

A decorative pattern of blue and light blue hexagons of varying sizes, scattered across the top of the slide.

TIMO KOIVUROVA 02.11.2017

Introduction to the Arctic Council



ARCTIC CENTRE
University of Lapland

Outline

- 1) How the Arctic Council has evolved?
- 2) How it is functioning now? – mid-term evaluation
- 3) Where does the AC stand in the overall landscape of Arctic governance?
- 4) What is the place of research in the AC?
- 5) How it is possible to participate in the research work in the AC?
- 6) Conclusions

Cold War 1947-1991



Times are changing – Murmansk speech 1987

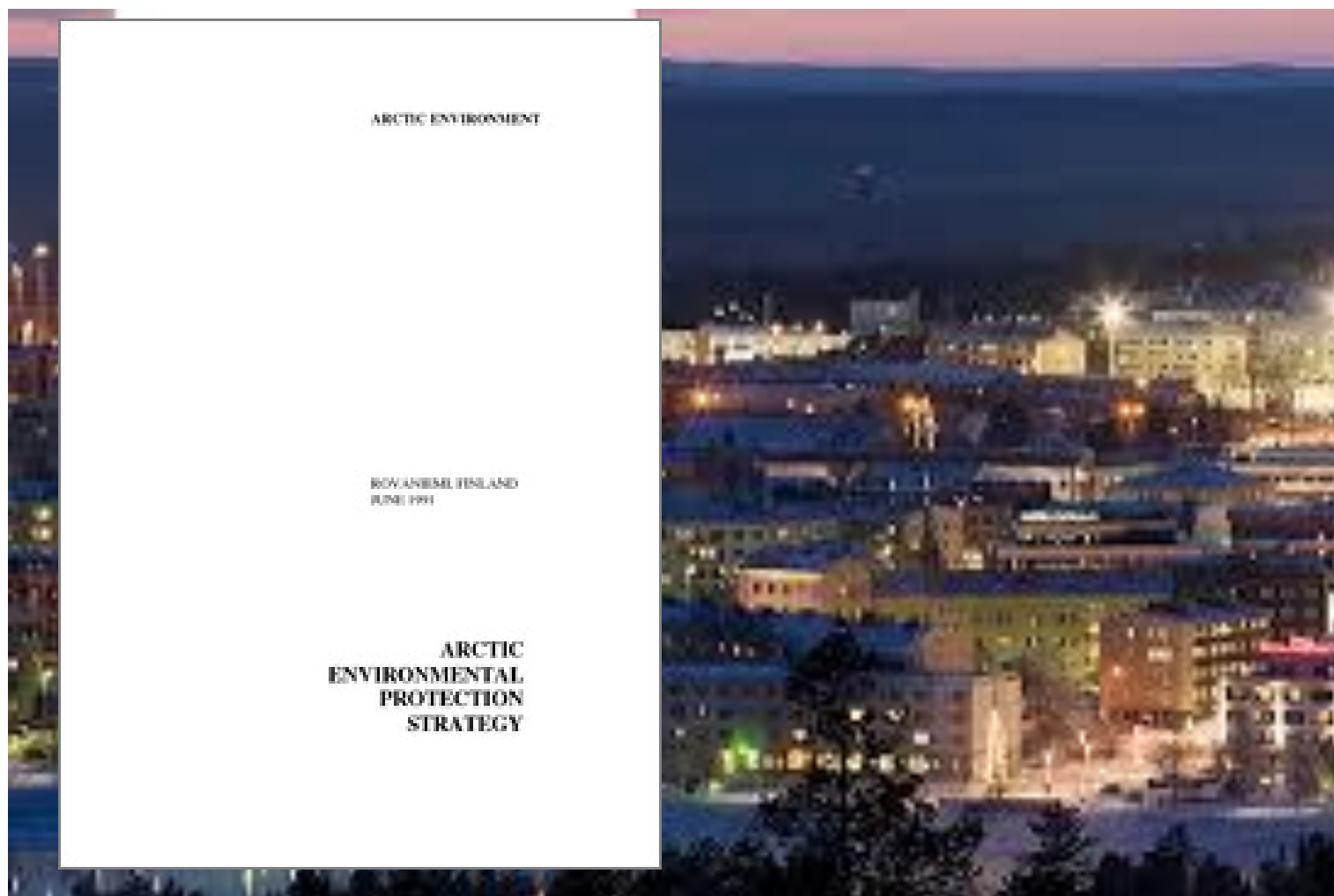


- Zone of peace
- Nuclear free zone
- Co-ordination of scientific research
- **Protection of the Arctic Environment**
- Opening of the Northern Sea Route
- Recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples

ARCTIC ENVIRONMENT

ROVANIEMI, FINLAND
JUNE 1991

ARCTIC
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
STRATEGY



Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy 1991 (AEPS)



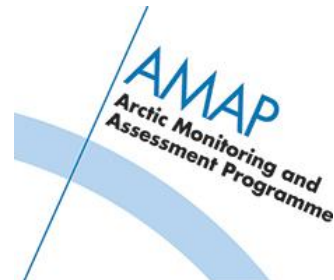
Rovaniemi Declaration

SAAOs

Chair and secretariat

State and other observers (no rules)

Task Force on Sustainable Development and Utilization



EPPR Emergency Prevention,
Preparedness and Response

The Arctic Council develops on the AEPS foundations



Permanent Secretariat

SAOs

Chair + Secretariat

Permanent
Participants:

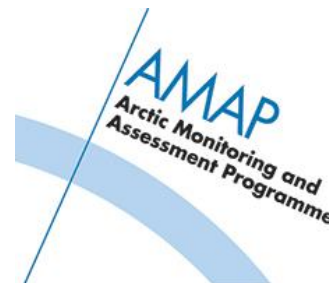


**State and non-state
observers**

Assessments as core outputs
**Task Force on Sustainable
Development and Utilization**



Sustainable Development
Working Group



Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment

EPPR Emergency Prevention,
Preparedness and Response

ACAP



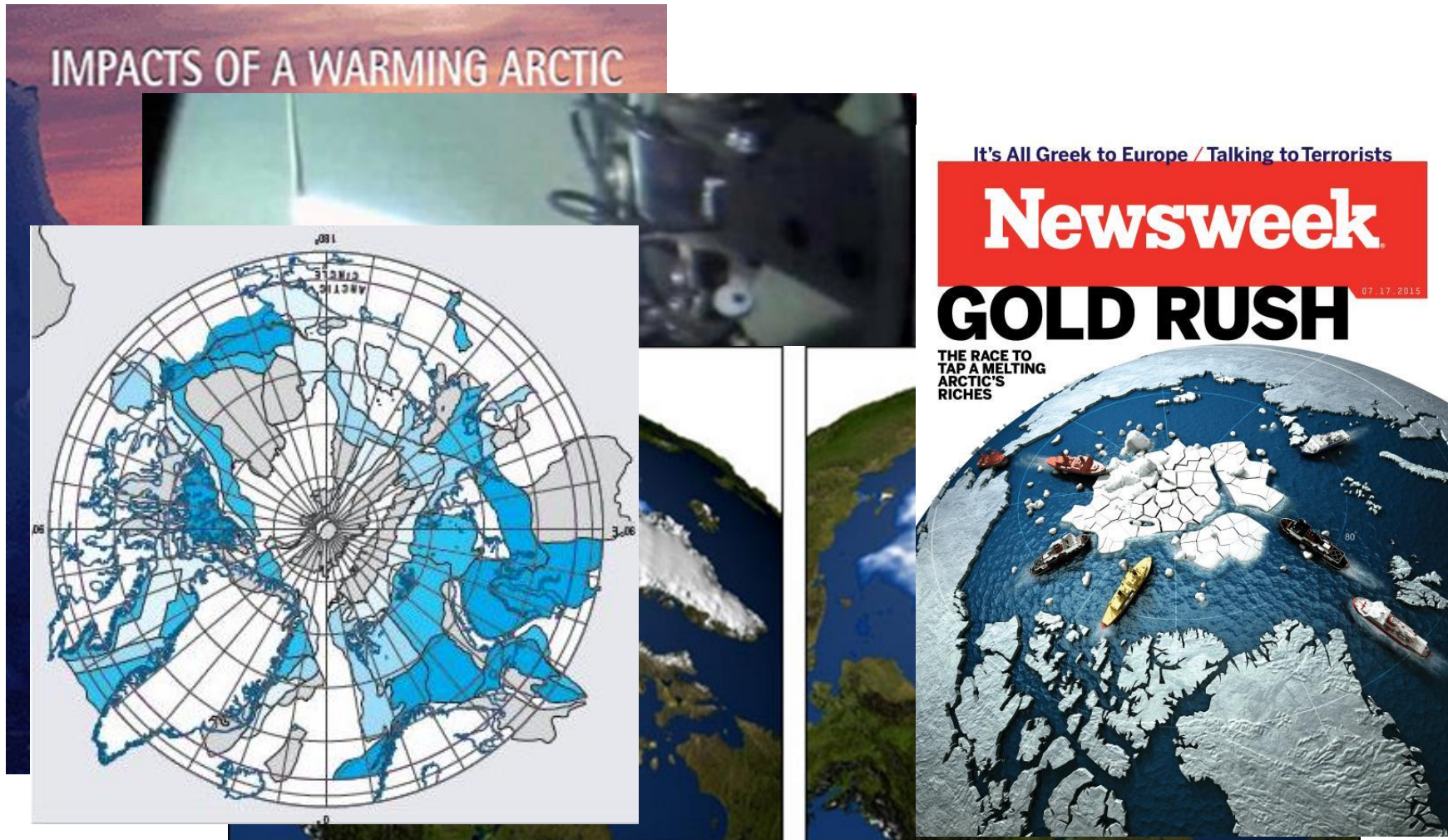


Change



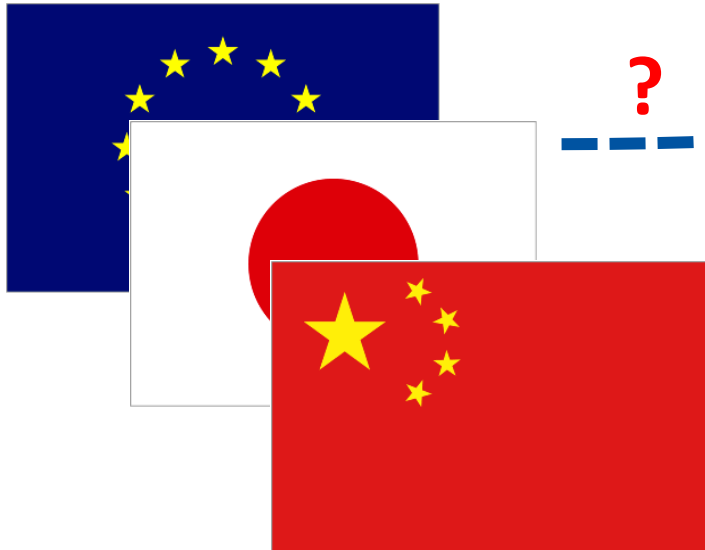
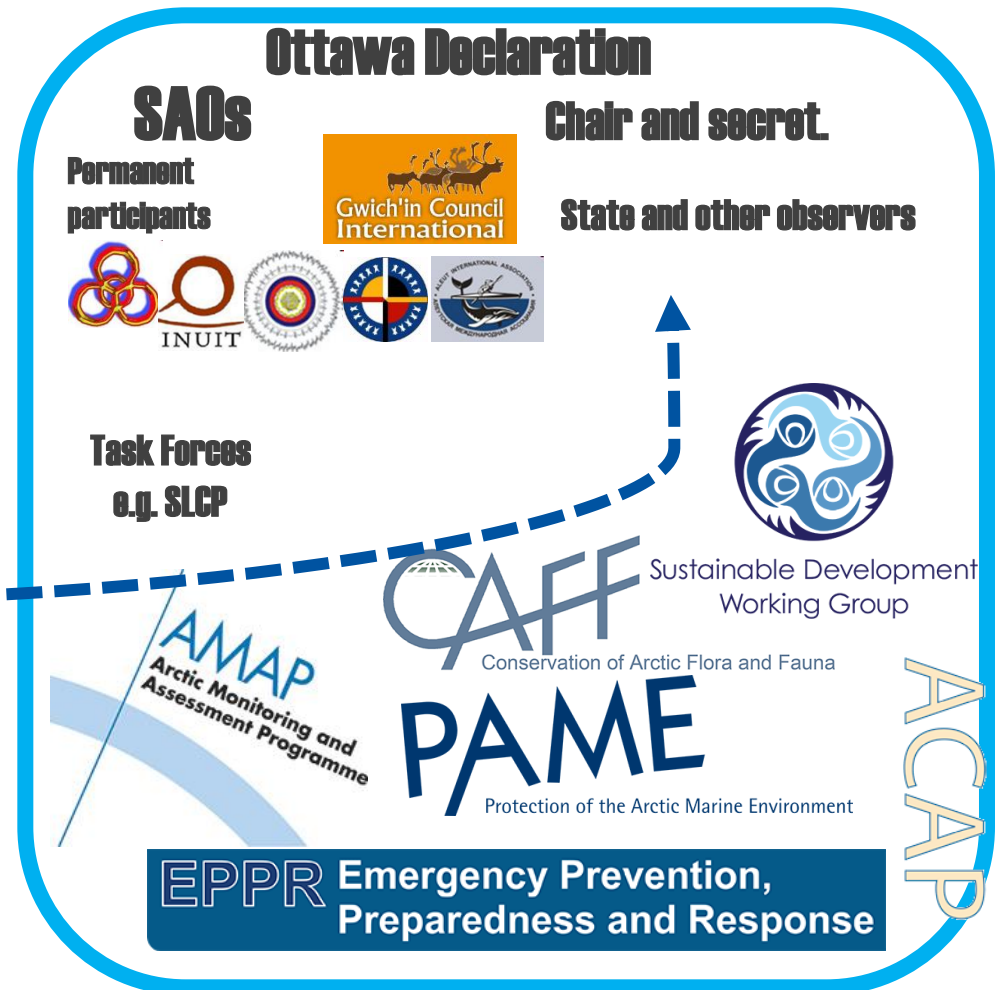


The Arctic hype begins





Hype and change: challenge for the AC?





Hype and change: Council's reaction

SAR Agreement 2011

Oil spills Agreement 2013

Scientific Cooperation Agreement

Arctic Economic Council

Coast Guards Forum

SAOs

Permanent
participants



Ottawa Declaration



**Chair and secret.
Tromsø secretariat**

State and other observers

- 2011 Nuuk Observer Rules
- 2013 Obs. Manual



Task forces



Sustainable Development
Working Group

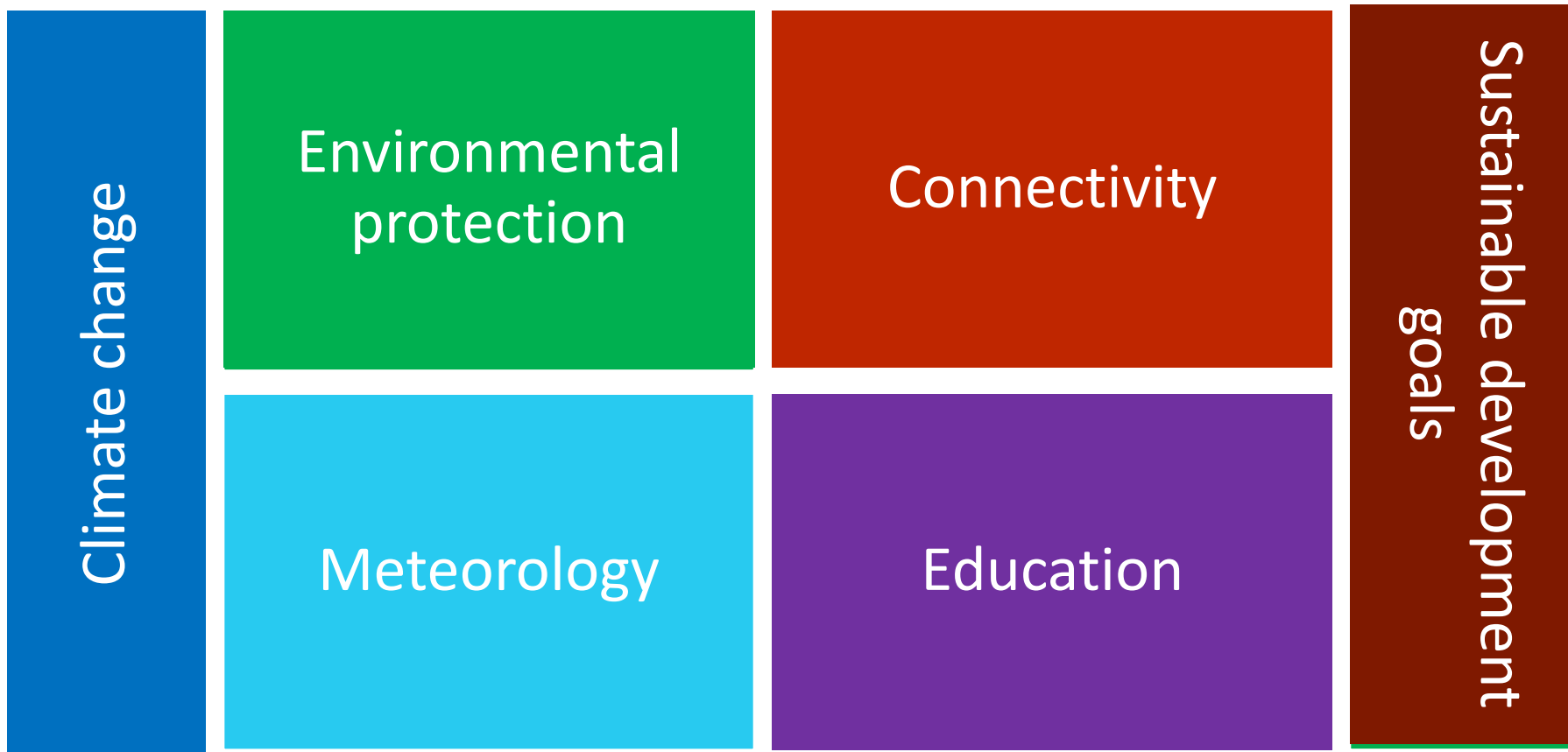


ACAP

EPPR Emergency Prevention,
Preparedness and Response

**The same country holds
chairmanship**

puheenjohtajuusohjelma



Mid-term conclusion

- Fundamentals of the Rovaniemi process still prevail
- Yet, at the same time, vast changes
- AC has given voice to indigenous peoples
- Has been able to catalyze legally binding agreements
- Surprise for me and many other observers: how was it able to respond successfully to these challenges?





Sea Ice Extent - Sept 16, 2012

Source: www.kaplan.com/pressroom/2004/04/04040401.html

Map: PEW Trust



Implications?

- The Arctic Council is only one segment of Arctic governance
- The AC does work nowadays in many areas of the Arctic, but still its mandate is limited
- And even if it has a mandate, its work is mostly soft

IMPACTS OF A WARMING ARCTIC



Arctic Biodiversity Assessment Synthesis



CAFF
Cooperation of Arctic States and Nations



Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic (SWIPA): Climate Change and the Cryosphere

Climate Change and the Cryosphere

Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)



ARCTIC HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT

ARCTIC HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT



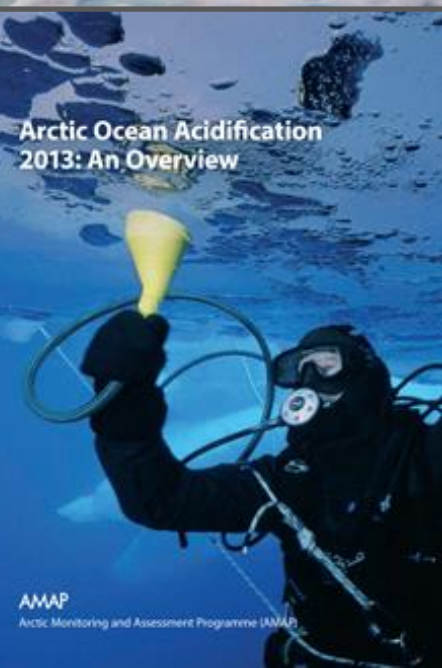
Arctic Council Status on Implementation of the AMSA 2009 Report Recommendations

MAY 2011



Arctic Ocean Acidification 2013: An Overview

AMAP
Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)



Science in the Arctic Council

- Research has been important from the beginning (AMAP)
- Even more so after the ACIA 2004/2005
- Most working-groups conduct scientific assessments
- Clear niche activity for the AC

My own experiences

- Research has been important from the beginning (my expertise area):
- EIA Guidelines
- AHDR I
- Arctic Ocean Review
- Arctic Resilience Report
- TF on Arctic Marine Co-operation
- AHDR II
- Helping the Finnish chairmanship
- SECEG co-chair
- Arctic resilience forum + Arctic biodiversity congress

Tips for getting involved in AC research

- Remember: this is voluntary and non-paid work
- It has been very rewarding since these assessments are taken seriously by policy-makers
- Contact with the secretariats of WG's, internship?
- Doctoral dissertation on these issues
- Be active in IASSA, IASC, Uarctic Thematic Networks
- If the relevant persons know your expertise, and it is needed, you are mostly likely invited to be part of the work

Conclusion

- The AC has evolved enormously, even if it still functions with the Rovaniemi foundations
- It has been able, at least so far (and now there is a strategy work in motion), to counter the challenges
- Its niche activity is scientific assessments
- And if you have will and expertise, you can get engaged into making these assessments

Thank you for your attention!





Thank you!

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