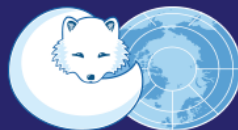




Sustainable Development
Working Group



ARCTIC COUNCIL

INTEGRATING TRADITIONAL AND LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Presentation to PAME

February 3, 2015
Akureyri, Iceland



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BACKGROUND

- Traditional and Local Knowledge (TLK) is a cross-cutting issue in the Arctic Council (AC); as such, the project is a priority for the AC under the Canadian Chairmanship
- The initiative is led by the SDWG on behalf of the AC, in close collaboration with all Working Groups (WGs) and Task Forces (TFs)
 - “**Recognize** that the use of traditional and local knowledge is essential to a sustainable future in the Arctic, and **decide** to develop recommendations to integrate traditional and local knowledge in the work of the Arctic Council” (Kiruna Declaration, 2013)
 - “Canada has requested the SDWG, in collaboration with all working groups, to develop recommendations to integrate traditional and local knowledge into the work of the Council” (SAO Report to Ministers, 2013)



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OBJECTIVE

- Objective is to develop recommendations for the consistent integration of TLK into the work of the AC
- Project aims to build on WG/TF accomplishments and best practices already being applied



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DELIVERABLES

- The deliverables are on track to be completed according to the 2015 Ministerial Meeting timeline and will include recommendations for integration of TLK into the work of the AC as mandated by the Ministers
- This is an ongoing effort and the TLK recommendations will include suggestions for future work that will extend beyond the Canadian Chairmanship



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PROJECT PROCESS

- Scoping workshop held in Reykjavik (February 2014)
 - Draft “Fundamental Principles”
 - Potential recommendations for Traditional Knowledge integration
- Second workshop held in Ottawa (June 2014)
 - Working definition of Traditional Knowledge
 - Further developed “Fundamental Principles” and potential recommendations
- SDWG collaboration with WGs and TFs regarding their current processes, best practices, and practical examples of the integration of TLK into their work
 - Phone consultations with WGs and TFs (October 2014)
 - Written submissions received from WGs and TFs (November/December 2014)



PROJECT PROCESS - CONTINUED

- Project proposal drafted by SDWG
 - Reflected ideas developed by PPs, SDWG HoDs, and WG representatives at the workshops and through consultation
 - Provided a basis for discussions among PPs and Arctic States to establish co-leadership and solicit input from WGs and TFs
- Updated project proposal tabled by the U.S. at the SDWG General Meeting (October 2014)
 - Fundamental Principles will not advance through the SDWG endorsement process
- Project proposal endorsed (December 2014)
 - Project co-leads confirmed (Canada, U.S., Kingdom of Denmark, AIA, GCI)
 - TLK recommendations further developed with formal Working Group and Task Force engagement
- Recommendations further refined



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NEXT STEPS

Ongoing: SDWG HoD review of refined recommendations

Feb 9: Recommendations presented to SDWG HoDs for endorsement on intersessional call

Feb 28-Mar 1: SDWG discussion of the recommendations at the SDWG General Meeting

Apr 8-9: SAO approval of the recommendations



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THANK YOU

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
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ANNEX A

Recommendations for the Integration of Traditional and Local Knowledge into the Work of the Arctic Council

1. Continue development on consensus-based guidelines and processes for the more systematic inclusion of traditional and local knowledge in the work of the Arctic Council.
2. Support the use of consistent terminology regarding traditional and local knowledge throughout the work of the AC.
3. a) At the outset of a project, incorporate traditional and local knowledge considerations into WG proposal templates and/or work plans so that every project proposal or outline describes how it will use TLK in the project, if applicable. If TLK is not applicable, a section of the project proposal or outline must explain why. In doing so, efforts should be made to communicate project goals, objectives, and methods in terminology accessible to non-technical audiences in order to facilitate early identification of potential traditional and local knowledge components.
b) At the conclusion of a project, in the final report to SAOs, there will be a requirement to describe how TLK was used in the project and any lessons learned as to how TLK may be better incorporated in the future.



ANNEX A - CONTINUED

4. Include a traditional and local knowledge column in the ACS project tracking tool.
5. Develop within Working Group processes an inventory of lessons-learned and best practices for AC projects which integrate traditional and local knowledge components.
6. Recognize/credit traditional and local knowledge holders' and community contributions to AC projects and reports, including co-authorship where appropriate.
7. Establish best practices for communicating the results and findings back to TLK holders, communities, and those that have contributed.