



Minutes

INTERACT Daily Management Group Meeting

Daily Management Group Meeting
5 October 2021

Participants: Luisella Bianco, Elmer Topp-Jørgensen, Kirsi Latola, Margareta Johansson, Hannele Savela and Katharina Beckmann

INTERACT III Reporting

The financial part has been reviewed, and the EU got back to us wanting some more details which has been provided. We will then await the results of the review made by an external reviewer and our EU officer.

INTERACT II Reporting

INTERACT2 ended on the 30 September and we now need to prepare the final report for the project. The final report will consist of the financial statements from all partners, information about gender, dissemination, publication etc. and a technical report. Instructions has been/will be circulated to collect the information needed from the partners. The deadline to submit the report to the EU is the 30 November 2021.

INTERACT II Amendment

An amendment was submitted to adjust the budget to better represent the real costs in the project (as there has been quite big changes due to covid-19). We were however advised by our EU officer to withdraw the amendment as he was unsure if we would have enough time to finish it before the end of the project period. Instead, we were recommended to simply highlight and justify the changes made in the deviation section in our final report.

INTERACT III Amendment

An amendment will be submitted to prolong INTERACT III for 1 year. This will be done when the INTERACT II report has been submitted. The reason for this requested prolongation is that we have lost more or less two field seasons due to covid-19 and an additional field season would help us to reach our goal of providing access to the Arctic as stated in our DoA.



General Assembly

The upcoming general assembly and station managers' forum in Kilpisjärvi in northern Finland will be held 22-26 November combined with an online participation of slightly more than 30%. The schedule will be adjusted to accommodate the flight times. A film team will be present (capturing material for the upcoming film about INTERACT) and we will have to make sure that everybody who is at the meeting consents to being filmed (or asked to stay out of shooting range).

Report from SMF book launch

On 22nd September the station managers' forum made an online announcement at the Polar Science Week to promote the INTERACT books that were recently published: "Reducing the environmental impact from Arctic fieldwork" and "Communication and navigation". Physical copies will be brought to the general assembly in Kilpisjärvi.

INPA

Work plan 2022 & budget

A board meeting was held considering the budget. A conclusion was made that we need a work plan that is closely related to the budget. The internal documents are a bit too inaccessible, hence we will extract what we plan to do in 2022 and present a budget that fits: what will be done and how much does it cost? Which will then be discussed and approved on the next INPA Board meeting.

Recruitment campaign at General Assembly

We will schedule 1,5-2 hours for a recruitment campaign at the GA in Kilpisjärvi, handing out a 1-pager "Why join INPA?", highlighting the benefits of joining INPA. We will discuss the workplan and the incomes that are already known. It is necessary to have something tangible. The intention is to bring all stations on board. INPA could also have observer stations that don't pay (and don't benefit from the benefits that the paying stations get).

Website

A website has been drafted but is not yet released. Everything that can be extracted from internal documents will be used to begin with, and those things that yet need a decision, will come later.

External projects

Arctic Passion

Arctic Passion has had its kick-off meeting. Ten stations will be invited to join. They won't be able to receive money directly but will be able to be reimbursed for purchases (equipment, travel costs) related to the Description of Action. Salaries need to be paid directly by INPA, meaning that only INPA can hire a person (no sub-contracting allowed in the EU rules).



eRImote

The application for eRImote was submitted on the 23rd September 2021.

ABC-iCAP

The application for ABC-iCAP where INPA is a member was submitted to the EU on the 7th of September.

Upcoming meetings

Arctic Circle

Morten and Katharina will take care of the INTERACT booth at Arctic Circle in Reykjavik, Iceland. We have two new roll-ups, a new INTERACT table cloth and a lot of small give-aways.

Arctic Frontiers

Elmer will attend Arctic Frontiers that will be held in Tromsø, Norway 31st January – 3rd February.

ASSW

The Arctic Science Summit Week will be held in Tromsø, Norway from 26th March – 1st April 2022. Katharina has applied for a booth but is still waiting for response. Hannele has submitted a request to hold a meeting regarding TA and the title is: Current Arctic Research addressing Global Challenges of the Future. The intention is to spark new connections, encouraging TA users to produce joint synthesis papers. INTERACT Station Managers' Forum will also organize a joint workshop with ARICE, FARO and EPB that will be a follow-up to the workshop that was held earlier this year.

Any other issues

Request by Carpatus

One of the new members in the EU Polar Cluster, CAPARDUS (<https://capardus.nerisc.no/>), sent an invitation to a meeting on community-based monitoring citizen science the 21 October to Elmer who will also contact Niklas so that both can be in the loop.

Upcoming INTERACT Meetings

A suggestion was made to hold the next physical DMG meeting in Italy in April. Further, if the covid-19 situation is ok, the Toolik research station will be the venue for the next annual meeting in the autumn 2022.

The next online DMG meeting will be held 10th November, 13-15 CET and Katharina sends out an invitation.



New research station in the Faroe Islands

Lis Mortensen has contacted INTERACT regarding a new research station that has been established in the Faroe Islands. We will invite the station to join INTERACT as an observer station.

Added costs for sending samples WP2

There were unexpected costs for transport of samples needed for microplastic monitoring at the four test stations. The stations are sending, hence it will be their cost, and it would be the best to add the additional cost to their budget. Keep in mind that this needs to be justified as it was not a cost foreseen from the outset of the project.