

Expression of Intent for Activities in the IPY 2007-2008.

2005

Arctic Council; Arctic Human Health Initiative (AHHI)

Arctic Council Secretariat

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EXPRESSION OF INTENT FOR ACTIVITIES IN IPY 2007-2008.

Deadline for Submission - January 14, 2005

Email to jcel@bas.ac.uk or Fax to +44-1223-221270

1.0 PROPOSAL INFORMATION

1.1 Title of proposed activity

Arctic Human Health Initiative

1.2 Acronym or short form title of proposed activity

AHHI

1.3 Concise outline of proposed activity

The Arctic Human Health Initiative (AHHI) will advance the joint research agenda of the Arctic Council, an eight-nation intergovernmental forum for sustainable development and environmental protection, in the areas of infectious disease, the effects of anthropogenic pollution, UV radiation, and climate variability on human health, and telehealth innovations. Specifically, the leaders of these research programs will build on their years of circumpolar collaboration to extend the International Circumpolar Surveillance network of hospitals and public health facilities into Russia and include additional infectious diseases of concern, to continue monitoring contaminants in human blood and tissues to reveal temporal and spatial trends and to combine experiences from the rapidly expanding disciplines of biomarker research and molecular epidemiology with these monitoring programs, and to extend circumpolar cooperation on telehealth, particularly to Arctic regions in the Russian Federation. In addition, the AHHI will draw on the outstanding leadership of the Arctic Council member states' national and international research programs in the areas of human genomics, biomarkers, hypothermia, hibernation, mental health, and climate sensitive infectious diseases.

The AHHI steering group, led by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will work with the International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH), the Fogarty International Center of the U.S. National Institutes of Health, and other partners to develop a program of outreach and public education focused on the promotion of good health for Arctic residents and better integration of the findings of Arctic health research. The IUCH will make its triennial Congress in 2006 available to facilitate IPY health activities and its Congress in 2009 to underscore the health legacy of IPY.

1.4 Which IPY 2007-2008 theme(s) will be addressed by the project (see Note 1)

Theme 1 – The current state of the polar environment	N
Theme 2 - Change in the polar regions	N
Theme 3 - Polar-global linkages and interaction	N
Theme 4 - Investigating new frontiers	N
Theme 5 -The polar regions as vantage points	N
Theme 6 - Human societies in polar regions	Y

1.5 What is the major target of the proposed activity (specify one – see Note 1)

Natural or social science research	Y
Education/Outreach and Communication	N
Data Management	N
Legacy	N
Other Targets	N

1.6 What significant advance(s) in relation to the IPY themes and targets can be anticipated from this project?

We expect the AHHI to improve the health of Arctic people by identifying and extending measures to prevent death, disease and disability by improving access to health care services. We anticipate a significant increase in the exchange of research findings within the research community and improved exchange of information between the research community and Arctic residents, including indigenous peoples.

1.7 What international collaboration is involved in this project? (see Note 2)

We expect collaboration among health professionals from Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russian, Sweden and the United States. We also anticipate cooperating with interested representatives of international organizations such as WHO, UNICER and the IRC.

2.0 FIELD ACTIVITY DETAILS

2.1 Outline the geographical location(s) for the proposed field work (see Note 3)

No field expedition plans

2.2 Define the approximate timeframe(s) for proposed field activities?

Arctic Fieldwork time frame(s)	Antarctic Fieldwork time frame(s)
mm/yy – mm/yy	mm/yy – mm/yy
mm/yy – mm/yy	mm/yy – mm/yy
mm/yy – mm/yy	mm/yy – mm/yy

2.3 What significant logistic support/facilities will be required for this project?
Can these resources be usefully shared with other projects? (see Note 4)

Not applicable

2.4 Will the project leave a legacy of infrastructure? (see Note 1)

The AHHI will leave a stronger circumpolar network of public health research specialists and facilities, including the International Journal of Circumpolar Health (IJCH), an internet accessible library of health information.

2.5 How is it envisaged that the required logistics will be secured? (one or more options can be identified)

Consortium of national polar operators	N
Own national polar operator	N
Another national polar operator	N
National agency	Y
Military support	N
Commercial operator	N
Own support	N
Other sources of support	N
Further details - 50 words max	

2.6 Has the project been "endorsed" at national or international level (see Note 5)

Y	Arctic Council Ministers meeting November 24, 2004 in Reykjavik, Iceland directed Arctic Council stakeholders to develop proposals to the IPY Joint Committee. National Committees will also review and endorse this proposal.
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3.0 PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND STRUCTURE

- 3.1 Is the project a component (established over the IPY 2007-2008 timeframe) of an existing plan, programme or initiative or is it a new autonomous proposal?

New Project? no	Component of an existing or planned activity? yes
The AHHI will begin as an expansion of existing and planned projects of the Arctic Council, but will develop new activities by 2007-2008.	

- 3.2 How will the project be organised and managed? (see Note 6)

The AHHI will be organized under the auspices of the Arctic Council (Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, United States) with the participation of Arctic indigenous peoples. An international Steering Group will be established to coordinate AHHI activities, report to the Council, and link these AHHI activities to IPY and the global health community.

- 3.3 What are the initial plans of the project for addressing the education, outreach and communication issues outlined in the Framework document? (see Note 7)

The AHHI will hold a scoping workshop in April, 2005 that will develop an education, outreach and communication strategy building on the resources already offered by the International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH) and described above. The 2005 scoping workshop will include representatives of Arctic indigenous peoples and Universities to assure that the AHHI addresses their special circumstances and contributions.

- 3.4 What are the initial plans of the project to address data management issues (as outlined in the Framework document)? (see Note 8)

Human health data management, including privacy, uniformity and quality, will be key elements of the AHHI as they are for ICS, the Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic, and the Council's work on anthropogenic pollution.

3.5 How is it proposed to fund the project? (see Note 9)

Current funding is provided by agencies of the member states of the Arctic Council. The AHHI Steering Group will approach these same agencies and others for expanded funding for IPY.

3.6 Is there additional information you wish to provide?

The proposer details that follow are preliminary and do not include all those who are expected to be active in the AHHI Steering Group. A more complete listing will be included in the full proposal submitted in June 2005. AHHI expects to have expert representatives from all eight Arctic Council member states, from Arctic indigenous organizations and other international human health interests.

4.0 PROPOSER DETAILS

4.1 Lead Contact for the Expression of Intent

Title Dr.
 First Name Alan
 Surname Parkinson
 Organisation US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 Address 1 CDC Arctic Investigations Program
 Address 2 4055 Tudor Centre Drive
 Address 3 Anchorage, Alaska
 Postcode/ZIP 99508
 Country USA
 Telephone 907-729-3640
 Mobile
 Fax 907-729-3652
 Email ajp1@cdc.gov
 Repeat Email ajp1@cdc.gov

4.2 List up to six other project members and their affiliation.

Name 1 Dr. Kue Young
 Organisation Health Canada, Center for Infectious Disease Prevention & Control
 Name 2 Dr. Juhani Hassi
 Organisation Finland:Center for Arctic Medicine, University of Oulu
 Name 3 Dr. Peter Bjerregaard
 Organisation Denmark:National Institute of Public Health
 Name 4 Dr. Ingvar Holmer
 Organisation Sweden:Lund University
 Name 5 Dr. Borge Ytterstad
 Organisation Norway: University of Tromso
 Name 6 Dr. Neil Murphy
 Organisation International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH)

Accompanying Notes for submission of IPY 2007-2008 Expressions of Intent

Note 1 – IPY projects can take a number of forms.

a) 1.4 - They may address one or more of the IPY 2007-2008 themes and if so will be expected to have component activities addressing education, outreach, data management and possibly legacy.

b) 1.5 - The main focus can be on science or on one or more aspects of education, outreach and communicating the Polar Year, an activity that addresses data management or that explicitly leaves a legacy (such as building a new polar facility or establishing new systems).

Note 2 - An important characteristic of IPY 2007-2008 projects will be their international structure in order to facilitate research impractical for a single nation to undertake. Whilst project components are likely to be primarily funded at a national level, the projects are expected to be established and coordinated internationally. The Joint Committee will be looking for evidence of international collaborations developing in the Expressions of Intent and established by the June 2005 full proposal deadline.

Note 3 – The geographic locations need not be precise but logistic operators will want to broadly know where activities will occur, e.g. West Antarctic Ice Sheet, Weddell Sea, Svalbard, Greenland, etc. If you have more detail please supply. An IPY project can also be one that involves no field activities.

Note 4 - This refers to major facilities and infrastructure and some examples (not comprehensive) are given below.

Ice-breaker	Multi-instrumented platforms	Snow terrain vehicles
Ice strengthened research ship	Helicopters	Existing field stations
Ship-based drilling capability	Fixed wing geophysical aircraft	New field station
Ship recovery of buoys etc	Fixed wing transport aircraft	Observatories
Submarines	Rockets	Fuel depots
Autonomous Underwater Vehicle	Satellites	Ice drilling capability
Remotely Operated Vehicle	Radars	Rock-drilling capability

Please note if your project will share facilities with other IPY activities, or if there is capacity to support other projects as part of your activity (e.g. a marine biodiversity cruise could feasibly offer to deploy or recover buoys, moorings, etc., for an ocean/climate project)

Note 5 - All IPY projects will ultimately be subject to assessment by National (and/or International) funding agencies. However it will be important to establish coordination of IPY 2007-2008 at the national and international level. Both National IPY Committees and International bodies supporting IPY 2007-2008 will have an important role in this. Contact with these bodies may occur before January 14 2005 but should certainly take place before the June 2005 deadline for full proposals.

Note 6 – The Joint Committee for IPY 2007-2008 will be overseeing Polar Year activities but will not be managing the individual projects. It is anticipated that IPY projects will be self-managed, free-standing activities or be part of a planned or existing programme that has an established management structure. The JC will need to be satisfied that all proposals have realistic plans for structuring and managing activities. For the larger proposals the JC anticipates that a Project Steering Committee will be established.

Note 7 – It will be a requirement of IPY proposals that there is a clear plan for Education, Outreach and Communication (EOC) activities in the full proposal for the June 2005 deadline. If initial ideas for EOC have been established these can be outlined in the Expression of Intent.

Note 8 – It will be a requirement of IPY proposals that there is a clear plan for the management of project data, including its early availability to the community, presented in the full proposal for the June 2005 deadline. Initial ideas for data management should be outlined in the Expression of Intent, including which data organisations are likely to be involved, e.g. ICSU World Data Centres, Joint Committee for Antarctic Data Management, WCRP, etc.

Note 9 – It is anticipated that funding for IPY 2007-2008 will be primarily obtained through national funding agencies but in some cases will involve international funding agencies (e.g. European Union) and in some cases will come from private sources. Certain projects will be part of programmes already funded and if so these can be identified here.