

IPCAP report for ACAP meeting, February 2-4, 2016

CLEO Project

IPCAP Expert Group Meeting

IPCAP expert group met Wednesday, January 27 via teleconference organized by the AC Secretariat. The expert group received an update on current AC projects in the U.S. Chairmanship, including the CLEO and the Community-based Black Carbon Assessment. Ideas were generated on how to prepare for potential Ministerial deliverables in 2017. The group also discussed the potential workshop in Russian, with Raipon requesting collaboration in developing a document that would outline potential workshop themes, locations, and timing. IPCAP partners will be following up to develop the outline for comment and to elicit ideas for the potential workshop. Finally, IPCAP discussed a new project idea suggested

CLEO Update

The CLEO project is well underway and making progress toward its short-term and long-term deliverables. The project offers the potential for multiple ministerial deliverables under the U.S. Chairmanship as part of phase one of project activity. The first is the establishment of a North American regional chapter of LEO in North American Arctic. To this end, IPCAP partners working through the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation have finalized contract terms for ANTHC to develop curriculum and guidance for new observers and hubs, a workshop in Canada, and training for new observers and hubs. Potential observer communities, community organizations in British Columbia, Northwest Territories, and Yukon Territory have been identified and are being consulted for their further engagement. There will be a workshop in July 2016 in Canada to further these efforts. The exact dates and location of that workshop are to be determined.

The second potential deliverable is the framework to explore the expansion of the LEO network. Discussions are underway to bring in additional partners, ACAP partners are engaging other AC working groups, and exploring partnerships and the potential for a cross-chairmanship initiative. To that end, the Finland, Sweden, and the U.S. are planning a workshop in Inari, Finland June 1-3. This workshop will look at indigenous and local observation networks and seek to develop an outline for a framework to expand and link observation networks across the Arctic, establishing a Circumpolar Local Environmental Observer Network, or CLEO.

Helping the project achieve some of these goals and helping observers in the field, the CLEO project partners are developing new tools. The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium has released the LEO Reporter Mobile application now available in Android and iOS. Launched in January 2016, the new mobile app is making observations easier to record, even in areas without cellular access. IPCAP partners are also working through the CEC project to develop training materials, mentioned above, that will be hosted online by July 2016

The big questions for CLEO moving forward are:

- how to link with other observation systems
- Securing sustainable, long-term funding for CLEO
- Coordinating and collaborating with other Arctic Council working groups in the resilience pillar of the U.S. Chairmanship

Community-based Black Carbon Assessment

This project, which is a collaboration of the Aleut International Association, Arctic Alliance, Alaska Native Science Commission, University of Alaska-Anchorage, and the University of Alaska-Fairbanks, with support from the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, will: assess, on a pilot basis, local sources of black carbon emissions from a representative sampling of Arctic Alaskan and Russian villages; provide a broad characterization of associated risks to public health; explore short and long-term mitigation options; assess and, where possible, strengthen local capacities to identify, mitigate and prevent black carbon pollution; draft a framework tool for community-based assessments of black carbon emissions and health risks; and educate local communities about black carbon emissions and risks.

The project team has conducted extensive project development consultations in Alaska, Norway, Finland and Russia. Consultations have focused on consulting relevant national, regional and community authorities; expanding the project's expertise and knowledge base; consulting with public health experts; identifying criteria for selecting target communities; seeking financial assistance for the Project's full implementation. An application for project funding is pending before the Arctic Council's Project Support Instrument, and the project team is in discussions with NEFCO staff regarding prospective target villages in four locations in Russia: Murmansk Oblast, Karelia, Arkhangelsk Oblast and the Nenets Autonomous Okrug. Further consultations have been conducted in St. Petersburg with NEFCO and possible project partners that have implemented renewable energy technologies in Nenets Autonomous Okrug and other consultations have explored opportunities for synergies with ongoing work with Sami communities in Northwest Russia.

Update on RAIPON workshop

Raipon is looking to conduct a meeting on contaminants including all Arctic States and would like input on the workshop theme, dates, and location. IPCAP partners will prepare a short paper on elements of the workshop for group comments.

New Project Ideas

Engaging Indigenous Communities in the Arctic on Contaminated Sites (TBC)

Solid Waste handling in Arctic communities

Cross-cutting project looking at solid waste in the Arctic as both human health and an infrastructure project; also a contaminants issue