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Information Document

ACAP

Status: **On Track**

1.1 Reduction of Black Carbon from Diesel Sources in the Russian Arctic Project (SLCFC PSG)

Description of this initiative

Assess primary sources of black carbon in the Russian Arctic; develop a baseline emissions inventory for black carbon from diesel in key areas; implement targeted demonstration projects; establish policy recommendations and financing options.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

ACAP

Status: **Completed**

1.2 Reduction of black carbon emissions from residential wood combustion in the Arctic (SLCFC PSG)

Description of this initiative

Compile information on black carbon emissions along with abatement instruments and measures / Phase 1: Desk study on emission inventories and abatement instruments and measures for reduction on black carbon / Phase 2: to be decided

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

ACAP

Status: **On Track**

1.3 Arctic Black Carbon Case Studies Platform (SLCFC PSG)

Description of this initiative

Through this project, EPA will work with its partners in ACAP to present a catalogue of black carbon mitigation efforts – a set of standardized case studies or “snapshots” – to capture the variety of interventions and policy tools that can reduce black carbon emissions.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

ACAP

Status: On Track

1.4 Valday Cluster Upgrade for Black Carbon Reduction in the Republic of Karelia, Russian Federation (SLCFC PSG)

Description of this initiative

This project aims to implement a range of alternatives for providing energy to off-grid settlements in this region with the objectives to; 1) contribute to mitigation of pollutants, including SLCFs such as BC and other GHGs; 2) decrease the dependence of the Cluster settlements on transported fossil fuels, 3) reduce the electricity/district heating costs for the municipality; 4) increase the reliability and quality of electricity/district heating supply and 5) strengthen the expertise of the local institutions in the energy supply and project management.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

ACAP

Status: On hold

2.1 Non-ferrous/Zinc Smelter Mercury Reduction in the Russian Federation (Mercury PSG)

Description of this initiative

The project will seek to identify, develop and apply pollution reduction approaches and technologies to a selected pilot smelter, and monitor the approaches for baseline and progress determinations. The project awaits a signed letter of commitment to participate in the project from the smelter facility owners. A Workshop on "Technical Information Exchange on Mercury Abatement in the Metallurgical Industry", was held in Yekaterinburg in April 2015. Currently, changes to the Workshop Report are under discussion that may make it acceptable to the Russian Federation.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

None

ACAP

Status: On hold

2.2 Mercury Control Technology Workshop

Description of this initiative

This Workshop project is intended to disseminate results and encourage replication of successful mercury emissions reduction approaches, including the results from a US-led pilot project, conducted in cooperation with various Russian institutes, UNEP and Sweden, completed in 2014, on carbon sorbent technologies* at a coal-fired power plant in Cherepetskaya, Russia. The project is designed to have a complementary function to a GEF- funded project, being implemented by the Russian Federation and UNEP, comprising a mercury emission inventory and the drafting of a Minamata Action Plan. In addition to coal combustion, the workshop would address other key sectors for emissions reductions including non-ferrous metals smelting and gold mining. The Project Steering Group on Mercury developed a proposal for a project focusing on disseminating and replicating results.

* (Standard activated carbon and bromated carbon injection; the project also investigated the stability of sorbent-containing fly ash residues and the leaching potential of metals.)

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

None

ACAP

Status: On Track

3. Phase III: Demonstration of environmentally sound destruction of obsolete pesticides (Obsolete Pesticides PSG)

Description of this initiative

The project currently under preparation will demonstrate whether super-critical water oxidation facility (SCWO) based on the SCHO-10-EET technology located in Krasnoyarsk, Russian Federation, will provide a domestic capability for cost effective, environmentally sound destruction of obsolete pesticides and specifically POPs pesticides. The technology demonstration also has a broader national and global objective of contributing to Russia's ability to achieve compliance under Article 6 of the Stockholm Convention. This is also consistent with the global objectives of the Arctic Council and ACAP in respect to reduction in Arctic contamination. Project will seek funding from PSI.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

International performance review of suitability of the only Russian technology currently approved for environmentally sound destruction of obsolete pesticides and specifically POPs pesticides.

ACAP

Status: On Track

4. Phase III (Dioxin/Furan PSG) Reduction/Elimination of Emissions of Dioxins and Furans in Russia with a focus on Northern regions

Description of this initiative

Project to reduce dioxins and dust emission and training program for the Vorkutinskiy cement plant

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

ACAP

Status: **Delayed**

4.1 Pilot emission reduction actions at Vorkutinskiy Cement Plant (Dioxin/Furan PSG)

Description of this initiative

Based on the results from inventory activities in Phase I (2002-2005) and Phase II (2006-2008), the Vorkutinskiy Cement Plant (VCP) was selected for a Phase III Pilot Action Project for reduction of dioxins and furans emissions. In close cooperation with NEFCO, the EG so far conducted the following activities at the facility:

1: Prefeasibility study by NEFCO (2011-2013), 2: Seminar on environmental requirements on using waste as fuel (2014); 3: Sample and Analysis of Emissions (2014-2016), 4: Feasibility Study and Drafting of an Action Plan for Reduction Actions at VCP (2014-2016),

If deemed feasible and fundable, the following activities are supposed to follow from 2016:

5: Implementation of Reduction Actions, 6: Assessment of Reduction, 7: Dissemination of experiences.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

None

ACAP

Status: **Awaiting info**

4.2 P2345 - Inventory programs, control technologies and other support to Russia's compliance with international convention requirements (dioxin/furan PSG)

Description of this initiative

A draft project proposal, aiming at eliminated or reduced dioxin and furan pollution from sources in Russia affecting the Arctic Environment, was elaborated by the PSG on Dioxins and Furans in 2014-2015 and submitted to the PSI Committee from which it received an EoI approval in March 2015. Based on this, a more detailed project application is now under development, where possible also incorporating Mercury issues.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

None

ACAP

Status: **On Track**

5. Demonstration of management and destruction of 250 tons of PCB in transformers: Phase III (PCB PSG)

Description of this initiative

PCB Project addresses mitigation of the PCB problem in RF. The aim is to destroy 250 tons of PCB via two sub-projects: 1. Emptying and cleaning contaminated PCB containing transformers; 2. Destruction of PCB. The method can also be used to destroy other hazardous pollutants e.g. certain types of pesticides.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Feasibility and inventory studies.

ACAP

Status: On Track

Circumpolar Local Environmental Observers (CLEO) Network

Description of this initiative

The Arctic Council will expand the coverage of an existing Alaska-based monitoring tool, the Local Environmental Observer network (LEO) that links traditional knowledge and scientific analysis, across the Arctic. Trained traditional knowledge experts are able to record their observations in the LEO database. These observations are reviewed by the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), which serves as a secretariat. ANTHC is able to share observations of concern with regulators, academics and others who can in turn provide technical assistance to local communities when needed. During Phase I of the project, ACAP will create a North American CLEO “Hub”, including indigenous communities in the Alaskan and Canadian Arctic for delivery to the 2017 Ministerial. In addition, we will explore the development of a framework for expansion of the CLEO to the Nordic region. Phase II of the project is to establish a CLEO Hub in the Nordic region, as appropriate and explore options for linking with Russian indigenous communities. Phase III of the project will look at interoperability of the CLEO Hubs and/or related observational networks. The CLEO project is also captured in the Resilience project description.

[Full list of expected ministerial deliverables as of Feb 2016]

ACAP will create a North American CLEO “Hub”, including indigenous communities in the Alaskan and Canadian Arctic for delivery to the 2017 Ministerial. In addition, we will explore the development of a framework for expansion of the CLEO across the Arctic.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

ACAP will create a North American CLEO “Hub”, including indigenous communities in the Alaskan and Canadian Arctic for delivery to the 2017 Ministerial. ... [truncated]

ACAP

Status: On Track

Demonstration of Rapid Environmental Assessment of Pesticides Contaminated Sites

Description of this initiative

The project will demonstrate a cost-effective and rapid technique to screen levels and scope of contamination at old pesticide storage sites using a methodology that the Blacksmith Institute developed for the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The method can help to assess the environmental and health risks caused by hundreds of old pesticides storages in Northern Russia. The project closely follows on Russian implementation of Stockholm Convention on POPs.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Final report of use of Rapid Environmental Assessment methodology to assess the need for action to reduce environmental and human health risks of old pesticides storages

AMAP

Status: **On Track**

01. Adaptation Actions for a Changing Arctic – Part C

Description of this initiative

Implement Phase 2 which includes development of climate scenarios and integrated environmental frameworks/models to improve predictions of climate change and other relevant drivers of change in the 3 pilot regions. Traditional knowledge and PPs are involved in all three regional assessments.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress report

AMAP

Status: **On Track**

02. SLCF Expert Group

Description of this initiative

Providing input to the discussion of further work under AMAP Strategy

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

AMAP

Status: **On Track**

03. Human Health Assessment

Description of this initiative

Providing input to the discussion of further work under AMAP Strategy

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

AMAP

Status: **Completed**

04. Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Expert Groups

Description of this initiative

Continue work on safety guidelines and demonstrate the use of cross-jurisdictional environmental monitoring

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

AMAP

Status: **On Track**

05. Follow-up activities Radioactivity

Description of this initiative

Providing input to the discussion of further work under AMAP Strategy

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

AMAP

Status: **On Track**

06. Follow-up activities POPs

Description of this initiative

AMAP's POPs expert group will produce an update assessment components as follows:

2016: Update assessments on POPs of Emerging Arctic Concern; 2016: Update assessment on Biological Effects of POPs and Mercury

2017: Update assessment on Climate Change Impacts on POP

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Scientific and policy-makers summary reports; technical products

AMAP

Status: **On Track**

07. Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON) Project: Coordination of metadatabases

Description of this initiative

Coordinate databases on Arctic observational metadata

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

AMAP

Status: **On Track**

08. AMAP Trends and Effects Programme

Description of this initiative

AMAP is conceived as a process integrating both monitoring and assessment activities, in order to: produce integrated assessment reports on the pollution and climate status and trends of the conditions of Arctic ecosystems; identify possible causes for changing condition detect emerging problems, their possible causes, and the potential risk to Arctic ecosystems including indigenous peoples and other Arctic residents; recommend actions required to reduce risks to Arctic ecosystems.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

The programme provides input to AMAP assessments

AMAP

Status: **On Track**

09. Arctic Ocean Acidification

Description of this initiative

Prepare a report with a focus on the socioeconomic impacts of Arctic Ocean acidification, like fisheries. Follow up to the AMAP 2013 AOA report.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Interim report

AMAP

Status: **On Track**

10. Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic (SWIPA) - follow-up

Description of this initiative

The work will address cross-cutting topics like ecosystem effects and biodiversity as a follow up to the 2011 assessment on Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic (SWIPA). The work will also synthesize new information and address teleconnections.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Assessment report

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

1. Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP) - General

Description of this initiative

- The CBMP is a flagship program of the CAFF working group and an ongoing monitoring program that has received international recognition
- The CBMP is the biodiversity component of the Sustaining Arctic Observing Network (SAON) and is the official Arctic biodiversity network of the Global Earth Observation's Biodiversity Observation Network (GEOBON).
- CBMP activities are structured around the major Arctic ecosystem: marine, freshwater, terrestrial and coastal.
- The plans help improve ability to detect important trends, link these trends to their underlying causes, predict future trends and scenarios for Arctic biodiversity, and thereby provide more timely and credible information to support decision making.
- The CBMP endeavors to include TK holder expertise from the inception of projects to the analysis of information gained. It also seeks to include a diverse network of experts with both science and TK expertise.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

1.1 CBMP Marine Biodiversity Monitoring group

Description of this initiative

- The Arctic Marine Biodiversity Monitoring Plan was delivered in 2011 and is the first of four pan-Arctic biodiversity monitoring plans developed by the CBMP to improve the ability to detect and understand the causes of long-term change in the composition, structure and function of Arctic ecosystems. Since the delivery of the marine plan further work is underway to continue to assess the state of the ecosystem and national implementation.
- The CBMP supports the inclusion of TK holder expertise from the inception of projects to the analysis of information gained. It also seeks to include a diverse network of experts with both science and TK expertise.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

State of the Arctic Marine Biodiversity Report

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

1.2 CBMP Freshwater Biodiversity Monitoring group

Description of this initiative

- The Arctic Freshwater Biodiversity Monitoring Plan is one of four pan-Arctic biodiversity monitoring plans developed by the CBMP to improve the ability to detect and understand the causes of long-term change in the composition, structure and function of Arctic ecosystems. Since the delivery of the freshwater plan further work is underway to continue to assess the state of the ecosystem and national implementation.
- The CBMP endeavors to include TK holder expertise from the inception of projects to the analysis of information gained. It also seeks to include a diverse network of experts with both science and TK expertise.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

1.3 CBMP Terrestrial Biodiversity Monitoring group

Description of this initiative

- The Arctic Terrestrial Biodiversity Monitoring Plan is one of four pan-Arctic biodiversity monitoring plans developed by the CBMP to improve the ability to detect and understand the causes of long-term change in the composition, structure and function of Arctic ecosystems. Since the delivery of the terrestrial plan further work is underway to continue to assess the state of the ecosystem and national implementation.
- The CBMP endeavors to include TK holder expertise from the inception of projects to the analysis of information gained. It also seeks to include a diverse network of experts with both science and TK expertise.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

A global audit of status and trends of Arctic & northern hemisphere goose populations

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

1.4 CBMP Coastal Biodiversity Monitoring Plan

Description of this initiative

- The Arctic Coastal Biodiversity Monitoring Plan is the final of four pan-Arctic biodiversity monitoring plans being developed by the CBMP to improve the ability to detect and understand the causes of long-term change in the composition, structure and function of Arctic ecosystems.
- The CBMP endeavors to include TK holder expertise from the inception of projects to the analysis of information gained. It also seeks to include a diverse network of experts with both science and TK expertise.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Coastal biodiversity monitoring plan: background paper; Coastal biodiversity monitoring plan

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

1.5 CBMP Indicators

Description of this initiative

- The CBMP has chosen a suite of indices and indicators that provide a comprehensive picture of the state of Arctic biodiversity – from species to habitats to ecosystem processes to ecological services.
- These indices and indicators are developed in a hierarchical manner, allowing users to drill down into the data from the higher-order indices to more detailed indicators. These are being developed through an expert consultation process.
- The CBMP endeavors to include TK holder expertise from the inception of projects to the analysis of information gained. It also seeks to include a diverse network of experts with both science and TK expertise.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Land cover change Arctic migratory bird ; Protected areas indicator reports

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

2. Nomadic herders: enhancing resilience of pastoral ecosystems and livelihoods

Description of this initiative

- Purpose of this project is to strengthen the sustainability of the pastoralist livelihoods; and to increase the resilience and capacity of the nomadic communities to adapt to change.
- The project engages TK holders and their information.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

CAFF

Status: **Completed**

3. Arctic Biodiversity Congress

Description of this initiative

- A major international science and policy conference being held December 2-4, 2014. Objective of the Congress is to promote the conservation and sustainable use of Arctic biodiversity through dialogue among scientists, policy-makers, government officials, industry, civil society and indigenous peoples.
- There were several Congress case studies and sessions devoted to the ABA recommendation related to TK, including on the co-production of knowledge as well as TK in circumpolar initiatives.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

CAFF

Status: **Completed**

4. Arctic Biodiversity Assessment Implementation Plan

Description of this initiative

- Ministers directed the development of an implementation plan for the policy recommendations part of the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment (ABA). The ABA was a key deliverable for CAFF in 2013 and included: (1) an Arctic Biodiversity Trends (2010) report; (2) a full ABA Scientific Report and synthesis (2013); (3) compendiums of traditional ecological knowledge (2013); and lastly, (4) the ABA Summary for Policy Makers (2013).
- The implementation plan is an important product that will help shape the direction of CAFF's work and ensure follow-up to a major Arctic Council assessment.
- TK was considered in the ABA, including through the creation of TK compendiums as well as specific policy recommendations related to TK.
- Work is also underway a report entitled, "Understanding Traditional Knowledge on Biodiversity Change in North America", to improve the TK included in the ABA compendium focused on the North American region.
- Work is underway on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity in the Arctic (TEEB) scoping study

*2015 for delivery of the implementation plan, however, follow-up to the plan will be ongoing.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

4.1 Actions for Arctic Biodiversity 2013-2021: Implementing the recommendations of the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment

Description of this initiative

Actions for Biodiversity 2013-2021: implementing the recommendations of the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment, is the implementation plan for the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment's 17 recommendations. It is a living document that will be reviewed and updated every two years. The plan is not meant to be exhaustive or to replace working group work plans; rather it is complementary, emphasizing specific actions that address the ABA recommendations.

The Arctic Council Ministers agreed to implement 17 recommendations articulated in the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment: Report for Policy Makers. Implementing the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment (ABA) recommendations requires a combination of building on existing efforts and embarking in new directions.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

A progress report implementation of the recommendations from the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

4.2 Invasive species

Description of this initiative

Project aims to 1) prevent the introduction of invasive species in Arctic marine, coastal, freshwater, and terrestrial ecosystems, and through establishing a baseline, improve management of on-going invasions using risk-based assessment and management approaches; and 2) develop an invasive species strategy for delivery to the 2017 Arctic Council Ministerial. This will include recommendations for management actions, which might be addressed in subsequent phases of this initiative. Proposed actions/recommendations will be submitted to the CAFF Board for negotiation and approval.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Invasive species management strategy

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

4.3 Ice associated marine mammals

Description of this initiative

Project aims to increase comparative understanding of ice-associated Arctic marine mammals and their responses to large-scale environmental changes; enhancing forward-looking capacity will improve potential opportunities for mitigation and conservation.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Report to Ministerial

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

4.4 Traditional Knowledge and Wisdom: Changes in the North American Arctic

Description of this initiative

This report is a compendium of Arctic Indigenous perspectives and understandings from Indigenous authors, and others, on biodiversity change in the Arctic and examples of the use of TK&W in managing fish, wildlife, and habitat.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Traditional Knowledge and Wisdom: Changes in the North American Arctic

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

5. The Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative

Description of this initiative

- The Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative is a Chairmanship priority.
- The project's objective is to improve conservation outcomes for arctic-breeding migratory birds by addressing conservation issues throughout their migratory range.
- Focus is on three conservation issues: 1. Habitat destruction/degradation; 2. Unsustainable harvest; 3. Bycatch
- Actual work will be undertaken on a flyway basis, with priority issues identified on each flyway.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

A progress report on implementation of the AMBI

CAFF

Status: **On Track**

6. Seabird program

Description of this initiative

- The Seabird program promotes, facilitates, and coordinates conservation, management and research activities among circumpolar countries and improves communication between seabird scientists and managers inside and outside the Arctic.
- Key activities include work to monitor seabirds (e.g., survival, diets, phenology, and productivity) to explain observed changes in populations as well as provide circumpolar information on the status of seabirds to management agencies in Arctic States.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Seabird monitoring plan; various reports on seabird harvest and status and trends of Arctic seabirds

CAFF

Status: On Track

7. Arctic Flora program

Description of this initiative

- The CAFF Flora Group (CFG) promotes, encourages and coordinates the international conservation of Arctic flora, vegetation, and habitats as well as research activities. It works to enhance the exchange of information on Arctic flora and vegetation and factors affecting the status and trends in Arctic flora species.
- A key activity led by the US is the Circumboreal Vegetation Map (CBVM) will develop a global map of the circumboreal forest biome with a common legend. By recognizing the boreal region as a single geo-ecosystem with a common set of cultural, political and economic issues, the CBVM project will be the first detailed vegetation map of the entire global biome.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

CAFF

Status: Delayed

8. Conservation of biodiversity in a changing Russian Arctic - scoping study

Description of this initiative

Assessment activity

*awaiting Global Environment Facility Decision

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

CAFF

Status: On Track

9. Arctic Biodiversity Data Service (CAFF)

Description of this initiative

- Develop the online mechanism to house, collect, display and search for Arctic biodiversity related data, maps and graphics for decision making.
- The Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure (Arctic SDI) is an initiative from the national mapping organisations of all eight Arctic Council countries to collect and exchange spatially referenced data on the Arctic to create a harmonized map of the entire Arctic region.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

CAFF

Status: On Track

Education

Description of this initiative

CAFF has developed “educational kits” that communicate information to schoolchildren in the Arctic (10- 11 years old) about key Arctic ecosystems and processes. This is the first step in a process to expand CAFF activities to these audiences. CAFF’s Communications Strategy identifies four priority target audiences, one of which is Arctic residents. A gap exists in CAFF’s communication to this audience, in particular younger audiences (as identified by the Arctic Biodiversity Congress and ABA recommendation #17).

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

A set of educational toolkits

EPPR

Status: On Track

01. Arctic Rescue - 2014

Description of this initiative

Improve state of preparedness and response along the Russia Northern Sea Route including conducting exercises and conferences

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

To be discussed at EPPR I 2016

EPPR

Status: On Track

02. Development of Safety Systems in Implementation of Economic and Infrastructure Projects

Description of this initiative

Improvement of industrial and environmental safety related to economic and infrastructural projects (primarily development of hydrocarbons on the Arctic continental shelf and hydrocarbons transportation)

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

To be discussed at EPPR I 2016

EPPR

Status: On hold

06. Radiation Emergency Training and Exercises

Description of this initiative

Improve emergency preparedness and response capabilities through radiological emergency exercises

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Not applicable

EPPR

Status: On Track

08. Maintain and update the operational guidelines attached to the Agreement on Cooperation on Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response

Description of this initiative

Maintain and update the operational guidelines as required

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Under the leadership of the U.S., a table top exercise will take place June 13, 2016. A full report and update of the Operational Guidelines will be submitted for SAO and Ministerial approval.

EPPR

Status: On Track

09. Coordination and practical implementation of the SAR agreement

Description of this initiative

In March 2015, SAOs expanded EPPR's mandate to include search and rescue (SAR) including followup to the SAR Agreement. EPPR is currently in the process of identifying short, medium and long term issues relevant to the SAR Agreement.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

EPPR is currently establishing a SAR Expert Group.

EPPR

Status: On Track

12. Prevention, Preparedness and Response for small communities

Description of this initiative

At the EPPR I 2015 and at the October 2015 scoping workshop, it was agreed that the project would focus on oil spill PPR in small communities.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

The possible deliverables are a self-evaluation matrix for communities, handbook to assist small communities in developing response plans and a video.

EPPR

Status: On hold

13. Remotely Piloted Aircraft for Emergency Response

Description of this initiative

On hold, no active projects, but a noted area of interest for projects.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

EPPR

Status: On Track

14. Development of a Database of Arctic Response Assets

Description of this initiative

The objective for the project is to develop a stand-alone, spatially searchable database using off-the-shelf software that would contain all Arctic specific oil spill response equipment, vessels, and resources located in each Arctic nation. The database should be easily uploaded to GIS-enabled applications.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

To be discussed at EPPR I 2016.

EPPR

Status: On Track

ARCSAFE

Description of this initiative

(Full title: EPPR Cross Country Cooperation Network to Improve Emergency Prevention, Response and the Safety of Rescue Workers in Case of a Maritime Accident Involving a Potential Release of Radioactive Substances in the Arctic (ARCSAFE))

The main goal is to promote cooperation and network-activities among the Arctic Council countries in order to strengthen cross-border prevention, preparedness and handling of maritime incidents or accidents which may involve a potential release of radioactive substances. The proposed project will serve as an arena/umbrella, bringing together different national and international authorities and stakeholders to promote cross border networking, experience exchange, and participation in joint exercises, with the aim of preventing accidents and incidents and improving the preparedness and handling of potential accidents in a best possible way from risk assessment to the elimination of consequences.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

To be discussed at EPPR I 2016.

EPPR

Status: On Track

International Standards for Petroleum, Offshore Oil and Maritime Industries

Description of this initiative

The purpose of the work is to describe how necessary engineering and technical standards are identified, developed, established and maintained. Further to describe the work done by various international trade groups and standards organizations who participate in the various phases of the work. The final report will be a useful knowledge base for improved understanding on the development and maintenance of standards in the Arctic to prevent potential accidents with subsequent oil pollution from offshore petroleum and maritime activities.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

A final report and an easy to understand summary report will provide information about what standards are, how they are developed and maintained and why these are important for the prevention of oil pollution in the Arctic and elsewhere.

EPPR

Status: **On Track**

Response Viability Analysis

Description of this initiative

(Formerly Circumpolar Oil Spill Response Gap Analysis) The purpose of the RVA is to address the specific subset of challenges (climatic and oceanographic properties) present in the Arctic and to undertake a comprehensive overview of oil spill response limitations and the effectiveness of the range of response strategies under Arctic conditions. The RVA would estimate how often different types of response systems could be deployed in different areas of the Arctic.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

The final report, to be prepared by the consultants DNV GL and Nuka, with input from EPPR, will be submitted to for approval at the 2017 Ministerial meeting.

EPPR

Status: **On Track**

Update of Field Guide for Oil Spill Response in Arctic Waters

Description of this initiative

At EPPR I in Svalbard, the idea of updating the 1998 version of the Field Guide for Oil Spill Response in Arctic Waters was briefly discussed. The U.S. is prepared to lead the update and requested assistance from other EPPR delegations.

Linkages to the work being undertaken in the PPR in Small Communities Project was noted, and it was agreed that a community perspective should be included in the update.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

The updated guide will be a deliverable for the 2017 Ministerial meeting.

Expert Group

Status: **On Track**

Expert Group in support of implementation of the Framework for Action on Black Carbon and Methane

Description of this initiative

The Expert Group was established at the Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting in Iqaluit, 24 April 2015. The objective of the group is to periodically assess progress of the implementation of the Arctic Council's Framework for Action on Black Carbon and Methane, and to inform policy makers from Arctic states and for participating Arctic Council Observer States. This includes preparing, on a once every two-year cycle to the Arctic Council chairmanship, a high level "Summary of Progress and Recommendations" report, with appropriate conclusions and recommendations.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

A Summary of Progress and Recommendations" report, including appropriate conclusions and recommendations, will be presented to Ministers.

Other Projects

Status: [No answer]

Arctic Resilience Report

Description of this initiative

Identify the potential for shocks and large shifts in ecosystem services that affect human well-being in the Arctic / Analyze how different drivers of change interact in ways that affect the ability to withstand shocks / Evaluate strategies for adaptation and transformation in the face of rapid change

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

PAME

Status: On Track

01. Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment I (A) (AMSA) – Linking with International Organizations

Description of this initiative

Continue to monitor and identify opportunities to engage with international organizations (IMO, ISO, IALA, WMO etc) to advance implementation of AMSA recommendations.

Input from other Arctic Council Working Groups will be sought on the paper titled “Closer Cooperation and Collaboration between PAME and the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA)” Taking into account any input received, the USA will submit to PAME II-2016 a proposed draft project plan that sets forth issues of common interest on which IALA, PAME and, if requested, other Arctic Council working groups, can collaborate to advance safe and environmentally sound Arctic shipping. Michael Kingston of the Marine, Trade & Energy Group, DWF LLP gave a presentation on the role of marine insurance in support of the Polar Code, and will work with the Shipping Expert Group to submit a paper to PAME II-2016 elaborating upon his proposal for an “Arctic Shipping Best Practices Information Forum.”

A representative of the Arctic Coast Guard Forum will be invited to make a presentation at PAME II-2016 on its mandate and mission as well as on issues of common interest between the two groups.

A representative of the Arctic Economic Council’s Working Group on Maritime Transportation will be invited to make a presentation at PAME II-2016 on its mandate, projects and activities as well as on issues of common interest between the two groups.

The Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission (ARHC) will be invited to submit a report to PAME II-2016 on its recent work, including any further developments on Arctic Voyage Planning Guides and ARHC plans to develop a marine spatial data infrastructure for the Arctic.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period.

PAME

Status: **Completed**

02. Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment I (A) (AMSA) - Linking with International Organizations

Description of this initiative

PAME in cooperation with the IMO and World Maritime University (WMU) convened an International Conference on Safe and Sustainable Shipping in a Changing Arctic Environment (ShipArc 2015) 25-28 August 2015 in Malmö, Sweden.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

03. AMSA I(B) – IMO Measures for Arctic Shipping

Description of this initiative

HFO Phase III. Compendium of case study information on maritime incidents in the Arctic that resulted in a spill or release of HFO and the environmental impact thereof (USA led)
HFO Phase III(b): project that describes the technical challenges and risks that arise from using HFO as fuel for ships especially in cold climates (Norway Led)

(Ministerial deliverables, as listed Feb 2016)

Included in the progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period and as the following two reports:

- (1) HFO Phase III(a): Heavy Fuel Oil releases from Shipping in the Arctic.
- (2) HFO Phase III(b): Possible Hazards for Engines and Fuels Systems Using Heavy Fuel Oil in Cold Climates.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Included in the progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period and as the following two reports... [truncated]

PAME

Status: **On Track**

04. AMSA I(D) – Strengthen Passenger Ship Safety in Arctic Waters

Description of this initiative

Follow-up to the Arctic Marine Tourism Project released a best Practice Guidelines document in April 2015.

Canada, the USA and Norway will submit a paper identifying potential specific Arctic Marine Tourism Project (AMTP) follow-up activities for consideration at PAME II-2016. marine tourism information.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Additional report for the 2015-2017 period.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

05. AMSA II(A) – Survey of Arctic Indigenous Marine Use

Description of this initiative

AIA gave an update report to PAME on AIA's indigenous marine mapping tool and notes AIA's interest in additional partners, which would allow the project to move forward in additional communities.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

06. AMSA II(D) – Specially Designated Arctic Marine Areas

Description of this initiative

Taking into account the AMSA II(C) Report and the two Arctic high seas EBSAs identified by the Convention on Biodiversity, invite AMAP and CAFF to denote areas within the high seas area of the Central Arctic Ocean that are particularly vulnerable to shipping. Once that information is received from AMAP and CAFF, PAME will further explore possible international protection measures that could be pursued by Arctic States, individually or collectively, at the IMO.

Development of Arctic Regional Reception Facilities Plan (RRFP) as a long-term solution to help meet the challenges posed by the expected increases in Arctic shipping activities. The aim is to allow for the environmentally sound management of ship waste and ensure that ships can comply with MARPOL requirements for the proper disposal of ship generated waste. This project does not attempt to circumvent or supplant any work by the IMO or other international body with recognized competence, and is in keeping with established principles and existing IMO/MARPOL guidance. It will complement work being undertaken by IMO. Detailed project plan annexed in the PAME Work Plan 2015-2017.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period.

A final Arctic RRFP

PAME

Status: **On Track**

07. AMSA II(E) - Protection from Invasive Species

Description of this initiative

The USA will make a presentation at PAME II-2016 to the Shipping Expert Group on Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) planning, including its potential application to Arctic marine transportation activities. PAME also invites the USA to submit a proposal for a pilot project that would apply HACCP to Arctic marine transportation activities.

Identifying possible topics of information exchange and collaboration on aquatic invasive species in the Arctic marine environment.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

08. AMSA II(F) - Oil Spill Prevention

Description of this initiative

Contribute to the TFOPP implementation matrix as it relates to PAME's work.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

09. AMSA II(G) – Address impacts on Marine Mammals

Description of this initiative

Collaborate with other AC working groups to monitor and provide support for work related to the impact of shipping on marine mammals.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

10. AMSA II(H) – Reduce Air Emissions

Description of this initiative

PAME will continue to explore how best it could use information it compiles on emissions (especially black carbon) from ships in the Arctic and their effects on the marine environment, including in cooperation with other working groups, in particular AMAP, to support reductions in ship air emissions. PAME continues to invite Arctic stakeholders to augment the consolidated bibliography of ship air emission publications posted to the PAME website.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

11. AMSA III(A) – Address the infrastructure Deficit

Description of this initiative

Regular updates and status provided on infrastructure aspects such as the IMO's GISIS Port Reception Facility database.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

12. AMSA III(B) – Arctic Marine Traffic Systems

Description of this initiative

Build on work related to vessel traffic monitoring and tracking and build on the AMSA 2005 shipping database and develop an Arctic shipping database in consultation with AIS technical expert group members as nominated by member governments.

Continue to pursue opportunities including, as appropriate, through the Arctic Shipping Traffic Data project for updating Arctic ship traffic data contained in the AMSA Report (data collected in 2005) for use in studies, assessments, trend analyses, and the development of recommendations that enhance Arctic marine safety and support protection of Arctic people and the environment etc

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress/status provided in the "Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period.

ASTD project plan and launching of an agreed ship traffic database

PAME

Status: **On Track**

12. AMSA III(D) – Investing in Hydrographic, Meteorological and Oceanographic Data

Description of this initiative

The USA will undertake an informal review of the 1st World Ocean Assessment, giving particular consideration to those chapters relating to shipping in the Arctic and current and proposed PAME work on shipping-related issues, and provide a report to the Shipping Expert Group at PAME II-2016.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

PAME

Status: **Completed**

13. Arctic Marine Tourism Project (AMTP)

Description of this initiative

[Blank]

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

PAME

Status: **On Track**

14. AMSA implementation progress report

Description of this initiative

Provide one more biennial AMSA shipping progress implementation reports for submission to AC Ministerial meetings. This report should address work pursuant to other Arctic Council shipping mandates and recommendations.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Status of the Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Recommendations" Report for the 2015-2017 period.

PAME

Status: **Completed**

15. Health, Safety and Environmental Management Systems for Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling Activities

Description of this initiative

Findings from the HSE and Safety Culture workshops, Deepwater Horizon investigations, regulatory systems reviews and assessment of management systems in the Arctic are being completed. Recommendations will be developed based on these findings for the final report.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

PAME

Status: **On Track**

16. Meaningful Engagement of Arctic Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine Activities (MEMA)

Description of this initiative

The MEMA is a "stock-taking" exercise for the existing and available recommendations, guidance, requirements and declarations on engagement of indigenous people and local communities for marine activities. Not intended to make any new recommendations or assess their effectiveness or implementation. The MEMA project team includes members of the Oil and Gas Contact Group, Shipping Expert Group and MPA Expert Group in collaboration with the co-leads.

The Meaningful Engagement of Arctic Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine Activities project (MEMA) is progressing according to plan and the project team continues to explore collaboration with SDWG. The MEMA project team. Next steps include analyzes of the information in the database and prepare a narrative summary of the analysis and planning of a workshop on Best Practices for engagement to be held on the 17th of September in conjunction with PAME II-2016, and draft a workshop summary.

Full account has been taken with respect to the EPPR Small Community PPR project to ensure no overlap. The MEMA project is an inventory of existing information whereas the SCPPR project is working toward identifying gaps and problems making recommendations and solutions.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

A Final Report summarizing the database analysis with an Executive Summary, Findings and Conclusions.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

17. Updates of the AOOGG 2009 and Response to AMSP Strategic Actions and TFOPP Framework

Description of this initiative

The MEMA project compiles and analyzes existing documents and summarize their main aspects, principles, and processes for engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities. The project covers all Arctic marine and coastal activities, including shipping, offshore oil and gas activities, coastal infrastructure development, and research and management activities. The information to be compiled will come from Arctic Council documents and reports, national legal regimes and guidance of Arctic states, guidelines and declarations from communities and indigenous organizations, international instruments, and guidance from industry, NGO's and other stakeholders.

The Oil and Gas Contact Group will consider the development of project proposals for the following activities: Possible updates to the sections of the AOOGG 2009 for environmental monitoring of operations, waste management, discharge of chemicals, and emissions for possible inclusion in the PAME Work Plan 2017-2019. Respond as appropriate to AMSP Strategic actions and Themes and Projects of the 2015-2017 United States Arctic Council Chairmanship.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Details to be determined

PAME

Status: **On Track**

18. Arctic Offshore Oil and Gas Regulatory Resource (AOOGRR)

Description of this initiative

Ongoing / Website (was launched in May 2013 and provides indexed access to information and data on national entities and agencies websites related to management, regulation, and enforcement of Arctic offshore oil and gas activities. (online May 2013) / Annual spring updates

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Website has been opened up for access and will be updated once per year. Next overview is due in January 2016.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

19. Arctic Ocean Review follow-up

Description of this initiative

Follow up to the AOR Final Report recommendations has been incorporated into the AMSP 2015-2025 and other PAME activities, as relevant.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Contributions to AOR follow-up is identified in all PAME activities as relevant, including the AMSP implementation reporting for the period 2015-2017.

PAME

Status: **Completed**

20. Revision of the Arctic Council Marine Strategic Plan (AMSP)

Description of this initiative

Took into account relevant outcomes from Kiruna Ministerial for inclusion into a new AMSP. Next steps include the AMSP Implementation and Communication Plans.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

AMSP Implementation Plan to be submitted, as well as the AMSP Communication plan.

PAME

Status: **Completed**

21. AMSP 2015-2025 Implementation Plan

Description of this initiative

The Arctic Marine Strategic Plan (AMSP) 2015-2025 was approved by the Arctic Council ministers at their meeting in Iqaluit, Canada on 24th of April 2015. With reference to AMSP, Section 8.0 on Implementation, 1st draft proposal and roadmap to prepare AMSP implementation plan has been prepared and was discussed at the PAME II-2015 meeting and distributed to other Arctic Council working groups. The aim of an Implementation Plan for the AMSP 2015-2025 forty strategic actions is to provide a structured approach that tracks follow-up activities (new and ongoing) in close coordination and cooperation with other Arctic Council working groups with overall guidance from the SAOs.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

AMSP Implementation Plan for the period 2015-2025 and a AMSP implementation progress report for the period 2015-2017.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

22. Ecosystem Approach to Management

Description of this initiative

The work of the Ecosystem Approach expert group (EA-EG) is proceeding according to its Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the period 2015-2017 which was developed for the joint EA-EG in consultations with AMAP, CAFF and SDWG. These ToRs were developed in response to the following recommendation of the EBM Expert Group (Kiruna 2013): "Identify a lead to assure coordination of a common approach to the work of the Arctic Council on EBM in the Arctic and ensure appropriate reporting of progress to the Senior Arctic Officials" in addition to other marine-specific EBM recommendations in the Kiruna Declaration. Six elements are recognized for the implementation of the EA to management and form the basis of the work of this expert group.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Progress Report on the Ecosystem Approach work as per the EA-EG 2015-2017 work plan items.

PAME

Status: **On Track**

23. Enhance PAME's work on a Pan-Arctic Network of Marine Protected Areas (MPA)

Description of this initiative

The Framework for a Pan-Arctic Network of MPAs was approved by the Arctic Council ministers at their meeting in Iqaluit, Canada on 24th of April 2015. Follow-up on this framework is one of the U.S. Chairmanship priorities. PAME is contributing to this work through three activities that include contributions to: 1) the MEMA project; 2) inventory and mapping of existing Arctic MPAs, and 3) desktop study on area-based conservation measures and its linkages to categories of Arctic marine biodiversity.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Deliverables include maps of existing MPAs and a report with a catalogue of management measures associated with different types of marine biodiversity.

PAME

Status: **Completed**

24. Framework for a Pan-Arctic Network of Marine Protected Areas (MPA)

Description of this initiative

[Blank]

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

PAME

Status: **On Track**

25. Follow-up of the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment

Description of this initiative

Follow up on ABA recommendations as appropriate to PAME mandate has been incorporated into the AMSP 2015-2025.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

As a part of the AMSP implementation reporting for the period 2015-2017.

PAME

Status: **Awaiting info**

26. Adaptation Actions for a Changing Arctic (AACCA) part c

Description of this initiative

Provide input for AACCA part C to AMAP as required and Incorporated into a implementation plan/follow-up matrix that is being developed for the Arctic Ocean Review recommendations as it relates to PAME's

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

SDWG

Status: **Completed**

01. Arctic Human Development Report II (AHDR-II)

Description of this initiative

The Arctic Human Development Report II (AHDR-II) provides a decadal update and synthesis report on the state of human development in the Arctic.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

SDWG

Status:

02. Assessing, Monitoring and Promoting Arctic Indigenous Languages

Description of this initiative

Building on the Inuit Circumpolar Council's 2008 SDWG work in the same area, a follow-up Arctic Indigenous Languages Assessment Symposium was held February 10-12, 2015 in Ottawa, with strong youth participation, to present the Project's findings and facilitate knowledge transmission. Other deliverables under the Canadian Chairmanship include a Symposium Report, for information only, as well as a Project status report on the activities for 2013-15. The Arctic languages website (<http://www.arcticlanguages.com>) was launched in 2013 as an early project deliverable and features a large collection of electronic language learning tools as well as a repository of academic articles related to Arctic indigenous languages. Follow-on activities under consideration.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

SDWG

Status: **Completed**

03. A Circumpolar-wide Inuit Response to the AMSA

Description of this initiative

Communicate findings of the 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 Inuit use of sea and sea-ice is impacted by Arctic shipping.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

SDWG

Status: On hold

04. Electronic Memory of the Arctic

Description of this initiative

Electronic information resources from libraries museums, Arctic Council archives, expert blog of EMA portal will allow experts to discuss issues on history of geographical discoveries and exploration, industry, geology, nature, folklore and literature of the circumpolar world, artistic heritage, ethnography (Russian driven).

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

SDWG

Status: Completed

05. Reindeer Herding and Youth (EALLIN)

Description of this initiative

Building on the work of the SDWG's 2009 EALAT Reindeer Herders' Voice project, efforts are ongoing to maintain and further develop sustainable reindeer husbandry in the Arctic / Work towards a vision of creating a better life for circumpolar reindeer herders / Continue to promote knowledge building. See follow-on project EALLU.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

SDWG

Status: Completed

06. Gender and Equity in the Arctic

Description of this initiative

Builds on the 2002 Taking Wing conference on gender equality and women in the Arctic. The Akureyri, Iceland conference held in October 2014 focused on the living conditions of men and women throughout the circumpolar North; addressed key issues including access to and control over resources; representation in decision-making; political participation; regional development; human security; and material and cultural well-being. A possible new project will be under consideration at SDWG Barrow meeting, 11-12 March 2016.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

SDWG

Status: Completed

07. Integrating Traditional and Local Knowledge

Description of this initiative

Develop recommendations to integrate traditional and local knowledge into the work of the Arctic Council. Possible follow-on activities are under consideration by the SDWG.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

SDWG

Status: **Completed**

08. Promoting Mental Wellness in Northern Circumpolar Communities

Description of this initiative

Builds on the outcomes and recommendations of the Nuuk Hope and Resilience seminar (2009) and enhances the evidence base to promote mental wellness in circumpolar communities. Two research teams assessed circumpolar approaches to mental wellness and the potential for adapting interventions into other regions.

A symposium was held in Iqaluit, Canada in March 2015 in order to provide a forum to present findings, transfer knowledge, foster collaboration, and showcase best practices. See follow-on project RISING SUN.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

SDWG

Status: **Completed**

09. Arctic Adaptation Exchange: Facilitating Adaptation to Climate Change

Description of this initiative

The Arctic Adaptation Exchange online portal builds on the ongoing adaptation work of the Arctic Council, notably the Adaptation Actions for a Changing Arctic project (AACCA). The portal will serve as a central information hub for communities, researchers, and decision-makers across a variety of sectors by bringing the Arctic Council's work on adaptation, along with other relevant resources, together in one place in support of information exchange and decision-making. Follow-on activities are under consideration.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

SDWG

Status: **Completed**

10. Review of Cancer Among Circumpolar Indigenous Peoples

Description of this initiative

The project addresses cancer as an emerging health concern among circumpolar Indigenous Peoples, and recognizes the need for effective prevention and control measures through reliable surveillance data. Drawing on regional data specific to Indigenous populations, this project reviewed the patterns and trends of cancer among Arctic Indigenous Peoples.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

[Blank]

SDWG

Status: **Completed**

Arctic Energy Summit

Description of this initiative

The Arctic Energy Summit (AES), convened a multi-disciplinary event in Fairbanks, Alaska in September 2015 that drew together industry executives, government agency officials and policy makers, researchers, energy professionals and community leaders to collaborate on and share innovative approaches to Arctic energy issues. The 2015 Summit addressed renewable energy, oil and gas exploration and production, remote and rural heat and power, and energy transportation and transmission. Follow-on activities under consideration.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

N/A - designated project. A Final Executive Summary and Report are available.

SDWG

Status: **On Track**

Arctic Remote Energy Networks Academy (ARENA)

Description of this initiative

This project seeks to develop community energy experts to ensure affordable, reliable, renewable source energy solutions for Arctic communities. Its approach integrates web-based seminars with classroom learning and field exposure. The project draws from best practices established through the experience of the people living and the organizations operating in the Arctic. A pilot program for this work is planned for the summer of 2016. Sharing Traditional and Local Knowledge (TLK) throughout rural Arctic communities is key for the success of this project which will bring together TLK from a wide array of Arctic communities to facilitate appropriate integration of clean energy technologies throughout the region.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Synthesis report outlining curriculum, lessons learned, and a framework template for future clean energy training programs through the SDWG.

SDWG

Status: **On Track**

EALLU – Arctic Indigenous Youth, Climate Change and Food Culture

Description of this initiative

This project seeks to maintain and further develop a sustainable and resilient reindeer husbandry in the Arctic in face of climate change and globalization, while working towards a vision of creating a better life for circumpolar reindeer herders. The project will voice the Traditional Knowledge on food culture of Arctic indigenous peoples, carried by elders and disseminated by youth, thereby also bridging gaps between generations for preservation of unique Arctic knowledge.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Rec's for States and PPs on how to take care of and use indigenous/reindeer herding peoples' TK and food cultures for sustainable development in the Arctic. Reports from seminars and community-based workshops. Publications on TK and food culture.

SDWG

Status: On Track

Improving Health through Safe and Affordable Access to Household Running Water and Sewer (WASH)

Description of this initiative

This project focuses on water-related health challenges in Arctic and Sub-Arctic communities. The core scientific activity of this project is a survey by the Arctic Health Human Experts Group (AHHEG) of WASH infrastructure and the diseases related to insufficient household water quality or quantity. A key project event is a two-day circumpolar conference to be held in Anchorage, Alaska in the fall of 2016. The conference will bring together researchers, engineers, manufacturers and vendors, and health experts to discuss health benefits, challenges and solutions associated with making running water and sewer in small Arctic and Sub-Arctic communities safe, affordable and sustainable. TLK collaboration is integral to the project design. TLK holders' perspectives will be sought on the workability of technologies in their communities.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Final project report

SDWG

Status: On Track

Operationalizing a One Health approach in the Arctic (One Health)

Description of this initiative

One Health is an approach to assess health issues at the interface between humans, animals, and ecosystems. This project seeks to forge co-equal, all inclusive collaborations across multiple scientific disciplines and Arctic communities in order to enhance resiliency of the Arctic inhabitants through an enhanced understanding of climatic change impacts on health risks to people, animals, and the environment. TLK holders are to be represented in the leadership team to develop strategy for implementing an Arctic One Health framework and are to be actively involved in the designation of Arctic One Health Hubs.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

Under consideration

SDWG

Status: **On Track**

Reducing the Incidence of Suicide in Indigenous Groups - Strengths United through Networks (RISING-SUN)

Description of this initiative

RISING SUN is designed to create a common, science-based set of metrics to evaluate the key correlates and outcomes associated with suicide prevention interventions, across Arctic states. Common metrics, developed through an on-going engagement with Permanent Participants and community leaders, as well as mental health experts, will facilitate data sharing and pooling, evaluation, and interpretation of interventions across service systems. These metrics will aid health workers to better serve the needs of their communities while helping policymakers measure progress, evaluate the scale-up of interventions, and identify impediments to implementation and cultural adaptability challenges. The core of RISING SUN will be a series of three meetings. Community members, many of whom may be TLK holders, will be invited and strongly encouraged to participate in all three meetings.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

A final report synthesizing results from the described activities.

SDWG

Status: **On Track**

The Economy of the North 2015 (ECONOR III)

Description of this initiative

ECONOR III will provide an updated overview of the economy, socio-economic living conditions and environmental issues in the circumpolar Arctic, as impacted by the global economy and climate change. This report follows upon ECONOR I, (2006) and ECONOR II (2008). The ECONOR projects seek to harmonize socio-economic statistical data across national and regional borders. The ECONOR III project expresses the importance of TLK for understanding the characteristics of the economy of the north. Traditional and Local Knowledge is integrated in a chapter that describes traditional living, the subsistence activities and their relationship to the market economy.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

ECONOR III final report

Task Force

Status: **On Track**

Task Force for Enhancing Scientific Cooperation in the Arctic

Description of this initiative

The Kiruna Declaration calls on the Task Force to "...work towards an arrangement on improved scientific research cooperation among the eight Arctic States."

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

The Kiruna Declaration calls on the Task Force to "...work towards an arrangement on improved scientific research cooperation among the eight Arctic States."

Task Force

Status: On Track

Task Force on Arctic Marine Cooperation

Description of this initiative

A report identifying future needs for strengthened cooperation for Arctic marine areas will be presented to SAOs before the 2017 Ministerial for review and approval before submission to Arctic Council Ministers.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

A report identifying future needs for strengthened cooperation for Arctic marine areas, as well as whether the Council should begin negotiations on cooperation mechanism for Arctic marine areas.

Task Force

Status: On Track

Task Force on Telecommunications Infrastructure in the Arctic (TFTIA)

Description of this initiative

The existing telecommunications infrastructure in the Arctic is not sufficient to meet current demands for modern community needs, regional connectivity, human services, scientific observations, navigation, and support for potential emergency SAR or oil spill response. To adequately meet increased needs of maritime and human activity and to improve the quality of life for Arctic residents, there is a strong need to assess, and ultimately expand telecommunications infrastructure.

Expected deliverables to 2017 Ministerial Meeting

The Task Force should deliver a completed assessment to include, among other things, recommendations for public-private partnerships to enhance telecommunications access and service in the Arctic.