



Towards ‘good practice’ in the use of local and scientific knowledge for informing natural resource management

A workshop organised by the CAPARDUS H2020 project

Aasiaat, Greenland

29 November – 1 December 2022 (3 days)

Language: Greenlandic/English (simultaneous interpretation)

Summary of CAPARDUS

CAPARDUS is a H2020 project with focus on developing guidelines, standards and good practices in research, resource exploitation and management, shipping, tourism and community planning in the Arctic. The project involves scientists, economic actors, local communities, managers and regulators. Workshops and dialogue meetings are used to discuss how the social-environmental systems are changing Arctic communities. The climate change and its consequences in the Arctic leads to new requirements for planning and decision-making based on scientific and economic data, assessments and predictions. A prerequisite for good planning is access to data and information of relevance to people living and working in the Arctic. Community-Based Monitoring (CBM) and Citizen Science (CS) initiatives are evolving across the Arctic, providing complementary data to the scientific observing systems. CBM/CS systems are initiated by people who need specific environmental and climate information to support management of resources, local decision-making and safety of human activities. Challenges for CBM and CS projects in the Arctic are mainly to (1) bring CBM/CS systems from *ad hoc* initiatives to sustainable observing systems, (2) provide data sharing, including links to scientific data systems, (3) make use of CBM/CS data in decision-making, and (4) establish sustained funding.

Workshop objectives

- Review of the future for how local knowledge can inform decision-making on natural resources in the Arctic
- Work towards development of global ‘good practice’ guidelines in community-based monitoring and management of natural resources
- Test a software tool that can guide decision-making in complex social-ecological systems with limited scientific data but substantial local knowledge
- Discuss how an Arctic Practice System should be connected to CBM-CS systems – and what would be the benefit

Draft programme

Monday 28 November: Travel to Aasiaat

International participants: Flights from Copenhagen airport at 09.00 by Air Greenland, arrival Aasiaat 12.10 (duration 7 h 10 min)

Check-in at Hotel Sømmandshjemmet, Aasiaat, tel. +299 892711, aasiaat@soemandshjem.gl

Tuesday 29 November 0900-16.00: How is the future for the use of local knowledge to inform decision-making on natural resources in the Arctic – Forsamlingshuset Aasiaat

9:00-9:10 Welcome: Mayor Ane Hansen, Qeqertalik Municipality (proposed)

9:10-9:20 Intro: Finn Danielsen, Martin Enghoff, Michael K. Poulsen

9:20-9:40 Lessons from CBM in Nunavut, Canada, inc. financing (Jason Akearok – not yet confirmed)

9:40-12:00 How do you see the future for local knowledge to inform decision-making on natural resources in Greenland: Should local knowledge be further used for informing decision-making? How?

- Naalakkersuisoq Karl Tobiassen (Minister of Fisheries and Hunting), proposed
- Representatives of: Qeqertalik Municipality, Avannaata Municipality, KNAPK (Association of Fishermen and Hunters), Inuit Circumpolar Council Greenland, Oceans North Greenland, Pisuna in Attu community (20 minutes each). Coffee/tea available.

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-14:30 Group work. Question: Should local knowledge be further used for informing decision-making on natural resources? How?

14:30-15:00 Coffee break

15:00-16:00 Plenum. Presentation of group findings. Discussion of priorities / necessary tasks ahead

19:00 Dinner at restaurant (hosted)

Wednesday 30 November 0900-16.00: Towards the development of global ‘good practice’ guidelines in community-based monitoring and management of natural resources

In 2015, the “Manaus Letter: recommendations for the Participatory Monitoring of Biodiversity” was published (Link: <http://dx.doi.org/10.25607/OBP-965>). This is a guideline comprising 40 recommendations for practitioners who organize, or develop capacity in, community monitoring of natural resource systems and the environment. The guideline was developed by 220 participants from 18 countries, inc. Greenland and Alaska. It was prepared by invitation of the Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat at the “International Seminar on Participatory Monitoring of Biodiversity for the Management of Natural Resources” in Manaus, Brazil, Sep. 22–26, 2014. Based on commissioned case studies from different regions, we will discuss if it is meaningful to update this guideline and promote its broader use across the Arctic and globally.

- 9:00-9:10 Intro: Finn Danielsen, Martin Enghoff, Michael K. Poulsen
- 9:10-12:00 Are the 40 recommendations in the Manaus Letter still relevant, or are some of them no longer helpful? Are there new recommendations that are also important?
Five commissioned case examples from:
- Greenland (NN)
 - Nunavut (Nunavut Wildlife Management Board)
 - Alaska (NN)
 - Madagascar (Herizo Andrianandrasana)
 - Brazil (Kirsten Silvius, Pedro Constantino, Jan Kleine Buening)
- 12:00-13:00 Lunch
- 13:00-14:30 Group work. Questions: How can an updated Manaus Letter be completed and more widely disseminated? For example, what can be recommended with regards to sustaining and financially securing CBM programs? Would it be helpful if an international institution would 'host' the guidelines as a 'standard' on CBM?
- 14:30-15:00 Coffee break
- 15:00-16:00 Plenum. Presentation of group findings. Discussion of priorities / necessary tasks ahead
- 17:00-19:30 **Excursion.** There are three options, depending on the interest of the participants and the weather:
- Guided walking tour in Aasiaat town
 - Bowhead whale excursion Disko Bugt
 - Guided visit to Aasiaat Church

Thursday 1 December 9:00-13:00: Session on testing of a software tool that can guide decision-making in complex social-environmental systems (led by Roel May, Birger Poppel, and Henrik Meilby)

Statistical models have considerable potential to guide decision-making in complex social-ecological systems characterized by limited scientific data and substantial local knowledge. We would like to test a Bayesian Belief Network model based on the inshore halibut fishery in West Greenland. This will be an example of a new way to facilitate the inclusion of various forms of knowledge in natural resource management in Greenland.

- 9:00-9:10 Intro: Roel May, Birger Poppel, Henrik Meilby
- 9:10-12:00 Testing of a software tool that can guide decision-making in complex social-environmental systems with limited scientific data but substantial local knowledge

[More from Roel, Birger, Henrik, Martin RN here](#)

12:00-13:00 Lunch

Thursday 1 December 13:00-15:00: Session on Arctic Practice System (led by Jay Pearlman, contribution from Siri Jodha Khalsa and Pier-Luigi Buttigieg)

An Arctic Practices System (APS) is envisioned to be a sustained repository for practices related to environmental observations, resource exploitation and other activities in the Arctic. A 'practice' means a

documentation in digital form of how things are done for example in observation of a specific ocean phenomenon. What an APS should do will be identified in dialogue with people living or working in the Arctic with knowledge about practices in their daily work. An example of Arctic practices is found at <https://repository.oceanbestpractices.org/handle/11329/1291>, where you can give keywords and the repository will identify documents containing those keywords.

13:00-13:30 Introduction to the concept of an Arctic Practice System (APS)

13:30-14:00 Demo of Arctic Community in the established Ocean Best Practice System (OPBS), where more than 100 Arctic Practices documents are stored

14:00-15:00 Desirable characteristics for the APS? First cut at priorities. Discussion led by Jay.

[More from Jay, Siri Jodha, Lisbeth, Stein here](#)

15:00-16:00 Wrap-up of the workshop and next steps, by Finn Danielsen, Martin Enghoff, Michael K. Poulsen

Friday 3 December: Departure

International participants: Flights from Aasiaat airport at 10.30 by Air Greenland, arrival Copenhagen 20.00 (duration 5 h 30 min).

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