



Third Arctic Science Ministerial Webinar Series

Introduction Webinar

21 October 2020

Transcription

Start Time: 13:00 UTC

1. Introduction of the Minister: Ásgerður Kjartansdóttir

On behalf of the Arctic Science Ministerial Organizing Committee and the European Polar Board, I would like to warmly welcome you all to this first Arctic Science Ministerial (ASM) webinars. The aim of the webinars series is to keep the ASM science process ongoing despite the current pandemic. The registration to the webinar exceeded our highest expectations and we're glad to be welcoming participants from around the world. Today, will be used to introduce the idea behind this series and how it will be linked to the process leading up to the third Arctic Science Ministerial in Tokyo in May next year. Without further ado, I would like to welcome the Icelandic Minister for Education, Science and culture, Lilja Alfreðsdóttir, to give her opening remarks.

2. Opening Remarks: Minister Lilja D. Alfreðsdóttir

Dear colleagues, I am extremely excited to be able to open the first webinar are in our ASM3 webinar series. I would like to thank our ASM3 organizing committee and science advisory board making this series reality and thank you to our friends at the European polar board for supporting this series. I understand that we have participants from Alaska to Greenland, across Europe and North America, as well as participants who are staying up very late in Japan, South Korea, in India and China, thank you all for joining us. Kicking off the ASM3 webinar series, I'm truly glad that you can join us today. What I will discuss here in my opening remarks: I will number one: talk about the global relevance of Arctic science and then go into our values - what we think is important to have. We are all here working on Arctic affairs in the spirit of cooperation, inclusiveness, transparency, an innovation.

We've been so grateful to work with our exceptional partners in Japan. Both of our countries have been engaged for many decades in Arctic research, and while the Arctic is our backyard here in Iceland, for Japan to have been engaged for decades in Arctic science, research is truly admirable and shows that the Arctic is a place of global relevance. The ASM3 has received contributions from 28 countries and governments, 16 international science organizations and six and Indigenous Peoples' Organizations. Clearly the scientific research happening in the Arctic has a global reach which is extremely important. As I mentioned, the values and what we're focusing on is cooperation, inclusiveness, transparency and innovation. When we were planning the process for ASM3 beginning in 2018 with our partners in Japan, we did not foresee what challenges we would face as a global



community in the year 2020. I can tell you about my 11-year-old daughter. She is always asking me: “when will this year be finished, mom?” I tell her we should be grateful that we are in good health and we should all focus on reaching out to everyone and focus on that science has never ever been as important. As a global community we’re all asking questions such as: ‘will we have a vaccine? Will there be a cure?’ I don’t think that the scientific community which I am addressing today would ever have imagined that everyone would be looking at how research in developing a vaccine and testing would move the stock markets across the world. The same thing applies to the Arctic because the Arctic is of the same global reach. I think that we have, and we can achieve a lot with science and science should bring us together.

Our organizing committee and the science Advisory Board have been engaged in a long science process to try to get the best of the international cooperation in science research. We want to learn from each other, and we want to inspire each other. We want science to bring us together. We need strong policies founded in good, clear, well supporting science. The challenges that we face today with the melting glaciers, forest fires across the Arctic Circle, rising sea levels and community displacement are immense. I am confident that we can meet these challenges if we work together to find innovative and collaborative solutions. To have a good science to support good policies, we need cooperation. Cooperation is built on having an inclusive, transparent scientific process that drives innovation. These are challenging times that we’re living in, but they are also inspiring times for all of us to work together and come up with solutions that we thought would never be possible. Our hope is that each Arctic science ministerial, relationships between policymakers, researchers and Arctic residents develop. The global climate crisis is an incredibly challenging problem which faces both Arctic and non-Arctic people. One that we cannot face without a shared foundation and science driven policy.

Although we have a delay regarding the ASM (until May 2021), the work of the Arctic Science Ministerial is going forward. We look forward to engaging with all Arctic scientists throughout this webinar-series in the lead up to the ministerial meeting in Tokyo.

The actual ministerial meeting is quite limited, yet this webinar series gives us the opportunity to share the inspiring science that comes out of this process with all of us in a free, public and open format. I would like to end by saying thank you for joining us today and we look forward to engaging throughout the webinar series. Have all a great day and we look forward to seeing you all in person. Thank you.

3. Review of the Introduction Webinar Program: Lindsay Arthur

Thank you so much to the minister, we’re really grateful to have her here to open this series. Throughout the challenges that have presented all of us in 2020, our minister has been determined to keep up the momentum for ASM3 and this webinar series really is a testament to her determination to keep going.



This is an introductory webinar that's intended to give an overview of the Arctic science ministerial process and to give you sort of a glimpse into the upcoming webinars in the series. The webinar is open to the public - we might have many participants who are not too familiar with the Arctic Science Ministerial and as this is only the third Arctic Science Ministerial - so this is actually a relatively new meeting. We've asked two members from our science Advisory Board, Fran Ulmer and Karin Lochte, to give us an overview of the 1st and 2nd Arctic science ministerial. After that, to give an overview of the actual ASM3 process, we have two members from our ASM3 organizing committee joining us. That's Hajime Kimura from the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and Tetsuo Sueyoshi from the Japanese National Institute of Polar Research. After that, I'll be back to give an overview of the upcoming webinars in this series, and then we'll end, hopefully, time permitting, with a short Q&A. So, as I mentioned at the beginning of this webinar, if you have questions relevant to the webinar-series, please type them into the Q&A-box and we will try our best to answer them at the end. Any further questions beyond the ASM3 webinar series can be sent directly to the ASM3 organizing committee. As I said at the top, you can find our email at the end of this presentation. We were able to do this webinar series because of our cooperation with the European Polar Board, so we are so grateful for their help in putting this series together. Without further ado, I would like to introduce Renuka Badhe from the European Polar Board to give a brief introduction of the European Polar Board.

4. European Polar Board: Renuka Badhe (Executive Secretary)

Brilliant, thank you so much Lindsay. Thank you all - I join everyone else in welcoming you for this ASM3 webinar series. It is our complete pleasure to co-organize it with you and host it for the ASM3 organizers. My name is Renuka Badhe. I work as the executive secretary of the European Polar Board. I want to give you a very quick flavor of what the EPB is and what it does before we launch into the first episode of this webinar series. The EPB was formed in 1995 and has been hosted in the Netherlands since 2015. So, as you can see, we are celebrating our 25th anniversary this year and I ask you to join us in our celebrations for not just the last successful 25 years, but also maybe the next 25 years. The EPB's main mission is to promote, cooperate, coordinate and advance European research in the high latitudes while providing a collaborative platform for polar researchers. We work with a range of partners, mainly International and European organizations that are working in the polar regions. We also work with many international entities, such as the ASM3. We have a composite and a strong membership from within Europe. We have 25 member organizations from 19 countries. Also, we are one of the few organizations that work on both the Arctic and Antarctic regions.

The EPB has worked extensively to ensure that a lot of our work is available freely online and we have an active [YouTube channel](#) where you will also be able to find the recordings from this webinar series be uploaded. If you're interested in finding out what the perspectives are from the EPB members: we will also be holding a short webinar as a part of the series, but we will announce it in the



near future. If you are interested in further information both about the webinar series and the EPB itself, I suggest you to subscribe to our mailing list at europeanpolarboard.org. Thank you very much, I now switch to Fran Ulmer who will take up the next talk. Thank you very much.

5. Review of ASM1: Fran Ulmer

Why the need for an Arctic Science Ministerial?

Thank you very much for the opportunity to talk about the history of ASM1 and how this all started. For those of you who do not know: ASM1 was the first of its kind - the first time that ministers came together to talk about what they could do collaboratively, to bring much more attention to the Arctic region and to understand in a different way how countries could work together. I'm going to read briefly from the opening statement of the ministerial from the September 28, 2016 event: '*We, the ministers representing the 8 Arctic states, 14 additional states, the European Union and representatives of the Arctic Indigenous communities have gathered to assert the importance of improving collaborative science efforts in the Arctic. Ours is the first ever effort to convene a meeting of science ministers from around the world to focus on the potential of increased cooperation on Arctic science. Recognizing the significance of environmental and social change in the Arctic region and its impacts on the rest of the planet, we owe this legacy of cooperation to future generations.*'

This idea actually started a year earlier. As you may recall, the United States was chairing the Arctic Council 2015 to 2017, and President Obama went to Anchorage, Alaska and then on to Kotzebue, Alaska, becoming the very first president that ever go above the Arctic Circle in the US. The glacier conference in August 15th, 2015, had hundreds of people focusing on this question: how is the Arctic Changing? And why does that matter to the world? It was increasingly clear at that meeting in August of 2015 that even though we do know a great deal about the Arctic region, there was even more that we didn't know and needed to know. Because Arctic science work is expensive, challenging and dangerous, it is necessary for countries to come together to work together to better pull their information and work collaboratively to do Arctic science research.

Themes for ASM1

Starting in January of 2016, the year of the first ministerial, the National Science Foundation, the White House Office of science, technology policy and the US Arctic Research Commission, which I chaired, began working together to plan the first ASM1. It was very difficult to come to conclusion about the four principle areas that we would cover, but after a fair amount of discussion with scientists and from colleagues literally from around the world, it became quite clear that there were four main themes that we wanted to address. The themes are:

1. Identifying Arctic science challenges and their regional and global implications.



2. Strengthening and integrating Arctic science observation and data sharing again under the theory that no one country can do that alone.
3. Applying scientific understanding to build regional resilience and shape global response. Again, understanding that these changes were impacting the people of the region, the communities of the region, but far beyond that as well.
4. To empower citizens through science, technology, engineering and mathematics or stem education to leverage Arctic science both in the short term and long term, building the next generation of scientists and people who could engage meaningfully in understanding this region and its implications.

After the four principle themes were identified, began the process over the next several months of putting together an agenda of reaching out to the ministers and embassies to discuss the format to plan a pre-meeting for Indigenous people to discuss some of the ways in which their communities could benefit from such an effort.

Proposed actions and outcomes

By June, we had a preliminary version of a ministerial statement which we began to circulate to the various countries that would participate and the Indigenous people that would be participating to try to get some evolution of a ministerial statement, and we asked each of the participating countries to step forward and provide a two-page summary of what that country was doing in the Arctic science world. Believe me, it was very difficult to get the participating countries to limit it to 2 pages, but we felt that given the large number of participating countries, it was essential to keep that to a minimum so that you could just get a snapshot idea of what was happening from Spain to Greenland, from Russia to the EU. That challenge turned out to be a useful product from the ASM1.

It was important to be able to bring together the notion of how we would conduct this one day, for the ministers to have a meaningful engagement. Most of the ministers said: ‘we do not want concurrent sessions, that is where people have to decide which one to go to. We want all the ministers in the same room at the same time, discussing all four themes. Therefore, we agreed on having international co-chairs for the discussion of the four themes. Each country, each group was asked to bring three people: the minister and two companions. There was a delegation of three from each group or country. In a side room at the White House there was a spillover area so that people who were not in that ministerial small meeting would have the opportunity to observe and listen. That was a way of keeping ASM1 still sufficiently intimate so that the ministers could discuss these issues with each other and also make short presentations about their country progress in those areas and yet involve others who were interested because obviously many people were.

I would say that our products were in paper form a joint ministerial statement which was (1) a two page document (consensus was reached relatively quickly over the summer), (2) a fact sheet which



laid out the various proposed implementations recommended joint participation opportunities and some of the deliverables, (3) the two page summary of what each country was doing in the region, and (4) a statement by some of the permanent participants and Indigenous groups that had met a day earlier to provide some insight into how these changes were actually impacting the people on the ground. Those were the tangible products. But the intangible products went far beyond that. I'll share one example.

Several of the countries came forward with things that they had been either thinking about planning for or had already begun and solicited from the other participants additional engagement. A great example of that is the [Mosaic Project](#), which has just concluded. Obviously it was many, many years in the planning process, but at the ministerial in Washington DC in September of 2016, it really hearing about it, and particularly in that environment, gave rise to a lot more enthusiasm and more countries, more money, more scientists, more public and international attention came forward as a result of that. In an effort to emphasize the importance of countries working together to do Arctic science and the opportunity to shine a light on some of the already existing opportunities for countries to do this joint project really has raised the game. We have now seen as ASM2 that was held in Berlin, which you'll hear about in a moment, as well as the one being planned now: it has really blossomed. It was my pleasure to be one of the US delegates at both ASM1 and ASM2 and now I serve on the Advisory Committee for ASM3 to see the ark of progress on not only the richness of engagement, the ideas that are coming forward for the collaboration but also the sense of a joint effort: a unified important mission, to not only each individual country or to the region, but really to the legacy of Arctic science and to science, collaboration and cooperation as an important part of keeping the peace in a region that has historically been one of cooperation. I will end here and simply say thanks to all who have participated over the years to those who may participate this year, and to the organizers of this seminar series which I do believe illustrates another way in which we are pushing this concept of Arctic science cooperation and collaboration to a whole new level. With that again, thank you very much and moving on to ASM 2.

6. Review of ASM2 Karin Lochte

Development of the ASM concept from ASM1

Thank you very much Fran for giving this introduction to the first ASM. I have been one of the German delegates attending the ASM1. I was part of the organizing team of ASM 2 and now I'm advisor to ASM 3. During the ASM1, the European Union and Germany (from the sidelines) discussed that it would be very good to keep the momentum and to actually host a second Arctic Science Ministerial. It wasn't quite clear from the beginning that a second Arctic Science Ministerial should happen. The European Commission, Germany and Finland came together (Finland was at that time chairing the Arctic Council) to set up the ASM2.



We had the same number of countries and Arctic Indigenous organizations as ASM1, but in addition to that, we had 10 international organizations who joined. We kept a very similar structure of ASM1 for the ministerial, so we received largely the same inputs. We asked the countries to provide us with two pages of their Arctic strategy and Arctic ideas, infrastructure and projects. We also asked them to indicate which are running projects or planned projects, and we kept the same format for the ministers to meet. Also, at the end there was a statement. So basically, we kept most of this thing in a similar way, but the few changes did happen.

Themes from ASM2

The themes changed slightly:

1. Strengthening, integrating, and sustaining Arctic observations, facilitating access to Arctic data, and sharing Arctic research infrastructure.
2. Understanding regional and global dynamics of Arctic changes.
3. Assessing vulnerability and building resilience of Arctic environments and societies.

We see here as a first theme ‘Arctic observations’, which is similar to ASM1. We drew together the observations, data and research infrastructure, so theme 1 of ASM2 is theme 1 and 2 of ASM1.

The second theme of ASM2 was understanding regional and global dynamics of Arctic change. This theme focused not only on what was happening in the Arctic region itself, but also on the global impacts of changes in the Arctic (such as changing rainfall patterns). This ASM2 also had a very strong move to include non-Arctic countries and I think this is a very important aspect of the Arctic Science Ministerial: that Arctic countries and non-Arctic countries are working closely together because sometimes the research which is done is coming from non-Arctic countries.

The third topic was of course: what is the vulnerability in the Arctic countries (but also other countries) and how can we build resilience towards these changes both in the Arctic environment and in respect to the societies?

It was quite a complex process to draft to a joint statement, due to the vast amount of input which we received. The 29 governments plus European Union submitted Arctic strategies and also their projects which they were carrying out. We also received input from the Indigenous organizations and from the international organizations. For the ASM2, there were updates from ASM1 (the two- pager on Arctic research produced by the countries) and also new deliverables were pledged from the different groups since the ASM1. The Science Advisory Board tried to pull all this together to a science summary. This science summary was fed into the joint statement regarding what science we think is needed for the joint statement.



Jenny Baeseman made a word cloud of the different themes we had. The different research proposals and deliverables were submitted to these themes, and you see quite clearly a few things sticking out very strongly. We had data observations regarding the ocean which is interesting, because the terrestrial or the land-based observation didn't show up very strongly here. Also, 'biodiversity' is not very strong. These are things which are interesting to look at. On the second topic, of course we have 'climate change' and 'ocean sea ice prediction'. And then in the third one 'society' is very strong, but also 'Indigenous coordination policy' and 'knowledge resources'. It shows the various directions there are in the different countries.

Arctic Science Forum

The Arctic Science Ministerial itself was on the 22nd and 26, October. We had an Arctic Science Forum the day before - on that day different scientists, representatives from Indigenous groups, politicians were coming together to discuss in three different sessions these topics. Their input was then provided to the Arctic Science Ministerial. This established a 'third voice' in the process.

There were three sessions during the Arctic Science Forum:

1. Global Implications of Arctic Change (theme 2)
2. Understanding Vulnerability and Building Resilience of Arctic Environments and Societies (Theme 3)
3. Strengthening, Integrating and Sustaining Arctic Observations, Facilitating Access to Arctic Data, and Sharing Arctic Research Infrastructure (theme 1).

The first one, global implications of Arctic change were the counterpart to theme 2: so, the impact of Arctic change on global weather patterns. The second session was on understanding vulnerability and building resilience of Arctic environments and societies. For theme 3, we had a very strong input from Indigenous groups. There was also a very strong input in the direction of 'education' and how one can actually improve the different of the aspects of education in a more coherent way. The third session was observing, data sharing and infrastructure.

We have to consider that since 2018 things have changed drastically. The topics which we've discussed and the conclusions which we had at that time will have to be reconsidered during ASM3. One of the first points is that observations and data are essential. The question arises: how can we bring together the observation platforms in a better way? How can we make sure that the observations are sustained and not just coupled to a project? How can we make the data accessible? To answer these questions, we need support for this implementation, and we need funding. We see in the present COVID-19 pandemic that it may become more and more difficult actually to go with a ship and do all these observations from an actual ship. Automated observations, new technologies and artificial intelligence come more and more into the forefront and may be a very important aspects to be discussed. Predictive capabilities have to be improved, as well. There is quite a lot underway in the



moment already on an international scale regarding these topics, so I believe we will make quite a good progress in this field. But of course, one can always sharpen it and improve it beyond what we have at the moment. Another point is adaptive strategies. How can we adapt to changes which are unavoidable? And how can we assess risks and also find out in which location they are most relevant? Do we have adaptive strategies that suit specific regions? Because these adaptive strategies will need to vary: if you are in Greenland or in Alaska an adaptive strategy, which concerns may be the most southern parts of Europe and US and Asia, will not apply to these regions. Knowledge has to be put together, and I think we're not very far on this yet.

Proposed actions or outcomes

Research efforts must be co-designed and co-produced with stakeholders, active peoples and communities. We have to make a progress here - we have to come to better co-design. Mosaic was already mentioned as a good example for being a truly international project. I really hope that we can develop more projects like this, where all the countries can contribute. From my own experience (I was involved in the beginning of Mosaic): a country needs to take the lead. If there is no champion, projects often don't materialize. If you just wait for people to come together, it won't work. So, if scientists have a good idea, and come together, it would be good to have a champion to bring it forward. If I have a wish for the ASM3, I hope you can come up with another moon landing project for the Arctic. Science education and capacity building is an ongoing thing, such as the University of the Arctic. We should be receiving enough support both in terms of funding and people to actually go further in this field.

That was what I wanted to share for this session. I think we'll see that is a straight line from ASM1 to ASM2 and this straight line goes on to ASM3 because many things are a continuing process. I really think that this webinar is an excellent idea to inform people to gather input. I wish you good luck with this webinar series in the lead up to ASM3. Thank you.

7. Review of ASM3: Organizing Committee (MEXT/NIPR) - Hajime Kimura

Organizers: Iceland and Japan

Thank you, Fran and Karin, for your kind and insightful review of the Arctic Science Ministerial ASM1 and ASM2. I'm Hajime Kimura of the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. For Japan, it is our greatest honor to co-host the Arctic Science Ministerial with Iceland and we promise to dedicate our best effort for a fruitful discussion on the urgent issues in the Arctic.

I briefly announced the date of the third Arctic Science Ministerial. The ASM3 was originally scheduled to take place from the 20th to the 21st of this November 2020, just one month later from today. However, considering the unpredictable and ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the organizing committee has made decision to postpone ASM3 to May 2021. The rescheduled date of the ASM3 is from the 8th till the 9th of May 2021. The meeting will be held in Tokyo as originally planned.



I just want to quickly introduce the organizing committee of ASM3 from the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and technology (MEXT) Hiroyuki Kono myself (Hajime Kimura). From the Japanese National Institute of polar research NIPR, we have Yuji Kodoma and Tetsuo Sueyoshi. From our partner, the Icelandic Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, we have Ásgerður Kjartansdóttir and Lindsay Elizabeth Arthur. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. Now I will give the word to Tetsuo Sueyoshi.

Science Process

Hello. I'm Tetsuo Sueyoshi from the Japanese National Institute of Polar Research Japan (NIPR). I will talk about the science process of ASM3. First, I'd like to introduce our big supporter, the Science Advisory Board, with twelve members. The Advisory Board provides consultation on the development of the ASM3 science report, as well as on our joint statement. From the board members, in addition to the researchers from the two host countries and representatives from ASM1 and ASM2, you already heard a good summary and review from Fran Ulmer and Karin Lochte. We have other members representing different affiliations in some of the organizations for the Arctic science research and education. We also have two members from Indigenous communities. This Advisory Board reflects what we see: the transparency and inclusiveness and engaging in a bottom up approach to science.

The overarching theme of ASM3 is 'knowledge for a sustainable Arctic'. This theme focusses on discussing and proposing actions on the most urgent challenges facing the Arctic, which can be made through international scientific cooperation. Reviewing the discussions in the past, two Arctic Science Ministerials, we considered the following four step process. It is important to meet the challenges of the rapidly changing Arctic:

1. Observe: observing networks; Data sharing - towards implementation
2. Understand: enhance understanding and prediction of the Arctic environmental and social systems impact
3. Respond: sustainable development, evaluation of vulnerability and resilience, application of knowledge
4. Strengthen: capacity building, networking, resilience - prepare the next generation.

The first one is observe: observing the status of the changes. The second one is understand the local and global impacts of the changes. The third one is how to respond to the changes based on shared understanding. Based on this themes, we develop our knowledge to make a decision for a response to these changing challenges. The fourth is to strengthen these efforts through education and capacity building for the next generation.

These four steps are not independent but form a rather interactive cycle. These four steps represent the necessary actions to realize our overarching goal. As you may have seen in the



registration page for this webinar series, our webinar topics also follow these four steps in the second half of this webinar series. For this theme, actually a bit more detailed, in this description, is a two-page document which is available on our ASM3 website. The URL will be also shown later in this presentation.

ASM3 Participants

ASM3 Participants

We have 28 countries and governments and six Arctic Indigenous representatives, and 16 international organizations related to science or education in the Arctic. The number of the participating countries and international organizations have slightly increased since ASM2. We, the organizers, defined our science process as a one-year process while in fact our meeting is postponed, and this is now a process of 1 1/2 year.

Acknowledging all the ASM stakeholders

We have developed several channels for input into the ASM3 science process so that different sector of the active community can contribute to this process. The variety of input will help shape and develop our science report and joint statement to be signed next May. For the National Science programs and for the international organizations, a formal request for information was sent last April to these participating countries and or organizations. As well as the to the Arctic Indigenous organizations a similar request was sent. All information arrived at the organizing committee in August and we started to analyze it. Organizers have also encouraged events during this year 2020 for the Arctic research communities to discuss and submit their feedback to the ASM3 process. These meetings are for our international science related meetings we're trying to bring their statement to the ASM3, but however, as you all know, COVID-19 has changed our meeting very drastically - all meetings are now online or postponed. The ASM3 research committee workshop was held online in June. Coordinated by three groups, altogether, created one document to submit to ASM3.

This slide shows the current status or the flow of the science process. We have mainly three streams of the information to ASM3 from the request of the information package or these online meetings or online feedbacks. They all come to the ASM3 and to create a science summary, with which together we will create also joint statement.

The Advisory Board members are working hard analyzing all information they received. For ASM3 we received 360 projects. 170 are updates from ASM2 and 190 are new projects. We are now working on these materials and using this to try to create our science report and our statement.



8. ASM3 Webinar Series - Lindsay Elizabeth Arthur

We designed this webinar series with the intended audience to include not just ASM3 participants, but all Arctic research stakeholders. I think we all are attending a lot more meetings online now and probably some of us are experiencing fatigue from that. But the benefit here in terms of the Arctic Science Ministerial is that we have somewhat private ministerial meeting. With this webinar series we're getting the chance to talk to and share the science from this process with anybody who cares about it and wants to be engaged with it. We hope to get large audiences for all of these webinars coming up. Basically, the way that we're structuring the webinar series: the ASM3 webinar series will focus on the four themes and associated actions. ASM3 will draw on the science submitted through the science process for all of those, but we do have these two special webinars planned to happen before that, and they're coming up relatively soon. So, in November we have this gaps and barriers at international Arctic science research focus webinar. Then we have an Indigenous Peoples focused webinar and that program is being designed by the Indigenous Organizations who are participating in ASM3. As I said at the beginning, we're doing this in collaboration with the European Polar Board, so we're really grateful that we get to work on the subject matter and then work with them to help host this series and make it as public and widely attended as possible.

For many of you, you probably registered for this webinar on the ASM3 website. There's a page just for the webinar series. We will be releasing the registration for each series as we go, and so as of now you can register for the webinar today and soon will open the registration for the next webinar. We will also post here the information after each webinar, so the link to the YouTube where there's the recording of the webinar, as well as a written summary from each of the series.

Gaps and Barriers webinar structure

So, the webinar that we have next coming up is gaps and barriers focused webinar, that's on November 11th and it will be held at the same time as this one, one o'clock GMT. In the past year several important reports have been released that outline areas where we need more international Arctic research as well as barriers and that hinder increased international collaboration. You-Arctic has contributed widely towards this. To build on this knowledge base and include more kinds of direct and ministry level perspectives, we included in our ASM3 information packages that we sent out to countries and organizations this survey on international collaboration cooperation, and trying to understand what the barriers are that countries and organizations experience. How can we kind of take all of that knowledge and try to synthesize it and work towards some solutions? The gaps and barriers webinar aims to summarize all of the various efforts that have been put towards this opportunity and then we can discuss specific actions that can be taken to overcome these barriers and obstacles. We want to summarize what we've learned from countries in this survey that we released everybody and use this webinar to share all of that knowledge, so hopefully the webinar shall result in a discussion



identifying practical actions that can be integrated into the final ASM3 report to fill research gaps and overcome barriers to increased international collaboration.

Indigenous focused webinar explanation

The next webinar, happening in December 2020 is an Indigenous Peoples focus webinar. It's clear that the ASM3 final report would benefit from a focused discussion on ideas and issues directly related to Indigenous developed programs on matters related to international Arctic research. While we hope to include Indigenous voices and perspectives in all the webinars in the series were excited to host this specific webinar in the series completely dedicated to this topic. We have two members on our ASM3 science Advisory Board representing as an Arctic Knowledge Holder (Lisa Mack) and representing Indigenous Science (Eva Kruemmel). We're working with them and all the Indigenous Organizations who are engaged in the ASM3 process to develop a program for this webinar. We look forward to updating you in the coming weeks with what that program looks like and how you can expect to engage in it.

The idea you know with both webinars happening early in the series is that we can really synthesize some of the learnings from them and integrate those into the final products of ASM3, into the final report or to influence the joint statement. That's why they're happening right now.

Theme-based webinars structure

Starting off in 2021, we're going to have four webinars in a row, so January, February, March, April. Each of these will cover the four themes of ASM3. Just to be clear by this point, in 2021 we will have completed our science process, so these webinars are really a chance to share and digest the science and the proposed actions for ASM3. We thought it could be useful to have this in an open format and share that with all science research stakeholders. The structure for each of these will be relatively straightforward. We hope that we can also ship some project highlights in each webinar with the projects that we've received that have been reviewed by our science Advisory Board and we're looking at projects you know that really embody theme in the spirit of international cooperation. The structure for each of these will have an introduction to the theme, will talk about progress made on that theme, since ASM2, then we'll have these project highlights that we hope to share with all of you and the proposed actions. We hope to have a moderated discussion with all the panelists.

You can find the ASM3 website [here](#). Jenny also put the URL in the chat box for all of you, but this is where you can find out more about the ASM3 process. We're really trying to keep it updated as we go. You can register for the webinar series on the website too. You can find the key documents like the concept, note the themes and you can also find you know past reports from the previous ASM's. So, with that, I just encourage all of you to stay tuned for our next webinar on November 11th that's going to cover gaps and barriers and international Arctic research. We're working on the agenda for that right now, and we hope to release the link soon so that you all can register for that.



9. Q&A, Moderated by the European Polar Board

I think there's a couple of questions that have come up. I think these have partially been answered, but it will be nice to repeat them for the audience.

- (Q) *what the time scales are set for the different agendas in the list of speakers for the future webinars and could you give an idea about when each of the agendas will be shared?* A: the ASM3 website will be updated very soon relevant information about this.
- (Q) *will there be an opportunity for people not attending the meeting to learn more about these meetings?* A: For the ASM3 we have final products (such as the final report). This is all the information bolstered, and this a publicly accessible document. We are also looking on how to show more data of the process of the ASM3 in the form of an ASM focused database.
- (Q) *will the ASM3 conference be held online?* A: First of all, the planned ministerial meeting is not a science conference, but a meeting for ministers (which was scheduled to happen in November 2020 but now postponed to May 2021 due to COVID-19). The decision has not been made yet if this will be an online meeting.
- (Q) *Do you anticipate or hope that the webinars series will continue for future ASM's?* A: It seems like a great idea to share the ASM's more broadly. As Lindsay suggests, I would definitely support that. It is important to build a legacy of knowledge and understanding the ASM process, so I hope that future organizers decide to do something similar like this.
- (Q) *are there any limits to the number of participants in these webinars?* A: There is a limit of 500 people, but we are now on 200.

