Program draft as of 3/25/2008
Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON)

Three SAON workshops are planned during International Polar Year to address the following key questions:

1. What Arctic observing sites, systems and networks currently exist?
2. What spatial, temporal and disciplinary gaps exist?
3. How will gaps be filled and the entire effort sustained?
4. How can these activities be coordinated and integrated?
5. How can free, open and timely access to data be achieved?

Stockholm Workshop focus (October 2007):
“Are current data collection and information management activities concerning the Arctic environment sufficient to meet user needs?”

Thematic break-out groups addressed the first 3 key questions:

- What Arctic observing sites, systems and networks currently exist?
- What spatial, temporal and disciplinary gaps exist?
- How will gaps be filled and the entire effort sustained?

Edmonton Workshop focus (April 2008):
"How can Arctic observing and data and information management activities be coordinated and sustained over the long-term?"

The break-out groups from the Stockholm workshop will finalize their discussions in Edmonton, and invite new participants to join in for adding any improvements.

Then the remaining key questions will be addressed:

- How will these activities be coordinated?
- How can free, open and timely access to data be achieved?

In addition, this workshop will address:

- What is the interplay between modeling and monitoring?
- What are the technology and R&D components required for sustaining Arctic observations and information systems?

Helsinki Workshop focus (October 2008):
"Finalizing recommendations for securing support to coordinate and sustain Arctic observing and data and information management activities over the long-term"

www.arcticobserving.org
PROGRAM FOR EDMONTON WORKSHOP

DAY 1: Wednesday 9 April

Opening Plenary Session
* Welcome to Edmonton and the SAON-2 workshop
* Overview of workshop objectives and building blocks of SAON (Volker Rachold)
* Summary of Stockholm workshop and progress to-date (Sverker Sörlin)
* Keynote #1: Lessons from Global Networks for Observing and Data (Don Hinsman, WMO)

Coffee/tea

Breakout Groups (aligned with Stockholm workshop topics)

Emphasis on reviewing and clarifying user needs, and inventory of existing networks and potential gaps. Groups should finalize outstanding issues from discussions in Stockholm (observing networks, gaps and user needs, with an opportunity for new participants to suggest improvements), identify data centers, data policies and information management within the group’s broad area, discuss a strategy for making the data availability better coordinated and sustained over the long-term, and suggest a few priority actions for making your observing network and data management sustainable.

Key questions for all groups
- have all user needs been identified clearly?
- what is the intersection between operational activities and research?
- how can data management and data infrastructure be strengthened?

1. Atmosphere (Lisa Darby, Jussi Paatero)
2. Hydrology/Cryosphere (Jeffrey Key, Angélique Prick)
3. Human Dimensions (Maribeth Murry, Sverker Sörlin)
4. Terrestrial (Terry Callaghan, Craig Tweedie)
5. Oceans and Ice (Koji Shimada, Harald Loeng)

Lunch

Breakout Groups (continue discussions from morning)

Plenary Session:
National Perspectives – challenges and opportunities for sustaining networks

Canada: TBD
Russia: TBD
Greenland/Denmark: TBD
European Environment Agency: Norwegian Pollution Control Authority
Germany: TBD

Coffee/tea

Poster Session
Posters will provide opportunities to present and discuss examples of Arctic observing networks currently in operation, or proposed.

Program draft as of 3/25/2008
Note: posters will remain available throughout the conference.

At the same time: Meeting of SAON Initiating Group and Workshop Organizing Committee

Opening Reception and Dinner
Venue: Telus World of Science (buses will depart from hotels at 1800 and 1815)

DAY 2: Thursday 10 April

Plenary
* Summary of Day One Working Group discussions
* Keynote #2: Intersection between observations and modeling (John Walsh, TBC)
* Charge to Day 2 breakout groups

Breakout Groups – Observational Networks and Operational Agencies

Emphasis on requirements of operational agencies (national agencies responsible for national monitoring/observing), their mandates, and potential to support sustainable Arctic observing networks. Which priority actions would make both networks and data availability more sustainable?

Key questions for all groups
- what is the intersection between operational activities and research?
- how are international and national networks organized?
- opportunities for integration across networks?
- how can data management and data infrastructure be strengthened?
- how can infrastructure and equipment needs be met?

NOTE: Names indicated are panelists who will help to chair and steer the discussions. Each group will include short presentations from invited speakers.

6. Atmospheric and Operational Meteorology Networks (Oystein Hov, Barry Goodison)
7. Terrestrial Observation Networks (Mike Gill, Terry Callaghan)
8. Marine Observation Networks (Martin Fortier, Hans Dahlin, Savi Naranayan)
9. Human Health and Community Observation Networks (Jay van Oostadam, Joan Nymand Larsen, Gerard Duhaime)
10. Earth Observing and Satellite Networks (Jean-Marc Chouinard)
11. Community-based Observation Networks (Duane Smith, Patricia Cochrane)

Lunch
Brief reports on progress from morning groups following lunch discussion with session chairs

Breakout Groups continue, with possibilities for cross-over between groups and other sub-groups (e.g. Coastal Dynamics).

Plenary Session: brief overview and summary of group discussions

Program draft as of 3/25/2008
Hosted Reception & Open Meeting: Canada’s Northern Strategy and Future Arctic Research Station
Venue: Shaw Conference Centre

Conference Dinner
Venue: Shaw Conference Centre

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**DAY 3: Friday 11 April**

**Short Plenary Session**
* Anticipating SAON recommendations and reporting (Martin Jefferies)

**Breakout Groups** (before and after coffee break)

12. Funding and Mission Agencies (Paul Egerton, John Calder)

*Note*: may chose to split into a sub-group on proposal-driven observations and a subgroup on cooperation between national agencies having obligations for long-term monitoring and observations based both on national priorities and on existing or needed international conventions/agreements

13. Cyberinfrastructure and Data Management (Ellsworth LeDrew, Steven Williams)

14. New Technologies TBD

**Lunch**

**Wrap-up Plenary Session**

* Short reports from morning breakout groups
* Panel Discussion and Synthesis - all breakout group chairs (moderated by Bob Corell - TBC)
* Review of the SAON Objectives and Next Steps
* Helsinki Workshop plans (Jussi Paatero)
* Formal close of workshop

Coffee/tea

**Open Brainstorming Session**

* Coordination and Planning Meeting for SAON IG and WOC with session chairs

Program draft as of 3/25/2008
SIDE MEETINGS

Tuesday 8 April (all day)
Meeting of APECS and Canadian Youth Steering Committee for IPY
Venue: Telus World of Science

Saturday 12 April (all day)
Meeting of NSF Carbon Flux Project
Venue: Fraser Room, 8th floor, Courtyard Marriott

IPY AND POLAR FILM FESTIVAL

Tuesday 8 April (evening)
Screening of ICE PEOPLE, with introduction by director Anne Aghion
Venue: Telus World of Science

Saturday 12 April (afternoon and evening)
IPY Film Festival – screening and conversation with the film-makers
Venue: To be Announced
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<th>Time</th>
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<td>Side Meetings: * Canadian Youth Steering Committee</td>
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<td>* Anticipating SAON reporting &amp; recommendations</td>
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