



# Barents Protected Area Network BPAN

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# BPAN

- Background
- The project working model
- Some preliminary results and conclusions
- Key message
- Some expected results 2012-2013



Photo: Rolf Löfgren



# Background

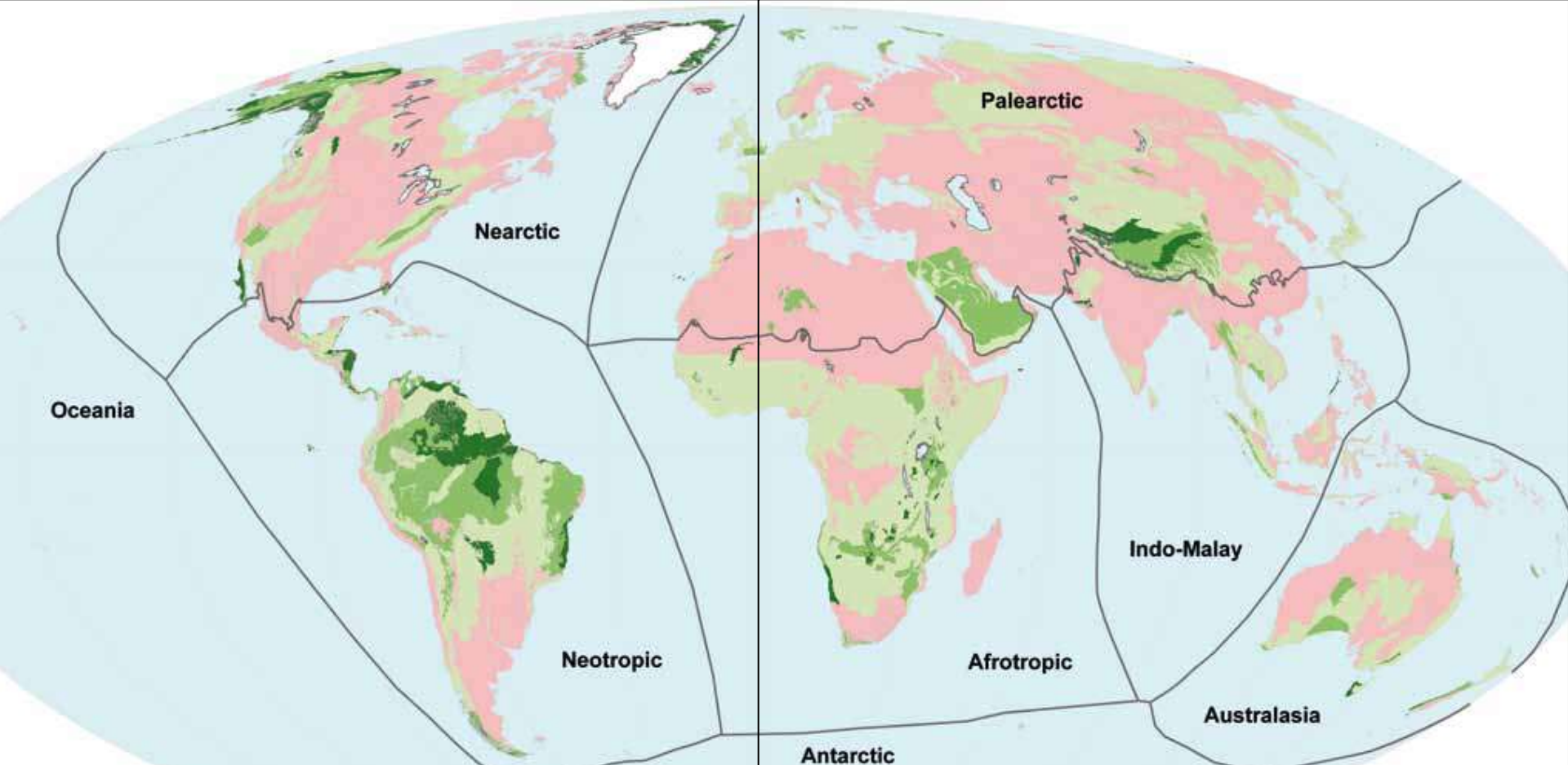
- BPAN is a key project of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council's Subgroup of Nature Protection.
- The declaration of the Barents environment ministers underlined the need to establish a representative and well managed network of protected areas.
- Finnish Environment Institute coordinates the project.



## The overarching aim of the BPAN:

*"promote and support a representative protected area network for conservation of biodiversity and boreal-arctic nature, especially forests and wetlands"*

# Coverage of terrestrial protected areas, Global Biodiversity Outlook 3, CBD 2010



Under 10%    10 - 30%    30 - 50%    Over 50%



## Large intact natural areas

- All sub regions in Barents have large intact natural areas, this place the region in contrast to the rest of Europe which has faced more habitat loss and fragmentation than any other continent.
- Several areas are included in Natura 2000 network.



## BPAN project contributes to:

- Transboundary cooperation.
- Implementation of CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- Natura 2000 and the Emerald network.
- Green belt of Fennoscandia and the EU initiative of green infrastructure.

## Working model

- The project uses the Programme of Work on Protected Areas as the framework in accordance with the recommendations from the UN and CBD.
- More than 40 experts in a joint analyse and evaluation of the protected area network.
- A further 20 experts has been involved in GIS-analyses.
- Regional workshops.

# Programme of work on protected areas

- Establishment and maintenance of PA
- Enhance and secure involvement of indigenous people, local communities and relevant stakeholders
- Capacity for the planning, establishment and management
- Assessment and monitoring PA status and trends

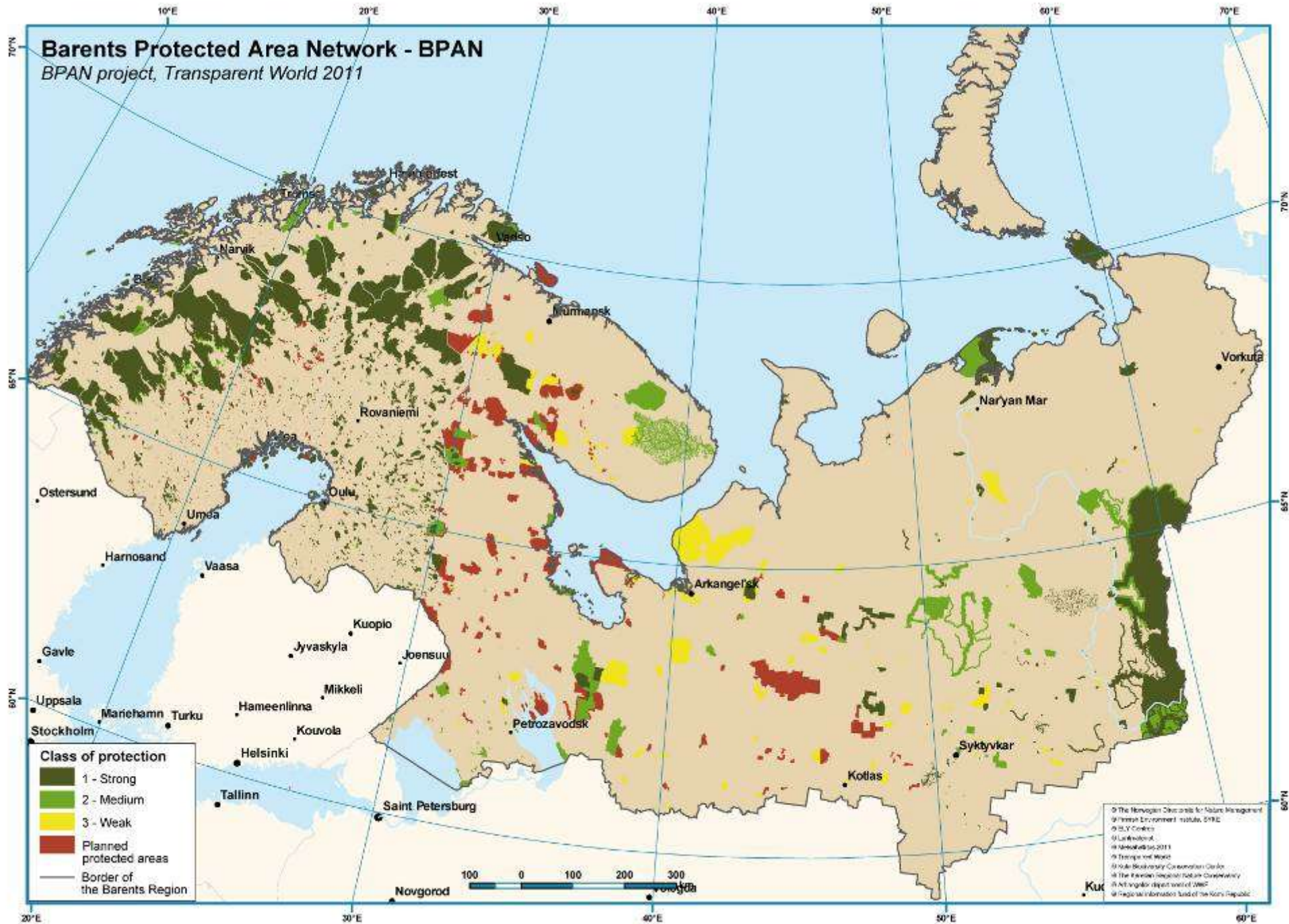
## Capacity building

- Northwest Russian gap analysis
- GRID-Arendal



# Barents Protected Area Network - BPAN

BPAN project, Transparent World 2011





2010-11-02

Photo: Frédéric Forsmark

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Photo: Olle Höjer



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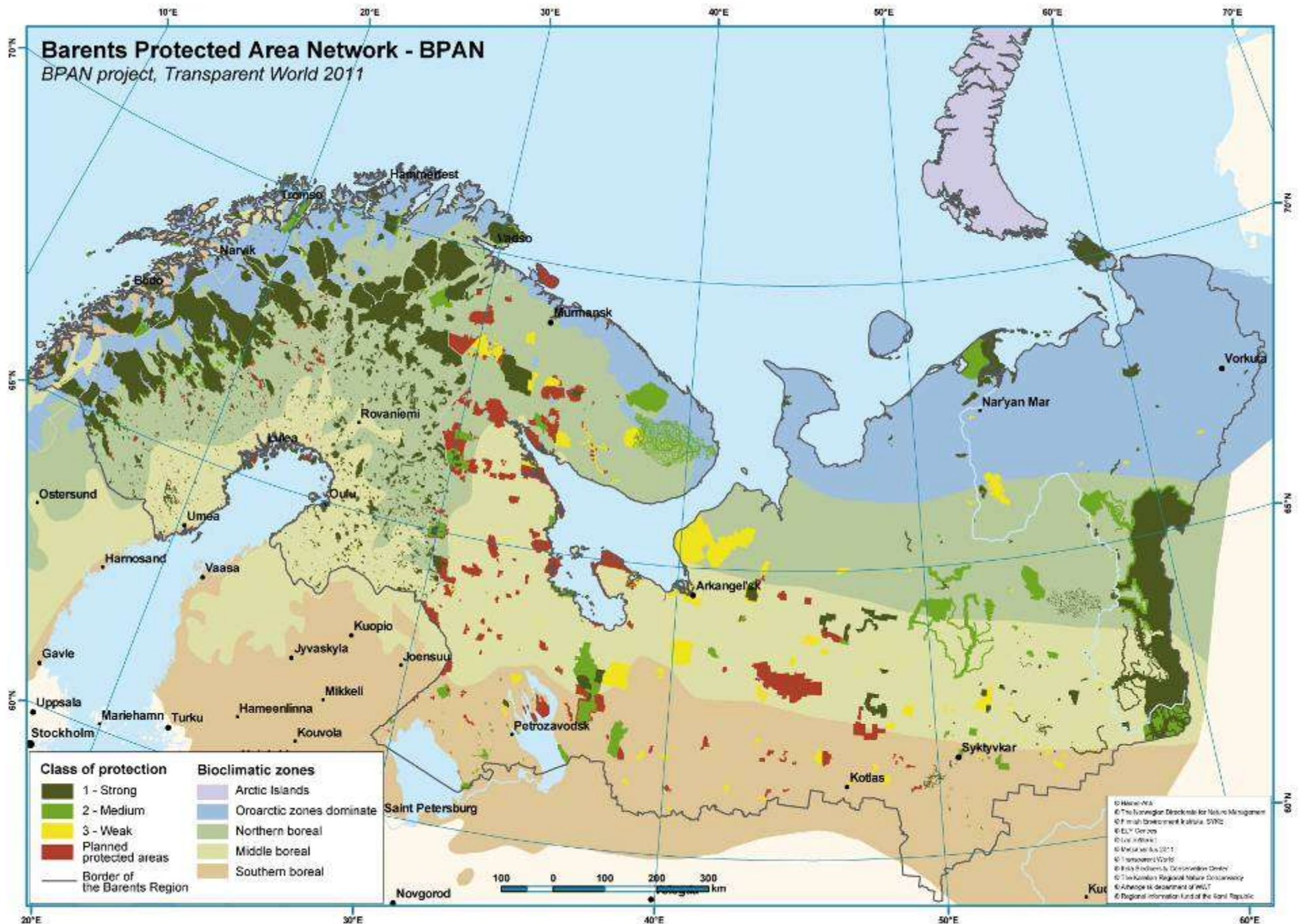
Photo: Olle Höjer

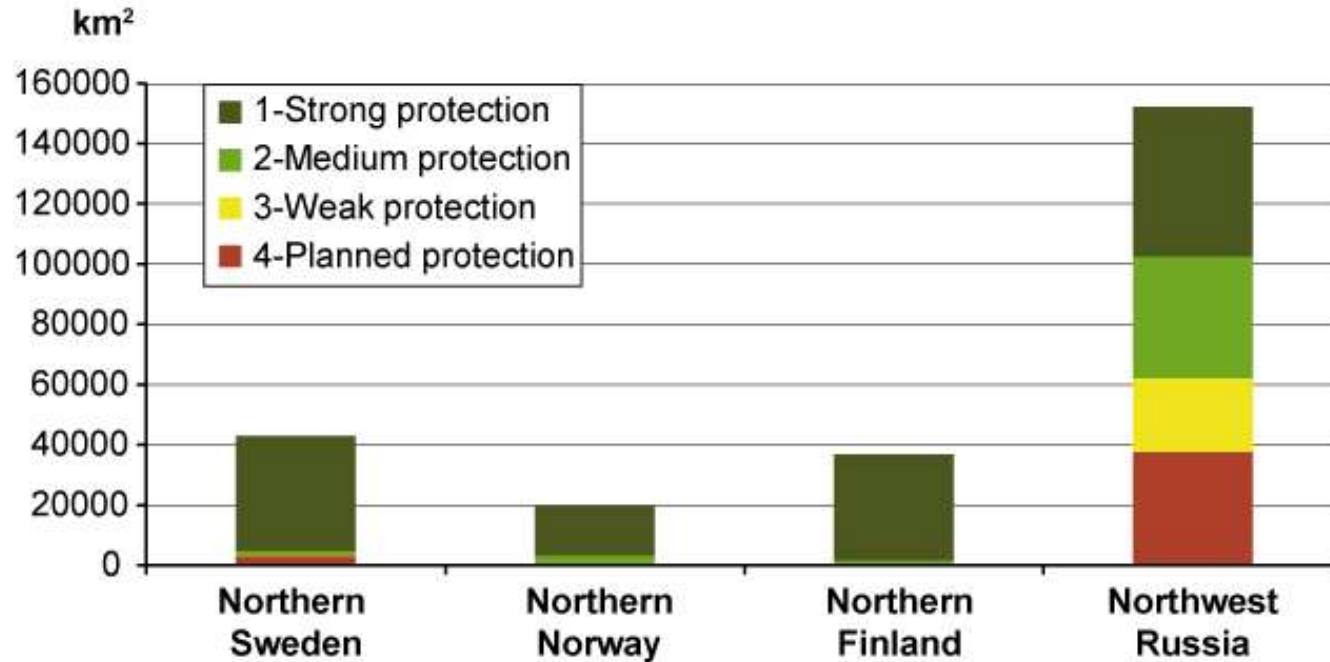


Photo: Olle Höjer

# Barents Protected Area Network - BPAN

BPAN project, Transparent World 2011





## Some preliminary results and conclusions

- The preliminary BPAN results indicates that 12,5% of land area in the region is protected through different categories of protection.
- About 15% of the land area in the region will be protected when planned protected areas are consolidated.

## Protected & planned protected areas by different restriction modes (%)

Restriction mode	Northern Sweden	Northern Norway	Northern Finland	Northwest Russia	<b>whole BEAR</b>
1-Strong protection	21,05	14,52	20,82	4,06	<b>8,27</b>
2-Medium protection	0,97	2,75	0,97	3,31	<b>2,79</b>
3-Weak protection	0,02	0,00	0,01	2,01	<b>1,46</b>
4-Planned protection areas	1,73	0,00	0,00	3,09	<b>2,43</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,77</b>	<b>17,27</b>	<b>21,8</b>	<b>12,47</b>	<b>14,95</b>

## Some preliminary results and conclusions

- There is comprehensive information and knowledge about the protected areas.
- The ecological gaps in the protected area system are quite well known.
- All regions are working on management plans for their protected areas.
- More work is needed to secure connectivity and representativity of the protected area network.

## Some preliminary results and conclusions

- There are many threats to the nature in the region such as forestry, mining, drainage of wetlands and infrastructure projects.
- There is a need for better involvement of local and indigenous people.
- Financing needs for protection and protected areas are significant.

## Key messages of BPAN

- Protected area network is an important tool for adaptation and mitigation of climate change.
- Protected areas in the Barents Region should be a part of local economies and contribute to the culture and livelihood of indigenous peoples and local communities.

## Key messages of BPAN

- For biodiversity conservation it is of outmost importance that there is connectivity between protected areas.
- The boreal-arctic nature is under increased pressure from land-use, exploitation and climate change.

## Some expected results 2012-2013

- Strengthening of the Barents region transboundary conservation cooperation.
- Gaps within the protected area network will be described and taken into consideration in further work and processes.
- Recommendations for National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAP).
- Final report will be presented in the next meeting of the Environment Ministers, in 2013 in the northern Finland.



# Contacts

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# Thank you!

