



Sustainable Development  
Working Group

**SDWG Project Proposal Template**  
**Effective as of 21 March 2018**

## SDWG PROJECT PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

*Note to project leads: The SDWG Project Proposal Template is to be used in conjunction with (1) the Procedures for Submitting, Endorsing and Managing SDWG Projects (Annex A); (2) the SDWG Recommendations & Follow-up Matrix (Annex B); and (3) the SDWG Communications Strategy (Annex C).*

<p><b>Project Title:</b></p> <p>Solid Waste Management in Remote Arctic Communities</p>	<p><b>Lead Country/Project leader(s):</b></p> <p>Aleut International Association, Canada, Finland (TBC), Sámi Council, Sweden (TBC) United States of America</p>
<p><b>Summary of Required Project Inputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Canada (\$50,000 CAD)</li> <li>- PSI (\$585,000 Euros)</li> <li>- AIA (\$5000 In-Kind)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Relationship to other AC Working Groups:</b></p> <p>Elements of the SDWG/ACAP Joint Project have been approved by ACAP working group and noted in their 2019-2021 workplan. It is a project under ACAP’s Indigenous Peoples Contaminants Action Plan (IPCAP) Expert Group.</p>
<p><b>Summary of project objectives and main outcomes:</b></p> <p>Separate but complementary proposals related to the project Solid Waste Management in Remote Arctic Communities was approved by Arctic Council Ministers in May 2019 as part of the ACAP and SDWG work plans. ACAP and SDWG are committed to working together and within their respective mandates towards building on previous work to scale up solid waste management activities that assist not only the pilot communities but other Arctic communities that face similar challenges. The project also has strong ties to the objectives set out by the Icelandic Chairmanship of the Arctic Council to tackle marine litter and plastic pollution in the circumpolar region.</p> <p>This project builds on the 2018 SDWG desk study “Best Waste Management Practices for Small and Remote Arctic Communities,” the outcomes of the 2016 ACAP workshop “Sharing Approaches on Community Solid and Hazardous Management Within Arctic Indigenous Communities” (Nome, Alaska 2016), and the results from the first phase of the ACAP Kola Waste Project. In February 2020, Crown Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada funded a workshop hosted by Aleut International Association to bring together experts to help scope out the next phase of the solid waste project.</p> <p>Main outcomes of the larger project include completion of solid waste clean-up pilot projects in 3-5 Arctic communities that can be used as best practices for other circumpolar communities tackling similar solid waste management challenges. The project involves full and active participation by community leaders, mentorships, sharing of best practices among pilot communities throughout the project as well as leaving in place mechanisms for developing and maintaining community standards. Dissemination of results will include an international workshop for pilot communities and stakeholders, recognition of pilot communities at an Arctic event during the Icelandic Chairmanship, development of short videos from each pilot community and the launch of an online exchange network.</p> <p>This project is unique opportunity to build collaboration between ACAP and SDWG, to share expertise and leverage resources in scaling up solid waste management activities.</p>	

## **Project objective(s)**

The project seeks to cooperate with local, regional, and national governments, community leaders and solid waste management experts, to leverage available resources and scale up best practices that contribute to resilient and healthier Arctic communities. This umbrella project seeks to provide a number of in-person and online resources to address the unique needs of Arctic communities, from planning to implementation of solid waste management practices. Infrastructure improvements and in-community education and training on maintenance operation for these improvements are a high priority. Coordination with local solid waste management liaisons is crucial to retain a strong and respected field presence with local communities throughout this project.

The project's overall objectives include:

- developing environmentally sound solid waste and marine debris management in Arctic communities
- building capacity in selected communities in need of solid waste management improvement, as demonstration projects
- encouraging cooperation and information sharing among pilot communities through workshops and community level developmental mentorship activities based on culturally appropriate communications and management templates,
- conducting outreach workshops in Arctic communities outside the pilot communities in need of solid waste management tools,
- developing information material on solid waste and marine debris management for Arctic communities, including a webpage (hosted on an Arctic Council Working Group website) that will serve as an online exchange network for community solid waste management planning. The website will serve as a “one-stop shop” for access to lessons learned, easy to follow tool kits, best practices, fact sheets, case studies, templates for agreements, and guidance on community standards.

### ***Project's linkages to the SDWG's Strategic Framework and stated priorities***

This project strengthens the resilience and well-being of remote Arctic communities, and by design relies on culturally appropriate participation of the chosen pilot communities. In particular the project objects meet the SDWG priority areas of:

- Water and sanitation services – as indicated in the 2019- 2021 workplan
- Community vitality
- Educational opportunities
- Human health
- Infrastructure

### ***Project's contribution to one or both of the following:***

#### ***(1) building an integrated multi-disciplinary knowledge-base***

The project seeks to cooperate with local, regional, and national governments, community leaders and solid waste management experts, to leverage available resources and scale up best practices that contribute to resilient and healthier Arctic communities. Use of traditional knowledge and indigenous knowledge is an important aspect in all phases of the project. The results of the project include the co-production of knowledge that will be shared through various dissemination channels for wider use in Arctic communities.

#### ***(2) building the capacity of Arctic residents to better manage the current and future challenges and opportunities in the circumpolar region***

Active participation of community leaders and members is envisioned from the inception phase and implementation phases, through to the dissemination of results to the wider Arctic region. The project objectives include identifying culturally appropriate mentorships and training for community members to implement a rubric of Arctic community standards.

***A description on how this project will contribute or advance on (one or more) recommendations provided in previous SDWG initiatives undertaken in the relevant project area***

The 2018 SDWG desk study “Best Waste Management Practices for Small and Remote Arctic Communities outlined nine findings along with a number of recommendations that will be addressed to some extent during this project including:

- Develop a website that stores relevant literature, outreach materials, and ordinance and planning templates. Design for practical use by community audience.
- Host a workshop for addressing common challenges and identifying cross-collaboration efforts...
- Develop a full trans-Arctic list of best practices communities and best practice to which communities can refer.
- Develop an understanding of issues cross-Arctic so that policy approaches and community decisions can best be directed.
- Characterize the circumstances necessary for a set of best practices to achieve program improvements, to better enable communities to make decisions specific to their own situation.
- Identify effective waste messaging and guidance within best practice communities and share successfully tested templates via an online website and print distribution where appropriate.
- Develop targeted waste outreach and education materials.
- Develop and support Arctic Small and Remote Community Train-the-Trainer program to facilitate the sharing of tested, results-oriented curricula among Arctic nations and communities.
- Identify best practice EPR programs for regional, national, or cross-Arctic governments to replicate or adapt them.

***Project’s linkages to other Arctic Council Working Groups’ activities***

This project was approved by Arctic Council Ministers in May 2019 as part of the ACAP and SDWG 2019-2021 work plans. This project is unique opportunity to build collaboration between ACAP and SDWG, to share expertise and leverage resources in scaling up solid waste management activities. The project also builds on the work of PAME and AMAP on marine litter and plastics, these linkages will also be explored.

***If the project is linked to knowledge or action, describe the type and nature of information that will be made available, the beneficiaries, and their capacity to apply this knowledge in situation***

Knowledge and actions include the following:

- Develop a rubric for community standards in partnership with participating Arctic Council Member States and Permanent Participants.
- Outcomes may include collection, staging or backhaul of household hazardous or universal wastes/marine litter from pilot communities.
- Further development of the online exchange network webpage for community solid waste management which will be hosted on an Arctic Council working group or secretariat website. Photos, videos, best practices and challenges documented during the community improvement activities are to be included. Building of a capacity building Toolkit and additional interactive components for the webpage will be undertaken in consultation with pilot communities.

Dissemination of results include the following:

- Conduct an international solid waste/marine debris workshop for the pilot communities and other relevant stakeholders.
- Project results will include recognition of the pilot communities during an Arctic event or conference during the Icelandic Chairmanship.
- Develop short 1-minute videos from each pilot community that illustrates the issues and highlights the results of the community project.
- Launch the online exchange network for “Solid waste management in remote Arctic communities” webpage.

***If the project is linked to capacity building, identify the target group or institution, the type of capacity to be developed and the way in which this strengthened capacity will benefit or improve the quality of life of Arctic residents***

Legacy capacity building tools developed through the co-production of knowledge for use by small and remote communities include:

- the development of a long-term solid waste management plans,
- templates for community and regional level assessments,
- templates for solid waste inventories,
- development of best practices for marine debris clean up,
- templates for MOUs and other partnership agreements,
- development of capacity to make local environmental observations in communities and,
- templates for monitoring plans to conduct baseline monitoring.

These tools, along with the development of best practices and case studies will be shared through the dissemination tools noted above. Local, regional, national and international bodies will be able to use these tools and scale them to the needs of the community.

Specific projects that we foresee being “housed” in SDWG include a website to that will contain information about the project and materials such as templates and community driven information that will contribute directly to capacity building.

***If applicable, describe which of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals the project correlates with, and describe how this correlation functions***

This project correlates to the following Sustainable Development Goals:

Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation

## **Activities and Outputs**

### ***Outline the key activities/tasks to be undertaken***

Through a coordinated approach, ACAP and SDWG will undertake project activities in support of the project objectives. These activities will focus primarily on community level education and development of plans and protocols to ensure compliance with solid waste management systems. For example, community level education and certification for backhaul procedures spanning from paperwork to proper packaging of household and hazardous waste.

This project seeks to undertake the following activities:

- identify communities to participate in pilot demonstration projects, based on Member State and Permanent Participant (PP) selections,
- develop project components, including procurement of contractors for specific activities such as website development, workshop planning, on-site or virtual community level training etc.,
- conduct an initial workshop with selected pilot communities to review the project goals and requirements and begin development of community workplans, timelines and budget relevant to the planned solid waste improvement activities,
- conduct community waste site assessments in cooperation with community leaders in selected communities, documenting the location and current condition, types of materials, and needs for improvement,
- undertake local capacity building activities including community outreach and education, mentor engagement, solid waste improvement planning and implementation (inventory, staging, removal of materials),
- appropriate and detailed on-site training for community clean up event and/or solid waste removal,
- and an international Solid Waste Management in Remote Arctic Communities workshop for partners and communities on the outcomes of the project include success stories and lessons learned.

All of the above activities are part of the PSI proposal that is attached and being developed. Upon approval of the PSI, the activities will be further defined into the different working groups when there is funding to do so. With current funding support from Canada [Canada - Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada], Aleut International Association is developing a website that will host the information gathered about solid waste efforts and best practices in the Arctic. AIA has begun meeting with web developers and will be able to present this work prior to the end of the Icelandic Chairmanship.

PLEASE ADD IN OTHER PIECES OF THE PROJECT OR IDEAS FOR THE PROJECT THAT YOUR MEMBER STATES WOULD LIKE TO SEE AS PART OF THIS PROJECT HERE.

***Outline the desired project outcomes – these should support the project’s objective(s)***

Contingent on PSI funding, the main outcomes include completion of solid waste clean-up pilot projects in 3-5 Arctic communities that can be used as best practices for other circumpolar communities tackling similar solid waste management challenges. The project involves full and active participation by community leaders, mentorships, sharing of best practices among pilot communities throughout the project as well as leaving in place mechanisms for developing and maintaining community standards. Dissemination of results will include an international workshop for pilot communities and stakeholders, , development of short videos from each pilot community and the launch of an online exchange network.

Using the website community assessment tool that will be part of the launched website, we will be able to chose which pilot communities we will be working with. We would like to recognize these pilot communities at an Arctic event during the Icelandic Chairmanship.

A completed Project Support Instrument Proposal will also be an outcome of the project.

***Indicate whether the project plans to produce any policy recommendations***

The project does not envisage producing any specific policy recommendations but rather a set of best practices, cases studies and resources to be use in circumpolar communities.

## **Timetable and Project Completion**

### ***Indicate the intended date of project commencement***

**Pre-Project phase:** As noted above, ACAP and SDWG have both undertaken past projects on the topic of solid waste management in Arctic communities. Based on this work, and a desire to leverage the expertise in both working groups, this project was included in 2019-2021 work plans and the first component of the project for SDWG was the 2017-19 workplan. This project also supports the Icelandic Chairmanship priority of reducing marine litter and its impacts on Arctic communities. In February 2020, Canada supported a stakeholder workshop that further refined the project approach by identifying success criteria, obstacles that may come up, and noting the strong need for community involvement in all phases of the project.

### ***Include project's implementation plan and dates of major events, if possible;***

The project can be split into three phases:

Inception Phase (January 2020 – December 2020)

Implementation (February 2020 – December 2022)

Dissemination of results (December 2020 – December 2022)

The inception phase commenced in early 2020 and will continue until December 2020, once approvals from ACAP, SDWG and funding from the Project Support Instrument have been approved. In advance of these approvals supporting activities, such as scoping the project, development of an assessment and groundwork for the websites has begun.

### ***Indicate the completion date***

Because of the nature of the proposal, there will be multiple completion dates. AIA, with the assistance of Canada will launch a website before the end of the 2020. The joint ACAP and SDWG group will submit a PSI Proposal before the October PCOM meeting. Other components that are listed above will have project end dates that are staggered and contingent on the funding that is approved by PSI or provided by nation states.

### ***Describe if the project is to continue outside the SDWG purview; how will the project be sustained once it is no longer an SDWG project?***

As this a joint ACAP – SDWG project, it is possible that the project will be sustained in one form or another by either of the working groups. The results of the project are envisioned to be “evergreen” and accessible online for communities to live long after the completion of this project.

## **Costs**

This project is seeking funding from Arctic Council Member States as well as from the Project Support Instrument. Some pieces of the project such as the Circumpolar Solid Waste Workshop and the Solid Waste Website have been funded and work has commenced. In preparation for the PSI Committee Meeting in October 2020 a draft proposal is under development (attached). The following costs have been included in that proposal:

### **Pre-Project Phase:**

As noted above, both ACAP and SDWG have benefitted from Arctic Council Member State and Permanent Participant support for past projects:

- The 2016 ACAP workshop “Sharing Approaches on Community Solid and Hazardous Management Within Arctic Indigenous Communities” (Nome, Alaska 2016) was organized by United States

Environmental Protection Agency, Battelle, Kawerak, Inc., in collaboration with the Institute of the North and with support from the United States Department of State.

- The 2018 SDWG desk study “Best Waste Management Practices for Small and Remote Arctic Communities” was supported by the United States, Canada and Finland,
- Ongoing ACAP Kola Waste Project has received funds from Sweden and Norway.
- In February 2020, Canada supported a stakeholder workshop that further refine the project approach.

## **Project Budget Lines**

### ***Inception Phase: 10,000 Euro***

- Pilot community identification
- Identify and begin discussions with local community leaders to develop logistics and planning for workshops and project implementation.
- Identification of potential consultants for webpage development, identify translators for website materials, solid waste management experts, and workshop facilitators.

### ***Implementation Phase: 500,000 Euros***

- Community workshops
- Community sub-awards, as appropriate
- Community assessments
- Development of capacity building tool kits
- Community mentoring and communications
- Additional resources would include significant in-kind contributions from Arctic Council Member States, including toolkit material developed with Arctic communities.
- Translations of final work products

### ***Dissemination of results: 75,000 Euros***

- International solid waste/marine debris workshop for the pilot communities and other relevant stakeholders.
- Event or conference during the Icelandic Chairmanship.
- Development of 1-minute videos from each pilot community.
- Launching webpage
- In kind – factsheets, report printing etc.

## **Integration of Indigenous Knowledge and Local Knowledge**

All projects are better with the incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge. In this instance, it will be utilizing the local knowledge about solid waste in rural communities. This project will be an example of how to co-produce knowledge as it may delve into how solid waste management can contribute to the success or failure of subsistence and cultural practices.

## **Communications**

### ***Identify the target audience(s)***

- Community leaders and members
- Local, regional, national and international decision makers
- Arctic Council Member States, Permanent Participants, Working Groups and Observers

***Indicate how the SDWG and/or State Project lead(s) will communicate project goals/objectives, implementation strategy and final results to the broader Arctic Council community, proponents, beneficiaries and Arctic residents.***

- Conduct an international solid waste/marine debris workshop for the pilot communities and other relevant stakeholders.
- Project results will include recognition of the pilot communities during an Arctic event or conference during the Icelandic Chairmanship.
- Develop short 1-minute videos from each pilot community that illustrates the issues and highlights the results of the community project. These videos can be used on all social media platforms.
- Launch the online exchange network for “Solid waste management in remote Arctic communities” webpage.