



Social and Human Sciences Working Group Meeting

15 April 2013

09.00-18.00

(Lunch 12.00-14.00, Coffee Breaks 10.30-10.45 and 16.10-16.30)

Krakow, Poland
Dom Polonii

Agenda

Participants:

WG MEMBERS PRESENT:

PETER SCHWEITZER - USA, CHAIR
GAIL FONDAHL - CANADA, VICE CHAIR
LOUWRENS HACQUEBORD – NETHERLANDS,
PAST CHAIR
LONG WEI – CHINA
LUDEK BROZ- CZECH REPUBLIC
ROBERT CHR. THOMSEN – ALTERNATE FOR DENMARK
ARJA RAUTIO - FINLAND
JOACHIM O. HABECK - GERMANY
GISLI PALSSON - ICELAND
JOAN NYMAND LARSEN - ICELAND
D. MAJUMDAR - INDIA
HIROKI TAKAKURA - JAPAN
DONGMIN JIN - KOREA
HALVOR DANNEVIG - NORWAY

RYSZARD CZARNY – POLAND
PETER SKÖLD - SWEDEN
PHILIPPE GESLIN - SWITZERLAND
MICHAEL BRAVO - UK
SVEN D. HAAKANSON - USA

WG MEMBER NOT PRESENT:

LONE DIRCKINCK-HOLMFELD – DENMARK
SYLVIE BLANGY - FRANCE, VICE CHAIR
GUNHILD HOOGENSEN GJORV - NORWAY

SECRETARIAT

VOLKER RACHOLD (IASC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY)

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1 OPENING AND REPORTING (09.00-09.30)

1.1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

PETER SCHWEITZER

1.2 REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

PETER SCHWEITZER

1.3 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

VOLKER RACHOLD

- The minutes of the 2012 meeting is given in ANNEX 1.3

1.4 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

PETER SCHWEITZER

2 MAIN ISSUES (09.30-16.00)

2.1 REPORTS ON SHWG ACTIVITIES

2.1.1 HISTORIES AND METHODOLOGIES OF ARCTIC SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES AND ARTS

PETER SKÖLD

The aim of this workshop, which was held in Umeå (Sweden) in December 2012, was to highlight one of the prioritized research items of the IASC SHWG, and to identify the challenges and problems of the research field outside natural sciences and technology. Relevant themes comprise scientific representations of the Arctic, the history of environmental monitoring and the use of historical documents, traditional knowledge and scientific practice, indigenous self-representation, the relevance and influence of research, driving-forces, and the construction of knowledge and expertise. The objective is to strengthen human Arctic sciences, to investigate the methodologies, and to problematize the relation between evolving modernity and conceptions and experiences of the North.



2.1.2 ARCTIC HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT II

JOAN NYMAND LARSON

At its last meeting, the SHWG had decided to continue supporting the Arctic Human Development Report II.

2.1.3 KODIAK ISLAND WORKSHOP, ADAPTATION TO ECOSYSTEM CHANGE

PETER SCHWEITZER

The workshop, which was planned for 2012, had to be postponed and under this agenda item Peter Schweitzer will present a status report.

2.1.4 COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

VOLKER RACHOLD

Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present a summary of SHWG activities that were completed last year, including

- Public Perception on Arctic Change;
- WG Representation in the Responding to Change Workshop.

2.2 REVIEW OF IASC ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE SHWG

2.2.1 CIRCUMARCTIC RANGIFER MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

VOLKER RACHOLD

The CARMA Workshop, which was supported as a cross-cutting initiative and also received funding from SHWG, was held in Vancouver, Canada from Dec. 4-6, 2012. The theme of the meeting focused on priorities identified at CARMA 7: 1) Managing and monitoring through abundance, 2) calving ground conservation, 3) assessment of cumulative effects of development and climate change.

2.2.2 IASC DATA POLICY ACTION

VOLKER RACHOLD

To reinforce IASC's commitment to robust data management and sharing activities, IASC Council decided to form a small advisory group of external experts and interested Council members that would develop and recommend

a data policy, including steps toward implementation of the policy, that would provide guidance for IASC supported activities. At its meeting in January 2013, the Action Group developed a draft IASC data policy which will be presented to IASC Council at the ASSW 2013.

- The draft IASC Data Policy is given in ANNEX 2.2.2.

2.2.3 IASC ACTION GROUP ON GEOSCIENCES

VOLKER RACHOLD

To address the issue, that geological research is underrepresented in the current WG structure, IASC Council agreed to form an Action Group on Geosciences (AGG) with the terms of reference to provide strategic advice on both long-term opportunities and priorities in the field of Geoscience research in a broader sense. At its meeting in February 2013, the Action Group developed a report, including a set of recommendations, which will be presented to IASC Council at the ASSW 2013.

- The draft of the IASC Action Group on Geosciences is given in ANNEX 2.2.3.

2.3 OTHER SOCIAL AND HUMAN ACTIVITIES EXTERNAL TO IASC

The agenda item will include brief updates on external activities that could be of interest to the SHWG.

2.3.1 ARCTIC RESEARCH CENTRE (ARCUM)

PETER SKÖLD

Since its establishment in the 1960s, a focus on northern issues has been a characteristic mark of Umeå University. There is a logic explanation to this, due to our geographical position. The point of departure is distinguished research and education that take a great responsibility for development of the region. Our ambition is to serve both the local and the global communities with relevant knowledge and creative people. Over the years a great number of scientific and scholarly projects have created a firm basis for international collaboration involving all the university faculties. With the opening of Arcum – Arctic Research Centre at Umeå University - we now strive for an increased focus on the circumpolar area, where a dynamic and internationally attractive environment constitutes a strong resource.

2.3.2 THE SWEDISH HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE POLAR COMMITTEE PETER SKÖLD

The objective of the new Swedish Humanities and Social Science Polar Committee is to strengthen the position of humanities and social science within polar research in Sweden. Peter Sköld, the president of the committee, will give a report on the goals and aims of the committee.

2.4 NEW ACTIVITIES FROM THE IASC CROSS-CUTTING ROUNDS VOLKER RACHOLD

A call for new cross-cutting proposals has been launched in November last year. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will introduce the initiatives that have been selected for funding.

2.5 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ARCTIC RESEARCH PLANNING (ICARP III) PETER SCHWEITZER

Under this agenda item, the Chair will introduce the draft concept for IASC's 25th Anniversary Celebration, including the Third International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP III).

- The ICARP III concept paper is given in ANNEX 2.5

The IASC WGs are expected to play an important role in the ICARP III.

2.6 REVIEW OF WG FOCI PETER SCHWEITZER

The Scientific Foci of the Working Group had been discussed and agreed upon at the first WG meeting in Potsdam (Germany) in January 2011. Under this agenda item, the WG is asked to revisit these foci and to discuss possible changes or additions.

2.7 PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

2.7.1 NEW ACTIVITIES/TASK BROUGHT FORWARD BY MEMBERS

Under this agenda item, new suggestions and proposals on WG activities will be brought forward by members of the Working Groups. This will include short presentations followed by a discussion.

2.7.1.1 MISTRA ARCTIC FUTURE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
PETER SKÖLD

The Swedish Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research (Mistra) has launched a call for a multi-disciplinary research program within humanities and social sciences. The program is aimed for a four-year period and awards 3.4 million Euro (with additional 25% own funding). The aim is to promote the knowledge about social, economic, and policy relevant aspects of a long-term sustainable development in the Arctic regions and to contribute to an adequate and efficient use of research results in policy and decision making processes concerning the development of the Arctic. The program will start in autumn of 2012.

2.7.2 NEW ACTIVITIES FROM EXTERNAL INPUT
PETER SCHWEITZER

An invitation to submit ideas and proposals for the WG to consider had been sent to the ArcticInfo mailing list prior to the meeting. Under this agenda item, the suggestions received from the broader research community, will be tabled and discussed by the WG.

3 NEXT MEETING (16.00-16.10)
VOLKER RACHOLD

3.1 ASSW 2014

The next meeting of the WG will be held in conjunction with the ASSW 2014 in Helsinki (Finland) on 7-12 April 2014.

3.2 ASSW 2015

The 2015 meeting will be held at the ASSW 2015 in Japan, in conjunction with IASC's 25th Anniversary, the ICARP III and the 4th International Symposium on Arctic Research.