

Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON)

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SAON Secretary

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Legacy: International Polar Year (2007-08)

In November 2006, the Arctic Council (Salekhard Declaration) urged all member nations to maintain and extend long-term monitoring of change in the Arctic, with a view to building a lasting legacy of the International Polar Year.

The goal of developing an Arctic Observing Network as a legacy of IPY was also endorsed by the WMO XV Congress in May 2007.

Arctic Science Ministerials (2016 and 2018)

- “A critical role for the Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks initiative” (2016)
- “Encourage continued cooperation in other international science organizations that contribute to Arctic observing and data-sharing, and building a network of community-based observation” (2016)
- Strengthening, Integrating and Sustaining Arctic Observations, Facilitating Access to Arctic Data, and Sharing Arctic Research Infrastructure (2018)

Vision and Mission

SAON is a connected, collaborative, and comprehensive, long-term, pan-Arctic observing system that serves societal needs.

SAON facilitates, coordinates, and advocates for international Arctic observations and mobilizes the support needed to sustain them.



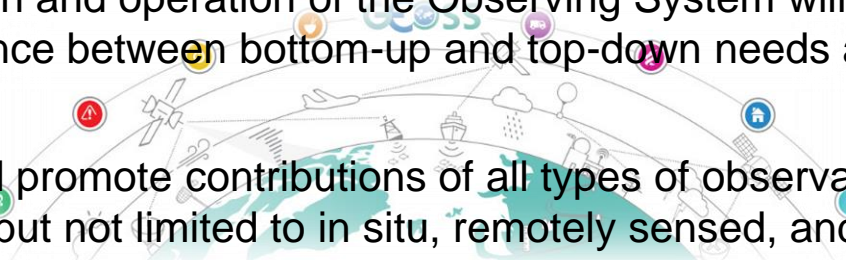
Goals

The SAON Strategy has been organized around three key goals:

1. Create a roadmap to a well-integrated Arctic Observing System;
2. Promote free and ethically open access to all Arctic observational data; and
3. Ensure sustainability of Arctic Observing.



Guiding Principles (I)

- SAON values both research and operational needs for Arctic observations;
 - The Observing System will be implemented and sustained in open cooperation with all those committed to Arctic observations;
 - The design and operation of the Observing System will be guided by a balance between bottom-up and top-down needs and priorities;
 - SAON will promote contributions of all types of observations including but not limited to in situ, remotely sensed, and community-based observations, and the infrastructure supporting them;
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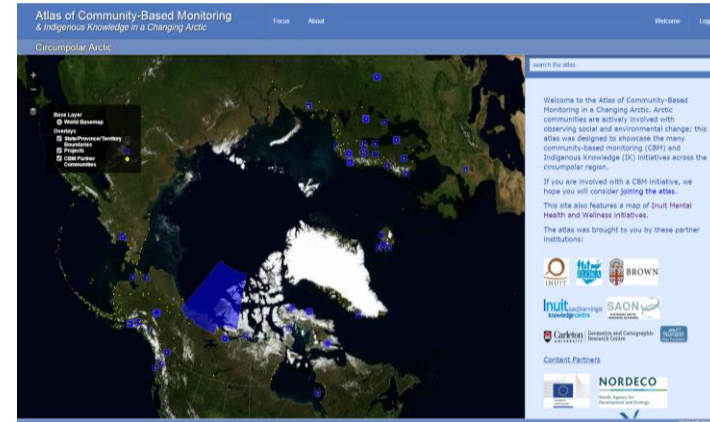
Guiding Principles (II)

- The Observing System will utilize Indigenous and local knowledge guided by ethical use and honouring the proprietary rights of data contributors;
- SAON will promote ethically free and open access to ethically-collected data;
- SAON will work with counterparts in Antarctic, global, as well as national observation communities, where appropriate.



SAON Committees

- Arctic Data Committee
- Committee on Observations and Networks



SAON CON Goals

- CON as the "home of the networks"
- ✓ provision of information on the baseline arctic observational assets
- ✓ improvement of the Arctic observing networks (i.e. identify synergies, gaps, duplication)
- ✓ sustainability of observational platforms among nations and organizations (including indigenous peoples)
- ✓ improved planning (including funding) of current and future observational systems

Societal Benefit Areas for the Arctic

- Report on 12 SBAs developed in cooperation with SAON in 2017¹
- ‘Value tree analysis’ investigates if relevant observation services, products, data sets exists to support SBAs
- An ongoing project supports Finland AC chairmanship ambitions to improve meteorological and oceanographic cooperation to fill gaps in the observing system.

1) <https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/misc/STPI-SAON-International-Arctic-Observations-Framework-Report-2017.pdf>

SAON Arctic Data Committees

Selected activities

- International Ecosystem of Organizations and Data Resources
- ADC-IARPC-SCADM Vocabularies and Semantics Working Group
- Federated search. A profile is the core element.
- Polar Data Planning Summit

- Web site: arcticdc.org

The Arctic Observing Summit is SAON's outreach event

- The theme for AOS 2018 comes from the Summit Recommendation of 2016 to propose "The Business Case for a Comprehensive Pan-Arctic Observing System".
- Davos, Switzerland, 24-26 June, immediately following POLAR 2018.
- <http://www.arcticobservingsummit.org/>





SAON Membership

- All interested parties through national bodies
- All eight Arctic Council nations
- Non-AC countries: China, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Poland, Spain, UK
- Indigenous organisations: AIA, ICC, Saami Council
- Partners (Institutions, organizations, networks), including WMO)

SAON is a joint effort of the **Arctic Council** (through AMAP) and the **International Arctic Science Committee**

SAON as Arctic GEOSS

Current status in GEO is *Participating Organisation*

Is contributing to the *GEO Cold Region Initiative* through its two Committees (ADC and CON)

Will apply for status as *GEO Regional Initiative*.

Draft application will be reviewed by SAON Board 22-23 June; to be submitted by 15th July.

More information:
www.arcticobserving.org

SAON
SUSTAINING ARCTIC
OBSERVING NETWORKS

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Photo: Martin Fortner

SAON on the Map

Events

- 8-20 May 2016: 2nd Pan-Eurasian Experiment (PEEX) Science Conference & the 6th PEEX Meeting
- 16-17 March 2016: Meeting of the SAON Board
- 14 March 2016: Meeting of the SAON Committee on Observations and Networks (CON)
- 14 March 2016: IARPC Arctic Data Coordination Team open town hall meeting
- 15-18 March 2016: Arctic Observing Summit
- 13 March 2016: Pacific Arctic Group (PAG): Business Meeting

News

- APECS is seeking a new host for the International Directorate
- Old weather
- Integrating Arctic Research
- Polar Data Forum update
- Arctic 100 Expedition in spring / summer 2017
- CAFF's Webinar series: Land Cover Change Index