



ARCTIC COUNCIL

Expert Group on Black Carbon and Methane  
(EGBCM)

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# EGBCM: background

- In 2015 the Ministers of the Arctic Council adopted a framework titled “Enhanced Black Carbon and Methane Emissions Reductions: An Arctic Council Framework for Action”
- Expert group established to assess progress towards the common vision
- At the 2017 Arctic Council Ministerial meeting, a first edition of the Summary of Progress and Recommendations was adopted, including a collective aspirational goal to reduce black carbon emissions by 25-33 percent relative to 2013 levels by 2025
- All Arctic countries still associate themselves with the goal



# Expert Group on Black Carbon and Methane Summary Of Progress And Recommendations 2021

- Biennial “Summary of Progress and Recommendations” reports based on States’ national reports
- 3<sup>rd</sup> EGBCM Summary report – prepared during 2019-2021 and adopted at the 2021 Ministerial meeting
- Updated emission data and projections
- The summary of progress in achievement of collective aspirational goal to reduce black carbon emissions based on national reports
- Recommendations grouped in priority areas





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# EGBCM PRIORITY AREAS

The EGBCM has identified these six priority areas for reduction of black carbon and methane. The group's recommendations are grouped according to the priority areas.



## OIL AND GAS

- Combustion, especially flaring
- Venting & unintentional leakages

## RESIDENTIAL COMBUSTION

- Home heating
- Cooking stoves



## AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

- Livestock digestive processes
- Open burning of agricultural waste
- Manure management

## SOLID WASTE

- Food and other organic waste
- Inefficient waste management & disposal practices



## WILDFIRES

- Tundra, peatlands and forests



## MOBILE AND STATIONARY DIESEL-POWERED SOURCES



- Energy production in remote communities, either primary or back-up
- Off-grid resource exploitation sites
- Industrial use
- Light-and heavy-duty vehicles

# The summary of emissions reduction progress

- the Arctic States have collectively reduced their black carbon emissions by 20% in 2018, compared to the 2013 baselines, and are projected to achieve a 32% decrease by 2025
- as for methane, according to the nationally reported data, collective emissions from Arctic States have increased by 2% from 2013 to 2018, and are projected to increase by 8% by 2025

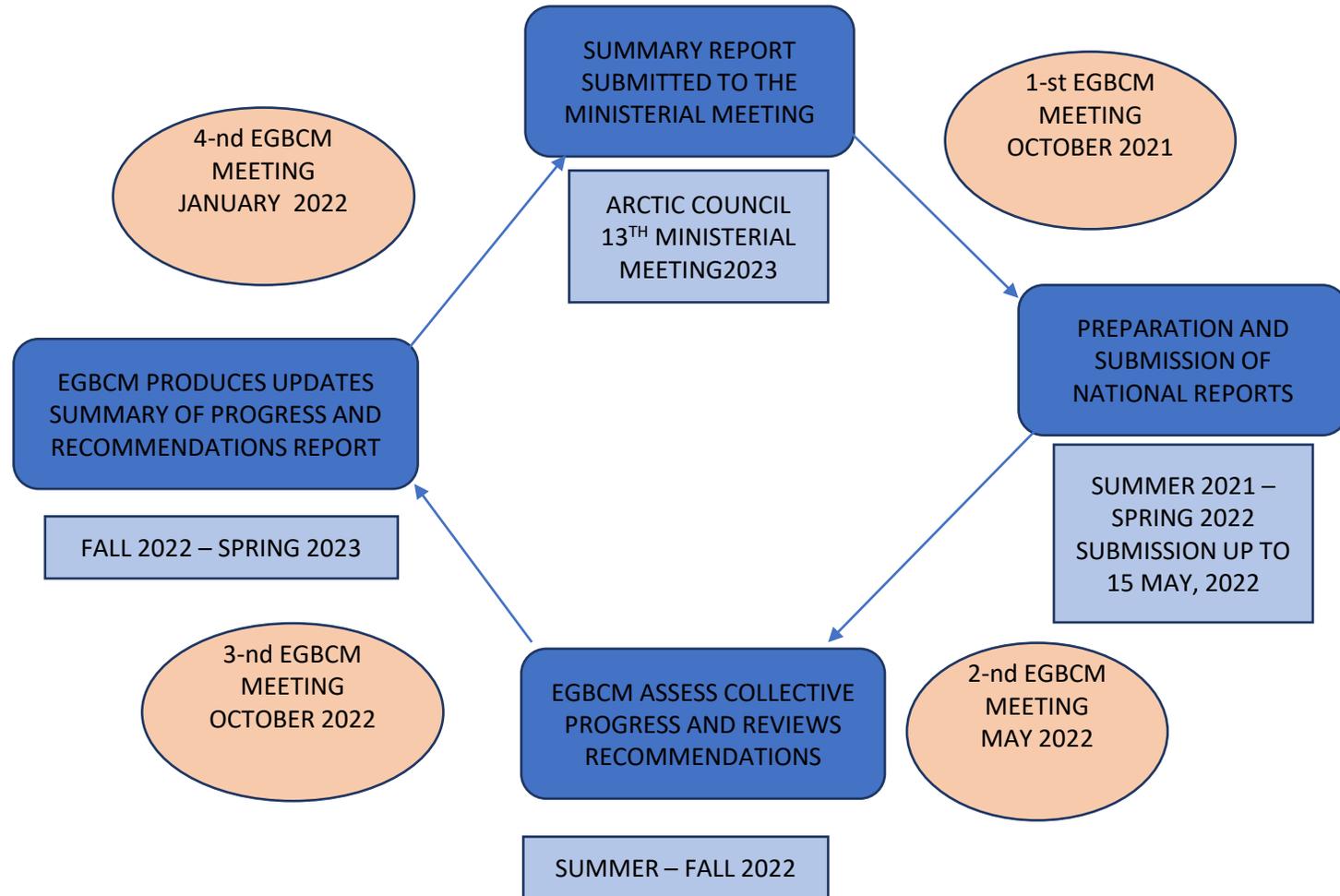


# REYKJAVIK DECLARATION 2021

- encourage Arctic States and Observer States to develop cooperation and implement the recommendations of the report
- strongly encourage Observer States to commit to similar reduction goals
- consider possible updates to the goal and present a recommendation at the next Arctic Council Ministerial meeting
- note that additional action and measures are needed to significantly reduce overall methane emissions



# EGBCM biennial work schedule 2021-2023



# SUMMARY OF THE 1-ST EGBCM MEETING

## Stronger focus on implementation of the recommendations in the report:

- further implementation of the recommendations is necessary to reduce emissions of both black carbon and methane
- one way to improve implementation among the member states could be to widen communication efforts
- importance of scaling up projects
- identify barriers to action and add them under each sector area
- highlight the continued need for science research



# SUMMARY OF THE 1-ST EGBCM MEETING

## Reykjavik Declaration Mandate:

EGBCM take up these statements as part of its workplan:

- to consider updates to the collective goal to reduce black carbon emissions
- consider recommending a goal on methane, in addition to updating the collective goal on black carbon



Proposed a small subgroup within the EGBCM to work on developing an updated black carbon goal and a possible methane goal and report in the 4<sup>th</sup> Summary of Progress and Recommendations

# SUMMARY OF THE 1-ST EGBCM MEETING

## Priority areas:

- Six areas identified previously
- Decided to add a seventh area – cross-sectoral - which would examine cross-cutting issues, and which would also build upon the governance section that was new to the 2021 Summary Report

## Also discussed:

- whether recommendations related to shipping practices are best placed within the diesel engine sector, or if they should be separated into its own sector
- whether leak detection and repair be specifically examined under the oil and gas sector or as a cross-cutting topic
- biogas is an important topic that should be examined, and that it straddles the waste and agricultural sectors
- possibility consider analysis related to prioritization of specific
- consider recommendations based on factors such as abatement potential
- consider barriers for example that reducing emissions from residential faces barriers related to cultural practices and energy security
- recall that some sectors might not be applicable to all countries, and there are major global sources of methane that are outside of the EGBCM's scope of work



# SUMMARY OF THE 1-ST EGBCM MEETING

## Biennial national reporting :

- the group discussed the importance of national reports as a source of information on country specific measures to mitigate emissions, as well as emission estimates
- noted that the existing template is useful
- suggested the countries consider more clearly outlining regulatory action from more general policy actions
- recommended adding a “cross-cutting” policy section to the national report template
- agreed that an Annex with a common format in all reports would be an ideal solutions for standardizing presentation of information for the EGBCM’s purposes





# Coordination of SLCP work within the Arctic Council

## EGBCM

EXPERT GROUP ON  
BLACK CARBON AND METHANE

Policy recommendations  
and assesment of  
progress



Implementation of pilot  
projects to reduce  
emissions of SLCPs



Scientific assessments on  
status of and threats posted  
by SLCP emissions



### Sector-specific work



ICONS: Gregor Cresnar, Eliricon, Lastspark



Thank you!

EGBCM documents available:

[bit.ly/OAR-EGBCM](https://bit.ly/OAR-EGBCM)