

# INTERACT GIS – Management Organisation

**Status of INTERACT GIS:** INTERACT GIS has been developed during INTERACT I and INTERACT II. It now includes the following modules:

- A station catalogue module
- A research project database
- A publication database
- An application module (for application for access to research stations)

Currently, apparently only two stations use the INTERACT GIS application module.

**Development plans during INTERACT III:** Further development of the system will take place during INTERACT III. According to the INTERACT III Description of Work we have promised to do the following (Subtask 2.0.4 in Workpackage 2):

- Develop INTERACT GIS to make it a leading international platform
- Consolidate the INTERACT GIS Management Organisation
- Ensure an effective operation with an increasing number of stations involved (i.e. stations using the application module)
- Integrate standard station descriptions and science metadata and data in formats developed in cooperation with relevant organisations/networks.
- Integrate thematic maps (climate zones, vegetation, permafrost etc.) in cooperation with relevant organisations/networks

**Major challenge during INTERACT III:**

- To make the system application module attractive to research stations

**Thoughts about the need for a management organization:**

- It is part of the INTERACT II Description of Work to establish an INTERACT GIS management organization with the purpose of securing a continued run of INTERACT GIS after funding from the EU Commission runs out.
- We have not been good enough in making the use of the system application module attractive to stations involved in INTERACT. The application module is a very important part of INTERACT GIS - also because it is one of the feeding systems for the INTERACT GIS project database.
- We now have the chance in INTERACT III to increase the number of stations using the application module and thereby securing that INTERACT GIS will become a leading arctic research project (meta)database.
- If we do not succeed with this, it is not considered very probable that INTERACT GIS will have a legacy/life beyond INTERACT III.
- It is therefore suggested that the possible establishment of a more permanent INTERACT GIS Management Organisation is postponed to the last few months of INTERACT III (i.e. the autumn of 2023), when we know whether or not it is probable that INTERACT GIS will have a life after INTERACT.

**Suggestions concerning the formal framework for the run and development of INTERACT GIS during INTERACT III:**

- INTERACT GIS will be run and further developed in close cooperation between the Station Manager Forum and Umeå University.
- An INTERACT GIS Daily Management Group with Skype meetings once every month and on ad hoc basis (when needed) will be established with participation of two representatives of the Station Manager Forum Secretariat and two representatives of Umeå University.
- Suggestions concerning larger developments of the system will be made by the INTERACT GIS Daily Management Group to be discussed at a Station Manager Forum before system developments are being initiated.
- The Station Manager Forum Secretariat will pay all expenses concerning hosting of the INTERACT GIS during entire INTERACT III.
- The further development of the INTERACT GIS during INTERACT III will take place via funding from INTERACT III to Umeå University.
- The Station Manager Forum Secretariat is obliged to suggest, no later than 30 September 2023, a more permanent management organization to be established when the funding for INTERACT III runs out.
- The Station Manager Forum Secretariat takes responsibility for promoting the system internally in INTERACT to secure that much more stations will find it interesting to use the system in general and specifically the application module.

**Suggested management organization:**

