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Selection of priority investment projects for the development of the Russian Arctic

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**1 Selection of priority investment projects for the development of the Russian Arctic**

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**7 ABSTRACT**

8 In the Russian Arctic, there is currently an active process of preparation and implementation of  
9 investment projects aiming to extract natural resources, with the aim of sustainable  
10 socioeconomic development of the region. These projects are associated with the development of  
11 key zones in the Arctic and involve the exploration for and production of minerals (diamonds,  
12 gold, rare-earth metals, oil, and gas) and the development of energy and infrastructure (e.g., the  
13 Northern Sea Route). Such projects, which are often carried out in territories of traditional nature  
14 management belonging to the indigenous peoples of the North, must consider their  
15 environmental and social responsibility and the preservation of the ethnic identity and culture of  
16 indigenous peoples. The extraction of mineral deposits in the Arctic and the Far North places  
17 new demands on subsoil users, related to the preservation and development of the socio-cultural  
18 environment of the indigenous peoples of the North and to the ecological rehabilitation of the  
19 area. This article presents economic and mathematical models for selecting the optimal  
20 development project options based on the pairwise comparison of investment projects and the  
21 evaluation of indigenous peoples' preferences. We investigated the investment projects' impact  
22 on traditional territories in the Arctic, including the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), in terms of  
23 socioeconomic and ethnological development, and environmental change. The suggested system  
24 of models can be used to assess the priority of projects supporting and developing the region in

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