Finland lies at the northern Europe
Background

- 1980s large share of population at the northern part of Finland earned significant part of their living from fishing, hunting and gathering berries
- Number of people who earned their living primarily from natural livelihoods was 700
- Natural Livelihoods Act was established in 1984 -> natural livelihoods area was determined
Natural livelihoods according to the Natural Livelihoods Act (1)

Traditionally
- Reindeer husbandry
- Fishing
- Hunting
- Gathering natural products
Natural livelihoods according to the Natural Livelihoods Act (2)

- Fish farming, small-scale agriculture
- Making and repairing tools needed in natural livelihoods
- Handicrafts, tourism accommodation, guidance and other kind of services, are natural livelihoods when they are practiced in addition to traditional natural livelihoods.

Natural Livelihood Real Estates

- Possible to employ State land use measures to form Natural Livelihood Real Estates and addition areas to existing real estate
- For people who earned their living entirely or primarily from natural livelihoods and for Skolt Sámi people
- State bought land for land use measures and planned land use
- Formed areas were sold at their market price
- Areas were mostly paid for through long-term mortgages with a low interest rate
Restrictions

• Judicial acts of selling and leasing Natural Livelihood Real Estate or part of it without permit are null and void
• Not permissible to subdivide areas without permit
• Restrictions are effective 30 years
• Restrictions are registered to the Cadastre and to the Land Registry (both)

Rights for natural livelihoods at natural livelihoods area

• Reindeerherding is free for all reindeerowners
• Fishing and hunting in State-owned areas are freely available to locals on application
• berries and mushrooms may be picked freely according Everyman’s right
Special rights to use State-owned areas freely

- Owners of Natural Livelihoods Real Estate have special rights to use State-owned areas for
  - Pasturage of cattle
  - Gathering hay, leaves and other plants for cattle
  - Upon application
    - Building necessary
      1) huts for hunting and fishing
      2) cellars and shelters
    - Gathering lichen

Natural Livelihoods nowadays

- reindeer husbandry is only economically significant as natural livelihood
  - Growing amount of predators
  - Diminishing supplies of lichen
- 50 entrepreneurs earn all or part of their living from other natural livelihoods than reindeer husbandry
- New law was established and formed real estate is legally as an ordinary real estate without restrictions
  - breach of contract causes to the restoration of financial support
Natural livelihoods nowadays

• Ageing of population?
• Ratification of the ILO’s Indigenous and Tribal People’s Convention No. 169
  – Sámi People are Indigenous People in Finland
  – Ratification is important but its consequences are not yet known

Thank You of Your attention!
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