

# Third Arctic Science ministerial Webinar Series



**Co-hosted by Iceland and Japan**

This webinar series is a cooperation between the ASM3 Organizers in Iceland and Japan and the European Polar Board.



Third Arctic Science Ministerial Webinar Series

## Theme 2: Understand

*Enhance understanding and prediction capability on Arctic environmental and social systems and its global impact*

17 February 2021

13: 00 - 14: 00 UTC



Program here! ► <https://asm3.org>

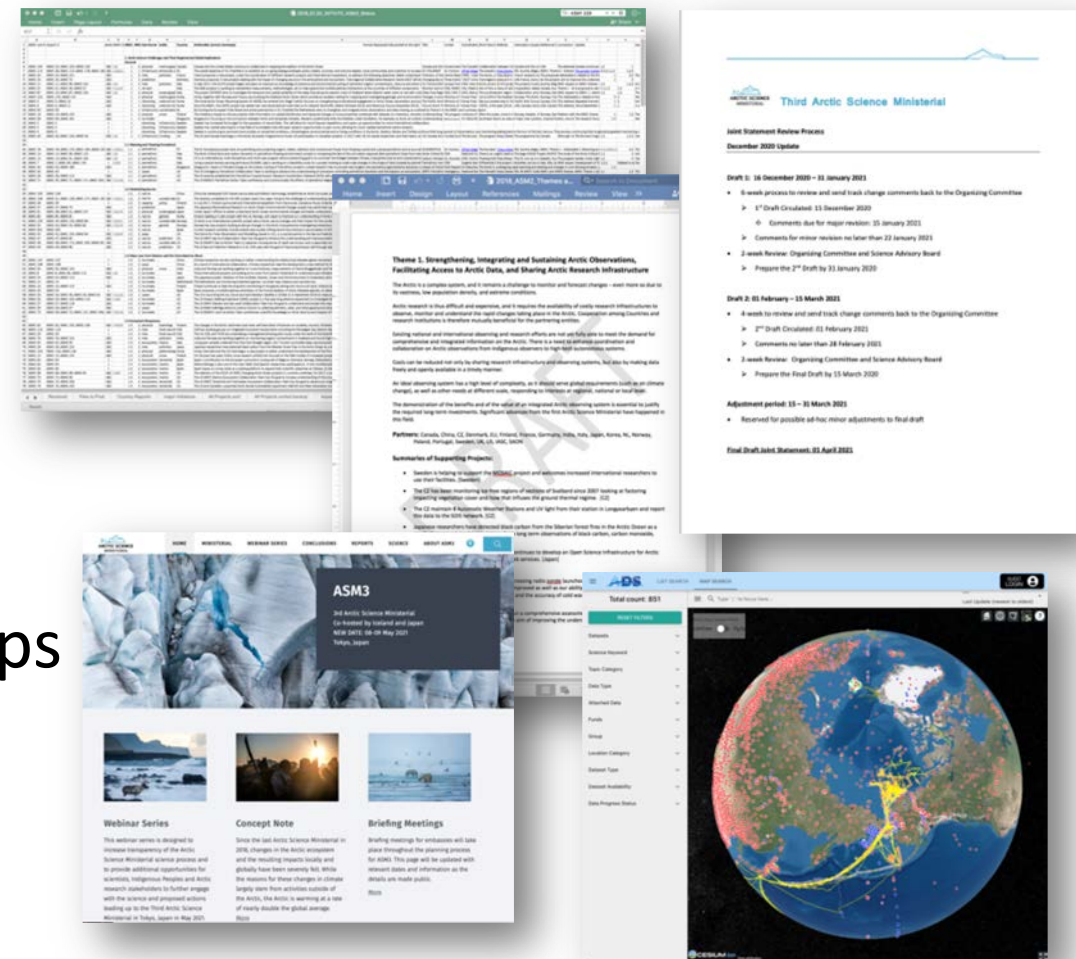
# Welcome and Update on ASM3 Process

**Lindsay Arthur**

ASM3 Organizing Committee

# Arctic Research Information

- Country / Organization Participants
  - Arctic Research Overviews
  - ASM2 Project Updates
  - New Projects in Support of ASM3
  - Collaboration and Cooperation Survey
- Online Feedback Forms
- ASM3 Research Community Workshops (IASC/IASSA/APECS), ISAR-6, AOS



# On the Horizon

- Joint Statement
- ASM3 Report
- Online Resources
  - Webinar Recordings  
<https://asm3.org/webinar-series/> <https://tinyurl.com/asm3-webinar-videos>
  - International Opportunities Resources
  - Arctic Research Overviews
  - Project Database Beta
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Arctic Science Ministerial
  - 8-9 May 2020, Tokyo, Japan



# Theme 2: Understand

## Overview of Theme 2: Understand – Progress since ASM2 and Upcoming Projects

- Mia Bennett, ASM3 Science Advisory Board Member

## Highlights from Theme 2: Understand

- PROjecTing sEa-level rise: from iCe sheets to local implicaTions – PROTECT
  - *Gaël Durand, CNRS – IGE, Project Lead*
- ARCPATH: Arctic Climate Predictions: Pathways to Resilient, Sustainable Societies
  - *Prof. Brynhildur Davíðsdóttir, University of Iceland*
- Linkage between Arctic, climate change, and marine debris
  - *Suchana Apple Chavanich, Chulalongkorn University*
- NUNATARYUK: co-designed adaptation and mitigation strategies for thawing permafrost and coastal erosion in Northern Canada
  - *Prof. Dr. Hugues Lantuit, Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Project Lead*
- CHARTER: GLoBal effort (CHina, Russia, Canada, Iceland, etc.) to understand how climate and biodiversity changes will impact arctic communities and their adaptive capacity
  - *Bruce Forbes, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Project Lead*

## Recommended Actions to enhance Arctic understanding and prediction capability

- ASM3 Science Advisory Board Member

## Question and Answer Session

# Overview of Theme 2: Understand

*Enhance understanding and prediction capability on Arctic environmental and social systems and its global impact*

**Mia Bennett**

ASM3 Science Advisory Board Member

# Overview of Theme 2: Understand

Progress since ASM2 and Upcoming Projects

- What progress have we made in enhancing our understanding and predictive capabilities?
  - Our understanding of Arctic ecosystems increasingly focuses on where **different ecosystems intersect**, which are some of the region's most productive and biodiverse areas



Land-sea interface



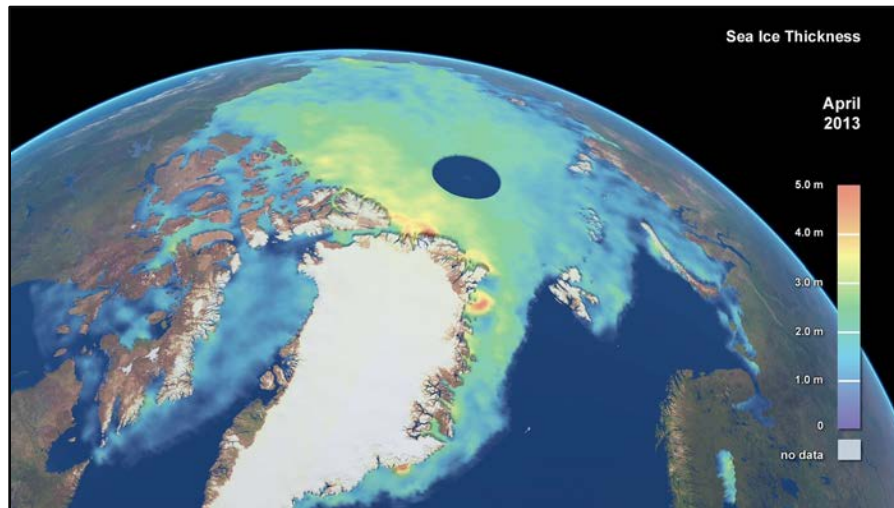
Sea-ice interface



# Overview of Theme 2: Understand

Progress since ASM2 and Upcoming Projects

- What progress have we made in enhancing our understanding and predictive capabilities?
  - Urgent research is ongoing into **ecosystems** that are **disappearing** and **emerging**



Planetary Visions/CPOM/UCL/ESA  
[https://www.esa.int/ESA\\_Multimedia/Images/2013/09/Arctic\\_sea\\_ice\\_thickness](https://www.esa.int/ESA_Multimedia/Images/2013/09/Arctic_sea_ice_thickness)



<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/event/fifth-meeting-scientific-experts-fish-stocks-central-arctic-ocean>

**Disappearing:** Areas of thick multi-year sea ice

**Emerging:** Central Arctic Ocean

# Overview of Theme 2: Understand

Progress since ASM2 and Upcoming Projects

- What progress have we made in enhancing our understanding and predictive capabilities?
  - Interest in **emerging ecosystems** often dovetails with research into **societal, commercial, and geopolitical impacts**
  - Growing importance of research into **coupled human-environment systems**



# Overview of Theme 2: Understand

Progress since ASM2 and Upcoming Projects

- What progress have we made in enhancing our understanding and predictive capabilities?
  - Significant amount of research into the **atmospheric circulation of pollutants** and **climate forcers**

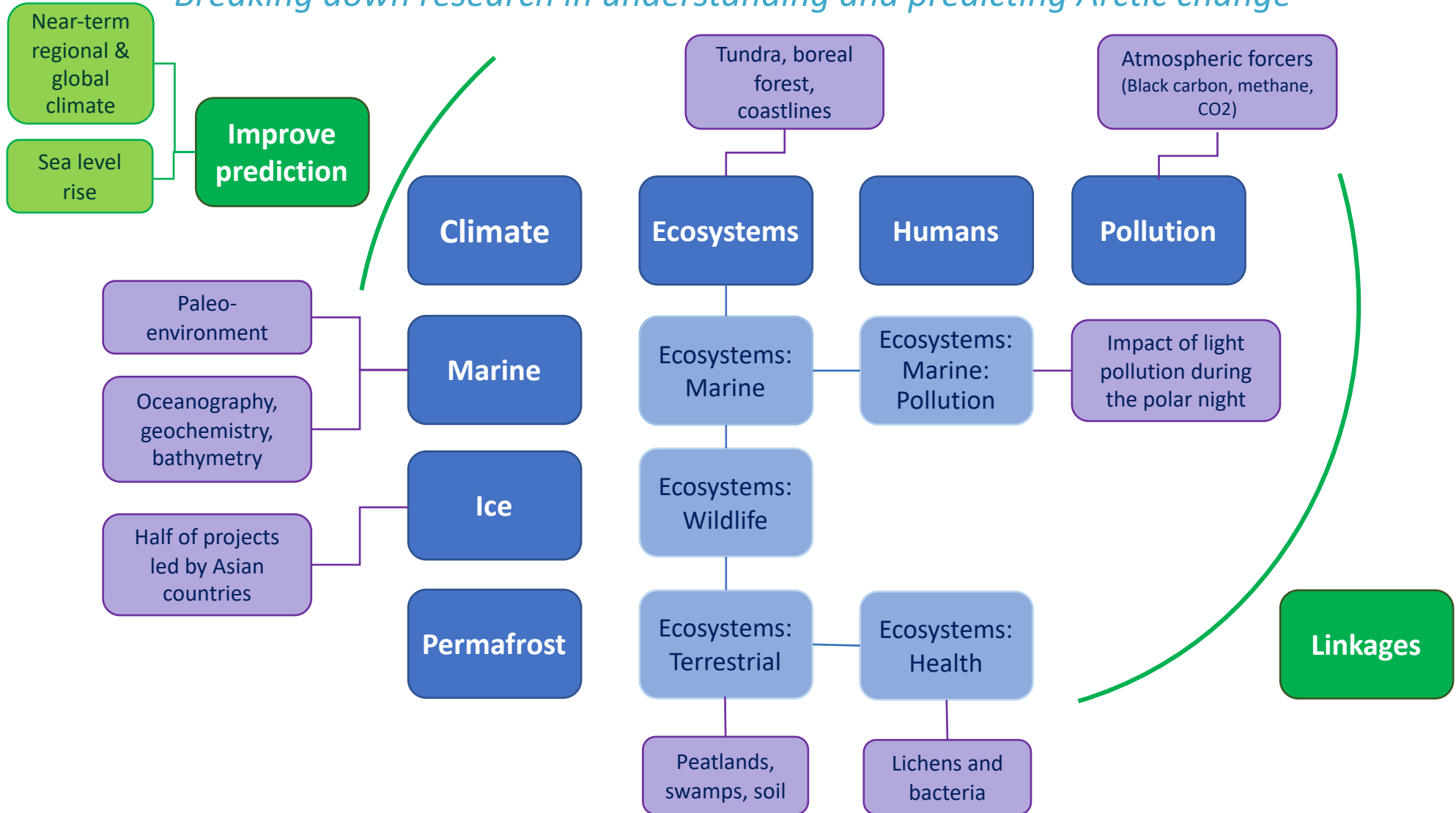


<https://www.nipr.ac.jp/arcs/e/project/collaborated/03.html>

# Overview of Theme 2: Understand

## Progress since ASM2 and Upcoming Projects

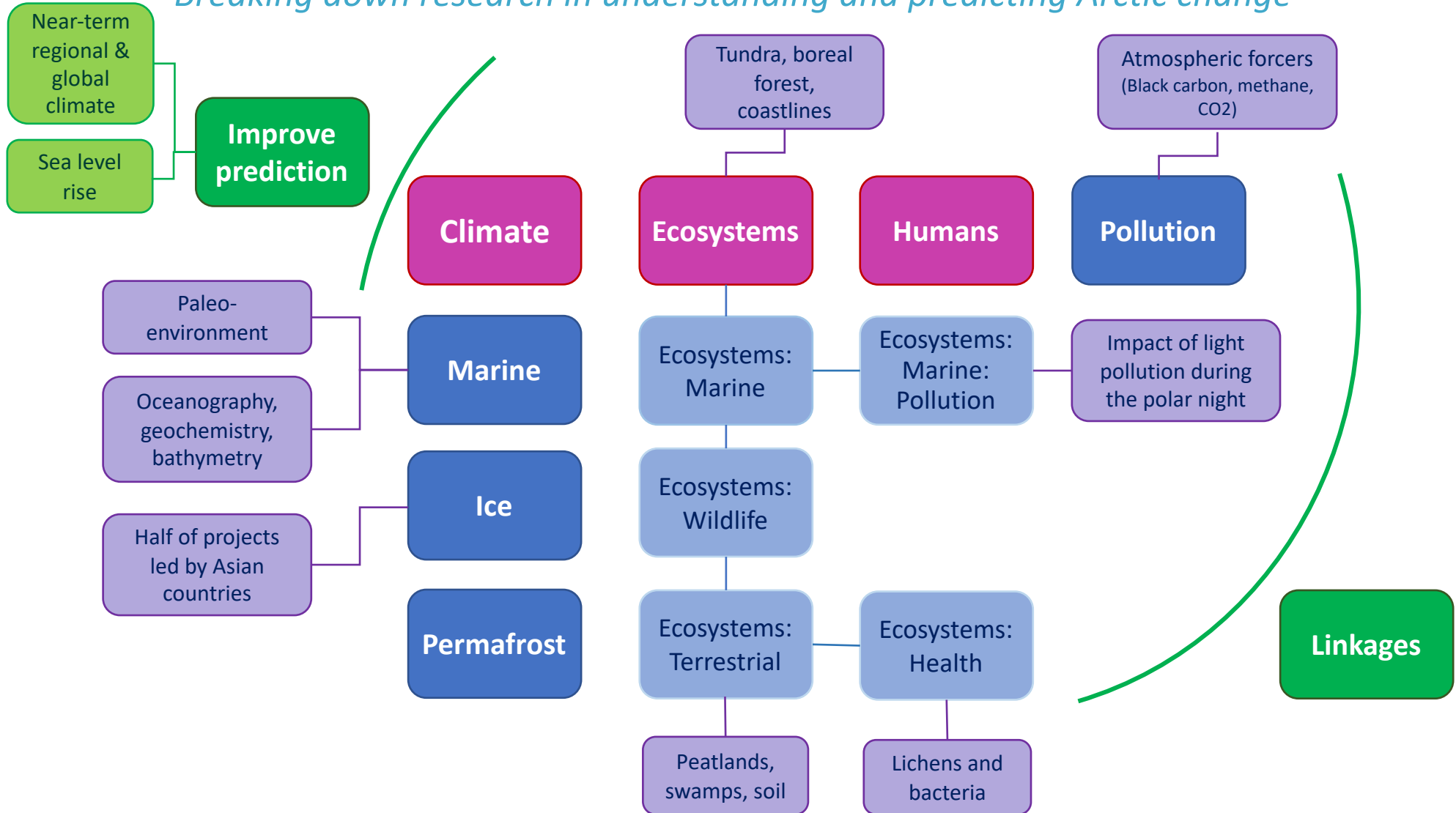
*Breaking down research in understanding and predicting Arctic change*



# Overview of Theme 2: Understand

## Progress since ASM2 and Upcoming Projects

*Breaking down research in understanding and predicting Arctic change*



# Overview of Theme 2: Understand

Progress since ASM2 and Upcoming Projects

## More work at a higher scale integrating understanding of different parts of the climate

- **Changing Arctic Ocean:** UK-German effort studying how atmospheric and oceanic circulation changes are affecting the large-scale ecosystem structure and biogeochemical functioning of the Arctic Ocean



Climate

## More climate research integrating societal concerns

- **CHARTER:** Finnish-led effort with multiple partners (China, Russia, Canada, Iceland, etc.) examining how climate and biodiversity changes will impact Arctic communities and their adaptive capacity



# Overview of Theme 2: Understand

Progress since ASM2 and Upcoming Projects

## Ecosystems

- Research on biotic conditions targets **fisheries** and **crustaceans** (i.e. snow crabs) and **insects**
- Increasing adoption of **social-ecological systems framework**
- **Collaboration between countries** in this area is increasing, but more could be done to integrate **Indigenous Knowledge** and leverage **citizen science**
  - Notable gap: A project on reindeer herding makes no mention of Indigenous Knowledge or partnership



# Overview of Theme 2: Understand

Progress since ASM2 and Upcoming Projects

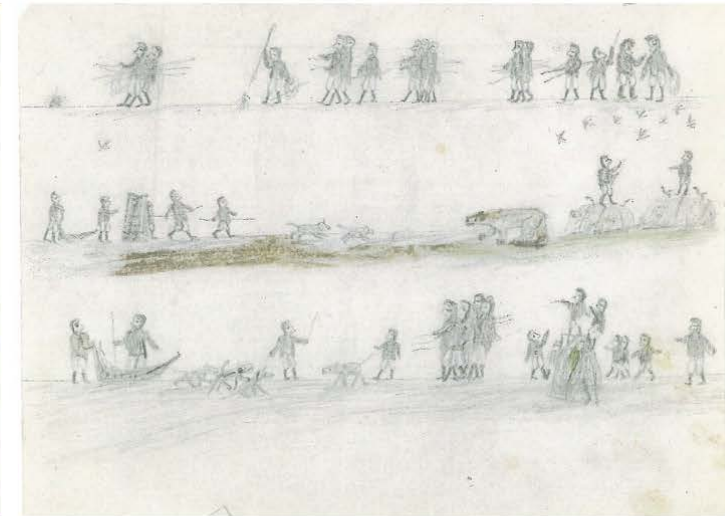
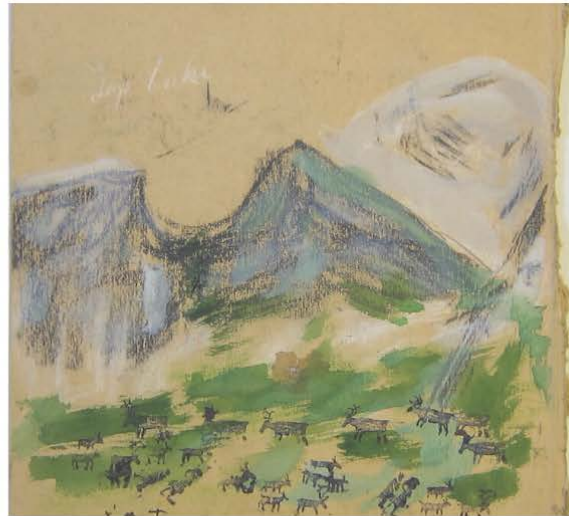
More work into **gender equality** and **diversity**, largely being advanced by Norway and Iceland

- **Arctic Voices** in Art and Literature in the Long Nineteenth Century (Norway)

Arctic Voices

[Home](#) [Themes](#) [Work](#) [Team](#)

**Uncovering stories to present more sustainable, equal and balanced ways of understanding human relationships to the natural and cultural environments of the Arctic.**



Humans



# Overview of Theme 2: Understand

Progress since ASM2 and Upcoming Projects

## Who is doing the research?

- **International** collaboration continues to increase, with new partners as well (e.g. Thailand, Singapore)
- **Women, Indigenous Peoples, and early career researchers** are increasingly integral to Arctic research
  - More efforts are being made to include members of these groups in both **designing** and **carrying out research**



# Highlights from Theme 2: Understand

Moderated by Mia Bennett, ASM3 Science Advisory Board Member

- **PROjecTing sEa-level rise: from iCe sheets to local implicaTions – PROTECT**
  - *Gaël Durand, CNRS – IGE, Project Lead*
- **ARCPATH: Arctic Climate Predictions: Pathways to Resilient, Sustainable Societies**
  - *Prof. Brynhildur Davíðsdóttir, University of Iceland*
- **Linkage between Arctic, climate change, and marine debris**
  - *Suchana Apple Chavanich, Chulalongkorn University*
- **NUNATARYUK: co-designed adaptation and mitigation strategies for thawing permafrost and coastal erosion in Northern Canada**
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- **CHARTER: GLObal effort (CHina, Russia, Canada, Iceland, etc.) to understand how climate and biodiversity changes will impact arctic communities and their adaptive capacity**
  - *Bruce Forbes, Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Project Lead*
- **Recommended Actions to enhance Arctic understanding and prediction capability**
  - ASM3 Science Advisory Board Member
- **Question and Answer Session**

# PROjecting sEa-level rise: from iCe sheets to local implicaTions – PROTECT

Proteet  
CRYOSPHERE & SEA LEVEL




**Gaël Durand**  
CNRS – IGE, Project Lead

**PROTECT is a European research project working on the projections of sea level rise in the future due to the melting of land ice**

 198 000 glaciers

 2 ice sheets

= 65 m of sea level 

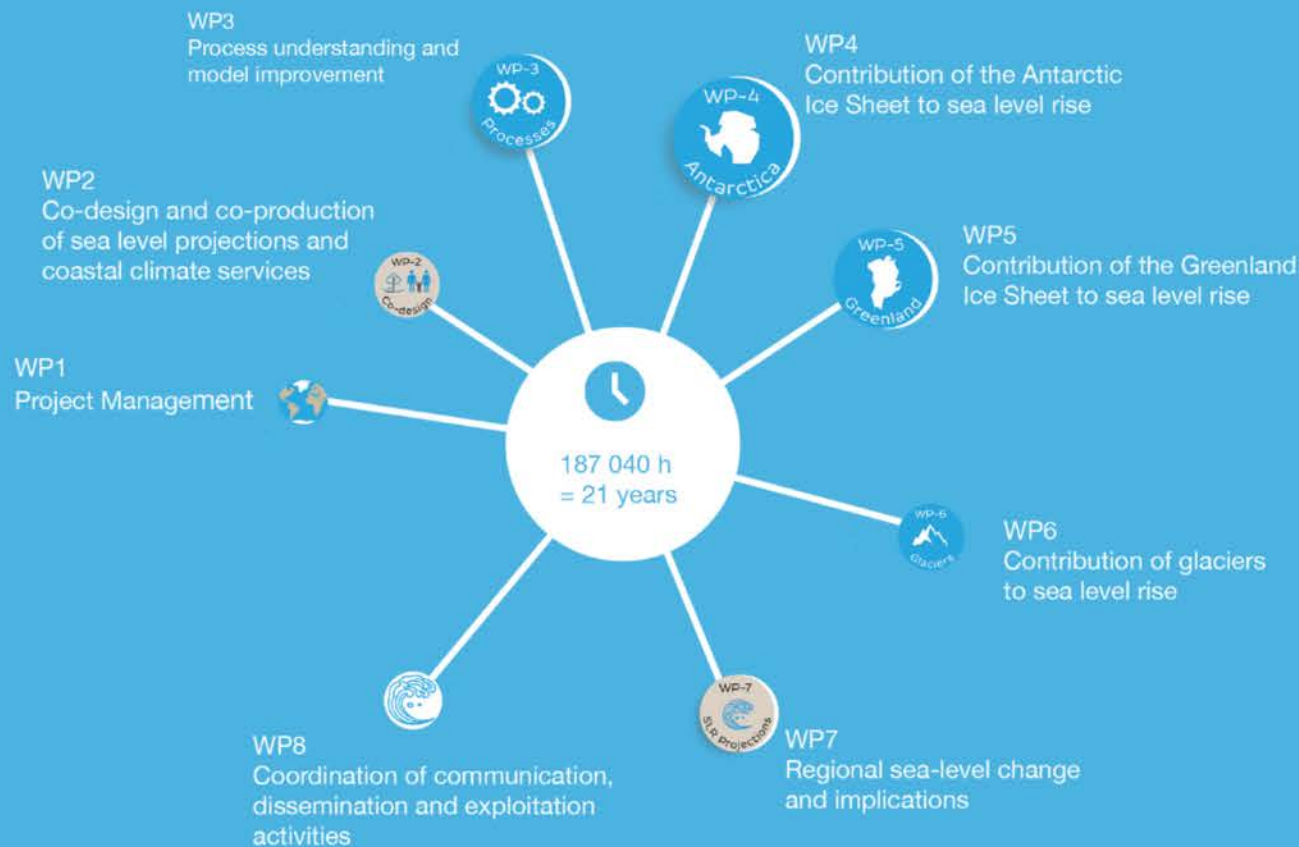
 Global, regional and local projections of sea level rise on several time scales

 26 partners institutions

 150+ partners

 10 million euros

 8 countries



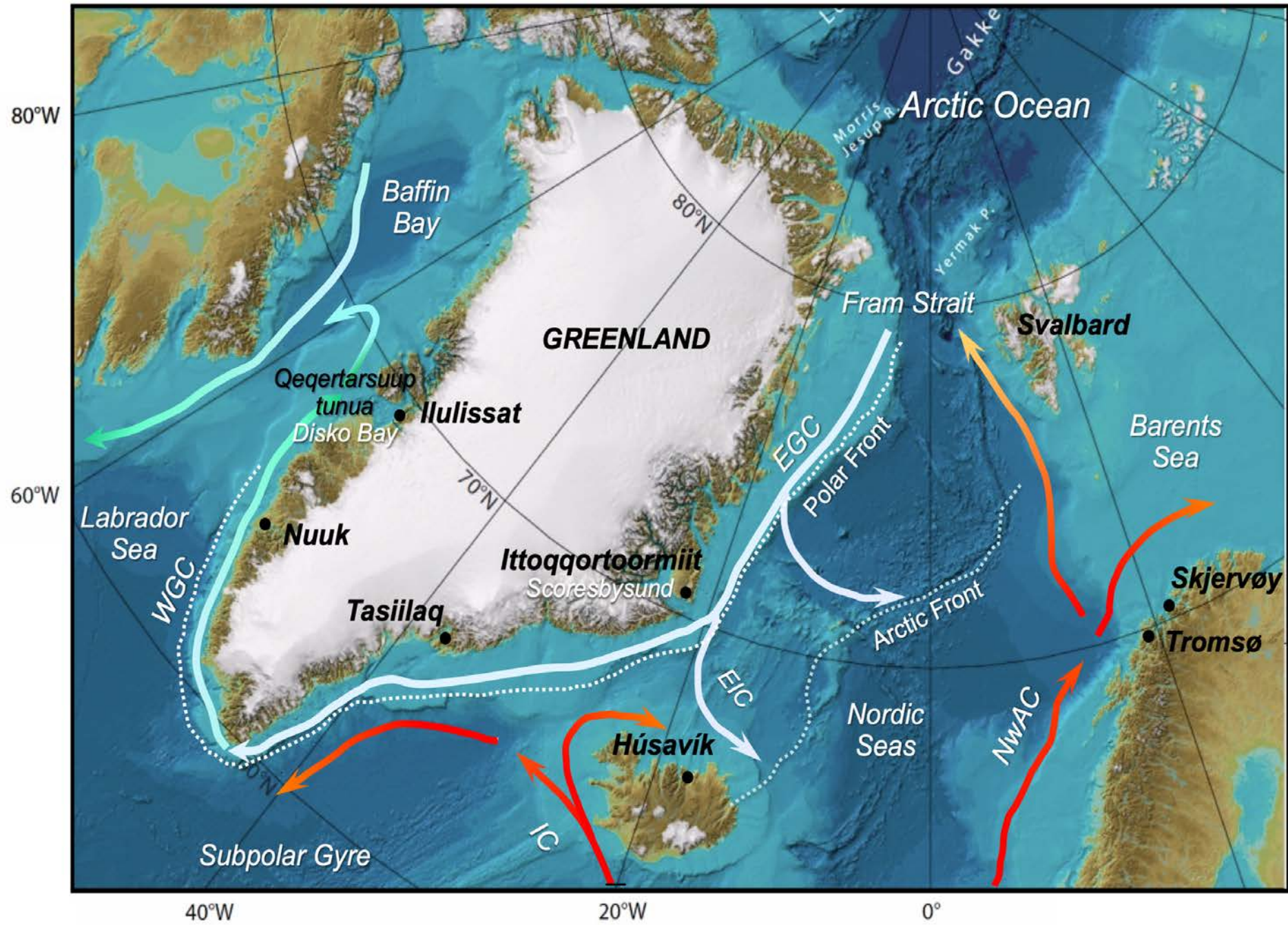
# ARCPATH: Arctic Climate Predictions: Pathways to Resilient, Sustainable Societies



**Prof. Brynhildur Davíðsdóttir**

University of Iceland

<http://www.svs.is/en/projects/arcpath>



# Three core objectives

- (i) Improved climate predictions
- (ii) Increased understanding how climate change interacts with multiple ecological and societal factors
- (iii) Combining improved regional climate predictions with enhanced understanding of environmental, societal and economic interactions to supply new knowledge on potential pathways to action

# Improved climate predictions

- (i) Historical climatology
- (ii) Global climatological modelling
- (iii) Dynamic downscaling



Increased understanding how climate change interacts with multiple ecological and societal factors

- i) Changes in the marine environment as a result of climate change through the prism of whales – how have they and how may they react?
  - ii) The societal benefits (importance) of whales
  - iii) The impact of climate change on the ability to sustain the societal benefits of whales
- iv) The synergies between climate change and marine management systems and their impact on coastal communities

# ECOSYSTEM SERVICES OF WHALES

CICES Category	Ecosystem Service
<b>Provisioning</b>	Food products (meat, blubber, skin and intestines) Whale bones, teeth and baleen Oil based products deriving from blubber
<b>Regulation and maintenance</b>	Enhanced primary production Enhanced biodiversity and evolutionary potential Nutrient cycling Climate regulation
<b>Cultural</b>	Tourism (whale watching) Music and arts Education Spiritual enrichment Community cohesiveness and cultural identity Aesthetics Associations linked to non-use value

Adapted from Cook et al., 2019.



# SOME INSIGHTS

- (i) Marine species such as blue whales are migrating Northwards, possibly due to climate change
- (ii) Whales are shown to be socially important and have diverse societal benefits with cultural benefits considered the most important ones
- iii) Governance of whale ES in our study region is largely through informal institutions and self governance, which may be susceptible to external pressures derived from climate change
- iv) The combined impact of ITQ systems in fisheries and climate change is severely increasing the stress to coastal communities

## TO CONCLUDE

Understanding the diverse benefits (services) from the natural environment and revealing possible future impacts of climate change on the ability to sustain those benefits provides important insights to the resilience of coastal communities to direct and indirect pressures derived from climate change

This is important when designing pathways to action towards more resilient, sustainable societies

# Linkage between Arctic, climate change, and marine debris

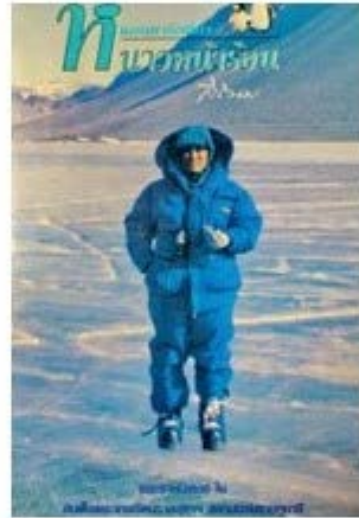


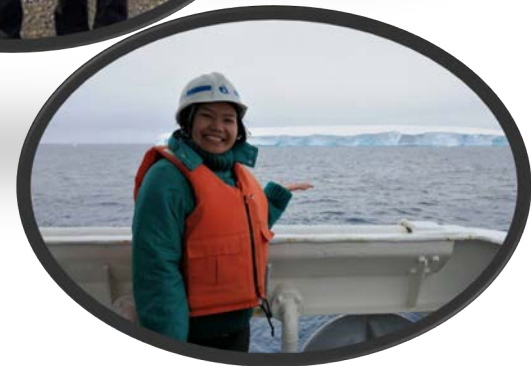
**Suchana Apple Chavanich**  
Chulalongkorn University, Thailand  
and Polar Science Consortium of Thailand



## Thailand and Antarctica

- HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously visited Antarctic in November 1993. She was the first Thai who made a journey to Antarctica.
- A book written by HRH "Antarctica: Chilling Summer" depicts her journey to New Zealand and Antarctica which she named this journey as "My great adventure"





# On November 13, 2015, MOU between University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS) and Chulalongkorn University was signed, and the Princess presided over the MOU ceremony



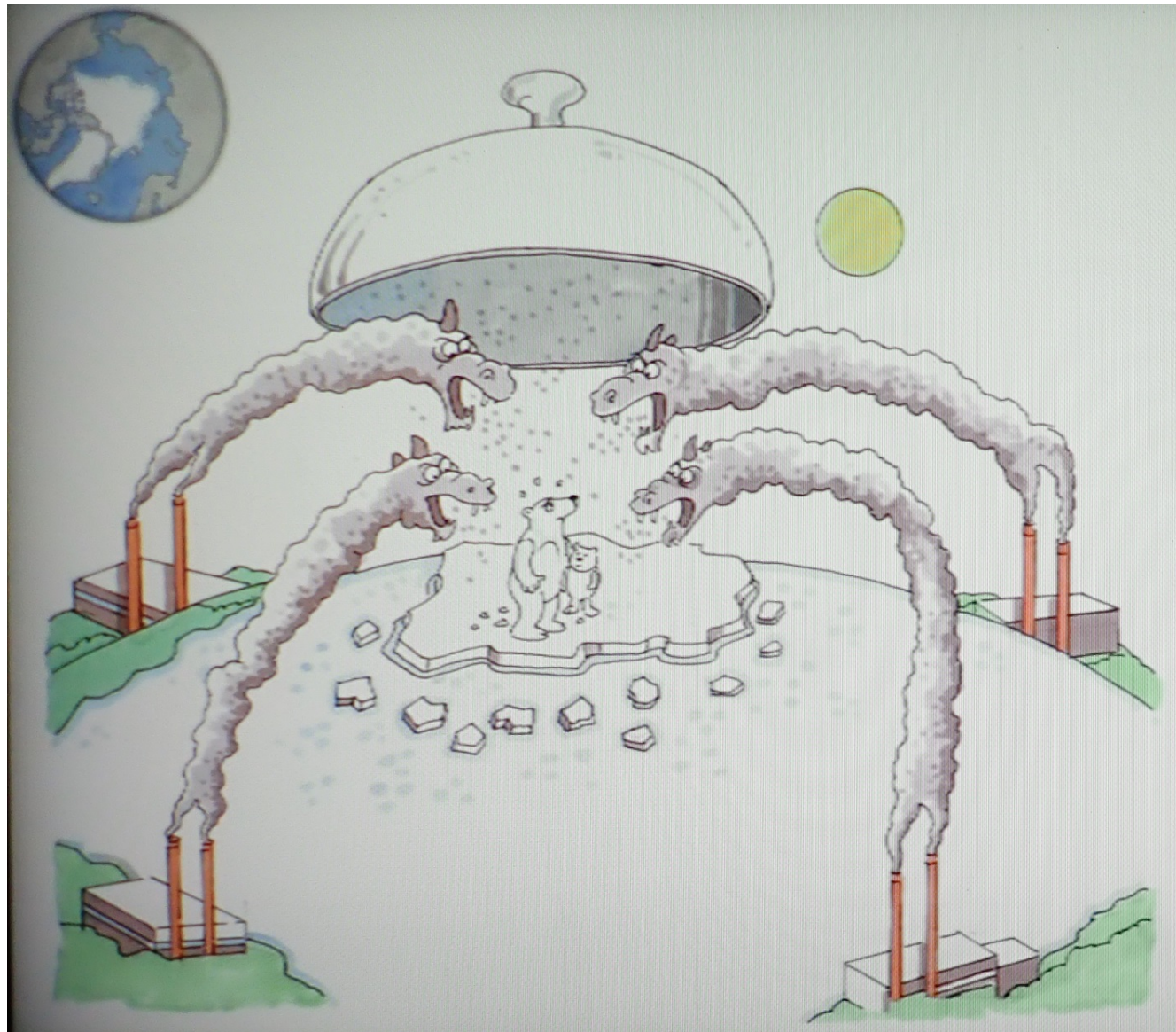


# On April 6, 2016, MOU between Polar Research Institute of China and 5 Thai universities and institutes was signed, and the Princess presided over the MOU ceremony

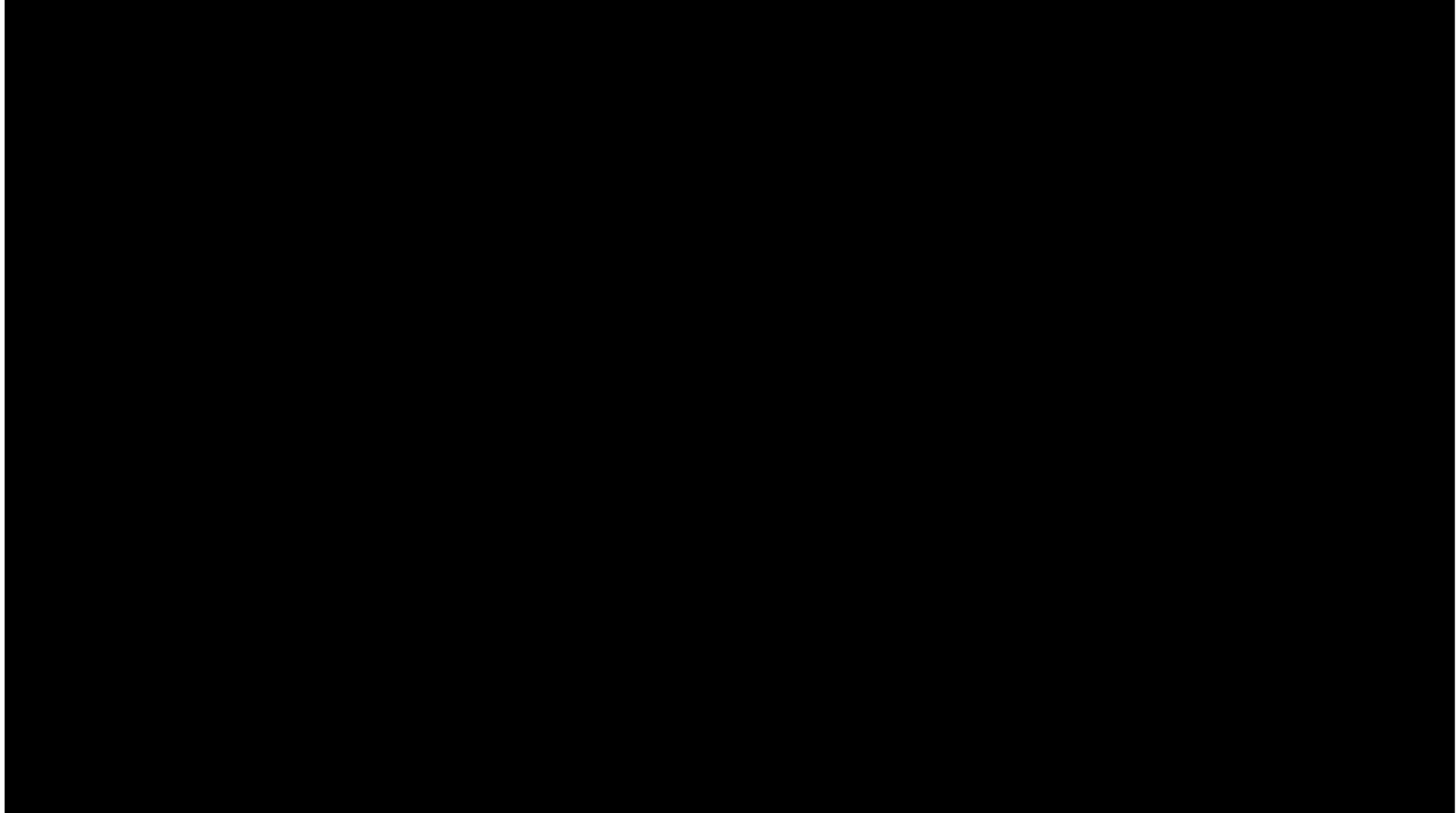


**MOU between CAA and NSTDA  
in 2019  
and Joint Laboratory is  
established**





**Sea and air currents are conveying pollution to the Arctic**







# NUNATARYUK:

co-designed adaptation and mitigation strategies  
for thawing permafrost and coastal erosion  
in Northern Canada



**Prof. Dr. Hugues Lantuit**

Alfred Wegener Institute  
Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research



# NUNATARYUK

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Permafrost thaw and the  
changing Arctic coast, science  
for socioeconomic adaptation





[Redacted]

1955-1974  
0.4  
meters/year

[Redacted]

1974-1996  
0.8  
meters/year

[Redacted]

1996-2007  
2.0  
meters/year

2007-2015  
8.8  
Meters/year



4 Nunataryuk  
integration activities


3 Risks framework

2 Nunataryuk physical &  
social science activities

1 Stakeholder  
consultation

# Consultations



 **Nunataryuk** shared an event.  
Published by Hugues Lantuit [?] · December 3, 2018 ·

Nunataryuk is organizing a workshop in Longyearbyen together with INTAROS, UAK and UNIS. The aim of this workshop is to initiate a dialogue on knowledge, challenges and possibilities related to climate, nature, and the environment on Svalbard. A central question is how research on climate and the environment can be of use for the local community in Longyearbyen.





THU, DEC 6, 2018  
**Dialogue Café: Science & Longyearbyen community**  
Samuel and 34 friends like this place

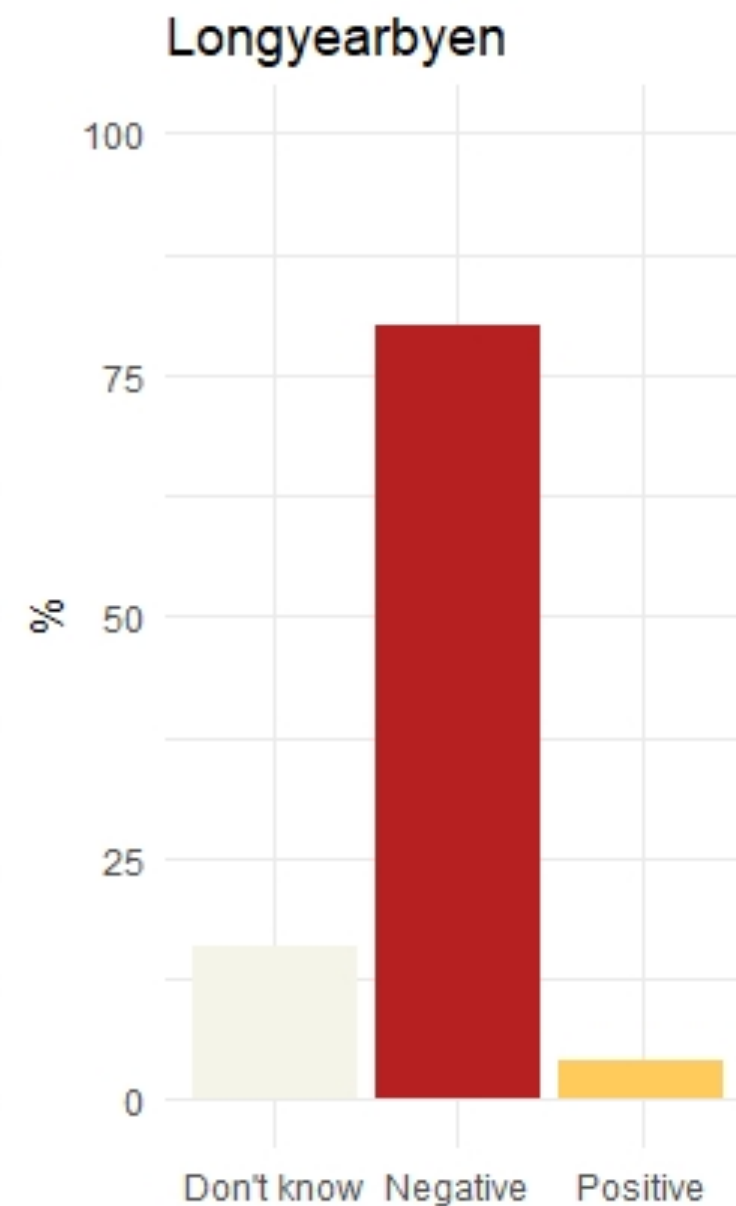
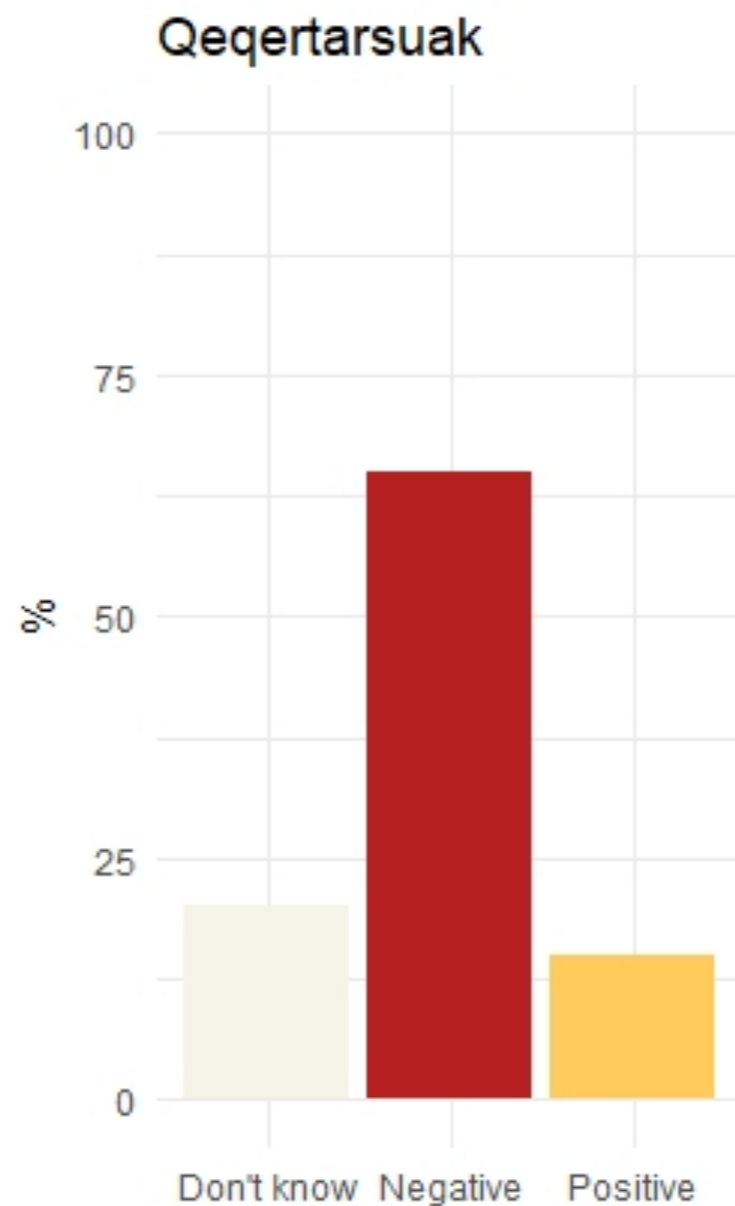
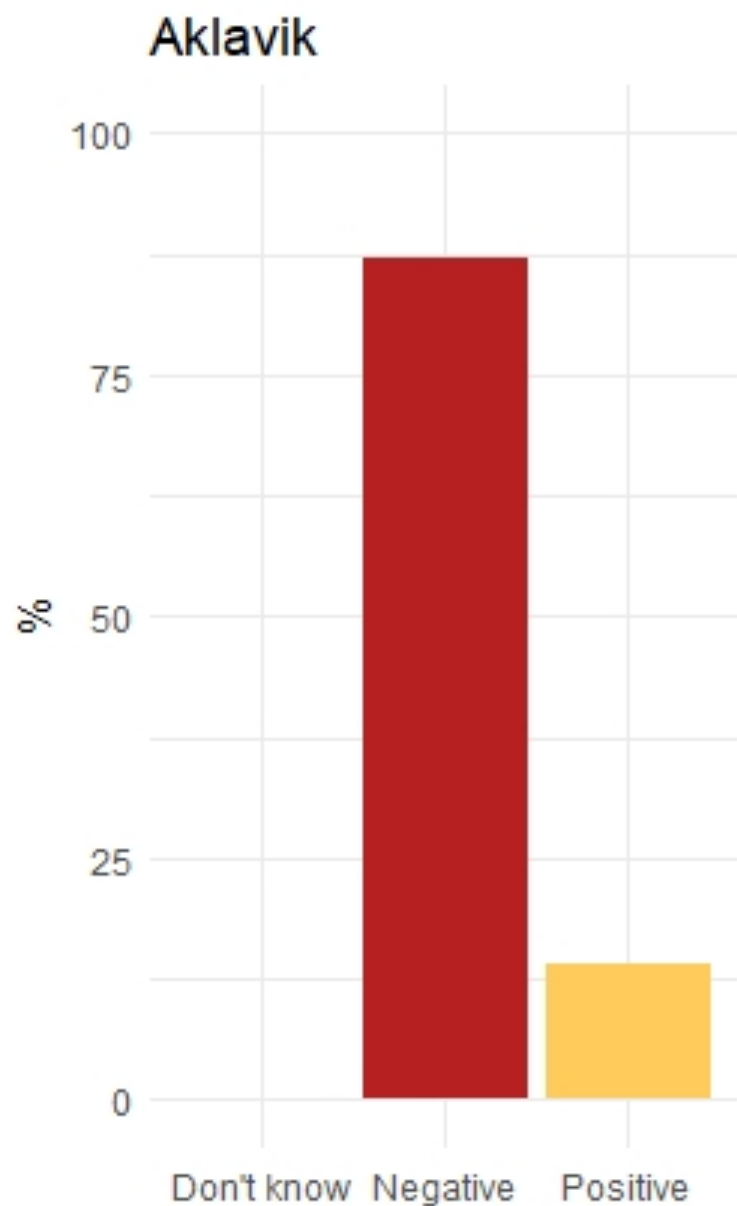
★ Interested



Over the past 10 years, would you say that the thawing of frozen ground has led to:

- positive change
- negative change
- don't know

# Stakeholder survey on impacts of permafrost thaw





Ilulissat, Greenland

# ILULISSAT

## Legend

### Ilulissat

#### Building damage assessment

- No failures
- Settlement - Coarse sediments
- Settlement - Fine sediments
- Settlement - Bedrock vicinity

#### Road conditions

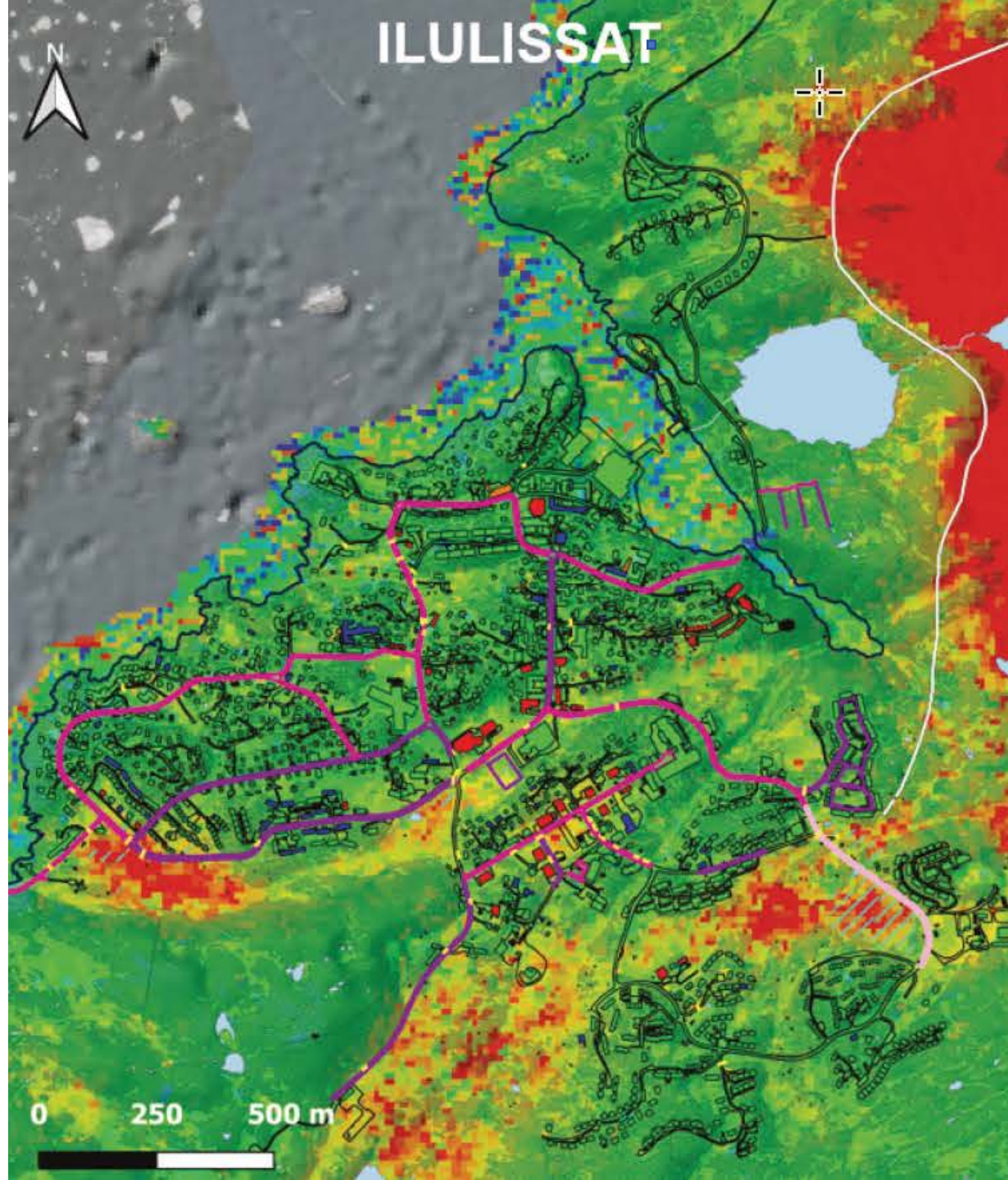
- Water ponding
- Asphalt repavement 2012
- Asphalt repavement 2019
- Asphalt repavement 2020
- Project of road construction

#### Vertical displacement 2019 [m]

- 0.04
- 0.032
- 0.024
- 0.016
- 0.008
- 0
- 0.008
- 0.016
- 0.024
- 0.032
- 0.04

#### Land cover

- Roads
- Buildings
- Coastline
- Main rivers
- Lakes and ponds
- Bedrock







NUNATARYUK  
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# Life on frozen ground

**Total permafrost inhabitants per region\***  
(Based on 2019 LandScan population data)



**Permafrost settlements\***  
(data from 2017)



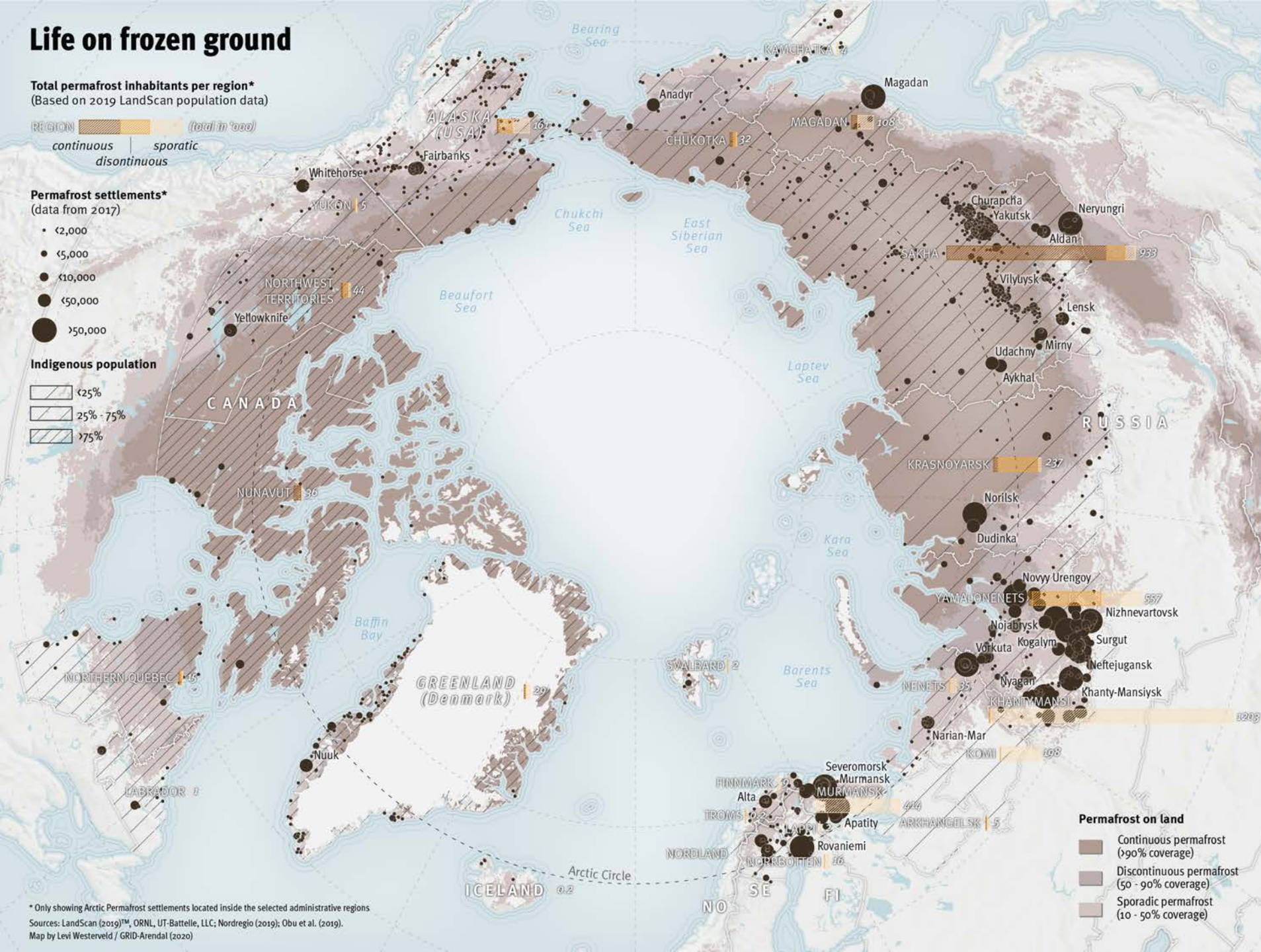
**Indigenous population**



\* Only showing Arctic Permafrost settlements located inside the selected administrative regions

Sources: LandScan (2019)<sup>TM</sup>, ORNL, UT-Battelle, LLC; Nordregio (2019); Obu et al. (2019).

Map by Levi Westerveld / GRID-Arendal (2020)



**NUNATARYUK**  
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# NUNATARYUK

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Facebook: Nunataryuk

Instagram: Nunataryuk

Twitter: Nunataryuk

Web: [Nunataryuk.org](http://Nunataryuk.org)



# Drivers and Feedbacks of Changes in Arctic Terrestrial Biodiversity (CHARTER)

**Prof. Bruce C. Forbes**

Arctic Centre, University of Lapland



# CHARTER

CHARTER wants to advance the capacity of Arctic communities to adapt to climate and biodiversity changes. CHARTER has three main aims:

- Better understand past and ongoing responses of Arctic terrestrial social-ecological systems to changes in biodiversity, snow and ice cover across decades and centuries
- Simulate future effects of social-ecological changes for indigenous and local communities and traditional livelihoods out to 2050
- Work with Arctic communities to co-develop strategies and policy pathways for livelihoods such as reindeer herding, hunting and fishing



## Consortium

9 European countries (+ Russia, China)  
21 Research Institutions  
7 Work Packages

## Coordinator

Arctic Centre  
University of Lapland  
Finland

## Duration

08.2020 – 07.2024

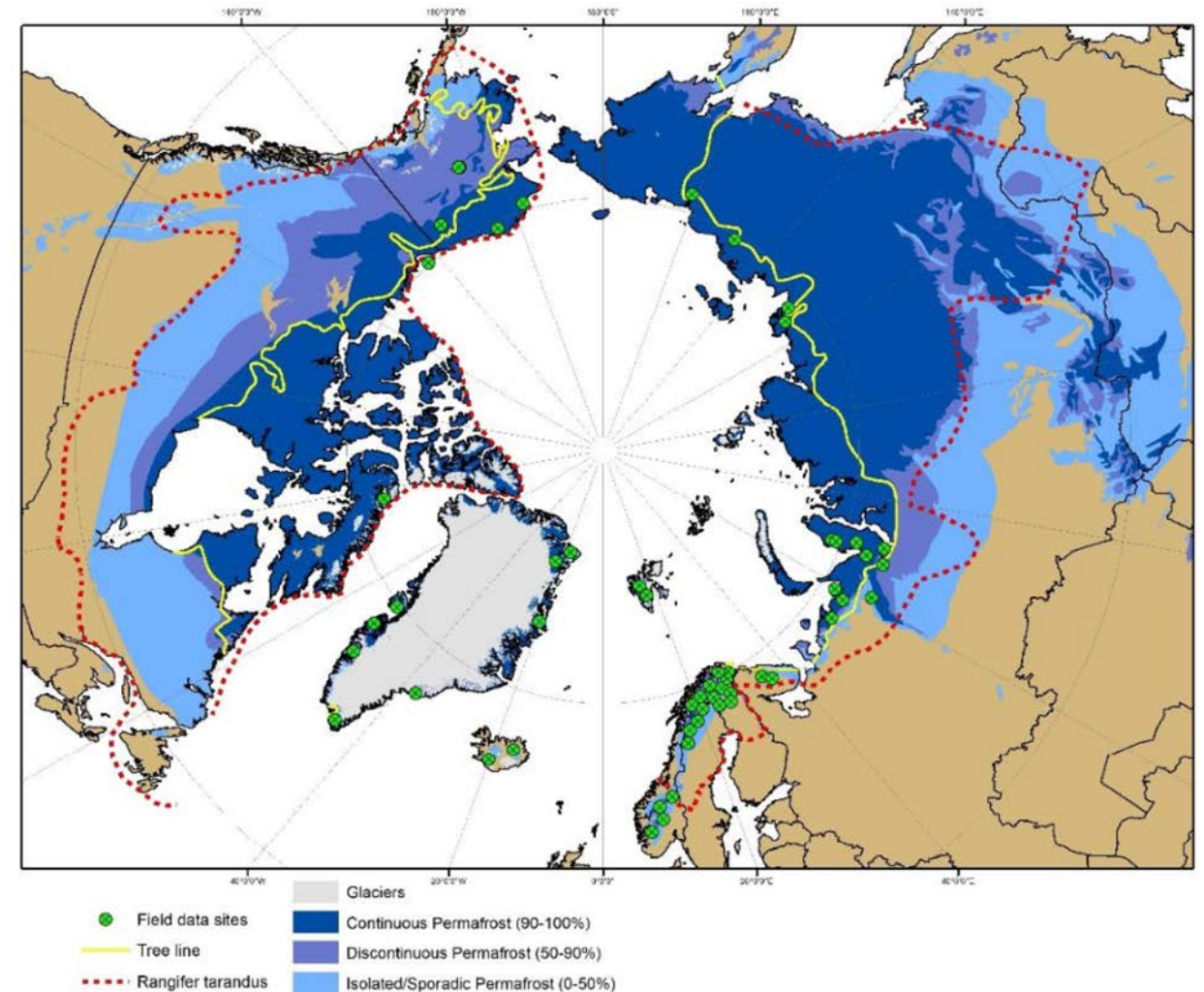
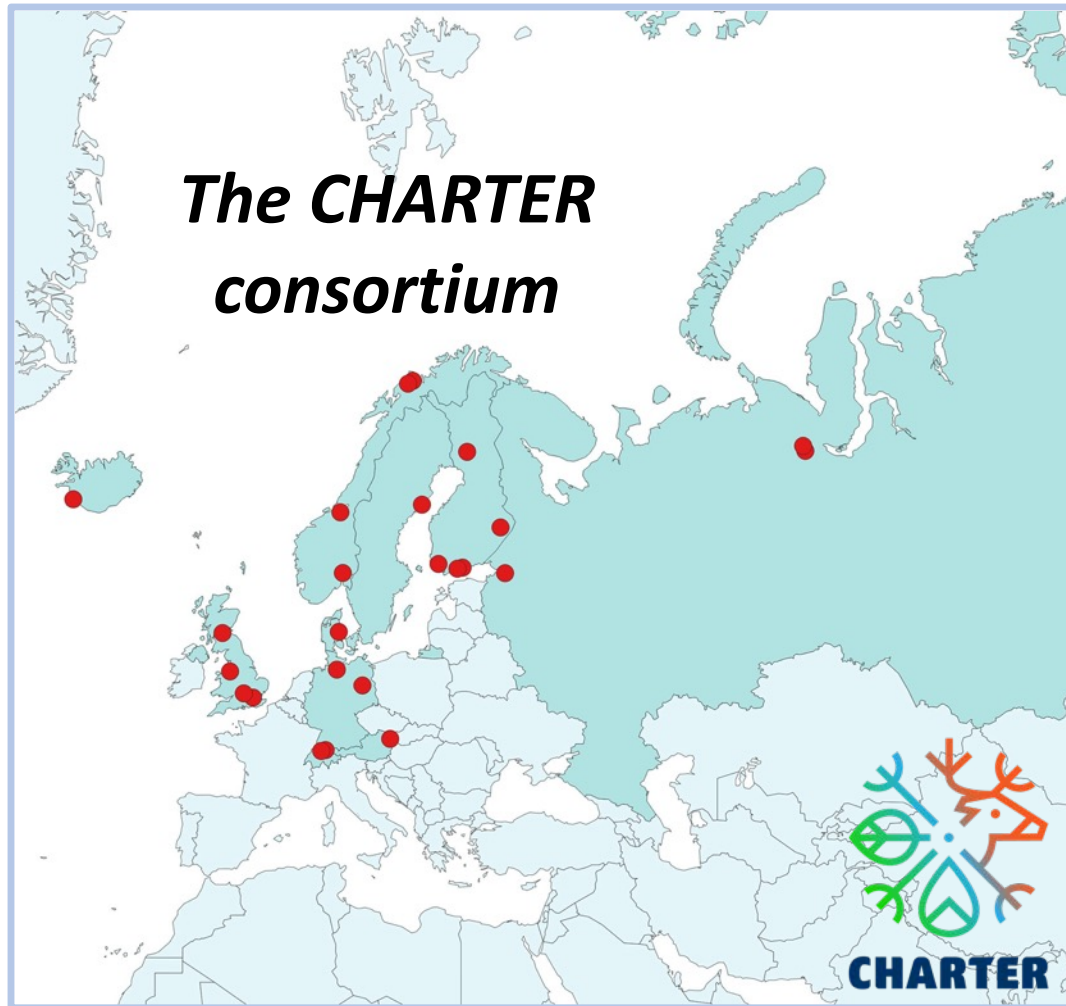
## Budget

5.9 M Euro

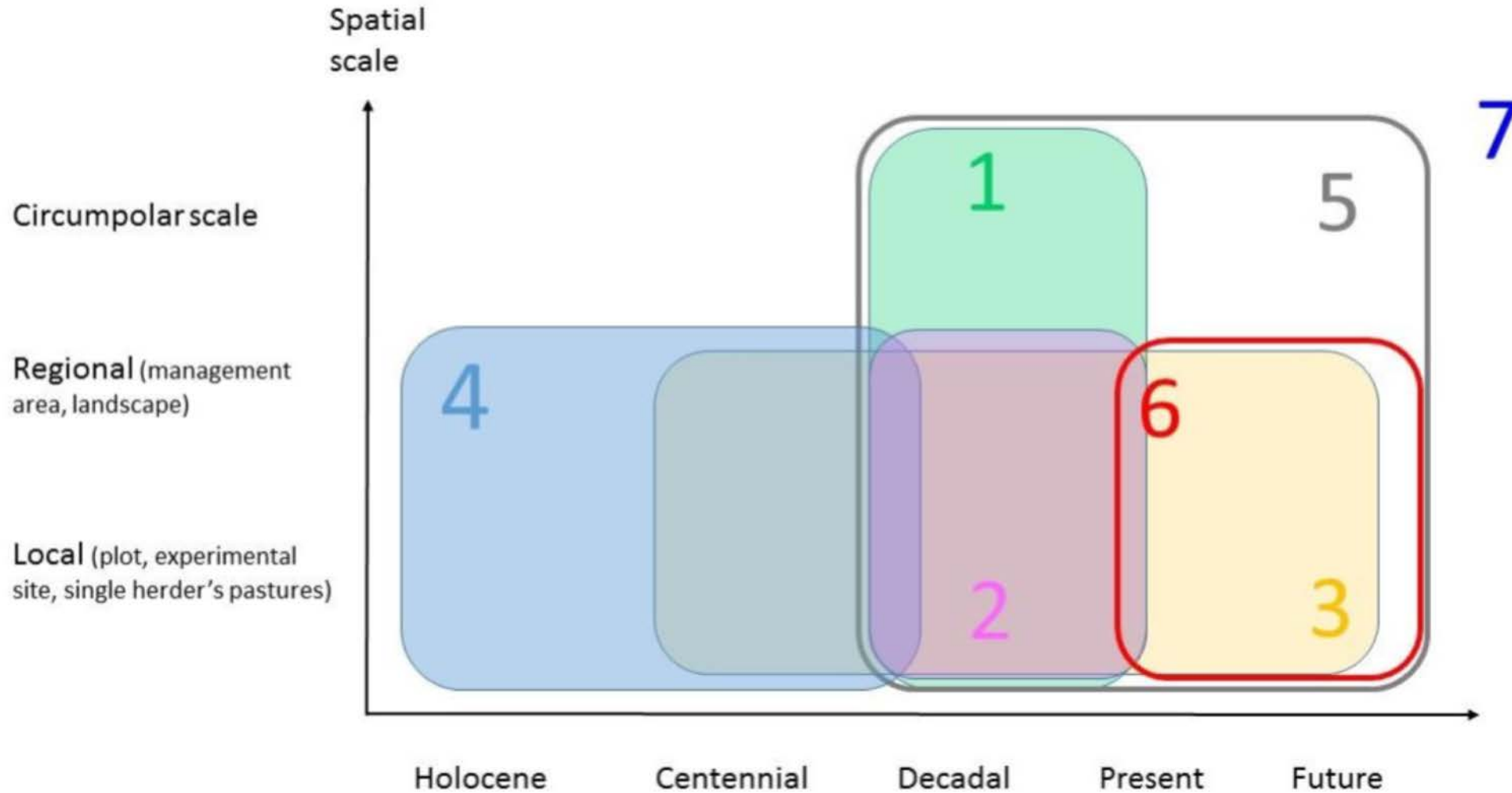


[www.charter-arctic.org](http://www.charter-arctic.org)  
[@CharterArctic](https://twitter.com/CharterArctic)

# CHARTER partners, regions and datasets



CHARTER aims at integrating knowledge across multiple scales spatially (from local to circumpolar) and temporally (from the late Holocene out to ca. 2050). Numbers refer to Work Packages (WPs).





# The “overgrazing” narrative in both northern Fennoscandia and Russia overrides urgently needed discussion of biodiversity, climate change and adaptation

## Reindeer to be culled in Russia's far north due to anthrax outbreak

Governor of the Yamal-Nenets region confirms cull after melting permafrost awakens 'zombie infection'



## Porojen tehotuotanto on ympäristöriski

(Reindeer factory farming is an environmental risk)

PÄÄKIRJOITUS 19.9.2016 2:00 Päivitetty: 19.9.2016 6:56



KOLUMNI

Jukka Ruukki HELSINGIN SANOMAT

Kirjoittaja on HS:n tiedetoimituksen esimies.

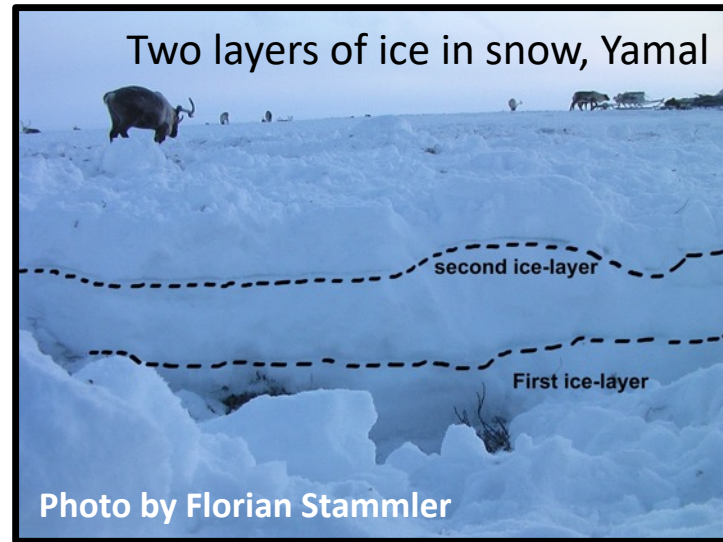
**PORO ON PARASTA**, kuului takavuosien slogan aidon pohjoisen luonnonlihan puolesta. Mainoksissa lapinpukuun sonnustautuneet paimentolaiset kutsuivat etelän city-ihmisiä tutustumaan puolivillin metsäneläimen ainutlaatuiseseen aromiin.

HS

HELSINGIN SANOMAT



<https://nsidc.org/rain-on-snow>



Morning Mix

## Starvation killed 80,000 reindeer after unusual Arctic rains cut off the animals' food supply

The Washington Post

By Ben Guarino November 16, 2016



Reindeer in the Russian peninsula of Yamal. (The Siberian Times)

NSIDC National Snow & Ice Data Center
DATA
RESEARCH
NEWS
ABOUT

Web pages

## Arctic Rain on Snow Study

- Overview
- Team Members
- Rain on Snow Events

### Overview

When rain falls on an existing cover of snow, followed by cold temperatures, or falls as freezing rain, it can leave a hard crust. Surface melt followed by cold can do the same. There is growing evidence that such events are becoming more common in the rapidly warming Arctic, and it is increasingly recognized that they can have pronounced impacts on Arctic wildlife, domesticated reindeer, and human activities, like travel.



# Participatory methods and co-production of knowledge are at the core of CHARTER

- Co-documentation of different ways of knowing (focus groups, interviews, workshops...Covid-19 permitting)
- Contributing to co-development of local planning & policies
- Indigenous scholars included within the consortium
- Co-development achieved during project planning
- Synthesize existing datasets alongside new fieldwork



Thank  
you!



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 869471



ARCTIC CENTRE  
University of Lapland

# Recommended Actions

*to Enhance Understanding and Prediction  
Capabilities on Arctic environmental and Social  
Systems and Its Global Impact*

**Henry Burgess**

**NERC Arctic Office, UK**

ASM3 Science Advisory Board Member

## Theme 2: Understand

- Critical section of ASM3, moving us from observations, to understanding what this knowledge ‘means’; and then bridging to how to respond.
- It is where non-Arctic states and others have so much to offer – in leading work and in framing the global importance of understanding Arctic change.
- There have been great strides in ambition and engagement, and an increasing diversity of voices, experience and knowledge to be celebrated and encouraged.
- Now is the time to redouble our collective efforts.

## Theme 2: Understand

- Truly **understanding environmental risks**, the role of humans as drivers of change and the need to mitigate and adapt.
- A strong focus on **future global weather and climate patterns**, in particular to understand tipping points and cascading effects.
- **Cross-cutting research** to understand the detailed connections between inter-dependent environmental, social and economic systems.
- The ability to **generate predictions at pace** – at local, regional and global scale – to improve confidence and support effective decision-making.
- **Respectful and empowering partnerships** that fully include Indigenous researchers; that produce new knowledge; where challenge is fair and welcome; and that lead to new long-term research partnerships.

# Theme 2: Understand

## Building

- Encourage the development of new large-scale ambitious international partnerships & initiatives with effective data analysis and synthesis.

## Increasing

- Supporting research that shapes the prediction and mitigation of risks and hazards associated with Arctic change. Across pollution, climate and weather, infectious diseases and fisheries, and particularly those areas that impact human health and well-being now and soon.

## Prioritising

- Focus attention on projects that look at connections between various environmental components and those that enhance understanding of complex social, human and eco-systems.

# Questions & Answers

Third Arctic Science Ministerial Webinar Series

## Theme 2: Understand

*Enhance understanding and prediction capability on Arctic environmental and social systems and its global impact*

**Please type any questions related to the webinar series in the Q&A box.**

Any remaining questions may be sent to  
[ml-asm3@mext.go.jp](mailto:ml-asm3@mext.go.jp)





Third Arctic Science Ministerial Webinar Series

## Theme 3: Respond

*Sustainable development; Evaluation of vulnerability and resilience; Application of knowledge*

17 March 2021

13:00 or 16: 00 UTC (TBC)

Program here! ► <https://asm3.org>



## ASM3

3rd Arctic Science Ministerial  
Co-hosted by Iceland and Japan  
NEW DATE: 08-09 May 2021  
Tokyo, Japan



### Webinar Series

This webinar series is designed to increase transparency of the Arctic Science Ministerial science process and to provide additional



### Concept Note

Since the last Arctic Science Ministerial in 2018, changes in the Arctic ecosystem and the resulting impacts locally and globally have



### Briefing Meetings

Briefing meetings for embassies will take place throughout the planning process for ASM3. This page will be updated with relevant

Thank You

ASM3 Email: [ml-asm3@mext.go.jp](mailto:ml-asm3@mext.go.jp)



Government of Iceland  
Ministry of Education,  
Science and Culture



MEXT

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
CULTURE, SPORTS,  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-JAPAN