

# INTERACT H2020 First Annual Meeting

21-25 October 2017

UNIS, Longyearbyen, Svalbard

## Minutes



*Participants at the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting outside of UNIS*

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## Summary

INTERACT held its first annual meeting on the 21-25 October 2017 in Longyearbyen, Svalbard. 66 participants from 17 countries representing most infrastructures participating in INTERACT and all work packages met to discuss progress and ways forward. The nine WPs were presented and great progress had been made in all. At present, the project is on schedule, the deliverables planned for the first year have been delivered and the milestones planned for the first year have been achieved. Back to back with the annual meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Station Managers' Forum was held (see separate meeting minutes) and a full day workshop on drones in Arctic environment. An excursion to the Aurora Observatory and other interesting research sites in Adventdalen was provided by the local organisers. We thank the local organisers for providing the set up for a successful annual meeting.

All presentations from the annual meeting are available at [www.eu-interact.org](http://www.eu-interact.org)

## 1. Work Package presentations describing progress and ways forward

### 1.1 WP 1 - Coordination and Management

*Margareta Johansson (Lund University), Luisella Bianco (CLU)*

#### *General progress*

The overall progress in INTERACT is great. So far the planned 14 milestones have been reached and the planned 7 deliverables have been delivered to EU. All deliverables can be downloaded from Progetta (for partners) and from our new web site (for everyone).

The coordinator (LU) has requested two amendments on our Grant Agreement. The first one was to change the bank account for the coordinator and the second was to include our final partner the International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry. The EU participant portal automatically notifies all partners about amendments but please note that no action is needed from partners unless we contact you directly and request input.

The Coordinator has paid out all the prepayments, the next payment will be after the 1<sup>st</sup> periodic report and is expected in autumn 2018.

INTERACT's main platform for communication (apart from the website) is being represented at meetings. Whenever INTERACT is presented or represented at an event, this is posted on our website. The biggest meetings will be summarized in our newsletter. The latest big event was the Arctic Circle where INTERACT had 6 different presentations and an *INTERACT Basecamp Session*.

INTERACT is growing! In the past months, 2 new observer stations have joined the network: AWIPEV (Three stations in one): Koldewey, Rabot, and Jean Corbel in Svalbard; and Skálanes Station in Iceland. At present INTERACT is a network of 83 stations.

An International Advisory Board has been established, consisting of: Nicole Biebow, Lars Kullerud, Kelly Falkner, Barbara Ryan, Frederik Paulsen. The main idea with the advisory board is to get advice on the long-term future of INTERACT.

During the first year, the Daily Management Group has had three meetings: 12 May 2017 via Skype (focusing on general progress), 28 June 2017 via Skype (focusing on the INTERACT Foundation), 30-31 August 2017 in real life (focusing on general progress).

The next annual meeting will be held in September 2018 and it will be combined with INTERACT's mid-time review. We will get back with dates and venue ASAP.

Who to contact when:

- for matters regarding EU/Progetta please contact Luisella
- for TA-related questions please contact Hannele and Kirsi
- for web-related matters please contact Katharina
- for general INTERACT questions please contact Margareta

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*INTERACT Web Site*

The old INTERACT webpage is closed down, but the new web page (with the same address: [www.eu-interact.org](http://www.eu-interact.org)) is being populated. Luisella guided the audience through the new website. It has a new look and new terminology. One of the new features is a powerful search tool. In the top bar there is a white area that can be used for special information or announcements.

The INTERACT web page is used as the main means of communication. There will be 2 news items posted each week. Facebook and TWITTER are also used as communication channels. The INTERACT newsletters (2 so far) are also available online together with all the INTERACT results.

## 1.2 WP2 - Scientific coordination, mentoring and education

*Terry Callaghan (University of Sheffield)*

With increasing demand on INTERACT's presence at meetings it is important to have an overview of the scientific expertise within the network. WP2 made a survey to identify this and to find out who among our partners is able and willing to act as an INTERACT ambassador. The task of an ambassador is to represent INTERACT at national and international workshops and meetings. The results are presented in deliverable D2.9. 44 ambassadors from 16 countries were identified.

WP2 has in collaboration with CLU created a Bulletin Board on the INTERACT website. It can be found under the tab "About INTERACT" and is accessible for visitors who log in. The visitor can post questions in three different categories related to: Research and Monitoring; Station Management; Transnational and Remote Access.

INTERACT is collaborating with other networks dealing with atmosphere and marine science. The EU Arctic Cluster (consisting of currently funded Horizon 2020 Arctic projects) provides a natural contact point for this collaboration. In addition, WP2 in collaboration with WP3 have compiled a list of relevant networks and organizations which is currently being circulated among the station managers to get an overview of current collaboration and possible gaps.

The results from the first CAWI report made by WP2 were presented. The aim of this study was to recognize science teachers and polar educators' needs and expectations in relation to new education materials about the Arctic. The survey was made in May 2017 and included 113 replies from 25 different countries. It was concluded that teachers have on average a very limited time to introduce polar issues to their students; the most interesting topic for teachers was "Climate change – causes and consequences"; the most desirable new educational materials were multimedia presentations – powerpoints, movies and graphics and schemes; finally, the teachers thought that web sites/web portals were the most useful way of communication between educational projects and teachers.

As a follow up on the request from teachers and as a result of the joint collaboration with the charity Wicked Weather Watch (WWW), INTERACT has produced 2 sided experiments on climate change including very hands-on experiments which is available on INTERACT's web site as well as on WWW web site. If INTERACT partners have any ideas for educational resources, please contact Terry. In addition to the developed educational material, animations and video clips are also being developed currently focusing on thawing permafrost in collaboration with Tomsk State University.

Finally, an update of the Science Stories book will be produced by the end of the second phase of INTERACT. We want to make it interactive and as an e-book. ENVRI plus is currently working on online science games on Arctic matters and WP2 will contact them to ensure that we collaborate if possible.

### 1.3 WP3 - Station Managers' Forum

*Morten Rasch (University of Copenhagen)/ Elmer Topp-Jørgensen (Aarhus University)*

The Station Managers' Forum currently consists of 83 Arctic and alpine stations and provides a platform for station managers to meet and share experience and knowledge. All tasks within WP3 are in progress and the deliverables and milestones are on time.

INTERACT is aiming to provide first class science support at its research stations through its Station Managers' Forum. Focus areas include Arctic safety courses (UNIS); the production of a handbook on how to do fieldwork in a safe manner (APECS); reducing environmental impact from research stations (IPF); and further development of INTERACT GIS (SLU). So far, a survey has been launched to identify what topics are relevant for future safety courses. A list of content has been drafted for the field handbook. A long-term operator has been selected for the INTERACT GIS at UMEÅ University ITS.

The second Station Managers' Forum will be held back to back with this meeting (please see separate meeting minutes for more details on progress within WP3). The third Station Managers' Forum will be held in March 2018 in Italy (Tyrol). There will be a total of 6 SMF during the project period.

### 1.4 WP4 - Data Forum

*Øystein Godøy (Norwegian Meteorological Institute)*

WP4 highlighted data management and the importance of storing data in a standardized way to make it accessible for the future. The interpretation and publication of data collected today may not be interesting for the scientists of tomorrow, but the data set collected today will be very valuable for somebody who wants to conduct research in the future. In order to make data sets understandable and useful for the future, a clear and functioning data management plan needs to be followed.

The INTERACT Data Management Plan (deliverable D4.1) was presented. It is based on a standardized template provided by the EU. The purpose of the data management plan is to describe the data that will be created and how it will be shared and preserved. This will be a living document guiding the network throughout the project lifetime.

The Report on current data flows, (deliverable D4.2) is based on a survey on data flows where 64 INTERACT stations participated. Conclusions from this survey are that many stations are lacking a standardized data management plan. In addition, significant gaps and bottlenecks in data flows were identified. WP4 will in dialogue with the station managers provide information to improve the understanding of data flows and standardizations. It will also help to implement sustainable data

management practices at the different INTERACT stations in accordance with the INTERACT data management plan.

### 1.5 WP5 - TA, VA, Giving Access to INTERACT

*Kirsi Latola (University of Oulu)*

43 INTERACT stations are offering Transnational Access. For the project period (2016-2020) 6850 person-days will be offered. Nobody can get access to stations in their own country. There is a maximum of 90 days per group throughout the whole time. The annual call is September-October and the decisions are made in February-March.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> TA call that was just closed last week was a great success. This time there were 81 applications. There were mixed RA+TA applications, and also pure RA applications, and also to stations that have not previously received applications. New nationalities such as Japanese, Chilean, Greek, Bulgarian, Irish, Slovenian were applying. There were also new topics, such as Black Carbon, social sciences etc. At the moment being there is a bigger demand on high Arctic, but there is still time to level out between stations if needed.

Remote Access (RA) is a modality of access, where the user group does not physically visit the station. The research stations receive the money, but save the travel cost. A research group can for example come for a few days using TA, and then continue on RA. There are 17 stations offering RA but it is still possible for more stations to do so, even if it has not been specified in the grant agreement. The application process is like the one to TA, but continuous throughout the year (being evaluated 4 times per year).

Virtual access (i.e. free and open data and metadata from INTERACT Stations) is mandatory in EU Infrastructure projects and hence INTERACT provides a Virtual Access single-entry point. The purpose is to increase the use of data from the INTERACT stations. At present 11 INTERACT stations are providing virtual access but by the end of the project we expect that at least 29 partners will offer VA. WP5 has organized Skype calls with station managers to discuss how to organize and work with this.

To assist new INTERACT TA users and ensure successful TA visits, two webinars have been held before the applicants actually start their fieldwork. These webinars are recorded and will be available on the INTERACT website. TA Ambassadors will be identified and will act as mentors for new TA Users. In addition, there will be a TA user community meeting in Davos 15-26 June 2018 (during the Polar 2018 conference) and more webinars coming up.

Some guidelines and recommendations for the Station Managers offering TA/RA/VA was provided and is available on INTERACT's web site where all the presentations from the meeting is uploaded.

### 1.6 WP6 - Rapid response to environmental emergency alerts: the "Red phone"

*Alexandra Bernardová/Josef Elster (University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice)*

The main objective of WP6 is to help protect Arctic and global residents from the hazards of potential future emergencies. The first step is to identify and categorize the problem. Is it an event, a hazard or a consequence? An event is measurable and observable e.g. infections (human or animal

diseases). A hazard is non-predictable e.g. volcanic ash eruption. Finally, examples of consequences are biodiversity loss, economic loss.

Currently WP6 is establishing a process to alert research station staff of possible environmental emergencies. The work package is also developing protocols for sampling, identifying laboratories for analyses, determining sample transportation routines, and dissemination of information to relevant environmental agencies.

The next step is to contact the station managers to consult them on possible hazards that can cause future emergencies. A trial run of the red phone will be performed during the field season of 2018. A fictive hazardous event will be selected and a trial run will be performed. Afterwards the process will be evaluated and refined.

### 1.7 WP 7 - Improving and harmonizing biodiversity monitoring

*Kári Fannar Larusson (CAFF)/ Jónína Thorlákssdóttir (Rif)*

CAFF is one of the six Arctic Council working groups. CAFF coordinates monitoring, does assessment, data management and communicates findings. CAFF operates on the boundaries between policy and science. The CBMP (Circumpolar biodiversity monitoring program) is an international network of networks reporting on Arctic biodiversity trends. There are four groups: Marine, freshwater, terrestrial and coastal. It works on a four-year strategic plan 2018-2021. The freshwater and terrestrial working groups are contributing to WP7.

The overall goals of WP7 is to establish an interface between CBMP and INTERACT, to test the CBMP Freshwater and Terrestrial monitoring plans at INTERACT stations (starting with RIF field station), to identify how data from the INTERACT stations can inform Arctic Council initiatives and also to produce an updated publication on Arctic terrestrial biodiversity for the Encyclopedia of Biodiversity.

WP 7 has established an advisory group consisting of station managers from 3 field stations (Rif, Zackenberg and CHARS) together with CBMP leads from the terrestrial and freshwater groups. The first meeting was held at Rif in August 2017. The outcomes of the WP7 workshop were amongst others that existing monitoring at three stations was identified; an approach for data management was explored and a timeline was established. The minutes from the meeting are available at the INTERACT website.

In summary, the Melrakkaslétta peninsula is identified as the Rif monitoring area; a list of selected Focal Ecosystem Components is proposed in a draft monitoring plan; a WP7 website is launched and a workshop report has been released. Lessons learned from CHARS and Zackenberg have been documented. Remaining tasks include finalizing the Rif monitoring plan, developing a mapping database for Rif, constructing a data management plan, a communications plan and a long term business plan.

Upcoming meetings within this work package are:

- Teleconference in November
- August 2018 annual workshop (Cambridge bay or Denmark)
- WP meeting in Rovaniemi, Finland October 2018 (CAFF is hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Arctic Biodiversity Congress)

- Annual workshop 2019 in Raufarhöfn, Iceland

## 1.8 WP8 - Developing technology for drones for scaling up from research stations

Annelie Sule (*Umbilical Design*)/Tomas Gustafsson (*ÅF*)

There are many challenges associated with using a drone in Arctic environments. Examples are bad weather, cold climate (risky for machines and batteries: icing, sunny, contrasts, compass malfunction) and different legislations in different countries. WP8 provides guidance in these topics to assist the INTERACT stations in those challenges. In addition, drone technology, sensors used and different applications (such as automated samples (water, snow, soil, air etc); sensors that may be mounted on a drone or read by a sonar on a drone; or photogrammetry (3D models, point clouds etc.)) are discussed.

A report on drone legislation has been produced. The report aims to provide the reader with a basic overview of the legal situation in the countries that are home to research stations engaged in INTERACT. The document should not be used as a complete guide to drone laws, but as a general guide to the current, and future, legal situation.

Two drone seminars are planned, which gives the opportunity to spread the vision of INTERACT. Outside WP 8 there is a good response in social media and media on drones in Arctic environment and how to contribute to research in Arctic regions. There is an ongoing collaboration with KTH (KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm) called "Construction of water sampler for drones" - a course in innovative design autumn 2017 and one in mechatronics (advanced course) spring 2018. The outcome will be 3-5 master theses.

More information about the progress in WP8 can be read in the workshop report that will be held back to back with this meeting.

## 1.9 WP9 - Adapting to environmental change

Svein Mathiesen (ICR)

The overall aim of this WP is to produce an inspirational guide book for research station managers and local communities to develop a deeper mutual understanding of how to work together to build integrated local observation systems enabling local communities to respond to the challenges of present and predicted environmental change.

The ICR (International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry) that leads WP9 has a long tradition of working together with local people and bringing them together with scientists. They have learned through their years of work that we should not forget the people! "*They are like coffee - It works on ministers.*" ("forcing" the ministers to adapt to local communities' practices instead of the opposite!)

In INTERACT there will be three case studies carried out, one in Scandinavia (at Kevo Research Station), one in west Greenland (at Arctic Station) and one in southern Siberia (at the Kaibosovo Station) and the end result will be the guide book with examples of best practices from the different areas which is depending on different livelihoods.

Local peoples from the three areas will meet in Salekhard in a week's time. This meeting is organized by SECNet (Tomsk State University) and INTERACT and paid for by the Science and Innovation Network of the British Embassy, Moscow, and the Yamal-Nenets Regional Government. The main aims of the upcoming workshop in Salekhard are to bring together researchers and local administrators and start to work on the guidebook to make it easier to work together. This will help mitigating conflicts in the local communities (for example local people don't always see the meaning of the data collection at stations). A deeper mutual understanding needs to be developed.

## 2. Reporting to EU

*Luisella Bianco*

The 1<sup>st</sup> reporting period is at the end of March 2018 (end of month 18) and the due date to submit the finished report from the Coordinator to Brussels is 31 May 2018. The technical report is describing the activities. A step-by-step guideline will be circulated closer to deadline.

Two different tools are used for the reporting: Progeta and the EU participant Portal. Progeta is our internal management tool, and the EU Participant Portal is used in relation to EU. After each release of a deliverable, it is important to be on time with the report. The Periodic Technical Report opens in April 2018 and is written by task leaders and WP leaders. The first Financial Statement also opens in April 2018 and is made by all partners. All beneficiaries must fill in their own financial statement, sign it electronically and make sure that there is an assigned FSIGN user role in the organization (PFSIGN - Project Financial Signatory). The last step is submitting it to the coordinator.

All costs must be incurred from the start date of the project (1st October 2016) to the end of the reporting period (31 March 2018). The coordinator needs time to check everything well ahead of 31 May. The costs shall always be reported in EUR and beneficiaries with accounts in other currencies are advised to use [www.ECB.int](http://www.ECB.int) for currency converting.

*What to report?*

Details on personnel need to be reported. Employee name, number of Person Months worked on a specific WP, Personnel Costs (number of hours times hourly rate). All beneficiaries are advised to use a time sheet that needs to be kept for 5 years after the end of INTERACT (but not sent to EU).

Other direct costs that need to be reported are: Travel and subsistence allowance for staff taking part in actions, travel costs for TA user groups, equipment bought for the project, and other eligible costs (planned in description of work). Access cost need first to be claimed in INTERACCESS: no of person days of access provided (automatically calculated). WP 5 leaders provide detailed info. Indirect costs are 25% of direct costs (automatically calculated).

Costs that are eligible are real cost by the beneficiary that are identifiable, compliant with national law, following the accounting practices of beneficiary, recorded in the accounts of the beneficiary, reasonable and justified. A declared cost is eligible if it:

- Incurred during the reporting period (1/10/2016- 30/3/2018)
- Incurred in connection with the action (specific WP)
- Was necessary for its implementation
- Was indicated in the estimated overall budget

- 
- Was declared in the Individual Financial Statement
  - Was submitted through the Participant Portal

Non-eligible costs are taxes and VAT and costs that are already incurred or reimbursed from another EU-project. There are also other specific cases. When in doubt, always double check with Luisella.

### 3. INTERACT long term future

*Morten Rasch, Luisella Bianco, Margareta Johansson*

The question how to secure long term funding for INTERACT was discussed. This is part of the ongoing work with the preparation of a road map for long term sustainability of INTERACT. We have been awarded two EU grants which have been extremely helpful to build up the network and the successful components that it consists of and if there will be a future opportunity to apply for funding from EU we will of course apply for these. However, we need to ensure that we have a backup plan.

There was a consensus from the general assemble to keep INTERACT going even beyond our current project period. Especially one of the core activities, the transnational access, was identified as an important component to continue.

INTERACT is currently not a legal entity but a project. This means that INTERACT cannot as a network participate in other projects but only individual partners can. With an INTERACT Foundation, INTERACT would be able to participate in projects as one partner. Also an INTERACT Foundation would ensure that we can continue to work on a Pan-arctic scale independent on geo-political issues that might occur in the future. INTERACT philosophy has always been to be inclusive and we wish to continue with this.

It was proposed to establish an INTERACT Foundation as a non-profit international organization. Different ways of raising money were discussed. One suggestion is to have a membership fee of e.g. 500€ but this sum should be discussed in more detail in the future.

What has kept INTERACT alive while it was without funding (from the end of SCANNET in 2004 to the start of INTERACT I in 2011) was meetings with regular intervals, a Secretariat and 2 newsletters per year. The network grew from 9 to 33 without any funding because people saw the benefits of working together.

An INTERACT Advisory Board with connections to private funders has been established. The board will be presented with the idea of the INTERACT foundation, and also get alternatives. It is very important to consider where to place the non-profit organization. Sweden is a suggestion. When there is funding, the money can be used to apply for more, and this is beneficial for the stations.

## 4. Presentations by relevant Arctic projects

### 4.1 Nunataryuk

*Leena-Kaisa Viitanen*

Nunataryuk is an interdisciplinary EU Horizon 2020 project that investigates the impacts of thawing coastal and subsea permafrost on the global climate. The meaning of the word is “land to sea” (inuvialuktun language). Permafrost coast make up 34% of the world’s coasts. It is a vulnerable zone due to ongoing climate change. The budget of Nunataryuk is 11.5 million Euros; the project starts 1 November 2017 and will go on for 5 years instead of 4 (that is common for EU projects). Nunataryuk is also part of the EU Arctic cluster which consists of 8 projects funded by the EU with a total investment of 60 million Euro for all 8 projects. The project is coordinated by Hugues Lantuit from Alfred Wegener Institute, Germany.

Nunataryuk is circumpolar, divided into 10 different work packages, coordinated by AWI and relies on the involvement of 28 partner institutions in 12 countries. It has an interdisciplinary approach where the aim is that the findings of physical sciences transfer into social sciences and into policy strategies. People will mix and talk and the expected outcomes are real results. A dialogue is already established with local Arctic communities ensuring two-way communication discussing solutions for adaptation. The communities are however very different.

The permafrost differs a lot depending of the area and Nunataryuk has identified three focal areas: the Beaufort Sea area (North America), North Siberia (Russia) and the Nordic area (Greenland, Svalbard). There is planned field work for the summer season of 2018 and also major summer camps in 2019 coordinated between physical and social sciences, collecting data from the same places.

For more information: [www.nunataryuk.org](http://www.nunataryuk.org)

### 4.2 APPLICATE

*Fiona Tummon*

The overarching goal of APPLICATE is to develop enhanced predictive capacity for weather and climate in the Arctic and beyond, and to determine the influence of Arctic climate change on Northern Hemisphere mid-latitudes, for the benefit of policy makers, businesses and society. The project is coordinated by Thomas Jung at Alfred Wegener Institute in Germany and has 16 partners. The total budget for the project is 8 million EUR and additional Russian funding.

The project consists of 9 WPs, 5 of which are science focused dealing with weather and climate model evaluation, model enhancement, atmosphere-ocean linkages, support for Arctic Observation system design, and improving predictive capacity. The project also will assess how to handle the large volumes of data produced, work on dissemination and user engagement, and try to ensure that there are no overlapping activities in the Arctic with regards to weather and climate predictability.

For more information: <https://applicat.eu/>

### 4.3 INTAROS

*Hanne Sagen*

In order to address the challenges from ongoing climate change in the Arctic, an Integrated Pan-Arctic Observation System is required. INTAROS is developing an efficient integrated Arctic Observation System by extending, improving and unifying existing and evolving systems in the different regions of the Arctic. The project covers the marine, atmospheric, terrestrial domains. The project has 48 partners from 20 countries. The project is coordinated by Stein Sandven and Hanne Sagen at the Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center in Bergen, Norway.

There are some ongoing collaboration between INTAROS and INTERACT. For example in INTAROS WP4 on Community-based observing systems that have a study site in west Greenland which is also used in INTERACT WP9 on Adapting to environmental change. There is currently very little overlap between the two projects, but to ensure that we are collaborating in the best possible ways, it was suggested that we could arrange a meeting with WP leaders from INTAROS and INTERACT in the near future.

For more info: [www.intaros.eu](http://www.intaros.eu)

### 4.4 The International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)

*Federica Scarpa*

The International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) is a non-governmental, international scientific organization. Its mission is to encourage and facilitate cooperation in all aspects of Arctic research, in all countries engaged in Arctic research and in all areas of the Arctic region. Overall, IASC promotes and supports leading-edge multi-disciplinary research in order to foster a greater scientific understanding of the Arctic region and its role in the Earth system. IASC has 23 Countries members, was established in 1990, has five working groups and several cross-cutting activities (INTERACT is one of them). The IASC Secretariat has just moved from Germany to Iceland. The IASC Secretariat encourages more interactions between the terrestrial working group and INTERACT. Philip Wookey is currently leading the IASC terrestrial working group and is also a member of our TA Evaluation Board and will hence act as our natural contact point. Josef Elster of the Red Phone WP is also a member of the IASC TWG and is also a contact point. There is a possibility for INTERACT to apply for funding for workshops in collaboration with IASC, as we have done previously e.g. on snow (Bokhorst et al., 2016 – Ambio).

IASC informed us about the upcoming MOSAIC (The Multidisciplinary Drifting Observatory for the Study of Arctic Climate) campaign which will be the first year-round expedition into the central Arctic exploring the Arctic climate system which is under the umbrella of IASC. For more information on IASC you can subscribe to IASC's monthly newsletter, join their Facebook community for Arctic Research.

For more info: <https://iasc.info/>

## Annex I - Agenda

# INTERACT H2020 First Annual Meeting

21-25 October 2017

## Agenda

The annual meeting will be held at UNIS in Longyearbyen, Svalbard

[www.unis.no](http://www.unis.no)

### Friday 20 October 2017

- 16:00 *Casual joint walk in Longyearbyen – meet in Radisson Blu Lobby*
- 18:00 *Icebreaker – meet at UNIS entrance*
- 19:00 *Dinner at UNIS*

### Saturday 21 October 2017 General Assembly (Plenum – Møysalen)

- 9:00-9:10 *Welcome by local host UNIS  
Fred/AnnChristine*
- 9:10-9:20 *Welcome (INTERACT)  
Margareta Johansson, Terry Callaghan*
- 9:20-9:30 *Round table introduction*

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### WP presentations describing progress and way forward

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- 9:30-10:00 *WP 1 - Coordination and Management  
Margareta Johansson, Luisella Bianco*
- 10:00-10:40 *WP2 - Scientific coordination, mentoring and education  
Terry Callaghan*
- 10:40-11:10 *Coffee break*
- 11.10-11.30 *WP3 - Station Managers Forum  
Morten Rasch/Elmer Topp Jorgensen*
- 11.30-12.30 *WP4 - Data Forum*

*Øystein Godøy*

- 12:30-13:30 Lunch at UNIS*
- 13:30-14:30 WP5 - TA, VA, Giving Access to INTERACT  
Kirsi Latola*
- 14:30-15:30 WP6 - Rapid response to environmental emergency alerts: the “Red phone”  
Alexandra Bernardova/Josef Elster*
- 15:30-16:00 Coffee break*
- 16:00-17:00 WP 7 - Improving and harmonizing biodiversity monitoring  
Kári Fannar Larusson*
- 17:00-17:10 WP8 - Developing technology for drones for scaling up from research stations  
Annelie Sule/Tomas Gustafsson*
- 17:10-18:10 WP9 - Adapting to environmental change  
Svein Mathiesen*
- 19:00 Dinner at UNIS*
- 20:00 INTERACT card game contest at UNIS*

**Sunday 22 October 2017 General Assembly (Plenum – Møysalen) / Excursion**

Presentations by relevant Arctic EU projects:

- 9:00-10:30 Nunataryuk - Leena-Kaisa Viitanen  
APPLICATE – Gerlis Fugmann  
INTAROS - Hanne Sagen  
ARICE – Nicole Biebow  
IASC – Federica Scarpa*
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee break*
- 11:00-11:30 INTERACT Long Term future? – INTERACT Foundation  
Morten Rasch, Luisella Bianco, Margareta Johansson*
- 11:30-12:00 Reporting to EU  
Luisella Bianco*



- 12:00-12:30 Conclusions and ways forward
- 12:30-13:30 *Lunch at UNIS*
- 13:30-19:00 *Excursion: The Science tour of Adventdalen; from aurora research to CCS at 1000m depth - and everything in between.*
- 19:00 *Conference Dinner at Gruvelageret*

**Monday 23 October 2017 Station Managers' Forum (Plenum - Møysalen /Breakout Sessions Møysalen, Tempelet)**

- 09:00-09:15 Welcome and agenda  
*Morten Rasch*
- 09:15-09:30 WP3 tasks and progress since last meeting  
*Morten Rasch, Elmer Topp-Jørgensen*
- 09:30-09:40 Mentorship schemes  
*Elmer Topp-Jørgensen*
- 09:40-10:00 Street view results and manual comments  
*Elmer Topp-Jørgensen*
- 10:00-10:15 Customized video clips of INTERACT stations  
*Gerlis Fugmann*
- 10:15-10:30 Breather – Station presentation  
*Tentative: Hintereisferner – Georg Kaser*
- 10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee*
- 11:00-12:00 Reducing environmental impacts of station operations  
*Nighat Johnson-Amin*
- 12:00-13:30 *Lunch at UNIS*
- 13:30-13:45 Breather – Station presentation  
*Tentative: Barrow*
- 13:45-15:15 General Arctic fieldwork safety course  
*Fred Hansen*
- 15:15-15:30 INTERACT GIS - how to get on board  
*Morten Rasch, Elmer Topp-Jørgensen, Tomas Thierfelder*

- 15:30-16:00    *Coffee*
- 16:00-17:00    Awareness of the scene  
*Terry Callaghan*
- 17:30-19.30    Safety management at UNIS. Practical demonstration of safety equipment  
*Fred Hansen*
- 19.30            *Dinner at UNIS*

**Tuesday 24 October 2017 Drone Workshop (Plenum Møysalen/Round Robin Activities in additional rooms)**

- 09:00-09:15    Presentation WP8 Drones in Arctic Environments  
*Annelie Sule and Tomas Gustafsson*
- 09:20-09:50    User studies: Drones in Arctic Research
- 09:50-10:05    Drone Facts & Overview
- 10:05-10:35    *Coffee break with drone exhibition*
- 10:35-10:55    Reference Cases from researchers who use drones in Arctic environments  
*Sara Mollie Cohen (UNIS, Svalbard, Fixed-wing drone)*
- 10:55-11:10    Round Robin instructions – *Division in groups*
- 11:10-12:25    *Lunch*
- 12:30-14:30    Round Robin Activities (25 min per station)  
a) Drone Demo  
b) What can you do with drones? *Eskil & Maria*  
c) Test flight of drones *Annelie Sule & Tomas Gustafsson*  
d) What can you do with drones? *Tor Ericson*
- 14:30-15:00    *Coffee break with drone exhibition*
- 15:00-15:30    Recap Activities  
*Tomas Gustafsson, ÅF/ Annelie Sule, Umbilical Design/Tor Ericson, ÅF*
- 15:30-15:55    Drone Legislation  
*Maria Ader, ÅF/Tomas Gustafsson, ÅF*
- 15:55-16:15    *Tatiana Kolesnikova*. Manager of BioClimLand centre of excellence, National Tomsk State University



16:15-16:35 ESA Business Applications

16:35-16:55 Wrap-up/Summary/next step

18:00 *Dinner at Kroa*

**Wednesday 25 October 2017 Station Managers' Forum (Plenum Møysalen /Breakout Session Tempelet)**

09:00-10:30 Enhanced Fieldwork Preparations – defining the list of contents  
*Gerlis Fugmann*

10:30 – 11:00 *Coffee*

11:00-11:45 Open floor – mentorship scheme (Elmer Topp-Jørgensen)

11:45-12:00 Any other business (Morten Rasch)

Annex II: List of participants

## INTERACT H2020 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting

### Participant List

| Surname    | Name            | Partner  | Institution  | Email  |
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