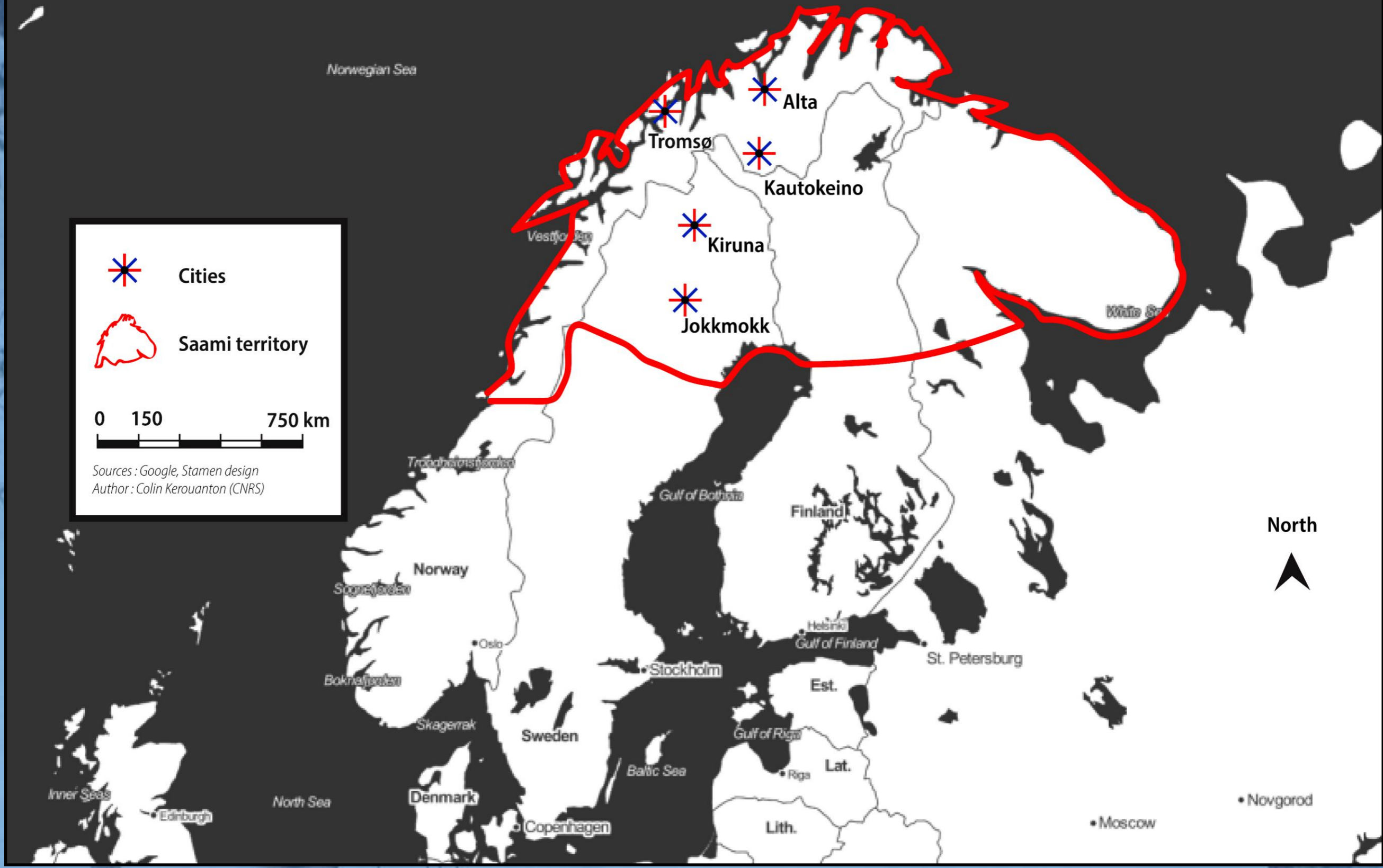



# Sami perspective and knowledge about climate and global change


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# SAAMI TERRITORY MAP



 Cities

 Saami territory

0 150 750 km

Sources : Google, Stamen design  
Author : Colin Kerouanton (CNRS)




# Sami beliefs and representations about climate change

1. An anthropologist point of view : Is there a difference between beliefs and representations ?  
What about world view ?
2. First impression while interviewing about climate change
  - Sami often reluctant to discuss the subject
  - or discussions at a tv level



**WHY ?**



1. The Sami feel insulted by the fact that we are questioning their capacity of resilience

A blue-tinted photograph of a snowy forest. In the foreground, the top of a person's head is visible. The background is filled with snow-covered trees and a snowy ground. The overall scene is serene and wintry.

2. Climate change appears to them  
as the last academic fashion



3. The Sami are too «scientifically serious and cautious » to make risky declarations





4. Discussing change is a much more challenging and complex issue than just climate change

# Sami knowledge

## Ethnolinguistics of snow and ice

- *Guohton*
- *oppas*
- *čiegar*
- *Čuokke*
- *Bodne-vihci*
- *seanas ...*

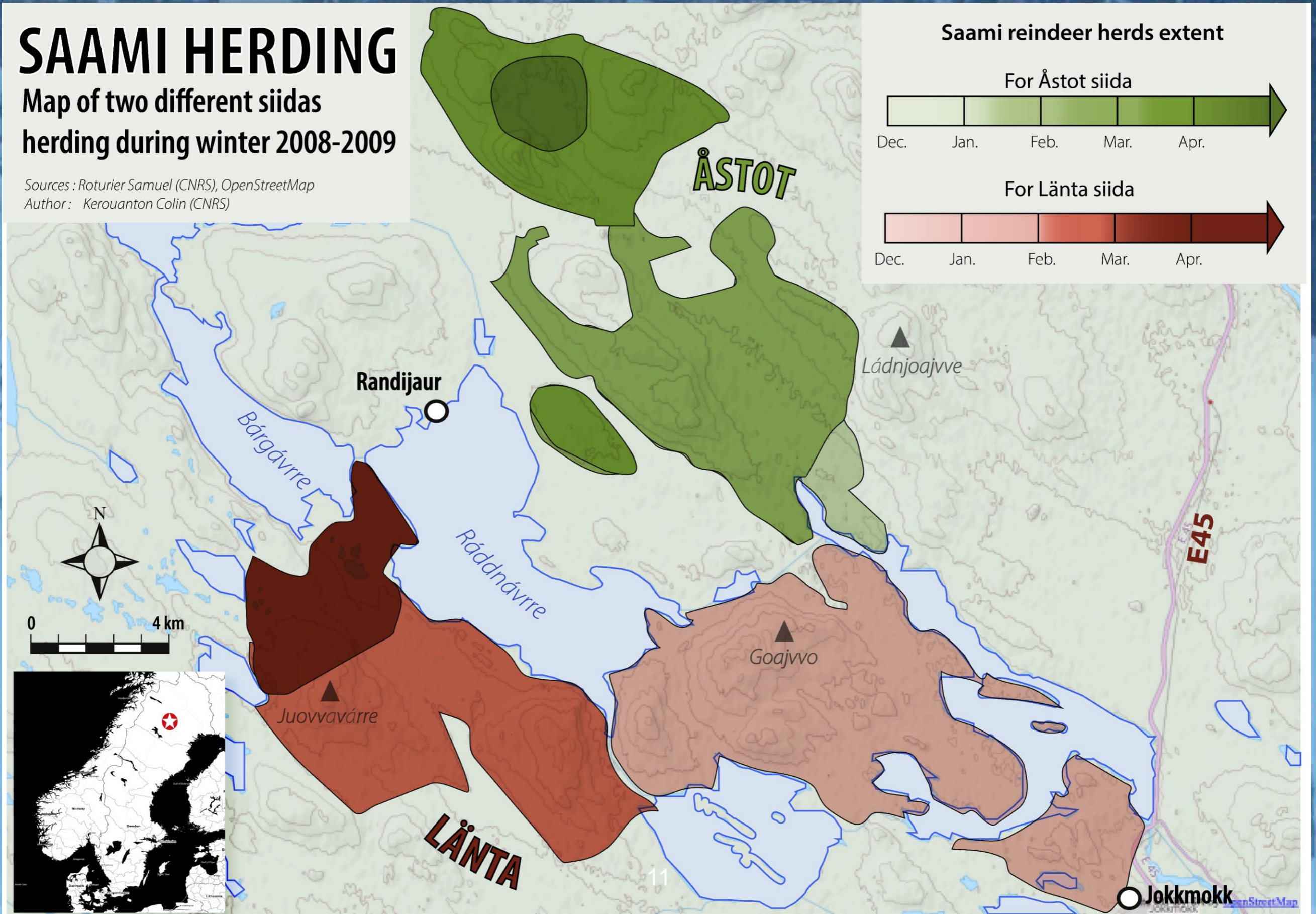


# Sami knowledge

## SAAMI HERDING

Map of two different siidas herding during winter 2008-2009

Sources : Roturier Samuel (CNRS), OpenStreetMap  
Author : Kerouanton Colin (CNRS)



# Global change

As expressed by a young Sami herder in Sweden :

*There are different problems. For winter grazing, the problem is that we have so little space ... and we have more problems due to forestry and maybe soon, mining, and also snowmobile tourism. Because the winter pasture is so important. Climate change will probably, in my opinion, be a big problem. Because when the climate changes, traditionally we have always moved around. I mean, in ten thousand years, the climate has changed a lot ... But then, we had places to go. Now we don't.*

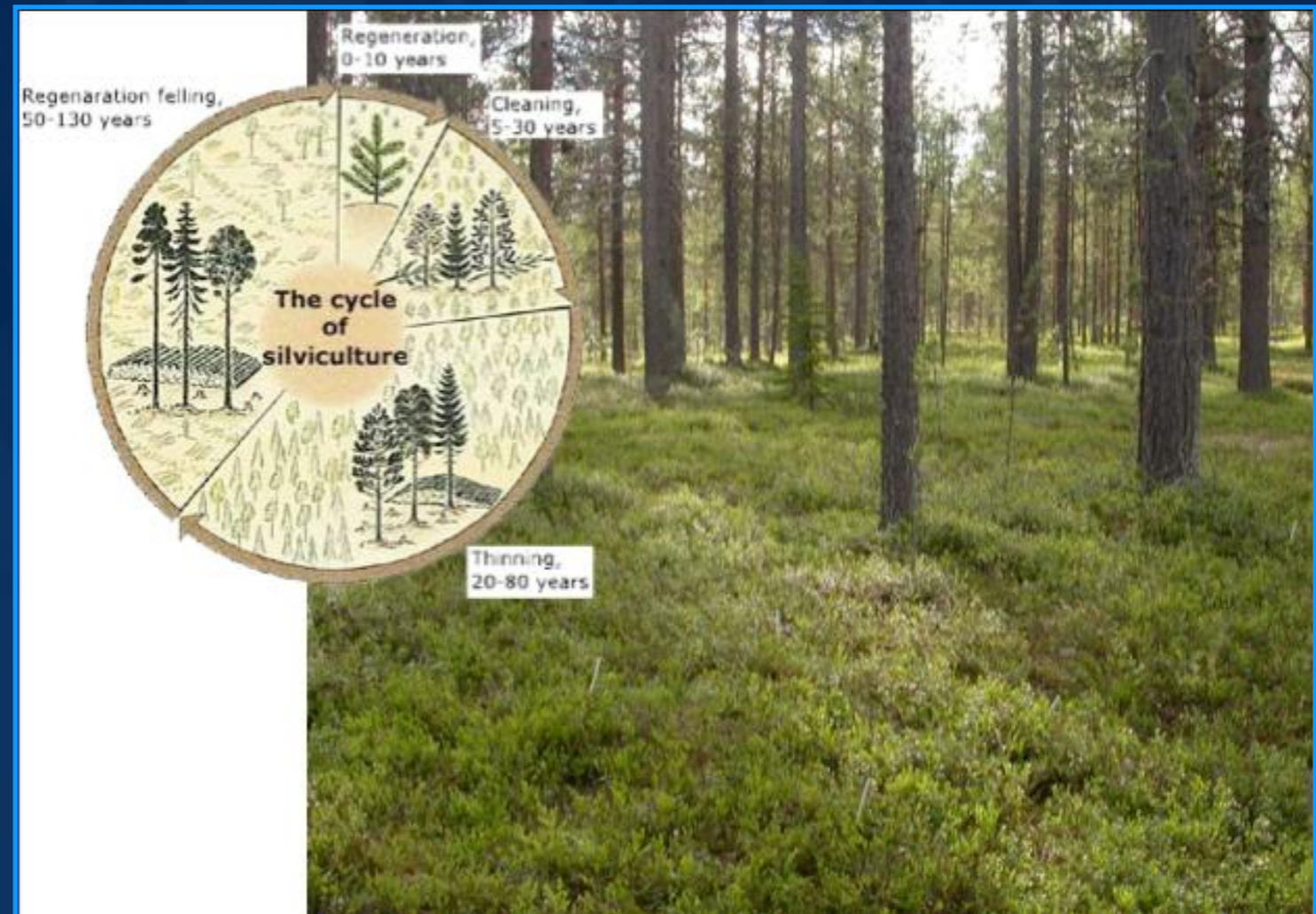


# Global change

As expressed by a researcher :

*Herders' traditional responses to changes in both the natural and the socio-economic environments have depended on a flexibility in herding practice that is currently being eroded by several non-climate factors. The reduced freedom of action resulting from loss of habitat, predation and aspects of governance (especially economic and legal constraints) potentially dwarves the putative effects of projected climate change on reindeer pastoralism.*

N.J.C. Tyler and alia, □ 2007, « Saami reindeer pastoralism under climate change: Applying a generalized framework for vulnerability studies to a sub-arctic social–ecological system », *Global Environmental Change* 17, 191-206



# Global change

## INDUSTRIALISATION

- In Norway and Sweden, mining
- In Norway and Sweden, hydroelectric dams
- In Norway and Sweden, roads, railways, cities
- In Norway tourist housing
- In Sweden industrial forestry
- In Norway gas and oil extraction

# Global change

## WELFARE COLONIALISM

- . In both countries, no recognition of land rights and modernisation
- . In Norway very intense bureaucratisation and loss of autonomy
- . Main characteristics of « modernisation » : fixed rules for time and space —> loss of nomadism and social structure

Thanks for your  
attention

