

PAME II-2020: Annotation to agenda 10.1

AMSP Strategic Actions Implementation Matrix: Arctic Council Working Groups

Status and Next Steps

Background:

The Arctic Council's Arctic Marine Strategic Plan 2015-2025 (AMSP) provides a framework to guide its actions to protect Arctic marine and coastal ecosystems and to promote sustainable development.

Reports on progress of the implementation of the AMSP will be submitted regularly to the Senior Arctic Officials. Subject to direction from SAOs and Arctic Council Ministers, PAME, in collaboration with all Arctic Council subsidiary bodies, will also lead a review of the Arctic Marine Strategic Plan. Under the direction of SAOs, PAME will, in consultation with other Arctic Council working groups and permanent participants, develop a communication plan to support understanding and involvement in the implementation of this Strategic Plan.

PAME has updated the Implementation Matrix, a table in Word format, in a living document that will be used to track progress of the Arctic Council in implementing the AMSP strategic actions. Each Working Group has provided status on the implementation of the AMSP strategic actions as relevant to their respective work plan activities.

Progress to date:

Jan-Mar 2020: PAME Secretariat prepared the 1st draft of the 3rd AMSP Implementation Matrix by reviewing the work plans of all Arctic Council Working Groups and making the first attempt to incorporate their relevant work.

30 March 2020: 1st draft AMSP Implementation Matrix was sent out to the Arctic Council Working Groups to 1) review and provide updates as relevant, and 2) to suggest alternative ways in reporting on implementation on marine-related activities i.e. how can we best translate our collective implementation efforts into short and concise report for SAOs/Ministers?

23 March 2020: Planned a 1/2 day meeting on AMSP implementation and other marine-related activities with the Arctic Council Working Groups back-to-back with the March SAO meeting. This meeting was rescheduled for an online meeting 1 September due to Covid-19.

1 May 2020: Comments from Arctic Council Working Groups due.

May-Aug 2020: Comments received; the 3rd AMSP Implementation Matrix updated accordingly.

1 Sep 2020: PAME and CAFF convened a joint conference call with the other Arctic Council Working Groups to discuss joint Working Groups marine-related coordination (agenda and some discussion points/options in Attachment I). These discussions included:

AMSP Reporting: Discussed and explored practical ways to record/track the status on implementation of the marine-related activities of the WGs (referring to the 40 strategic actions in the AMSP).

Communication and coordinated reporting: Efforts are needed to track the paths between Arctic Council recommendations and effective responses. Doing so would help increase the visibility of the Council, support communication of its Arctic marine stewardship by demonstrating coordination on its marine-related work.

SAO Marine Mechanism(SMM): Discussed and explored practical ways to inform and support the planned online thematic sessions for the SAO Marine Mechanism (SMM) process which will take place in October of which one of the themes is AMSP. Some of the ideas discussed included:

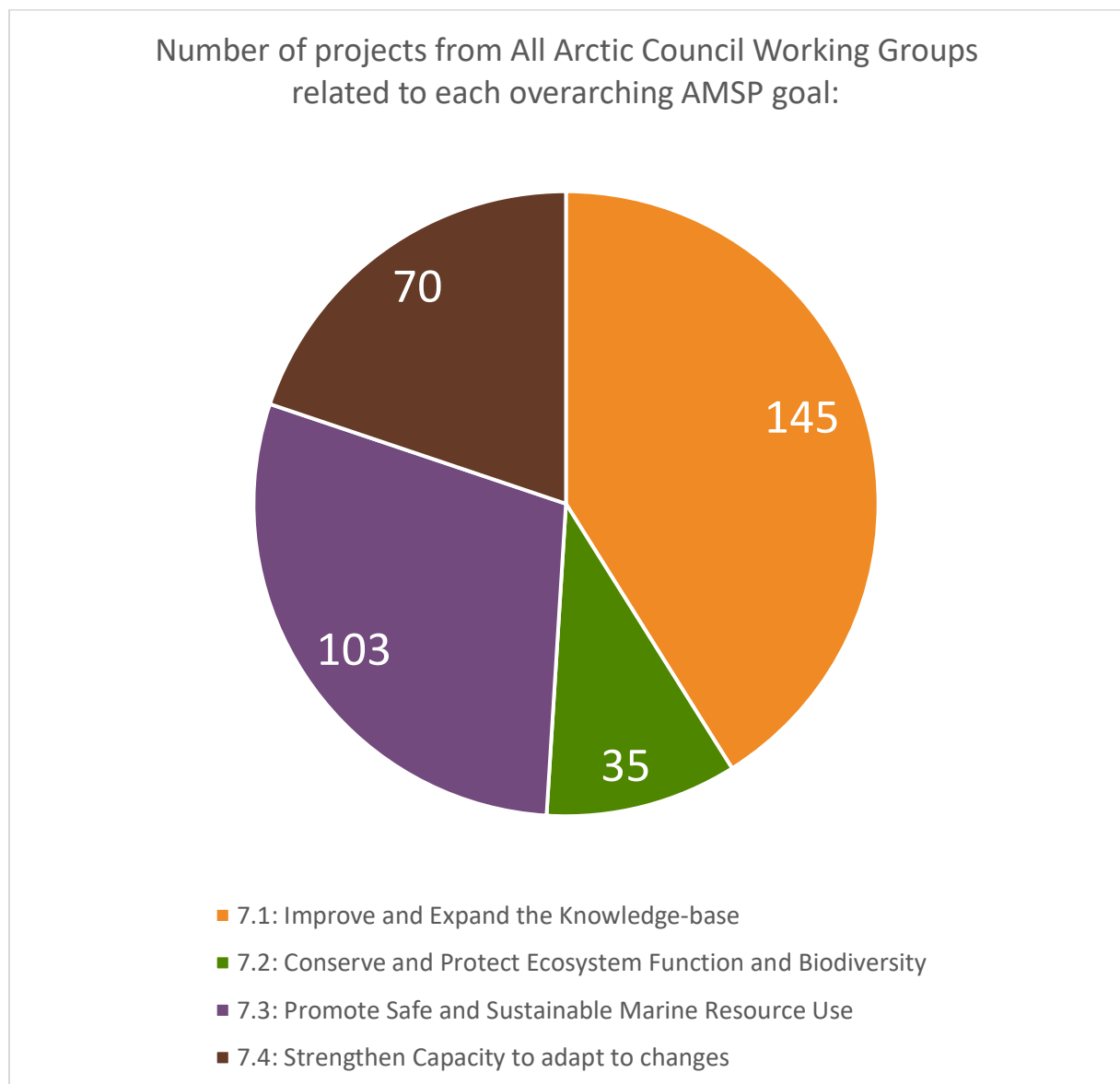
Options on next steps included a submission of a joint WGs background memo for submission to the SMM process (similar to the Task Force on Arctic Marine Cooperation (TFAMC) process). Also, the plan is to convene the 2nd joint Arctic Council Working Groups teleconference on marine-related coordination based on discussions and outcomes from the SMM progress during the 1st week of Nov.

Document and Next Steps

AMSP Strategic Actions: Arctic Council Working Groups Tracking Tool (table provided on the password protected site) is considered a living document that will be used to track progress of the Arctic Council in implementing the AMSP strategic actions.






It is proposed that for the 3rd AMSP Implementation reporting, PAME may explore some type of visual presentation in addition to the matrix which reflects the projects by the Arctic Council Working Groups.

Following is a simple schematic that the PAME Secretariat is exploring as a way to summarize the AMSP implementation in a more visual manner.



The following icons are used to indicate status of each projects.

- **Complete:** when a deliverable fully addresses a recommendation
- **Ongoing:** when they are part of a long-term AC strategy and are not designed to be completed but are more of an evolving nature. Initiatives are labelled as scheduled when work is currently underway and aligned to the timeline issued in the work plan of the respective WG.
- **Delayed:** when they have been identified in the work plan of a WG and fallen behind schedule.
- **Not been started:** when issues have been identified in workplans, yet no action has been taken.

Status	Definition
	Complete
	<i>Ongoing</i>
	<i>Scheduled</i>
	<i>Delayed</i>
	<i>Not Started</i>

PAME II-2020 Actions requested:

- ✓ 20 November:
 - Review and revise as relevant the PAME activities in the draft matrix and send to the PAME Secretariat.
 - Arctic Council working groups indicate status of their projects by using the icons provided.
- ✓ Early January 2021: PAME Secretariat to send out a revised version and a draft layout to PAME Member for approval at PAME I-2021 meeting and submission to SAOs and Ministerial.

ATTACHEMENT I: 1st joint Working Groups teleconference on marine-related coordination

Logistics:

Time: Sept 1, 2020, 13:00- 16:00 (GMT, 3 hours with a 15 min health break)

Chairing: Paula Kankaanpää/PAME Chair

Draft Agenda:

1. Welcome and roundtable introductions
2. Motivation/background
 - AMSP implementation report
 - Coordinated reporting on marine-related activities based marine mechanism (SMM)
3. Discussion about the AMSP implementation report and inputs from AC WGs
4. Discussions on possible ways to update marine-related activities in a more systematic manner
5. Discussion about WGs' contribution to the SAO based marine mechanism
Note @15.00 GMT: Einar Gunnarsson, SAO Chair, has indicated an interest to join our call to brief us on the SMM process and clarify questions we may have
6. The way forward

Background: The Arctic Council's Arctic Marine Strategic Plan 2015-2025 ([AMSP](#)) provides a framework to guide its actions to protect Arctic marine and coastal ecosystems and to promote sustainable development. Reports on progress of the implementation of the AMSP are submitted regularly to the SAOs. Subject to direction from SAOs and Arctic Council Ministers, PAME, in collaboration with all Arctic Council subsidiary bodies, is leading a review of the AMSP. PAME will also, in consultation with other WGs, permanent participants and relevant stakeholders develop a communication plan to support understanding and involvement in the implementation of this Strategic Plan.

PAME is in the process of updating the Implementation Matrix, a living document which tracks progress towards implementing the AMSP strategic actions. The aim is to have each subsidiary body provide a status on the implementation of the AMSP strategic actions as relevant to their respective activities. Through the [Actions for Arctic Biodiversity](#), CAFF through a similar process is also tracking progress towards implementation of the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment recommendations which include a broad range of marine related issues.

Aims of this teleconference:

- a) AMSP Reporting: Discuss and explore practical ways to record/update status on implementation of the marine-related activities of the WGs (referring to the 40 strategic actions in the AMSP, last circulated on 24 Aug), the marine-related components of the CAFF/Arctic Biodiversity Assessment implementation actions and any other actions not included in these two documents);
- b) Coordinated Reporting: Consider how to better align WG reporting on AMSP, ABA and other WG work to inform SAOs on WG marine related activities;
- c) SAO Marine Mechanism(SMM): Discuss and explore practical ways to inform and support the planned online thematic sessions for the SAO Marine Mechanism (SMM) process.

Options:

Reporting on progress: PAME and CAFF are exploring how to align how they report on progress towards implementation of the AMSP and the Actions for Arctic Biodiversity. See the Progress

Reports from the 2019 Ministerial for the [AMSP](#) and for the [Actions for Arctic Biodiversity](#) which offer one option on how the WGs might collectively report to the Council on progress towards implementation. Efforts to better align WG reporting would allow for the tracing of the paths between a Council recommendation and an effective response, thus increasing the visibility of the Council, and better connecting disparate actions into overall strategic directions.

SAO Marine Mechanism: WGs jointly prepare short summaries for each SMM Thematic session to demonstrate joint WG contributions on marine-related activities. These summaries could provide an overview on progress towards the AMSP actions relevant for each session; demonstrate what WGs are doing and how they could benefit from information on national implementation processes e.g:

- Selected number of themes/issues e.g. in line with the AC Chairmanship or the SMM themes.
- Linking these themes with the AMSP strategic actions and other AC WGs marine-related actions to demonstrate progress.
- Addressing the gaps in activities based on actions that have already been agreed to by the AC.
- Demonstrating what we are doing and how we could benefit from information on national implementation processes.

Joint AC WGs Reporting: Joint AC WG reporting to SAOs/Ministers that would complement the AMSP Implementation report and other marine-related implementation reporting. This could be accompanied by visual images/graphics.