

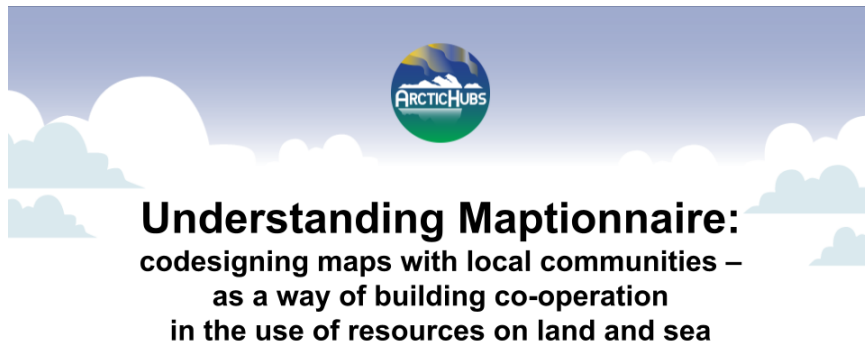
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## What's new from the ArcticHubs

Dear reader,

Welcome to this special edition of **our newsletter dedicated to some of the co-creative activities** between ArcticHubs and Maptionnaire.

First in line, we would like to introduce you to our recent **video explainer**. This was produced to **help** wider audiences **understand what PPGIS and Maptionnaire are** and how the tool is being used by hubs stakeholders and researchers during the project phases.

We are happy to share with you **two case studies from hubs** – Inari in Finland and Nuuk in Greenland. These cases highlight the **use** of an **advanced participatory geographical information system** such as Maptionnaire. The examples also outline further how **participative use of visual tools** (such as indicating areas within different maps) **can help interested parties** understand better where areas of conflict are, and point to possible solutions.

In this newsletter, we will be presenting:

- A new [video explainer](#) about Maptionnaire
- Feature two case studies from the Arctic hubs
- Introduce the **Maptionnaire Team** and the platform evolution

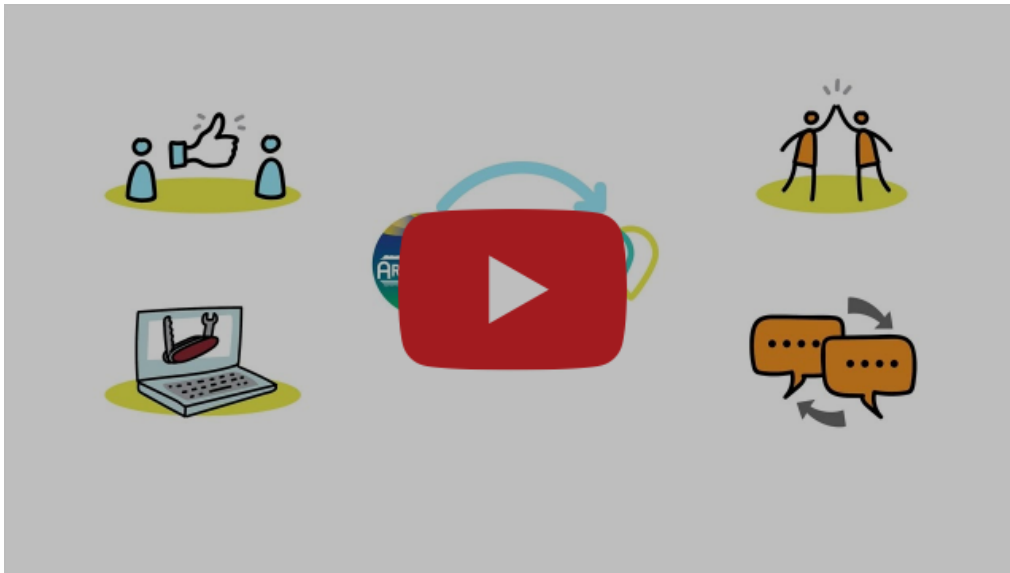
Additionally, we will share some upcoming ArcticHubs events.

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**[Keep informed by following ArcticHubs on Twitter, LinkedIn and on its website](#)**



# Understanding Maptionnaire



Maptionnaire enables creation of map-based surveys, conventional surveys, and picture-based surveys. In [#ArcticHubs](#) Maptionnaire is being used to collect data, co-create survey and evolve as a collaborative platform.

## Tell me more about Maptionnaire...

[Maptionnaire](#) is an online platform that enables community engagement in urban and land planning, and development processes, giving users GIS-backed data to inform subsequent decisions.

Within the ArcticHubs project, Maptionnaire serves as a valuable tool for engaging local citizens and facilitating their participation in the process of generating additional layers of map content, describing current land and sea use, areas of conflict, possibilities, and solutions. Its interactive map platform enables individuals to contribute their knowledge, perspectives, and ideas, thereby enriching the overall understanding of hub areas and fostering a sense of ownership in decisions made among the stakeholders of the project. Besides this, Maptionnaire helps to analyse, collaborate, report, and communicate about ongoing data collection.

By leveraging Maptionnaire's capabilities, ArcticHubs is helping to create a more collaborative environment where diverse voices are heard, enabling the co-creation of solutions for land and sea resource management in the Arctic hubs.

Two case studies of project hub areas in Finland and Greenland who have been using Maptionnaire are presented in the following paragraphs.



## Snapshots from Inari hub, Finland

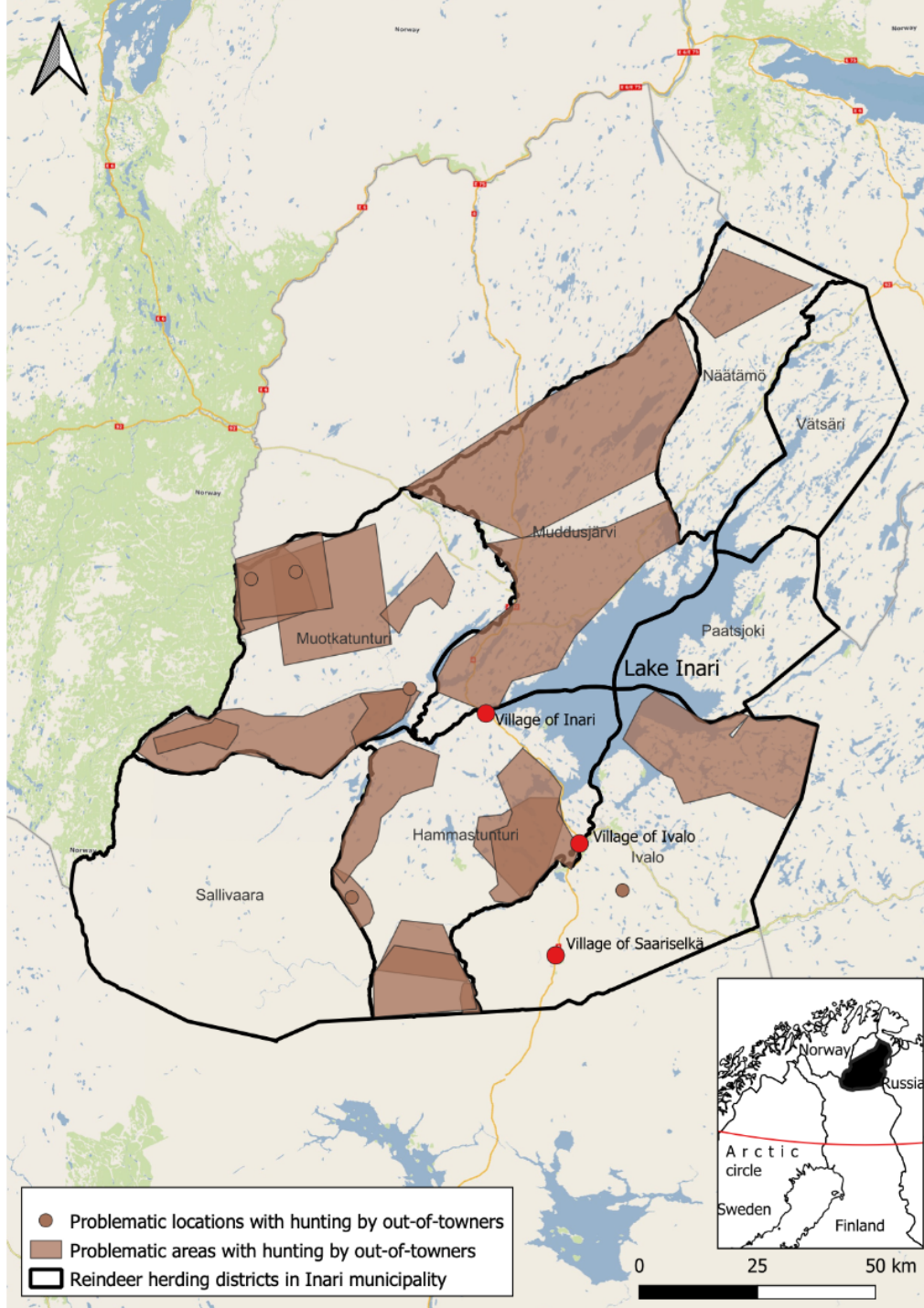
Inari is a picturesque municipality known for its natural beauty and rich cultural heritage. In recent years it has experienced a significant conflict over land use, notably with an increase in tourism development, and hunting activities. Many changes are impacting locals and their livelihoods.

For instance, three main **challenges related to hunting activities** are faced by locals in the Inari area:

1. Land and resource conflicts: indigenous communities in Inari often experience challenges due to encroachment on their traditional hunting lands. Urban expansion, industrial development, infrastructure projects, and tourism (also hunting activities by out of towners/tourists) can limit their access to familiar hunting grounds, leading to **disruptions in traditional hunting practices** and conflicts with authorities and non-indigenous land users.
2. Competing land uses and displacement: the **growing demand for land and resources** results in conflicts between indigenous hunters and other stakeholders, such as commercial enterprises, tourism operators, and conservation initiatives. This competition can lead to restricted hunting areas or even **displacement of indigenous communities** from their ancestral lands.
3. Sustainable resource management: **overexploitation of natural resources**, including wild animals, poses a significant challenge. The depletion of resources due to unsustainable hunting practices threatens the food security and cultural traditions of indigenous communities. It is crucial to establish sustainable management practices to ensure the long-term viability of hunting activities.

While **environmental changes and cultural preservation are important aspects**, they are incorporated within these broader challenges.

To assess the effects of changes in Inari, ArcticHubs partners used Maptionnaire platform: **a first survey was co-designed on the geographical map of Inari**. Questions were reviewed by local actors and industry developers before being circulated, also through social media groups and local newspaper articles. Respondents were asked about various aspects related to tourism's impact on the area, including residents and industry developers. They were asked to mark important places on the Inari map, indicating where they noticed positive or negative effects of tourism activities and where they believed future tourism should or should not be directed.



The map displays preliminary findings of the survey that targeted reindeer herders and was supplemented with interviews. It highlights the locations and areas identified by the reindeer herders as problematic due to hunting activities by out-of-towners.

Researchers are currently conducting a **follow-up investigation based on respondents' suggestions** regarding positive and negative effects of tourism. This second phase involves utilising Maptionnaire platform again, along with other research methods such as [Delphi method](#), to delve deeper into the subject. The aim is **to assess future scenarios and collaboratively co-design potential solutions**.

Findings serve as a valuable resource for policymakers, industry developers, and community members, guiding responsible tourism practices. By considering these insights, **Inari can continue to thrive as a destination while maintaining its authenticity** and protecting its cherished heritage.

# Developing Participative Tools



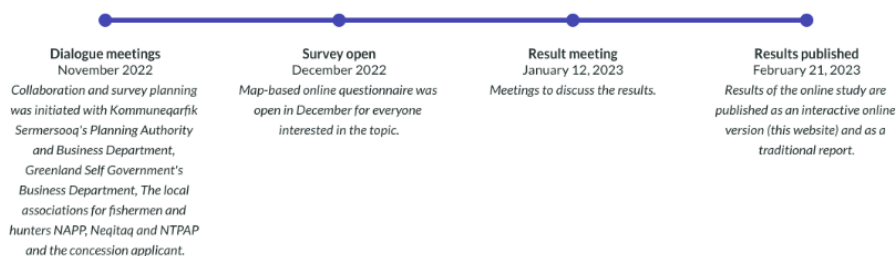
## Strengthening engagement at hub level in Nuuk, Greenland

The ArcticHubs partner, the **Greenland Institute of Natural Resources**, conducted a survey with Maptionnaire to gather insights from the local community regarding concession areas for trophy hunting. The survey aimed to assess attitudes, knowledge, and proposals related to this topic.

One particular aspect that **made it possible to generate participatory data collection** and stimulate discussions regarding decisions on concession areas **related to trophy hunting** was the usefulness of the Maptionnaire platform throughout the entire process.

Starting from **in-person meetings, where key points and the construction of the survey itself were discussed**, the platform played a crucial role in determining the relevant questions to obtain useful responses for decision-making, ensuring input from all stakeholders. **The platform was also instrumental in administering the questionnaire**, collecting and sharing the results during in-person meetings to facilitate discussions. Lastly, the **results** of the online study were published both **as an interactive online version** (available [here](#)) and as a traditional report to gather final feedback.

### Arctic Hubs: Nuuk



The collaborative process of gathering insights about trophy hunting concession areas in Nuuk, Greenland: step-by-step

The online study was **developed in collaboration with various stakeholders** to ensure a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the subject.

Nuuk **key findings reveal a divided opinion on concessions**, with some seeing them as a means to manage and control trophy hunting, while **others express concerns about potential**

**disadvantages** for local hunters and increased activity in existing hunting grounds. Respondents suggest that concessions should be located south of Nuuk, in Paamiut, Qeqertarsuaq, or Kangerlussuaq, while emphasising that trophy hunting should not compromise Nuup Kangerlua's quality as a tourism destination.

There is a clear call for better regulation, increased local ownership, and the introduction of tax measures to ensure community profitability. Additionally, respondents expressed **a desire for greater public involvement, dialogue, and information sharing.**

Read more about the Nuuk case study [here](#) and [here](#).



## Maptionnaire within the ArcticHubs: how has the platform evolved throughout the project so far?



**Maarit Kahila-Tani**, Co-founder & CEO.

She has a background in planning geography from University of Helsinki and urban planning from Aalto University. Her research focused on **new methods for enabling** and encouraging **wider public participation**. In her dissertation, she studied the opportunities for urban planners to take advantage of map-based PPGIS tools like Maptionnaire to get ideas and insights from residents. Currently she is **the CEO and co-founder of Mapita**, the company behind Maptionnaire. She continues to work in the domain of community engagement tools for urban planners and city developers.

*"All in all throughout the project we have worked closely with the researchers to understand **how to adapt Maptionnaire** to their case studies and local research problems. These conversations have given us input and understanding **what are the components still missing in Maptionnaire** and require attention from a development point of view. We have enjoyed seeing how the use of Maptionnaire has grown during the ArcticHubs project.*

*A particularly rewarding aspect has been the adaptations around certain case studies: one example is the case study in Nuuk where **Maptionnaire was used in addition to data collection in presenting the results** from the study in an interactive manner with the tools built in Maptionnaire.*

*In general when organising engagement and participation one big challenge centred around,*

- ***how to keep up the discussion** with the participants*
- ***how to inform** them about the results and ongoing conversation*
- ***and how to engage** them again later in the process*

*This process was well supported as part of the Nuuk hub activities and we felt that we got a lot of new insights on how to develop Maptionnaire in the future. In addition to the collaboration with the research team, we have taken further the objectives and goals set in the project proposal regarding the question how to increase the interactivity in Maptionnaire"*

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*"ArcticHubs has been a very interesting project for us because the setting differs from our usual background.*

Maptionnaire originates from the urban planning field. In the ArcticHubs project we have had the chance to collaborate with partners regarding rural and arctic topics. Together we seek ways to explore **how Maptionnaire can contribute to solving conflicting situations** when different types of activities come together in land or marine space.

Our main focus has been on **how to make Maptionnaire a better and more versatile tool for cases where more collaboration and discussion is needed** with local participants, such as residents, seasonal workers, visitors, land owners and decision makers.

*Especially in conflicting situations, wider discussion and interaction is needed to show participants that they are being heard, to make everyone aware of differing views and to find a common understanding. **Good participation makes the process more transparent, inclusive and increases trust.** Furthermore, participation is a process consisting of several stages, and the previous input from the participants should be carried over to the next stages as well.*

*By keeping this in mind at Mapita, we have developed tools that enhance the interactive capabilities of the Maptionnaire platform throughout various stages of the process:*

- **tools to view input of other respondents**
- **discussion tools** to either allow a wider topical discussion or narrowing it down to specific location
- and finally **tools for sharing collected inputs** and options to discuss the results further.



Kirs

**Forss, Lead Consultant & DACH Representative at Mapita.**

MSc., Kirsi Forss has a background in human geography and regional studies at the University of Helsinki. As **a human geographer** she is enthusiastic about understanding **the social side of different places**, spaces and environments. Her true passions are marine related topics and human-sea interactions. With several years of experience as consultant at Maptionnaire she has worked in numerous PPGIS projects to understand what kind of location-based experiences and needs participants have in their surroundings



## Next ArcticHubs seminar and travel lab

The banner features the Nofima logo on the left, navigation links for Research, Services, Results, About, and Norsk in the center, and a search icon on the right. The main text reads 'Seminar Coexistence between nature-based industries in the Arctic' next to the ArcticHubs logo, which depicts a stylized globe with mountains and water.

Welcome to the seminar in Kirkenes which deals with how new industries can coexist with traditional business life.

From 19-22 June a team of the ArcticHubs project will be on fieldwork in Norwegian and Finnish hub areas. On **the 21st a regional seminar - Coexistence between nature-based industries in the Arctic** - will take place in Kirkenes, Norway, organised by **NOFIMA**. Registration [here](#). And [here for the Digital Event](#).

In connection to the seminar, **the project partners will meet in** the neighbouring town of

**Bugøynes**, to observe the setting and hear from local stakeholders.

After the Kirkenes workshop, **ArcticHubs researchers will then travel to Inari**, over the border in Finland, to discuss future scenarios and the prospect of expanding the concept of 'social licence to operate - SLO' with hub leaders and local stakeholders.

Make sure **to follow and check our social media accounts for updates!**

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## Next Conferences & Events

● ArcticHubs General Assembly 2023

 19 - 22 September 2023

👉 The ArcticHubs General Assembly 2023 brings together partners and hubs leaders from all over the Arctic region and Europe to one meeting covering all disciplines.

📍 Alagna Valsesia, Italy

● Barents Forest Forum 2023 in Finland

 4-5 October 2023

👉 **#BarentsForestForum 2023**

registration is open! Join us to explore the multifaceted role of forests and their uses in the Arctic region. The in-person Forum has limited seating capacity, and attendance is on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no participation fee for the event. Programme and registration:

<http://lyyti.fi/p/BFF2023>.

📍 Rovaniemi, Finland

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## That's all for now!

Want to explore research collaborations?

Email at [arctichubs@luke.fi](mailto:arctichubs@luke.fi)

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Horizon 2020  
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