

Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON)

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SEARCH
Science Steering Committee Meeting
Arlington, VA
28-30 October 2008

SAON Initiating Group (SAON IG)

- Formed in early 2007 after the Arctic Council Salekhard Declaration of October 2006. Three IG meetings:
 - Tromsø, Norway, January 2007.
 - Hanover, NH, USA, March 2007.
 - Stockholm, Sweden, June 2007.
- Define the purpose of the SAON IG and develop a process for achieving that purpose during IPY. For more information go to:
http://www.arcticobserving.org/images/stories/saon_doc_final2.pdf

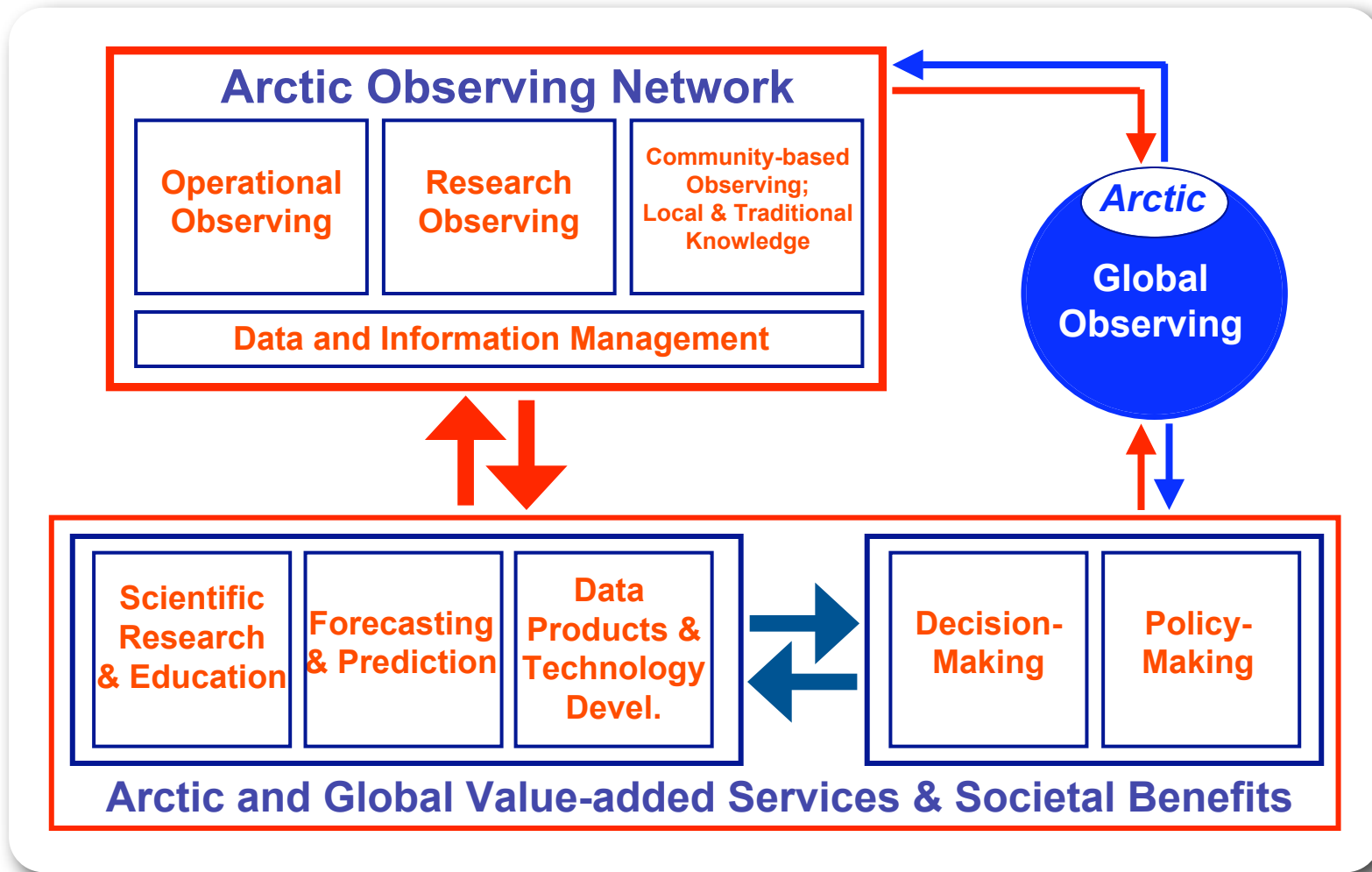
Members:

Arctic Indigenous Peoples Secretariat; Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program; Arctic Ocean Science Board; CliC; European Polar Board; Forum of Arctic Research Operators; Global Ocean Observing System; International Arctic Science Committee; International Arctic Social Sciences Association; International Permafrost Association; IPY Programme Office; International Study of Arctic Change; National Science Foundation.

SAON Purpose

- Develop a set of recommendations on how to
 1. achieve long-term Arctic-wide observing activities that provide free, open and timely access to high quality data, obtained at the Earth's surface and from space, that will
 2. realise pan-Arctic and global value-added services and provide societal benefits, with particular emphasis on *Arctic environmental system and socio-economic change*.
- Recommendations to be submitted to the Arctic Council (Senior Arctic Officials, 11/08; Ministers, 03/09), IASC and others by the end of IPY.
- The SAON IG will be dissolved by the end of IPY.

SAON Vision



Conceptual framework for a
a multi-nation, pan-Arctic Observing Network

SAON Process

- Three workshops
 1. Stockholm, November 2007, Swedish IPY Committee.
 2. Edmonton, March 2008, Canadian IPY Secretariat.
 3. Helsinki, October 2008, Finnish Meteorological Institute.
- Address five questions
 1. What Arctic observing activities currently exist?
 2. What spatial, temporal and disciplinary gaps exist?
 3. How will gaps be filled and the entire effort sustained?
 4. How are these activities to be coordinated and integrated?
 5. How are free, open and timely access to data to be achieved?
- For more information, including workshop reports, go to:
<http://www.arcticobserving.org>

SAON IG Recommendations (draft)

The Arctic Council member states should

- 1.** Sustain the current level of observing activities, and data and information management services, and increase the scope of activities in the future.
- 2.** Make data and information freely, openly and easily accessible in a timely fashion at minimal cost to all users, and encourage international partners to adopt the same policy.
- 3.** Each create an inter-agency/department group for coordination and integration of their Arctic observing activities, and data and information services. Those groups will form the basis for inter-governmental cooperation in Arctic observing.
- 4.** Increase inter-governmental cooperation in coordinating and integrating Arctic observing activities, and data and information management services, and facilitate international collaboration among operational agencies, researchers, and northern residents and communities.
- 5.** Welcome non-Arctic states and international organizations as partners.
- 6.** Develop an Arctic observing portal.
- 7.** Create an Arctic observing secretariat.

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5. Welcome non-Arctic states and international organizations as partners.
- ~~6. Develop an Arctic observing portal.~~
- ~~7. Create an Arctic observing secretariat.~~
- x. Establish an *Arctic Observing Forum* that will build on the SAON IG process during IPY.