

IPCAP UPDATE FOR ACAP August 30-September 1, 2016

Project Update on Establishing a Circumpolar Local Environmental Observer Network

The project to Establish a Circumpolar Local Environmental Observer Network is advancing at a rapid pace and achieving the goals and milestones laid out in the project plan. In working toward establishing a North American regional network, the project partners are pleased to announce that two new LEO chapters, or hubs, will be launched in Canada in 2016/2017. The University of Victoria in British Columbia and the government of the Northwest Territories have determined funding for 3 years to support hub operations and will begin training activities in the coming months. The first workshop in Canada will take place in British Columbia in September 2016 and the second workshop will take place in Northwest Territories in early 2017. Additionally, these bodies will bring their own funding for the 3 years of operation, so the funding from the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation will now be used for outreach and engagement in Yukon and Nunavut. The LEO Network is growing quickly, doubling the number of active observers, doubling the number of observations and expanding beyond the Arctic to the lower 48 states of the US, with new hubs opening that will be managed by the Yurok tribe in northern California and Northwest Indian College.

In laying the groundwork for Phase 2 of the CLEO project, ACAP partners from Finland, Sweden, and the United States co-hosted a two-day workshop in Inari, Finland June 1-3. The workshop convened 25 individuals representing 5 member states, Permanent Participants from the Saami Council, and NGO's from across the Fenno-Scandinavian region. The workshop was held at the Sajos Centre which serves as the location for the Sami Parliament as well as a hub of activity for the Sami community in Finland. The workshop featured sessions that included:

- Observation Networks Active in the Arctic
- Environmental Capacity-Building in U.S. Indigenous Communities – US EPA Tribal Assistance Program
- Traditional Knowledge Panel Discussion
- Data Systems and Mobile Technology
- Building Circumpolar Networks
- LEO Training Modules/Roundtable:
 - Context of Local Observations
 - Mobilizing LEO Networks
 - Practical Applications for LEO Observational Data

Following the workshop, attendees are reviewing the workshop report and will be contributing the development of the Framework for Expansion for LEO, a draft of which is being shared with ACAP for consideration and comment. The Framework will be presented to ACAP for approval to submit to SAO and Ministers for the 2017 Ministerial. To see the full list of attendees, agenda, and the presentations from the workshop, please follow the link to the ACAP site here:

<http://www.arctic-council.org/index.php/en/our-work2/8-news-and-events/398-cleo-workshop-set-to-take-place-in-inari-june-2-3>

Arctic Indigenous Community Waste Workshop Update

Overview: A collaborative international workshop that builds upon US EPA's statewide household hazardous waste management efforts is underway in Alaska. This effort draws upon close and historic connections and working relationships between communities in the Bering Strait to share best practices

on household and community solid and hazardous waste management, and strengthen public participation and community outreach. Experts from both Alaska and Chukotka will share approaches and tools to enhance household hazardous waste management in the Bering Strait area.

Location/Date Details: Nome, Alaska – September 19-22, 2016 – 3 day workshop and ½ day Bering Strait Messenger Network Meeting - Anticipating around 30-40 participants

Key Partners: Institute of the North, Kawerak, Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) Alaska and Chukotka, Aleut International Association, and Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC)

Agenda and Workshop Overview Description: We are happy to share further details with any interested IPCAP or ACAP member. For more information please contact, Katherine Buckley (buckley.katherine@epa.gov)

Community-based Black Carbon Assessment

Overview: 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.

Decisions at the Last ACAP Meeting: At the ACAP meeting in Washington, DC on February 2-4, 2016 the following decision was recorded:

ACAP encourages leads of the Community-Based Black Carbon and Public Health Assessment Project to undertake the activities that need to be done to get a Final Investment Decision from PSI as soon as possible, including the addition of Russian sites.

Activities since the last ACAP Meeting: Subsequent to this meeting a memo outlining outreach and connections with potential partners in the Russian Federation was sent to NEFCO which included the following:

During 2015, following ACAP's approval of the Community-Based Black Carbon and Public Health Project and with the support of the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, the AIA project team held detailed discussions and entered into partnerships with two Russian organizations – the All Russian Research Institute for Nature Protection and SRI Atmosfera. Discussions with AIA's Russian partners led to an agreement to pursue cooperation and implement projects within the Russian territories of Kamchatka and/or Chukotka, where AIA has local partners; Nenets Autonomous Okrug and Northwest Russia.

In addition to these discussions, AIA participated in field missions and meetings with NEFCO staff in order to explore potential synergies between AIA's project and ongoing or prospective NEFCO/PSI projects in Russia. In particular, AIA traveled to Arkhangelsk and Naryan-Mar to participate in

discussions with regional and local officials. Opportunities for synergy were identified with the following NEFCO/PSI projects:

- *Energy Supply Conversion from Diesel in Dolgoshcheliye and Leshukonskoye*: NEFCO is submitting an application for funding of a pilot investment stage project in two villages in Arkhangelsk Oblast. The application envisages an add-on component that would incorporate all or elements of the Community-Based Black Carbon and Public Health Assessment Project. AIA would welcome this cooperation.
- *Nenets Autonomous Okrug (NAO)*: AIA participated in discussions with Okrug officials, the head of the Reindeer Herders union and organizations that have implemented wind-diesel project in NAO and gained preliminary expressions of interest in cooperation. NAO has identified three villages (Karataika, Indika and Nes) for wind-diesel projects with possible co-funding by the EU's Kolarctic programme.
- *Valday Cluster Upgrade for Black Carbon Reduction in the Republic of Karelia*: The AIA team is available to provide follow-up monitoring and community outreach regarding black carbon emissions and health threats in the five settlements where NEFCO and USEPA have been working and in the three where future work is anticipated.
- *Wind diesel project at Agricultural Cooperative "Tundra"*: Although NEFCO and USEPA have concluded this project's activities; AIA would be interested in exploring the potential for establishing partnerships with the Sami communities in Northwest Russia associated with this project.

Decision by the PSI Committee: At its meeting of March 22, 2016 the PSI Committee decided to approve a final investment decision (FID) allocation of up to EUR 135,500 to finance a study that covers Task 3 (demonstration project) of the IPCAP project "Community-Based Black Carbon and Public Health Assessment", also requesting the fund managers to develop the project further to enable a FID for the remaining components of the project by the PSI Committee at a future meeting, or intersessionally.

Future Activities: AIA and the NEFCO program officer are working closely together to proceed with a scope of work that provides a demonstration project which includes a desk study, air monitoring, and proof of the project concept allowing a subsequent FID for the full project scope. AIA will produce an interim project report outlining the demonstration project outcomes as a deliverable for the conclusion of the U.S. Chairmanship.