Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada

SERNNoCa Forum
November 28, 2008
Ottawa, ON.
Theme IV: Indigenous Communities and the Social Economy

- Key objectives of this theme are to:
  1. Enhance our understanding of the relationship between subsistence economies, wage labour, sharing and resource distribution, and the maintenance of indigenous cultures and values.
  2. Learn how each of these factors contribute to the social and economic cohesion of Northern communities.
Sharing and Exchange

- Analyze how individuals, households, and multi-household networks cooperate in the harvesting, processing, and sharing of resources.

Factors of Change and Continuity
- Kinship verse Capital Networks
- Wage Labour
- Housing Policy
- Wildlife Regulations

Project: Communities of Exchange: Harvesting and Sharing Among Innu and Inuit Communities in Labrador.
Sharing and Social Networks
(Hopedale - Caribou)
Subsistence Economy

- Examine current trends in northern subsistence economies.
  - Access
  - Rights
  - Health, Nutrition and Food Security
  - Mixed-Economies
  - Continuity and Change
25 Year Harvesting Comparison of Salmon (1982-2007)

25 Year Comparison Salmon in Rigolet and Makkovik

Harvester Support Program

- Program types:
  - LC: Programs established by land claims or other comprehensive agreements.
  - IBA: Programs derived from Impact and Benefit Agreements or other medium term support given to compensate or otherwise support harvesters.
  - IHSP: Internal hunter support programs funded and/or controlled by communities or by individual hunters and trappers associations.
  - MD: Market development programs that indirectly generate support for harvesting traditional resources.
Questions: Adaptive Capacity of HSPs

- Level of funding available over time. In relation to:
  - Local Processes - population change, resource availability.
  - Global Processes - Fuel and fur prices, climate change.
Indigenous Cultures and Values

- To gain a better understanding of the effects of cumulative changes on the cultural identity and social well-being of northern indigenous peoples.
  - Demography
  - Language Loss\Retention
  - Governance (Land Claims, Wildlife Co-Management)
  - Health
  - Education
Our Goals: Cultural and Community Cohesion

- Indigenous peoples of the north have proven time and again to be resilient in times of change. However, the changes that are now being confronted are rapid and multidimensional.

- The objective of SERNofNCa is to support applied and relevant research that meets the needs of northern communities as they face the challenges of the future.
Thank You!