

Partner description

The Norwegian Polar Institute – NPI (www.npolar.no) is Norway's central institution for research, environmental monitoring and mapping of the Polar Regions. The research division work in close cooperation management division, and includes over 50 scientists working in the fields of biology, ecotoxicology, geology, geophysics and polar history. The institute's Ecotoxicology Programme involves understanding of sources and biological effects of contaminants in the European Arctic. **Dr. Gabrielsen:** Senior scientist and head of the Ecotoxicology Research Group. He has 20 years of research experience studying ecology, ecotoxicology, physiology and behaviour of Arctic animals. He has published more than 80 peer-reviewed papers. **Dr. Wolkers** is a senior scientist and responsible for designing and carrying out an environmental contaminant monitoring program. He has published 28 scientific papers in peer reviewed journals.

The Norwegian Institute for Water Research - NIVA (www.niva.no) is the nationally leading research institute in environmental issues related to water. NIVA's board is appointed by the Ministry of Environment, the Research Council of Norway and the employees at NIVA, of whom 104 are researchers, 47 of whom hold PhDs in chemistry, biology, limnology, geology, hydrology, environmental technology, environmental toxicology, oceanography, geography, resource management or economy. **Dr. Borgå** is a research scientist at NIVA, section for Toxins in marine environments. After finishing her doctorate in marine biology/ecotoxicology in 2002, she received first a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship from the European Union (to work at the University of Insubria, Varese, Italy), and then post doctorate from the Norwegian Research Council (to work at the University of Georgia, Athens GA, USA). She has so far published 15 scientific papers, with additional 5 submitted.

The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research – NINA (www.nina.no) is research institute with 160 employees under the Ministry of Environment. The employees at NINA specialize in various topics in ecological research. **Dr. Bustnes** is a senior scientist at NINA, section for Arctic Ecology in Tromsø, and has been employed since 1991. He has 20 years of experience in professional ornithological work, including ecological aspects of various marine birds, parasites and ecotoxicology. He is author of 50 scientific papers in peer reviewed journals, with additional 6 submitted.

The Norwegian Institute for Air Research – NILU (www.nilu.no) is the leading national institution of environmental issues related to air pollution. In addition, NILU has one of the best facilities in Norway with state of the art instruments for the analyses of a wide variety of organic contaminants and heavy metals in environmental samples in general. NILU has some 130 employees of which about 70 are researchers. About 40 of these hold a PhD. Lead scientist at NILU will be **Prof. Dr. Henrik Kylin**, who has been active in environmental research for 20 years. He has published more than 40 peer-reviewed scientific papers. **Prof. Dr. Torunn Berg** will be responsible for mercury. She has 20 years experience as an environmental chemist and has published more than 30 peer-reviewed scientific papers.

Akvaplan-NIVA AS –APN (www.akvaplan.niva.no) is a private research and consultancy company owned by NIVA that provides services in aquaculture and marine and freshwater environments. **Evenset** is a marine biologist/ecotoxicologist working as a research scientist at Akvaplan-niva. She is currently working on her Ph.D., which focuses on biological transport mechanisms for POPs in the Arctic environment. **Dr. Savinova** is a senior scientist and consultant in the field of ecotoxicology, environmental monitoring and impact assessments. She is responsible for coordinating scientific cooperation with Russian institutes and environmental authorities. **Dr. Carroll** is a senior scientist and research coordinator. She is an oceanographer, specializing in marine geochemistry and is author of 2 books and over 30 scientific papers.

The Norwegian University of Science and Technology -NTNU (www.ntnu.no) in Trondheim represents academic eminence in technology and the natural sciences. The Institute of Chemistry is one of the largest institutes at NTNU with approximately 30 scientific employees (permanent positions) in addition to a large number of students at all levels. The research comprises fundamental research within structural chemistry, organic synthesis, energy transformations, molecular modelling, environmental chemistry and analytical chemistry. The group for environmental chemistry and analytical chemistry has the art instruments for the analyses of total mercury and methylmercury in environmental samples. Lead scientist at NTNU will be **Prof. Dr. Torunn Berg** (starting 1 August 2006), who has been active in environmental research for 20 years. She has published more than 30 peer-reviewed scientific papers.

Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences -ZIN (www.zin.ru) is one of the oldest (founded in 1832) research institutes and leading institute in the field of zoology. Institute has two biological stations, one of them, the White Sea Biological Station (WSBS) was founded in 1949 and since then is conducting research on ecology and life cycles of marine invertebrates and fish, parasitology of invertebrates, fish and marine birds, adaptations of marine organisms to environmental factors. Lead scientist at WSBS will be head of the station; **Prof. Dr. Viktor Berger**. He has more than 180 publications.

Institute of Biology, Karelian Scientific Centre, Russian Academy of Sciences -IB (<http://biology.krs.karelia.ru>), founded in 1953 is a leading research institute in the field of genetics, biochemistry of marine and freshwater organisms.

Center of Environmental Chemistry SPA “Typhoon”, Russian Federal Service on Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring -CEC (www.typhoon.obninsk.ru) has been conducting scientific investigations on persistent organic pollutant (POPs) levels in the arctic ecosystems and participating in many international projects. Lead scientist at CEC will be head of the centre; **Dr. Alexei Konoplev**. He has published more than 100 scientific papers. Currently the CEC is involved in AMAP/GEF Project “Persistent Toxic Substances (PTS), Food Security and Indigenous Peoples of the Russian North”. In frame of this project the CEC has performed analyses of more than 700 samples of human blood and breast milk for wide spectrum of PTS: PCDD/Fs; PCBs, OCPs, PBDEs and heavy metals. The CEC has extensive experience in scientific collaboration with Akvaplan-niva on contaminant studies in marine birds and mammals from the Barents, White and Kara seas areas. Reliability of all analytical results proves correct by fulfilment of the complete quality control program (QA/QC) in accordance with international standards. The CEC of SPA “Typhoon” is accredited by Gosstandard of Russian Federation for all analyses carried out by the Centre, and all data are legally significant all over territory of Russia. The CEC is participating on regular basis in international intercalibration studies including QUASIMEME Program for sediments and biota, AMAP Ring Test for human blood etc.

The Northern branch of Knipovich Polar Research Institute on Marine Fishery and Oceanography -SevPINRO (Arkhangelsk) is the leading research institute on marine resources (including marine mammals) and environmental monitoring in the White Sea area. SevPINRO has long-term cooperation with Norwegian research institutes on biological and ecotoxicological studies of the White Sea marine mammals.