



OPEN CALL FOR STUDENT AND INTERNSHIP PROJECTS

APPENDIX: OBJECTIVES, AXES AND WORK PACKAGES

I. OBJECTIVES

- A. To describe the current state of these inequalities;
- B. To explain recent trends affecting them;
- C. To alter them by imagining, through knowledge mobilization, changes to institutional processes and controls that participate in the social production of inequalities.

II. AXIS AND WORK PACKAGES

AXES	AGENTS		
	HOUSEHOLDS	BUSINESSES	PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS
1. CURRENT STATUS	1.1 The structures of distribution among agents.		
	1.2 Economic inequalities of gender, ethnicity and age.	1.3 The extraction of wealth.	1.4 The state as regulator and agent.
2. TRENDS	2.1 Development trajectories.		
	2.2 The dynamics of economic inequalities. 2.3 Demographic trends and inequalities.	2.4 Transitions linked to climate change.	
3. PROJECTION	3.1 Institutional changes.		
	3.2 Indigenous perspectives on development.	3.3 Indigenous and citizens' practices in the struggle to overcome inequalities.	3.4 Social innovation, reconciliation and adaptation.

III. DESCRIPTION OF AXES AND WORK PACKAGES

Axis 1

Current state of wealth distribution – This axis will seek to characterize the distribution of wealth by studying the breakdown of incomes and expenditures among the principal economic agents, as well as the relationships between this situation and the factors and mechanisms associated with it and the consequences it produces. It will thus allow us to precisely characterize and document income inequality and the other forms of inequality.

Transversal work package 1.1 – The structures of distribution among agents – What is the share of income and the tax burden of each agent? What are the effects of government redistribution programs on inequalities? Based on the exploratory work carried out during the development of the partnership, this project will analyse the distribution in each of the regions in order to identify the models and institutional arrangements that produce them. The data will come from regional accounts and surveys of the agents, and will be subjected to descriptive statistical analyses. Where the data are insufficient, they will be completed by case studies of businesses or public administrations in the regions.

Work package 1.2 – Economic inequalities of gender, ethnicity, and age – What is the situation when income distribution and monetary poverty are analyzed according to gender, Indigenous identity, and age? What are the relationships between the differences thereby identified and other individual variables such as educational level, or structural variables such as the cost of living? Descriptive statistical analysis and association tests using national census data and records in selected regions will be carried out. Creation of a price index on the basis of a data collection form allowing for interregional comparability. Analysis of official documents relating to transfers and salaries. Creation of qualitative data by means of case studies.

Work package 1.3 – The extraction of wealth – What are the impacts of business operations on regional inequalities? Do they vary according to the structure of ownership, tax burden or the geographical distribution of operating expenses or profits? The data will come from statistical surveys carried out by national agencies in accordance with international standards, along with information from business records and corporate statistics collected through case studies taking into account the diversity of situations (ownership structure, key industries).

Work package 1.4 – The state as regulator and agent – How is the power to define the legal frameworks of economic activity distributed, and with what results? Analysis of the various legal frameworks governing different areas of activity such as mining or food marketing standards. The data will come from an analysis of the laws and regulations. We will also conduct an analysis of the operations of public administrations and examine the degree to which regional economies depend on metropolitan areas. The data will come from regional, national, and other public accounts, as well as case studies that take into account the diversity of situations (regions with or without autonomy).

III. DESCRIPTION OF AXES AND WORK PACKAGES (CONTINUED)

Axis 2

Social transitions and trends in the distribution of wealth - This axis will study the effects on the distribution of wealth and social inequalities that may arise from the various dynamics and forces of change within the social and economic systems. It will provide us with a better understanding of the factors that help explain the differences in structures and trajectories observed between the regions.

Transversal work package 2.1 – Development trajectories – What are the regions’ development trajectories? What is the weight of the various factors involved, such as the concentration of political power and economic rent, the importance of the branches of activity that operate as monopolies, or the inefficiency of market mechanisms? Analysis of the impacts of the various models on the political and economic dependence of regional authorities, on the lack of basic infrastructure, and on the marginalization of the traditional Indigenous economy. The data will focus on the trends transforming infrastructure, economic structure, relationships between agents, and the consequences of these movements on inequalities. This data will come from existing documents and statistics, as well as from case study surveys carried out in a representative selection of regions.

Work package 2.2 – The dynamics of economic inequalities – Characterization of the dynamics of household income distribution based on measures of income dispersion. A series of indicators (e.g., gender, identity, age, education) will be integrated into the analysis in order to characterize the dynamics of complex inequalities. Using a preliminary study with Canadian data from 1981 to 2016 that focuses on the Arctic, where income inequality tends to be higher and is increasing faster than in the rest of the country, development of a protocol applicable to the other regions of the circumpolar Arctic.

Work package 2.3 – Demographic trends and inequalities – Analysis of the demographic changes associated with mobility and migration and their effects on inequalities. Analysis of migratory trends among young people and women. The data will come from censuses, national records and surveys on mobility and migration. Exploration of the factors, conditions and practices involved in mobility and migration decisions. The secondary data will come from national statistical agencies and the SLiCA survey; the primary qualitative data will come from case studies.

Work package 2.4 – Transitions linked to climate change – What are the trends in private investments related to climate change? What are the trends in public policies intended to regulate these transitions? Analysis of the adaptations to the opening up of navigation in the Arctic Ocean and their impacts on local residents; analysis of the impact of carbon taxation and compensatory transfers; of trends in the development of energy resources and their impacts on regional and local industry, traditional Indigenous activities, and environmental safety. The data will come from documentary sources (organizational documentation, corporate statistics, public policies, impact follow-up studies) and case studies.

III. DESCRIPTION OF AXES AND WORK PACKAGES (CONTINUED)

Axis 3

Towards a more equitable distribution – This axis seeks to identify ways of modifying structures and trends so as to favour a more equitable distribution of wealth. On the basis of a projected future in which inequalities have been levelled, it imagines the changes required to achieve that.

Transversal work package 3.1 – Institutional changes – What changes to institutional controls are likely to remove the barriers to the autonomy of Indigenous communities and peoples, regional authorities, businesses, and citizens, allowing them to make their own decisions and act independently? What conditions are required to develop and implement these changes? What would the impacts of these changes be on the distribution of wealth? Exploration of changes to the barriers caused by border restrictions, for example, or by laws governing marine or terrestrial resources, formulation of recommendations and simulation of their impacts on the distribution of wealth. The case studies will focus on a selection of regions where the data allow for the programming of economic simulators. The data will come from international or domestic legal documentation, and from case studies.

Work package 3.2 – Indigenous perspectives on development – What are the Indigenous perspectives on economic development? How do they differ from the dominant conceptions of growth and progress through the exploitation of nature perceived as a reservoir of resources? Analysis of the various types of agreements on the benefits and impacts arising from the establishment on Indigenous lands of industrial development projects, their effectiveness, and their effects on inequalities. Analysis of Indigenous perceptions of these agreements, or of major planned projects, such as the Arctic Railway in Finland and Norway or the expansion of the Mary River Mine. The data will come from meta-analyses of the scholarly and organizational literature, and from case studies carried out within the action-research framework.

Work package 3.3 – Indigenous and citizens' practices in the struggle to overcome inequalities – What are the Indigenous perspectives and practices that favour the reduction of inequalities? What are their conceptual foundations? Analysis of models of citizen and community action, as well as business and development models, that bear on the fight against poverty, for example, or family support, or capacity building. Analysis of the fundamental elements that are implemented, including the status of holistic vision, traditional knowledge, and cultural safety. The data will come from case studies carried out within the action-research framework.

Work package 3.4 – Social innovation, reconciliation, and adaptation – What innovative projects favour reconciliation between the creation of wealth, the quest for self-sufficiency, Indigenous values and practices, and the resilience of communities that are geographically isolated or have a small population? Analysis of initiatives undertaken by local or regional Indigenous organizations for the autonomous production of renewable energy, or projects for the conservation and development of the territory. The data will come from case studies carried out within the action research framework. What behaviours foster the adaptive capacities required by small communities to sustain themselves and thrive in the context of rapid socio-economic change? Drawing on current trends in the innovation economy as well as machine learning methods and computer-assisted experimentation, the data will come from a selection of regions characterized by their dynamism and innovation in social and economic areas, e.g., by evaluating how respondents behave in response to simulated cases.