

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP - PROGRESS REPORT TO SENIOR ARCTIC OFFICIALS
 FOR THE SAO MEETING NUMBER 2 IN (YELLOWKNIFE, NWT) (MARCH 26-27, 2014)

1. Introduction. Response to Arctic Council priorities and potential new projects under consideration

- In line with recent Declarations of the Arctic Council, the Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) is poised to deliver nine initiatives in time for the 2015 Ministerial Meeting. In addition to these, the SDWG is exploring projects in the following areas:
 - *Promoting Traditional and Local Knowledge*
 - *Marine Subsistence Mapping*
 - *Food and Water Security*
 - *Indigenous Health Research Ethics in the Arctic*
 - *Adaptation to Climate Change in the Russian and Norwegian High North*

2. Summary of progress on SDWG projects

Project	Progress since spring 2013	Budget (CAD)	# Active Participants
<i>The Evidence-Base for Promoting Mental Wellness and Resilience to Address Suicide in Circumpolar Communities</i> Leads: Canada, Norway, Kingdom of Denmark, U.S., Russian Federation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Research teams have submitted bids and will commence work in April 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning has commenced for the November 2014 workshop for researchers to present their findings ▪ 	\$1,000,000	TBD
<i>Arctic Adaptation Exchange: Facilitating Adaptation to Climate Change</i> Leads: Canada, U.S.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A scoping meeting was held in February 2014 in Anchorage, Alaska to support development of the Adaptation Portal's basic structure and content as well as to define a clear linkage between the Portal and the University of Alaska, Fairbanks' work on adaptation capacity indicators. 	\$450,000	TBD
<i>Review of Cancer Among Circumpolar Indigenous Peoples</i> Leads: Canada, Kingdom of Denmark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Canada has secured funding for this initiative which has received SAO approval ▪ Work on the project has commenced with data collection underway 	\$140,000	TBD

<p><i>Gender Equality in the Arctic: Current Realities and Future Challenges</i></p> <p>Leads: Iceland, Norway</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A scoping meeting in Reykjavik, Iceland took place on February 4-5, 2014, in anticipation of the November 2014 conference to be held in Akureyri, Iceland 	\$160,000	TBD
<p><i>A Circumpolar-wide Inuit Response to the AMSA</i></p> <p>Leads: ICC, Canada, U.S., Kingdom of Denmark</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in February and March was focused on the development of a data collection methodology for use across regions 	\$222,430	TBD
<p><i>Arctic Human Development Report II (AHDR-II)</i></p> <p>Leads: Iceland, Canada, Kingdom of Denmark</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final meeting of the project co-leads took place in Reykjavik, Iceland in February 2014 Heads of Delegation submitted comments on the AHDR II report final draft chapters on February 14, 2014 	\$600,000	94
<p><i>Assessing, Monitoring and Promoting Arctic Indigenous Languages</i></p> <p>Leads: ICC, Canada, U.S., Kingdom of Denmark</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current work is focused on workshop and symposium planning 	\$995,000	25
<p><i>Electronic Memory of the Arctic</i></p> <p>Lead: Russian Federation, Norway</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current work is focused on continuing the development of national segments – particularly as regards Norway – and implementing a test with the Yukon Archives A second EMA international conference is being planned for Spring 2014 in St. Petersburg 	\$780,000	25
<p><i>Reindeer Herding and Youth</i></p> <p>Leads: Russian Federation, Norway</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Russian Federation reported in June that it was securing additional funding for Reindeer Herding workshops Russia and the US are in discussions regarding project activities being extended to include Alaska 	\$327,273	8
Other			
<p><i>Traditional and Local Knowledge (TLK)</i></p> <p>Lead: AIA, IPS (scoping workshop)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A scoping workshop, led by Permanent Participants, was held in Reykjavik, Iceland on February 17-19, 2014 	TBD	TBD

3. Deliverables for the next Ministerial

- All of the above projects are on track for delivery in 2015.

4. Working Group administration and next meeting(s)

- The SDWG Secretariat is collecting “Project Summary” and “Status Report” templates to facilitate the collection and reporting of information to SAOs.
- In October, 2013, the SDWG held its first formal meeting with Heads of Delegation (HoDs) in Whitehorse, Canada. Upcoming meetings will be held on the following dates and times:
 - Yellowknife, NWT
 - March 23-24, 2014 – SDWG General meeting
 - Iqaluit, NU
 - September 18-19, 2014 – SDWG General Meeting

5. Collaboration with other working groups / other organizations

- In January 2014, the SDWG Chair (Jutta Wark) addressed the Arctic Frontiers Conference in Tromsø, Norway, January, 2014.
- In February 2014, the SDWG Chair held a meeting with the Co-Chairs of the Social, Economic, and Cultural Expert Group to develop a systemic plan to respond to requests from the other Arctic Council working groups.
- On February 17-19, 2014, the SDWG Chair partnered with the Indigenous Peoples’ Secretariat to hold a scoping workshop on the *Promoting Traditional and Local Knowledge* initiative with all six Permanent Participants, as well as representatives from AMAP, CAFF, EPPR, and the Arctic Council Secretariat.

ANNEX 1 – Description of SDWG Deliverables, 2013-2015

Project	Description
<p><i>The Evidence-Base for Promoting Mental Wellness and Resilience to Address Suicide in Circumpolar Communities</i></p> <p>Leads: Canada, Norway, Kingdom of Denmark, U.S., Russian Federation</p>	<p>This project will assess the outcomes of current and past research, programs and/or activities undertaken in circumpolar communities which promote resilience and well-being. It will bring multiple stakeholders together throughout the project to ensure common understanding and potential application of evidence leading to positive mental health outcomes.</p>
<p><i>Arctic Adaptation Exchange: Facilitating Adaptation to Climate Change</i></p> <p>Leads: Canada, U.S.</p>	<p>This initiative will create an adaptation portal which would facilitate access to adaptation relevant resources and create a space where Northern decision-makers can exchange experiences, lessons learned and best practices.</p>
<p><i>Review of Cancer Among Circumpolar Indigenous Peoples</i></p> <p>Leads: Canada, Kingdom of Denmark</p>	<p>The results of this initiative will significantly benefit health jurisdictions in the North to better screen, plan for, and treat cancer among circumpolar indigenous populations. The project has two phases involving different Arctic countries, regions and Indigenous peoples.</p>
<p><i>Gender Equality in the Arctic: Current Realities and Future Challenges</i></p> <p>Leads: Iceland, Norway</p>	<p>The initiative will be lead by the Icelandic Centre for Gender Equality and the Stefansson Arctic Institute and would strengthen cooperation among research and stakeholder networks and promote dialogue on this issue in the face of change. A 2014 Gender Equality Conference will be held in Akureyri, Iceland.</p>
<p><i>A Circumpolar-wide Inuit Response to the AMSA</i></p> <p>Leads: ICC, Canada, U.S., Kingdom of Denmark</p>	<p>Communicate findings of the AC AMSA to Inuit and seek guidance on moving AMSA forward. Expand earlier survey on Inuit use of sea and sea ice to assess how current use of sea and sea-ice is impacted by Arctic shipping</p>
<p><i>Arctic Human Development Report II (AHDR-II)</i></p> <p>Leads: Iceland, Canada, Kingdom of Denmark</p>	<p>This report will build on baseline findings published in 2004 and provide the Arctic Council with a better understanding of human development and quality of life in the Arctic at a time of accelerated global change.</p>
<p><i>Assessing, Monitoring and Promoting Arctic Indigenous Languages</i></p> <p>Leads: ICC, Canada, U.S., Kingdom of Denmark</p>	<p>Deliverables for this project include: a communications plan; the development of a data collection instrument to capture salient data; and an Arctic Indigenous Languages Assessment Symposium that will include a final report along with a framework for future work. The project is on track for delivery in 2015.</p>
<p><i>Electronic Memory of the Arctic</i></p> <p>Lead: Russia, Norway</p>	<p>The EMA project will gather and digitize circumpolar related information on a variety of topics from AC states libraries, museums and archives, to make them available online. The project is on track for delivery in 2015.</p>
<p><i>Reindeer Herding and Youth</i></p> <p>Leads: Russia, Norway</p>	<p>Combining scientific data and traditional knowledge, this project will advance the understanding of reindeer husbandry; the impact of climate change; future developments and shared challenges. The project is on track for delivery in 2015.</p>
<p><i>Traditional and Local Knowledge</i></p> <p>Lead: AIA, IPS (scoping workshop)</p>	<p>This initiative aims to develop a consistent approach for promoting the integration of traditional and local knowledge into the work of the Arctic Council. The initiative is currently being scoped out by the SDWG PP HoDs with the assistance of AIA and the Indigenous Peoples Secretariat (IPS).</p>