

SWIPA follow up (SAO meeting 28-29 March, 2012 agenda point 4.2)

AMAP Climate Expert Group Workshop in Victoria.

AMAP WG recommendations based on the SWIPA work (and reflected in the SWIPA 2011 executive summary presented to ministers in Nuuk, May 2011) were discussed at an AMAP Climate Experts Workshop in Victoria BC, Canada, January 30- February 1, 2012.

The WS developed a matrix of overall issues of key societal importance as they relate to science needs of Arctic climate change and the effects of climate change needs (table 1).

Key Issue/science needs	Arctic freshwater systems	Ocean heat budget	Ecosystem resilience	Arctic teleconnections	Ocean productivity	Land Ice mass change	Land surface change	Wetlands/methan	Fisheries, resources value
Food/water security ; human health	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
Infrastructure and transport		X		X		X	X	X	
Resources access/development		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Weather extremes	X						X		
Arctic drivers of climate change				X		X	X	X	

Climate change science needs should be met through observations, monitoring, research and communication and outreach (such as providing science and knowledge based products to inform the public debate and administrative and policy levels).

The workshop identified tipping points, potential surprises, extremes, resilience, cascading effects, ecosystem impacts and feedbacks as key perspectives of future arctic climate change science efforts.

Scenario development was identified as an immediate priority that is required for both the potential ACA and many other projects ongoing under AMAP and other AC WGs. The AMAP HoDs agreed to hold a workshop in Sweden or USA in the fall of 2012 to evaluate results of models employed in the IPCC process from an Arctic context and establish climate scenarios for activities relevant to the AMAP WG work, and a second workshop in spring 2013 (in Russia) to bring in additional user requirements and integrate ecological aspects.

SWIPA-product status.

The status of "Snow, Water, Ice, and Permafrost in the Arctic" - products are as follows:

SWIPA executive summary:

The SWIPA executive summary was presented at the May 2011 Nuuk Ministerial. A Russian version of the executive summary has now been prepared.

SWIPA background science report:

An electronic pre-print version of the SWIPA background science document is available at www.amap.no/swipa. Final editing, layout and proofing will be completed in March. The printed version of the report will be ready for distribution beginning of April.

SWIPA short plain language summary:

Final editing, layout, proofing and printing will be completed in March.

SWIPA films (DVDs):

Final editing and printing of DVD's versioned in different languages (Danish, Faroese, Finnish, French, Greenlandic, Icelandic, Norwegian, Russian, Sami, and Swedish) to be completed in March. DVDs will be available for the SAO meeting, 28-29 March, 2012.

SWIPA overview report.

Final editing, layout, proofing and printing will be completed in April and be ready for distribution by the end of April, 2012.