



SAON Committee on Observations and Networks (CON)

Inventory Reporting Guidelines

Background

The 'SAON CON Inventory Work Plan'¹ proposes how CON should 'develop and implement a plan for the establishment of an inventory and related gap analysis of circum-Arctic observational and monitoring assets'.

The plan proposes a three-tier approach:

1. State of National Inventories and reporting of information about Arctic programs, networks, projects and platforms
2. Detailed inventory within a specific Arctic theme
3. Inventory templates/parameters

This document provides guidelines for approach 1)

Reporting of 'State of National Inventories'

Countries are invited to describe to CON the national state of inventories for Arctic observational and monitoring assets. The report should answer these questions :

- Does national inventories exist?
- If yes, please briefly describe these, including
 - Scope/Coverage (geography, themes, temporal)
 - Do the inventories cover Arctic programs, networks, projects or platforms? Other?
 - Is the information in the inventories openly accessible? If yes, is the information accessible to an automated harvesting process?
 - Contact information, including URL
- If no,
 - Do you have plans for establishing national inventories?
 - What will be the scope/coverage (geography, themes, temporal) for these?

In addition, you may want to share with CON the challenges you experience in establishing or maintaining national inventories, for instance in terms of resources needed, differences among agencies/departments in your country, and the lack of technical standards of inventories or resourcing to support inventories. How do you see that ADC or CON can contribute?

The text should not exceed 1 page.

¹ http://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Committees/CON/Inventory_work_plan/CON_inventories_work_plan.pdf

Structured information for the inventory of Arctic observational and monitoring assets

The Work Plan outlines how CON should establish and maintain a common inventory of Arctic programs, networks, projects and platforms. This should be based on structured information made available by the CON members. The contents and structure is described in the document 'Templates (metadata descriptions) for the reporting on Networks, Projects, Programs, and Platforms'². The information should be organised in Excel sheets with the described structure (columns) and sent to the SAON Secretariat for processing and upload to the SAON web site. Alternatively, CON members will grant access to databases that hold this information. As an example of how the latter can be organised, you may want to study the 'State of Environmental Monitoring in Northern Canada'³.

²

http://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Committees/CON/Inventory_work_plan/Templates_metadata_descriptions_for_the_reporting_on_Networks_Projects_Programs_and_Platforms.pdf

³ <http://www.polarcom.gc.ca/eng/content/state-environmental-monitoring-northern-canada>