropologist, specialist in Siberian studies, Alexandra Lavrillier, performed around 8 years of fieldwork in Russia – 6 of which she spent among the nomadic reindeer herders and hunters. She speaks fluently Russian, but also three Siberian languages. Between 2005 and 2008 she contributed to the creation of an indigenous project of a nomadic school among the Evenk of Siberia, and founded an NGO 'French-Evenk Association Sekalan'. She has published series of articles and participated in numerous conferences on siberian populations, societies and cultures, in France as well as in Russia.

Gianni Giardino and Matthieu Sourdeval (SACIM, UVSQ) are co-coordinators of a 4 years project entitled « Climate, Agriculture and Siberian Society- What evolution? » funded by the French National Agency of Research (ANR). This project, starting in March 2011, focuses in particular on questions of climate change in Siberia, includes the establishment and the exploitation of an observatory on the issues of climate change impacts on Siberian societies. This project and POLARIS share common objectives that should enable them to feed into each other.

Didier Ramousse and Gianni Giardino (CEMOTEV, SACIM/UVSQ), together with NEFU teams, are preparing a common bachelor program « Tourism and regional development » that will be taught at NEFU, but with possibilities of student's exchange with UVSQ. The results of POLARIS are thus highly relevant for NEFU partners for the creation of this program.

KTU (P5) has also experience in cooperation with the Russian Federation. One of its projects is the establishment of a Bipolar Area of Science and Research Klaipeda - Kaliningrad (RESAREA), granted by the Neighbourhood Programme Lithuania - Poland – Russia. The overall goal of the project is to create infrastructure for the long-term development of scientific and innovation potential of both Klaipeda Country and Kaliningrad region by means of support of young researchers and strengthening the cross-border research cooperation and networking. The project shall contribute to enhancing the competitiveness of the cross-border region and ensuring the sustainable development of the area.

Finally, Eugenia Shadlova (CEARC/UVSQ), the Administrative Manager of POLARIS, born in the Russian Federation and a native speaker of Russian, has been especially engaged by CEARC/UVSQ to develop the S&T and educational cooperation with Russia that is one of the strategic partner-countries for CEARC.

Thus, UVSQ and KTU teams are involved in various research programs and have solid networks of co-operation in Russia and Argentina, where some of them have been engaged without discontinuity for thirty years. It is a guarantee for successful intensification of our co-operation in those parts of the world. The project will also create contacts between other consortium partners, and thus give new possibilities to develop ideas for future research projects.

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B5 Ethical Issues

The POLARIS proposal does not contain any ethical issues, so we have entered ‘no’ into every row of the following table and can confirm that none of the issues apply to the proposal.

The local existing best practices research and mapping (through interviews of stakeholders and policy makers) will involve real users and will be fully compliant with the privacy protection legislation of the EU member states.

(referred automatically to Ethical Review)

	Research on Human Embryo/ Foetus	YES	Page
*	Does the proposed research involve human Embryos?		
*	Does the proposed research involve human Foetal Tissues/ Cells?		
*	Does the proposed research involve human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)?		
*	Does the proposed research on human Embryonic Stem Cells involve cells in culture?		
*	Does the proposed research on Human Embryonic Stem Cells involve the derivation of cells from Embryos?		
	I CONFIRM THAT NONE OF THE ABOVE ISSUES APPLY TO MY PROPOSAL	X	

	Research on Humans	YES	Page
*	Does the proposed research involve children?		
*	Does the proposed research involve patients?		
*	Does the proposed research involve persons not able to give consent?		
*	Does the proposed research involve adult healthy volunteers?		
	Does the proposed research involve Human genetic material?		
	Does the proposed research involve Human biological samples?		
	Does the proposed research involve Human data collection?		
	I CONFIRM THAT NONE OF THE ABOVE ISSUES APPLY TO MY PROPOSAL	X	

	Privacy	YES	Page
	Does the proposed research involve processing of genetic information or personal data (e.g. health, sexual lifestyle, ethnicity, political opinion, religious or philosophical conviction)?		
	Does the proposed research involve tracking the location or observation of people?		
	I CONFIRM THAT NONE OF THE ABOVE ISSUES APPLY TO MY PROPOSAL	X	

	Research on Animals	YES	Page
	Does the proposed research involve research on animals?		
	Are those animals transgenic small laboratory animals?		
	Are those animals transgenic farm animals?		
*	Are those animals non-human primates?		
	Are those animals cloned farm animals?		
	I CONFIRM THAT NONE OF THE ABOVE ISSUES APPLY TO MY PROPOSAL	X	

	Research Involving Developing Countries	YES	Page
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	Does the proposed research involve the use of local resources (genetic, animal, plant, etc)?		
	Is the proposed research of benefit to local communities (e.g. capacity building, access to healthcare, education, etc)?	X	5, 9, 10, 11
	I CONFIRM THAT NONE OF THE ABOVE ISSUES APPLY TO MY PROPOSAL	X	

	Dual Use	YES	Page
	Research having direct military use		
	Research having the potential for terrorist abuse		
	I CONFIRM THAT NONE OF THE ABOVE ISSUES APPLY TO MY PROPOSAL	X	

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PART B

POLARIS