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Project Presentation

January 2019

Background

The Gender Equality in the Arctic (GEA) project is endorsed by the Arctic Council Sustainable Development Working Group.

Phase I (2013-2015) aimed to promote and expand the dialogue on Gender Equality in the Arctic. An international conference, “Gender Equality in the Arctic: Current Realities, Future Challenges”, brought together policy-makers and experts from the Arctic region in Akureyri, Iceland in the fall of 2014. A report published in 2015 (bit.ly/GEA-report) included conference proceedings and policy-relevant highlights.

Phase II (2017-2019) aimed to build on the outcome and recommendations from phase I and continue the work to promote dialogue on gender equality in the Arctic, with a focus on developing a circumpolar network of experts and providing an online platform for material and cooperation.

GEA Website and Network

During phase II, the website arcticgenderequality.network has been developed, dedicated to gender equality in the Arctic.

The website provides information on gender-related networks in the Arctic region, experts and practitioners in the field, conferences and events, as well as a searchable list of articles, reports, videos and other material.

An initial call for material went out in October 2018. As of January 2019, the website is up and running, and remains a work in progress.

Two interns have been recruited by the Icelandic Arctic Cooperation Network to continue the collection of relevant material through spring 2019. Iceland plans to lead the continued development of the website during its Chairmanship of the Arctic Council in 2019-2021, under a proposed phase III of the GEA project.

The project has also established a presence on social media, through a Facebook group ([visit group](#)) on Gender Equality in the Arctic.

GEA II Events

With the objective of raising the profile of gender issues on the Arctic agenda and bringing together experts and stakeholders, the project steering group organized and participated in sessions on gender equality at several Arctic events during phase II, including the following:

- Arctic Circle Assembly, Reykjavík, October 2017
- Arctic Circle Forum, Tórshavn, May 2018 (2 sessions)
- UArctic Congress, Oulu and Helsinki, September 2018 (3 sessions)
- Arctic Circle Assembly, Reykjavík, October 2018

The sessions were well attended and generated lively discussion, demonstrating the demand for dialogue on gender issues in the Arctic context. Written summaries from three workshops organized by the Finnish Chairmanship of the Arctic Council in Oulu and Helsinki during the UArctic Congress in 2018 are available on the SDWG project website and GEA website.

For further information, please contact **Embla Eir Oddsdóttir**, Director of the Icelandic Arctic Cooperation Network, embla@arcticiceland.is and +354 864 5979.

PROJECT WEBSITE
ArcticGenderEquality.network

PHASE II IS ENDORSED BY THE ARCTIC COUNCIL
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP SDWG.ORG



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