

# SAON Strategic Framework

Version 16<sup>th</sup> October



## 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.




## Guiding Principles (I)

- SAON supports both scientific and operational (i.e., [stakeholder] | [actor]-oriented) needs for Arctic observations;
- The design and operation of the Observing System is guided by bottom-up and top-down identification of needs and priorities;
- The Observing System is implemented and sustained in a transparent and open cooperation and collaboration with all those committed to Arctic observations leveraging existing networks and minimizing redundancies;



## Guiding Principles (II)

- SAON promotes contributions of all types of Arctic observations including but not limited to in situ Earth Observation, community-based observations, and the infrastructure supporting them;
  - The Observing System will utilize indigenous and local knowledge guided by ethical use and honouring the proprietary rights of data contributors;
  - SAON promotes ethically-collected, free and open, data provision and access;
  - SAON works with counterparts in Antarctic, Global, as well as national observation communities, where appropriate.
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## Goals

The SAON Strategy has been organized around three key goals:

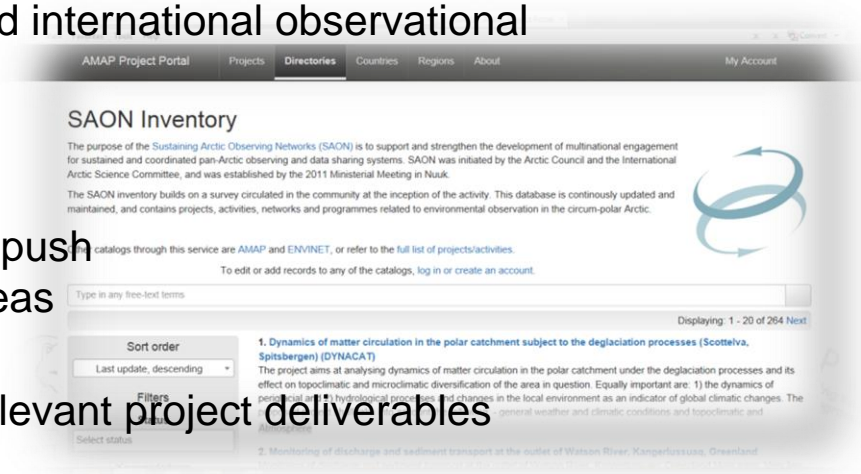
- Well functioning, relevant, shared and collaborative Arctic observation capacity;
- Free and ethically open access to all Arctic observational data; and
- Long-term commitment [in|to|for] Arctic Observing.



## Goal: Well functioning, relevant, shared and collaborative Arctic observation capacity

Main objectives:

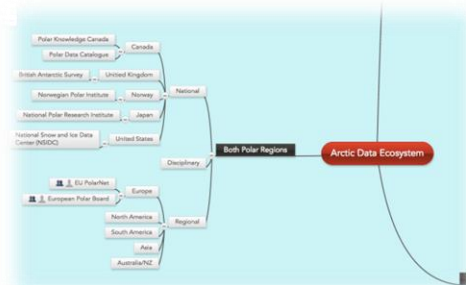
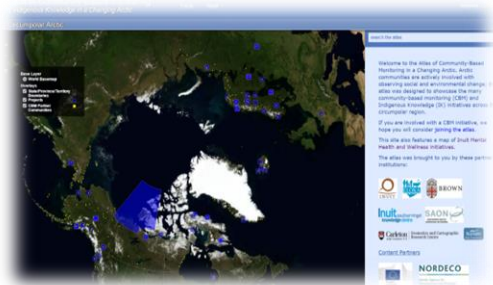
1. Assessment of national observational capacity
2. Assessment of national and international observational infrastructures
3. Gap analysis and recommendations
4. Create fora for technology push for Arctic Social Benefit Areas (SBAs)
5. Long term repository for relevant project deliverables



# Goal: Free and ethically open access to all Arctic observational data

Main objectives:

1. A road map outlining a world-wide system that will provide researchers and others with access to all Arctic observational data
2. A world-wide system for access to all Arctic data.
3. Establish a Persistent Consortium of Organisations to Oversee the Development of a a world-wide system for access to all Arctic data



## Goal: Long-term commitment [in | to | for] Arctic Observing.

Main objectives:

1. Engagement strategy for actively lobbying international science policies of funding agencies and national observation strategy
2. Build the case for long-term financial commitment in Arctic observations
3. Secure funding for international SAON secretariat and operational costs



## Outreach

SAON should contribute to strengthening Arctic observational activities and networks, and sharing the successes that SAON achieves. It should communicate the outcome of SAON's own activities, including the outcome of the Committees

The target for SAON outreach is broad, including (but not necessarily limited to):

- Academia and government agencies
- Arctic residents and indigenous people
- SAON's own organisation: Networks, Board, Committees, National organisations
- Relevant national and international projects, for example EU-funded projects like EU-PolarNet and INTAROS



## Plans for the finalization of the Framework

- September : Draft submitted to AMAP WG
- October: Draft submitted to IASC ExCom
- November and December: SAON Board Teleconferences
- End December: Submit to AMAP HoDs
- Spring 2018: Document submitted SAO meeting 21-23 March



More information:  
[www.arcticobserving.org](http://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