



## Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)

### Work Plan for 2011–2013 with tentative deliverables

#### AMAP Monitoring and Assessment

##### AMAP Trends and Effects Monitoring Programme

- AMAP is currently updating its monitoring and assessment implementation plan in accordance with the approved *AMAP Strategic Framework for 2010+*. The *AMAP Trends and Effects Monitoring Guidelines* and *AMAP Assessment Guidelines* documents are being updated during 2011.
- As part of its ongoing work, AMAP will continue to coordinate Arctic monitoring and research activities (based largely on national programmes) to provide the information necessary for assessment of relevant issues, including:
  - spatial trends in levels of contaminants;
  - temporal trends in levels of contaminants;
  - biological effects of contaminants and associated trends;
  - climate change;
  - effects of climate change;
  - human and ecosystem health effects ;
  - combined effects of contaminants, climate change and other stressors.
- AMAP will continue to coordinate and expand activities to ensure appropriate data reporting and archiving, including reporting of data to AMAP thematic data centres.
- AMAP will support CAFF in the further development of the CBMP and implement biological effects monitoring components of the CBMP as a component of the AMAP monitoring implementation plan.

## Ongoing and Planned AMAP Assessments

- The AMAP Arctic Ocean Acidification (AOA) Expert Group has been established and is engaged in work to complete the first AMAP assessment of this issue. The results of this assessment are due to be delivered in 2013.
- The AMAP Short Lived Climate Forcers (SLCF) Expert Group is currently updating its assessment to include data and information on black carbon from sources outside of the Arctic. The report of this work will be available in 2011/12.
- The AMAP SLCF Expert Group will be expanded to include experts on tropospheric ozone and methane with a view to conducting assessment of these additional forcers of climate change as well as black carbon for delivery in 2013.
- The AMAP Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Expert Group are developing safety guidelines and undertaking other work including a cross-jurisdictional flight pilot project (planned to take place in 2011/2012) to demonstrate the use of UAS in Arctic environmental monitoring.
- As part of its ongoing work, AMAP will determine the need for follow-up activities and products in relation to the oil and gas assessment, SWIPA and mercury assessment, and for updating assessments of other AMAP relevant issues (POPs, radioactivity, human health, contaminant transport and fate, etc.) and if appropriate develop plans for these activities.
- As part of its ongoing work, AMAP will continue to evaluate emerging 'Issues of Concern' relating to pollution and climate change and their effects of Arctic ecosystems and human populations.

## Assessment activities in cooperation with other AC Working Groups

- AMAP (together with CAFF and SDWG) will complete the final report on AMSA II(c) for delivery at the end of 2011.
- AMAP plan to contribute to an update of the 2004 Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (with PAME)
- AMAP plan to contribute to an update of the Arctic Ocean Review (with PAME)
- Subject to AC approval, AMAP are prepared to develop a process to establish a multi-partner integrated assessment of 'Arctic Change', based on the large number of relevant assessments conducted by the various AC working groups in recent years, including those currently under preparation.

## Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks

- AMAP plan to implement the recommendations for Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON) and to continue to co-lead the development of this work (on behalf of the Arctic Council) together with IASC.
- AMAP plan to establish an agreement and working procedures for the Secretariat support for the SAON, together with IASC.

## Communication and Outreach

- AMAP will continue to develop its outreach and communications plan as a component of the implementation of the 'AMAP Strategic Framework', taking into account the developments under the Arctic Council communications strategy. As a first step a small AMAP project group will be tasked to consider this issue further during 2011.
- The new AMAP website will be launched by summer of 2011. The AMAP website has been redesigned to better serve the needs of various user communities.
- AMAP will implement planned follow-up communication and outreach activities associated with the SWIPA and mercury assessment delivery, including production and dissemination of films, translated reports, fact-sheets and other outreach products including educational materials.
- AMAP will complete the publication of the oil and gas assessment scientific assessment. Volumes 1 and 2 have been published; Volume 3 is due to be published later in 2011.

## Support for International Activities

### Projects and Joint Studies

- AMAP experts will finalise the report on Phase 1 (in 2011) and conduct Phase 2 of the Nordic Council of Ministers funded project on *Combined Effects of Contaminants and Climate Change*. Phase 2 of the project is due to be completed by 2013.
- AMAP experts will continue to implement the EU-funded (FP7) project *ArcRisk*. AMAP Secretariat is responsible for management and outreach components of this

project. The project was initiated in June 2009 and will be completed in November 2013.

- AMAP is participating in the further development and implementation of special projects in Russia, including the project on the Lena and other Siberian rivers, and follow-up of the PTS project.

## **Cooperation with Intergovernmental and International organizations**

- AMAP will continue to cooperate with UNEP-Chemicals on activities connected with the UNEP global mercury process. As a follow-up to the joint UNEP/AMAP work to prepare the technical report on *Global anthropogenic emissions of mercury to the atmosphere in 2005*, and the AMAP contribution to the UNEP 'Paragraph 29 study', AMAP has been requested by UNEP-Chemicals to coordinate and participate in a project to further update information on global emissions of mercury in support of the ongoing UNEP mercury INC process.
- AMAP will continue to cooperate with UNEP on activities connected with the Stockholm Convention. As a follow-up to the joint UNEP/AMAP work to prepare the technical report on *Climate change and POPs: Predicting the Impacts*, AMAP plan to collaborate with the Stockholm Convention Secretariat to prepare a side-event at the COP5.
- AMAP will continue to cooperate with UN ECE in relation to relevant LRTAP activities.
- The AMAP POPs, Mercury and Human Health Expert Groups will take into account the possible needs for providing Arctic information products in connection with, e.g., effectiveness and efficiency reviews of the international agreements under UNEP and UN ECE, and information relevant to adding new chemicals to existing conventions when considering their plans for future update assessment activities.
- AMAP plan to contribute to the proposal for an International Polar Decade (with WMO and other interested organizations)
- AMAP plans to cooperate with the UNFCCC IPCC. The IPCC will prepare its next assessment of Global Climate Change in 2013-14 and the SWIPA assessment results will form an important contribution to this process.
- As part of its continuing work, AMAP will participate in relevant international meetings and symposia to communicate AMAP results and information on ongoing activities.