



# ARCTIC PASSION

## Deliverable 9.3 Stakeholder Engagement Plan

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09 – Connecting the PAN-AOSS with society through communication, dissemination and engagement

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## Document Revision History

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2021-12-10	1.0	Submitted version 1.0 to the EU	Lisa Grosfeld and Josefine Lenz, AWI  Sabrina Heerema and Anna Sinisalo, GRID-Arendal
2023-08-06	2.0	Minor changes in wording of Indigenous People’s communities (entire document), update of target group list (p. 8-10), addition of Ethics Board (p. 11), minor text edits (p. 11/12).	Lisa Grosfeld, AWI  Sabrina Heerema and Anna Sinisalo, GRID-Arendal

## Executive summary

Collaborations of the Arctic PASSION consortium and different groups of rights holders and stakeholders will improve the knowledge about the changing Arctic environment and will develop more targeted and user-friendly services for managing and predicting Arctic change. Through the process of inclusive co-creation, Arctic PASSION strives to support, highlight, and increase the contribution and visibility of Indigenous and Local Knowledge and community-based monitoring within a pan-Arctic Observing System of Systems.

Co-creation and inclusiveness are key principles of Arctic PASSION and are not exclusively embedded in the Pilot Services, but necessitates establishing workshops and dialogue platforms for broad engagement and interaction among rights holders, stakeholders and science partners across all Work Packages.

This Arctic PASSION Stakeholder Engagement Plan identifies the different rights holder and stakeholder groups of the Arctic PASSION project and gives an overview on the different levels of engagement. The main identified groups are Indigenous Peoples' communities, Arctic residents, policy- and decision makers, international organisations, research institutions and programmes, observation services and the private sector.

In relation to the Arctic PASSION Communication plan, the engagement activities and the general engagement processes are described. This plan also briefly outlines a basic framework of values for project cooperation with rights holders and stakeholders and how Arctic PASSION will manage data use with reference to the upcoming Arctic PASSION Data Management Plan.

## Introduction and purpose

Arctic PASSION stands for 'Pan-Arctic Observing System of Systems (pan-AOSS): Implementing observations for societal needs'. The project aims at creating a coherent, integrated pan-AOSS, suitable for end-users' needs and co-created together with Indigenous Peoples' communities and other local communities. Further information about the project is available at [www.arcticpassion.eu](http://www.arcticpassion.eu).

To reach the main objective, various types of interactions between Arctic PASSION partners, rights holders and stakeholders and target groups are essential. The strategies and plans for these interactions are specified in four interrelated documents: the Communication Plan, Dissemination Plan, Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Education & Training Plan. This document focuses on stakeholder engagement. Please refer to the abbreviations list in the Arctic PASSION Communication Plan.

Collaborations of the Arctic PASSION consortium and stakeholders will improve the knowledge about the changing Arctic environment and will develop more targeted and user-friendly services for managing and predicting Arctic change. These services are especially relevant for people living in the Arctic, Arctic actors in general, and have high importance on a global scale, for international change management and the prediction of the future global climate in general.

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan is a living document and gives an overview of the different stakeholder groups of the Arctic PASSION project and how the consortium intends to interact and communicate with these target groups (see Arctic PASSION Communication Plan), respectively. In developing the best possible outcomes, the project's approach is to work in an inclusive and integrative manner, aiming for co-creation through partnering and collaborating with rights holders and stakeholders to meet societal needs in the implementation of the pan-AOSS.

Arctic PASSION embodies the concepts of 'co-development, co-production and co-management' and cuts across cultures, economic sectors, and scientific disciplines. Co-creation is a process of working together in a series of events, where objectives, questions, and outcomes are developed jointly step-by-step. Through the process of inclusive co-creation, Arctic PASSION strives to support, highlight, and increase the contribution and visibility of Indigenous Knowledge and Local Knowledge and community-based monitoring within a pan-AOSS. Supporting community-driven observing capacity, access to it, co-created by the communities themselves, enhances observing activities in general and will address both knowledge and societal needs with particular benefits for Arctic people. In Arctic PASSION, co-creation is embedded in the Pilot Services (PS) (see the Pilot Services in Work Package 4 described in the Grant Agreement) which have been co-created with rights holders and stakeholders.

## Identification of stakeholders

Arctic PASSION is part of the EU Polar Cluster and thus contributes to and identifies strongly with the polar research expertise aggregating in the EU Polar Cluster. According to the EU-PolarNet White Paper on the status of stakeholder engagement in polar research<sup>1</sup>, stakeholders are defined as:

*“[...] those who are potentially affected by or concerned about, interested in, important to, or having any power over the polar research agenda or will be end-users of polar research outcomes. Stakeholders form a wide variety of public and private sectors including policy, business, governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and a wider society, including local and Indigenous peoples.”<sup>1</sup>*

More specifically for Arctic PASSION, stakeholders are individuals, groups or organisations that benefit or may benefit from the output of the pan-AOSS, also because they are affected by the environmental changes in the Arctic regions. Furthermore, stakeholders are also those who can make decisions or policies in the Arctic and those individuals, groups or organisations that can influence the funding, sustainability, interoperability and organisation of the Arctic Observing System or their output data of any kind or are interested in Arctic PASSIONs scientific or economic impacts. Right holders are individuals or groups holding rights and entitlements in the Arctic and will be distinguished from the term stakeholder in this document.

Arctic PASSION’s identified rights holder and stakeholder groups have different levels of engagement depending on their relationship to the project and can engage as equal partners, collaborators, advisors and experts<sup>1</sup>:

### Equal partner

- Initial meetings during the project planning phase.
- Co-designing the project.
- Co-production of knowledge.
- Regular updates and meetings.
- Feedback and results are given in understandable format & language.
- Full beneficiaries and the 6 Indigenous Peoples’ communities who are coordinated and funded via a beneficiary (incl. budget for the time used for the project).

### Collaborators

- Initial contact during the proposal phase.
- Intensely collaborating with the project.
- Regular interaction, impact on the project’s activities and co-creation of results.
- Regular updates and meetings.

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Latola et al. (2020).

- No beneficiary, but travel costs might be covered.

#### Advisors/Advisory Board

- External advisors support the Steering Group and Coordination Team in the project's scope management (see Arctic PASSION Deliverable 10.4.).
- Provide advice and feedback during the project.
- Project's updates are regularly shared.
- Meeting and travel costs covered (e.g., General Assemblies).

#### Invited experts

- Right holders and stakeholders are invited to meetings or workshops.
- Travel costs can be covered if needed.

#### Consulted Experts

- Input asked for anonymously e.g., in online surveys or handouts shared publicly.
- No results shared, no feedback.
- No compensation for time used.

## Framework for rights holder and stakeholder dialogues

The basic framework for project cooperation with the whole diversity of rights holder and stakeholder groups is based on the following values<sup>1</sup>:

1. Engaging early and continually throughout the project's duration
2. Building trust via assigned contact persons within the project
3. Engaging with rights holders and stakeholders via liaison persons or intermediates outside the project (depending on the rights holder or stakeholder)
4. Respecting the diverse needs and adapting to different interests in involvement<sup>2</sup>
5. Adapting the method and tool of sharing knowledge to the specific audiences
6. Enabling rights holders and stakeholders to be closely involved in the project
7. Ensuring time and funding (e.g., (local) meetings, travel costs, visits)
8. Avoiding excessive consultation burden (overlaps, multiple instances of reaching out, coordinating internally, etc.) by using combined activities and the internal coordination platform of the EU Polar Cluster

All collaborations with rights holders and stakeholders are conducted free from coercion, manipulation, and intimidation.

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<sup>2</sup> Baer, K., Latola, K., & Scheepstra, A. (2019).

## Rights holders and stakeholders of the Arctic PASSION project

### ***Indigenous Peoples***

The participants of the Arctic PASSION project as mainly non-Arctic residents and guests of the Arctic, wish to extend great appreciation to the Indigenous Peoples and local communities on whose lands and seas the project is privileged to conduct this work.

Arctic PASSION has the honour to work together with six Indigenous Peoples' communities as equal partners, these include the Skolt Sámi; Inuit; Tahltan Nation; Inupiaq and Yupiaq, Gwich'in and Faroese communities.

The identified rights holders and stakeholders for the Arctic PASSION project, whereas many of these groups intersect, are included in the list below (Please refer to the abbreviations list in the Arctic PASSION Communication Plan). With the advancing duration of the project, new rights holders or stakeholders might be identified or defined by other rights holders, stakeholder groups or project partners, and new contacts will be established along the way. Those will be added to the list (last update after the second year of the project).

- **Six Indigenous Peoples' partner communities and organisations representing partner communities:**

- Skolt Sámi (represented by Saa'mi Nue'tt Organisation, Finland)

- Inuit (represented by the Hunters Organisation and Village Council in Attu, Greenland)

- Tahltan Nation (represented by Tū'dese'chō, Wholistic Indigenous Leadership Development Society, Canada)

- Inupiaq and Yupiaq (represented by Unalakleet Tribal Council and the Bering Strait School District, USA)

- Gwich'in Nation (represented by the Department of Cultural Heritage with the Gwich'in Tribal Council (GTC) (Canada)

- Faroese communities (represented by Fróðskaparsetrið, Faroe Islands)

*Former partners before the Russian war in Ukraine:*

- Chukchi, Even, Yukaghir, Dolgan (represented by Local Chapter of RAIPON and Nennen and Nutendli Indigenous Communities, Russia)

- Khanty, Mansi (represented by Save Jugra Organisation)

- Skolt, Ter, Kildin Sámi (represented by House of Culture, Lovozero, Russia)

- **Additional Indigenous Peoples' communities, representatives and organisations of Indigenous Peoples**, such as the Inuvialuit in Tuktoyaktuk/Canada, Permanent Participants of the Arctic Council, Indigenous Peoples' Secretariat

- **Indigenous Youth**



- **Local communities, representatives and organisations of local communities**, such as the Arctic Mayors Forum and local governments in Northern cities and towns in the Arctic
- **Arctic Youth**
- **Representatives of minority and vulnerable groups**
- **Policy and decision-makers:**
  - On a local and sub-national level: Arctic mayors, community leaders, local/regional authorities, local/regional governments and agencies
  - On a national level: State agencies, national ministry representatives
  - Members of the EU parliament
  - Arctic Council and its Working Groups
  - Arctic Science Ministerial + Arctic Science Funders Forum
- **European and international organisations**, such as EEA, GEO, UNEP, UNESCO, WMO/Global Cryosphere Watch, and other environmental agencies and science policy organisations
- **Local and global non-governmental organisations**, such as WWF
- **Scientific Community:**
  - Early-career scientists
  - Science organisations such as IASC, ISAC
  - Research Institutes
  - International research projects, programmes and networks such as EU Polar Cluster, ESA Polar Science Cluster, Arctic Frontiers, Arctic GOOS Regional Alliance, ArcticNet, BNSR-GCOS, CANDAC (Canadian Network for the Detection of Change), CCADI (led by partner AINA), EuroGOOS, European Commission Polar Task Force, NABOS (UAF), NCA, RNA-CoObs (UAF), T-MOSAiC, SAON, SIPN2, UN Decade Collaborative Centre for Ocean Prediction, YOPP
- **Observation services:** Copernicus services, ESA, EuroGEO services, and other EU and national services (e.g., Norwegian, Finnish and Danish Ice services), local, regional and private meteorological services
- **Private sector** (industry & business): Arctic Economic Council, Aker Arctic, Lloyd's Register, The Nautical Institute, and international to local industry associations e.g. for tourism or regional chambers of commerce
- **Further end-users of the pilot services:** Environmental agencies, local people, modellers, users of Copernicus services, local, regional and private meteorological services, local authorities, private sector
- **Arctic PASSION consortium**

- **EU Commission (EC):** Horizon 2020, EU Project Management Officer, Competence Centre on Participatory and Deliberative Democracy
- **Media:** European and Arctic regional media, national and local media in Arctic countries and communities participating in the project
- **General public:** The ‘beneficiary population’ in Arctic states and communities participating in the project, and European society.

## Rights holder and stakeholder engagement process

Rights holder and stakeholder engagement are realised in different ways and on different levels. To fulfil the project objectives, which encompass a bi-directional communication and the co-creation of useful output, the initial approach by Arctic PASSION will be to listen to the needs, experiences, expectations, thoughts, wishes, and visions of each specific group. In an open and active discussion, expectations and concerns can be addressed in an appropriate manner. All inputs will then be integrated into the further progress of the project. Arctic PASSION participants will adapt, prioritise and steer working processes such that rights holder and stakeholder needs will be taken into account in the framework of the project’s objectives and work plan. Throughout the duration of the project, Arctic PASSION aims to build trust and meaningful cooperation, by regular and personal contact with the rights holders and stakeholders as far as possible. Building on open communication and honest feedback will help to improve the project’s output, as well as to maximise the impact. This will include the development of the information services (see the Pilot Services in WP 4 described in the Grant Agreement) and products. The goal is that the co-created project developments and outputs provide an information basis that rights holders and stakeholders can use to make knowledge based-decisions in support of a prosperous, sustainable and environmentally secure Arctic. Aiming at a mutual benefit is an essential motivation for both sides and is key for good and sustainable, fruitful and inclusive teamwork.

In any kind of dialogue with Indigenous Peoples’ communities and local communities, Arctic PASSION respects the local, cultural and traditional community structures. The Arctic PASSION partners and project’s assigned contact persons are guests in the Arctic territories and will act in accordance with local practises and rules. As far as it is possible, the project attempts to include a diversity of individuals (in gender, age, backgrounds etc.) in rights holders and stakeholder groups. Thus, the meetings with communities are intended to be culturally appropriate and give an open and inclusive frame for everybody to raise their voice. The opinions and needs of the people who are most affected by the changing Arctic environment are particularly important to Arctic PASSION. An understanding of the needs will allow Arctic PASSION to identify gaps and priorities relevant to the project’s goal.

In any kind of rights holder or stakeholder dialogue with different political levels, Arctic PASSION respects the different levels of hierarchies and tries to address them with the appropriate working language. Specific documents for policy- and decision-makers will be compiled in the colloquial language (e.g., avoiding jargon).

To make the rights holder and stakeholder dialogues more stable, easier and personal, intermediates and/or personal contact persons for each group will be assigned or established (for example: Snowchange being the focal point for the partnering Indigenous Peoples' communities). This way communication is channelled and controlled by those who already have established close contacts. These persons maintain a cautious and individualised approach to national policies and rules. Arctic PASSION strives to maintain good contact by being available, easily approachable, responsive and close. Arctic PASSION has an Ethics Board (see Arctic PASSION Risk Management Plan (Deliverable 10.3)). In case of any ethical conflicts or cultural misunderstandings, rights holders, stakeholders or researchers can raise these directly to the Board. It will be assessed which content, amount and regularity of information flow are the best to be communicated via the most suitable communication channel to rights holders and stakeholders.

In the beginning of the project, two surveys (see Arctic PASSION Communication Plan and Arctic PASSION Education & Training Plan) on communication channels and education formats were conducted, so that Arctic PASSION can best adapt to preferred channels where feasible within the project capacity. Each rights holder and stakeholder group has different communication preferences, time availability, different locations and occasions of presence.

Adjusting the engagement methods to each group and actively visiting rights holders and stakeholders in their environments is key to maximise involvement in, input to and impact on the project, and to maximise the project's impact in turn. The project will strive to make the best use of funds reserved for the purpose of supporting rights holders and stakeholders, in particular from Indigenous Peoples' communities and local communities to allow involvement in the process. For easier communication with all individuals of a community, selected messages and products will be translated into their own languages.

Although in Arctic PASSION co-creation is embedded in our Pilot Services, our facilitation of co-creation and inclusiveness will not stop at the Pilot Services but necessitates establishing workshops and dialogue platforms for broad engagement and interaction among rights holders, stakeholders and science partners across all WPs. We will make virtual participation possible, both to prepare for the unpredictable COVID-19, to expand the number of people that can participate, and to minimise our carbon footprint.

Workshops and dialogues will support fruitful multi-directional interaction and a consensus-based approach to finding solutions to balance different and sometimes competing and conflicting interests of Arctic residents, scientists, policymakers and the public and private sectors with respect to observing priorities, data ownership and sharing, and policy frameworks. Workshops

will cover such topics as the definition of user-needs, the co-creation of services, and the establishment of trusted communication channels, for example, between people living in the Arctic and organisations outside the Arctic that plan and run various observing system infrastructures (e.g. satellites, research vessels, etc). Discussions will engage a diversity of the mentioned rights holder and stakeholder groups above.

Engagement activities planned and communication channels used for each rights holder and stakeholder group are laid out in the Arctic PASSION Communication Plan and the Arctic PASSION Dissemination Plan.

## Use of data

The foundation for data management are the FAIR<sup>3</sup> (**f**indable, **a**ccessible, **i**nteroperable, **r**eusable) and CARE<sup>4</sup> (**c**ollective benefit, **a**uthority to control, **r**esponsibility, **e**thics) guiding principles applied to data and services (see Arctic PASSION Data Management Plan (Deliverable 2.1)). Arctic PASSION will demonstrate the benefit of structured data management, through our Pilot Services, by building on existing frameworks/infrastructures and working through the entire data life cycle from planning, collection, to curation and with data managers and end-users of data. Emphasis will be put on leveraging the strengths of Indigenous Knowledge, Local Knowledge and natural science data and acknowledging that some information may be sensitive as compared to environmental parameters and require special treatment, such as following the First Nations principles of OCAP<sup>5</sup> (**o**wnership, **c**ontrol, **a**ccess and **p**ossession).

## Implementation of the plan

This plan lays the foundation for Arctic PASSION rights holder and stakeholder engagement activities over the next four years.

The Pilot Service leads and each contact person working with specific rights holders and stakeholders will have the responsibility to establish trustful and inclusive cooperation.

WP 9 will monitor the engagement activities planned and will update this plan as necessary.

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<sup>3</sup> Wilkinson, M., et al. (2016).

<sup>4</sup> Research Data Alliance International Indigenous Data Sovereignty Interest Group (2019).

<sup>5</sup> First Nations Information Governance Centre (1998).

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