

TEACHER EDUCATION FOR DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY IN THE ARCTIC

Final Report



Sustainable Development
Working Group



ARCTIC COUNCIL

Project: Teacher Education for Diversity and Equality in the Arctic (2017-2019)

Coordinator UArctic Thematic Network on Teacher Education for Social Justice and Diversity / University of Lapland

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Website www.ulapland.fi/uatn

Lead Arctic Council States

FINLAND: Tuuli Ojala (SDWG HoD)

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES: Tuija Turunen, Outi Snellman, and Janette Peltokorpi, University of Lapland; Marjatta Takala, University of Oulu; Eeva-Liisa Rasmus-Moilanen, Sámi Education Institute; Heli Vigren, University of Turku.

CANADA: Sarah Cox (SDWG HoD)

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES: Kirk Anderson, Memorial University of Newfoundland; Frank Deer, University of Manitoba; Kathy Snow, Cape Breton University.

RUSSIA: Maria Rikunova (SDWG HoD)

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES: Inna Ryzhkova, Murmansk State Humanities University; Natalia Flotskaya, Northern Arctic Federal University.

NORWAY: Tommy Flakk (SDWG HoD)

UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES: Gregor Maxwell, Arctic University of Norway (UiT); Pigga Keskitalo, Sámi University of Applied Sciences.

Activities and Deliverables

1. Knowledge Exchange

Four Thematic Network symposia and summits were organised during the project period, 2017-2019:

- 'Teacher Education of the Arctic Region: Diversity and Identity in the North', held in Rovaniemi on 27-28 November 2017, in connection with the FERA conference
- 'Teaching for Diversity and Inclusion in the Arctic – the Local Context and Global Perspectives', held in Tromsø on 8 May 2018
- 'Indigenous Languages in Urbanized Areas', held in Oulu on 3 September 2018, in connection with the UArctic Congress
- 'Inclusive Teacher Education – Challenges and Ideas', held in Rovaniemi on 26 March 2019, in connection with the Developing an Inclusive School conference

One final symposium related to the SDWG project will be held on 28 May 2019, in connection with Arctic Science Summit Week in Arkhangelsk, Russia, under the theme of 'Including the North: Indigenous Languages and Inclusion Policies in Education'. The symposia listed above each drew approximately 30 local and international participants. Altogether, 120 people participated in the symposia.

Four online seminars were also organised during the project period:

- 'Autodidacticism': held by Dmitrij Levites, Murmansk Arctic State University; 14 June 2017
- 'Inuit Knowledge in Teacher Education': held by Sylvia Moore, Memorial University of Newfoundland; 4 October 2017
- 'Finnish Basic Education and Teacher Education – Perspectives on Inclusive Education': held by Suvi Lakkala and Outi Kyrö-Ämmälä, University of Lapland; 7 June 2018
- 'Canadian Perspectives on Leading Change Toward Indigenising the Academy: Connections within the Arctic Region': held by Kirk Anderson, Memorial University of Newfoundland; 13 November 2018

One final online seminar will be held in April 2019. Huia Jankhe from Massey University will speak on the topic of 'Sustaining an Endangered Language Through Initial Teacher Education: the Māori Language Experience in New Zealand'. Each online seminar drew 5-15 participants. All seminars were recorded, and the recordings are available through www.ulapland.fi/uatn/resources.

2. Shared Research: Seeing Education Through Northern Eyes

The UArctic Thematic Network had its first endeavour on shared research during the project. In November 2017, during a symposium, the partners decided to begin a joint research project with the aim of publishing a book. During the symposium, the group chose its editorial team for the book: Mhairi C. Beaton, Leeds Beckett University; Diane B. Hirshberg, University of Alaska Anchorage; Gregor R. Maxwell, UiT The Arctic University of Norway; and Jennifer Spratt, University of Aberdeen. The theme of 'inclusive policies in circumpolar north' was also chosen during the symposium.

The results of the shared research activities have been published in a book entitled, *Including the North: a Comparative Study of the Policies on Inclusion and Equity in the Circumpolar North*. The book includes ten chapters representing perspectives on inclusive policies in nine countries and Samiland. Practices in Canada, Greenland (Kingdom of Denmark), Iceland, the United Kingdom, Norway, Samiland (Norway), Finland, Sweden, Russia, and Alaska (USA) are represented in the book. The chapters are as follows:

- Social Justice and the Inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in Canada (by Sylvia Moore, Erika Maxwell, and Kirk Anderson)
- Building a Nation in the Classroom: Exploring Education Policy in Post-Colonial Greenland (by Benedikte Brinker and Mitdlarak Lennert)
- Policies for Inclusion in Iceland: Possibilities and Challenges (by Edda Óskarsdóttir, Karen Rut Gísladóttir, and Hafdís Guðjónsdóttir)
- Inclusion Policies in Two UK Countries – Vernacular Responses to Global Influence (by Mhairi C. Beaton and Jennifer Spratt)
- Schooling for Everyone: Norway's Adapted Approach to Education for Everyone (by Gregor Maxwell and Jarle Bakke)
- Historical and Political Perspectives on Sámi and Inclusive School Systems in Norway (by Pigga Keskitalo and Torjer Olsen)

- Steps Towards and Challenges of Inclusive Education in Northern Finland (by Suvi Lakkala, Marjatta Takala, Helena Miettunen, Outi Kyrö-Ämmälä, Erika Sarivaara, and Marko Kielinen)
- Democratic Values and Student Participation in Swedish Education: Essentials for a Sustainable and Equal Society (by Eva Alerby and Ulrika Bergmark)
- Development of Multicultural and Inclusive Social-Educational Provisions in the Arkhangelsk Region (by Natalia Y. Flotskaya, Svetlana Y. Bulyanova, and Maria A. Ponomareva)
- Mind the Gap... Mind the Chasm: Exploring Inclusion and Equity in Alaska's Education System (by Diane B. Hirshberg, Hattie Harvey, Douglas Cost, and Kathryn Ohle)

The book includes a foreword by the project lead, Tuija Turunen, as well as an Editors' Introduction by the editorial team and a conclusion, 'Looking North Through Southern Eyes', by Sue Dockett, which presents the southern perspective. Overall, 31 authors contributed to their research. The book is available through open access at <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-337-136-1>.

The group's shared research activities continued with the writing of a special double issue of the journal, *Education in the North*, in August 2018. This issue focused on teacher education and teaching in the Arctic Regions and covered the themes of co-teaching, inclusive education, digital professional learning and digitalisation, distance learning, teacher education in decolonising education, indigenous education, recreating a teacher education programme and curriculum design, simulation in classroom management, preventing student dropout, conflict resolution, and school assessment. The issue includes 15 articles written by 30 authors and is available through open access at <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/eitn/journal/archive/august/2018/>.

3. Cooperation in Teacher Education

Cooperation in teacher education has commenced on multiple levels. Following the project's target of investigating the possibilities to establish a Nordic Master Programme in Teacher Education, curriculum of joint online course module have been developed, beginning with the Arctic5 university cooperation. The development project, 'Arctic5 - Arctic Teacher Education for Social Justice and Equality', received funding through the Nordplus Higher Education Programme to develop a joint online master study course (10 ECTS). The Arctic universities that comprise the Arctic5 group include the University of Lapland (Project Coordinator), the University of Oulu, Luleå University of Technology, Umeå University, and UiT The Arctic University of Norway. The project serves as a starting point for Nordic teacher cooperation and is a concrete step toward developing a Nordic Master Programme in Teacher Education.

Good pedagogical practices have been shared during the online seminars. These practices are summarised in the project's *Conclusions*, which was developed in collaboration with all project partners. The conclusions condense the project's results and provides five suggestions for how teacher education should be developed and how that development would benefit the Arctic. The conclusions will be published at the Arctic Science Summit Week on 28 May 2019.

There is significant interest in teacher cooperation and mobility within the project partners. However, more resources are needed before this cooperation and mobility can be realised.

4. Long-Term Continuity

Cooperation will continue through the UArctic Thematic Network on Teacher Education and the UNITWIN/UNESCO Network on Teacher Education. The UNITWIN/UNESCO Network was established during the project period to extend cooperation to the global south.

All of the information gathered during project activities has been collected and uploaded to the project website. The online resource centre was established on the website to collect high-quality teacher education research and practical material. The resource centre will be developed in the near future to include more variety, such as webinars, publications (articles and book chapters), videos, and interviews.

The UArctic Thematic Network has begun creating an Annual Wheel of Regular Activities to ensure the continuation of project activities. The annual wheel document will include all regular network activities, including online seminars, network symposia, and online meetings.

Communication and Visibility

This project has been presented at several international conferences (listed above, under **Knowledge Exchange**) through presentations, panels, and symposia.

Project activities have also been communicated through the website, www.ulapland.fi/uatn. The project maintains its own sub-site, which includes all project information, and project activities are announced in the website's news section. News has also been shared on the University of the Arctic (UArctic) website (www.uarctic.org).

The UArctic Thematic Network manages an open Facebook group, Teacher Education for Social Justice and Diversity in Education, which has been used as a platform to share project activities and encourage discussion. Information about project activities has also been shared through the respective partners' websites and communication channels.

Finland's Ministry for Foreign Affairs has published a video promoting the project, which is available through the Ministry's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zvVCC7UIm10&sns=em>

Funding

The UArctic Thematic Network applied for and received funding from several sources, including the Nordic Council of Ministers' Arctic Programme, the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture, the Government of Canada, and UArctic Norwegian Funding.

The Ministry of Education and Culture allocated an IBA allowance through Finland's Ministry for Foreign Affairs for the project. The IBA allowance was used for coordination, travel costs, organising seminars and symposia, and publication costs.

The Government of Canada, through Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, Circumpolar Affairs Directorate, provided funding to Memorial University for their participation

in the project. These funds supported travel, conference presentations, publication, networking, and research. The research focused on student persistence and teacher development in the Canadian North (Sharing Our Success) and was conducted through four case studies. The project is currently in the final stage of collecting case study data to explore educational practices that promote student success. Communities examined in the case studies include Makkovik, Nunatsiavut (March 2019); Tuktoyuktuk, Nunavut (April 2019); Kangiqsualujjuaq, Nunavik (April 2019); and Kautokeino, Norway (May 2019). The research report will be published in mid-2019. The Canadian researchers may present at the ASSW 2019 event on 28 May 2019, and the project's researchers may be invited to a follow-up seminar and sharing session in Canada in June 2019.

The Nordic Council of Ministers' Arctic Cooperation Programme (administrated by Nordregio) allocated funds for the UArctic Thematic Network on two occasions: 2017-2018 and 2018-2019. NCM funding was used for coordination, travel and publication costs, evaluation, and seminar costs.

Norwegian UArctic funding was allocated for project activities on two occasions: 2017-2018 and 2018-2019. Funding was used for coordination, event organising, and travel costs.

Funding body	Grant	
Minister of Education and Culture and Ministry for Foreign Affairs IBA Allowance	€45,000	
Government of Canada, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, Circumpolar Affairs Directorate	1. \$45,000 CAD (€29,989) 2. \$35,000 CAD (€23,325)	
Nordic Council of Ministers' Arctic Cooperation Programme	1. 200,000 DKK (€26,791) 2. 300,000 DKK (€40,187)	
Norwegian UArctic Funding	1. 250,000 NOK (€25,917) 2. 250,000 NOK (€25,917)	
	Total	€217,126
Self-contribution	€300,000	
BUDGET TOTAL		€517,126

Project Partners and Network Members

The project was led by four countries: Finland, Canada, Norway, and Russia. Each country's Head of Delegation to SDWG and university partners have been listed at the beginning of this report. However, the network has expanded throughout the project period and new network members have contributed to project activities. The UNITWIN/UNESCO Network on Teacher Education for Social Justice and Diversity was established in 2018 and has since collaborated on project activities.

Current Members, UArctic Thematic Network on Teacher Education

- Cape Breton University, Canada
- Copenhagen Business School, Denmark
- Leeds Beckett University, United Kingdom
- Luleå University of Technology, Sweden

- Mongolian National University of Education, Mongolia
- Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada
- Murmansk Arctic State University, Russia
- Nord University, Norway
- Northern Arctic Federal University, Russia
- Sámi Education Institute, Finland
- Sámi University of Applied Sciences, Norway
- UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Norway
- Umeå University, Sweden
- University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom
- University of Alaska Anchorage, United States
- University of Alaska Fairbanks, United States
- University of Helsinki, Finland
- University of Iceland, Iceland
- University of Lapland, Finland
- University of Manitoba, Canada
- University of Oulu, Finland
- University of Turku, Finland
- Université de Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, France

Current Members, UNITWIN/UNESCO Network on Teacher Education

- Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia
- Charles Sturt University, Australia
- Hawassa University, Ethiopia
- Leeds Beckett University, United Kingdom
- Massey University, New Zealand
- Mekelle University, Ethiopia
- Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada
- Murmansk Arctic State University, Russia
- Sámi Education Institute, Finland
- Sámi University of Applied Sciences, Norway
- UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Norway
- University of Alaska Anchorage, United States
- University of Alaska Fairbanks, United States
- University of Lapland, Finland
- University of Turku, Finland
- Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania

Full List of Project Activities

2017

- June 8-12: Prof. Tuija Turunen participated in the ICASS (International Arctic Social Sciences) Conference in Umea, Sweden.
- June 14: Open webinar, 'Autodidactism' (Dmitrij Levites, University of Murmansk, Russia), was held.

- August 27-29: Presentation, 'Seeing Education with Northern Eyes', was given at the International Academic Conference following the University of the Arctic Rectors' Forum, in Aberdeen, Scotland.
- September 13-14: Joint Arctic Agenda (JAA) meeting was held in Lulea, Sweden, and included participants from Finland, Sweden, and Norway.
- October 4: Open webinar, 'Inuit Knowledge in Teacher Education' (Sylvia Moore, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada), was held.
- November 7: Online meeting between the project leads and university representatives.
- November 13-14: The Arctic Spirit Conference was held and was the first major open event to occur during Finland's chairmanship of the Arctic Council. Prof. Tuija Turunen gave a speech at the conference.
- November 27-28: Thematic Network symposium, 'Teacher Education of the Arctic Region: Diversity and Identity in the North', was held in Rovaniemi, Finland, and included participants from Finland, Canada, Norway, and Russia.
- November 30: Panel discussion, 'Does Arctic Pedagogy matter?', was held as part of the Finnish Educational Research Association (FERA) Conference on Education. Participants came from Finland, Canada, Norway, and Russia.

2018

- February 22: Online meeting between the project leads and university representatives.
- March 15: Finland's Ministry for Foreign Affairs published a promotional video of the project (https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=zvVCC7Ulm10).
- May 8: A local summit, 'Teaching for Diversity and Inclusion in the Arctic - the Local Context and Global Perspectives', was held in Tromsø in collaboration with Finland (University of Lapland) and Norway (UiT/University of Tromsø). Participants came from Finland, Norway, and Sweden.
- May 2: UNITWIN/UNESCO Network on Teacher Education for Social Justice and Diversity in Education was established. The Network continues to expand in the global south.
- May 26 – June 1: Kirk Anderson presented at the Canadian Congress of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.
- June 7: Open webinar, 'Finnish Basic Education and Teacher Education – Perspectives on Inclusive Education' (Suvi Lakkala & Outi Kyrö-Ämmälä, University of Lapland), was held.
- June 11: Development project, 'Arctic5 - Arctic Teacher Education for Social Justice and Equality', received funding from the Nordplus Higher Education Programme to develop a joint online master study course (10 ECTS) and held its first meeting. More information: www.ulapland.fi/uatn/Arctic5.
- August 31: A special issue of *Education in the North*, entitled 'Teacher Education in the Arctic', was published. The journal issue is available through open access at <https://www.abdn.ac.uk/eitn/journal/archive/august/2018/>.
- September 3: The side event, 'Indigenous Languages in Urbanized Area', was held as part of the UArctic Congress.
- September 3: An internal meeting of UArctic Thematic Network members was held in Oulu, following the side event.
- September 6: Education plenary, with a keynote address by Professor Sue Dockett of Charles Sturt University and commentary by Diane Hirshberg of the University of Alaska Anchorage, was held during the UArctic Congress and successfully aroused the interest

of conference delegates, bringing the topic and issue of education in the north to a discussion about the Arctic.

- October 10-11: First Arctic5 workshop held in Tromsø to develop a joint online master course on Arctic Inclusive Pedagogy.
- October 15: Online meeting between the SDWG HoDs and university representatives.
- November 13: Open webinar, 'Canadian Perspectives on Leading Change Toward Indigenising the Academy: Connections within the Arctic Region' (Kirk Anderson, Memorial University of Newfoundland), was held.

2019

- January 23-24: Second Arctic5 workshop held in Rovaniemi to develop a joint online master course on Arctic Inclusive Pedagogy.
- January-February: Five funding applications were submitted to secure the continuation of activities following the project period.
- March 26-27: The conference, 'Developing an Inclusive School', was held in Rovaniemi in collaboration with two other projects. The project organised two keynote speeches, given by project lead, Professor Tuija Turunen of the University of Lapland, and Professor Diane Hirshberg of the University of Alaska Anchorage; a symposium speech given by Dr. Mhairi Beaton of Leeds Beckett University; and an e-book launch. The conference programme also included two other keynote addresses, as well as additional symposium presentations and workshops.
- March 26: Digital version of the book, *Including the North: a Comparative Study of the Policies on Inclusion and Equity in the Circumpolar North*, was published in conjunction with the conference, 'Developing an Inclusive School'.
- May 13-14: Third Arctic5 workshop will be held in Luleå to develop a joint online master course on Arctic Inclusive Pedagogy.
- May 28: Side event, 'Including the North: Indigenous Languages and Inclusion Policies in Education', will be held as part of the Arctic Science Summit Week in Arkhangelsk, Russia. This event will include the launch of a print version of the book, *Including the North*, as well as a panel discussion.
- May 28: Conclusions to develop teacher education will be presented during the ASSW 2019 event.