

Integrating Activities for Advanced Communities



D1.8 – INTERACT bi-annual Newsletter 5

Project No.871120– INTERACT

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Duration: 48 months

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Actual Submission date: 2022/05/31

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Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the Consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the Consortium (including the Commission Services)	



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Publishable Executive Summary

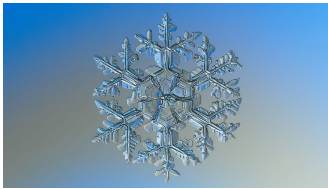
The fifth INTERACT newsletter presents information from month 23 to month 29 of the project. It presents highlights such as the INTERACT TA User Session at the Arctic Science Summit Week in Tromsø, Norway. It also presents the progress made with the INTERACT Data Portal and provides information about the upcoming field season, the first in many years where INTERACT transnational access users can finally travel to research stations again. In addition, the newsletter presents news from the research stations and the deliverables published and milestones reached. Finally, it also presents how the war in Ukraine has impacted INTERACT.



INTERACT NEWSLETTER

INTERACT III NEWSLETTER #5 MAY 2022

Top stories in this newsletter



**New Conditions for
INTERACT**



**INTERACT at Arctic
Science Summit
Week**



**Field work speeds up
again for summer
season 2022**



New conditions for INTERACT

Very sadly the war in Ukraine has also affected INTERACT directly. From the 9th of April, the EU has terminated all the contracts with our Russian partners belonging to state-owned institutions. Among many consequences, there will be no transnational access to Russian stations and no Russian scientists will be eligible for transnational access awards. We remain convinced of the huge importance of the Russian Arctic and Russian research in a pan-arctic and global context. We hope for a rapid peaceful solution so

INTERACT at Arctic Science Summit Week

This year Arctic Science Summit Week was held in Tromsø, Norway, and INTERACT hosted a TA user community session in hybrid format. The theme of the session was "Current Arctic research addressing global challenges of the future" and the program was dense with brilliant speakers. The presentations are available at the [INTERACT YouTube channel](#).



we can resume our important collaborations.



Field work speeds up again for summer season 2022

Altogether fifty projects were granted [INTERACT Transnational Access or Remote Access](#) in the previous TA/RA call. Counting together with the projects postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic from 2020 and 2021, the INTERACT stations located in the northernmost Europe, North-America, Svalbard, Greenland and in the North-Atlantic, northern alpine and boreal forest regions are welcoming around seventy projects to conduct their research in 2022, supported by the INTERACT Transnational Access.

A continuously updated listing of the [TA user groups](#) and [their project descriptions](#) is available on the INTERACT website. You can also follow the field work and adventures of several TA User Groups from the [INTERACT Arctic Research Blogs](#) and from our Instagram account [@EU-INTERACT](#).

The [next TA/RA Call](#) for access taking place in 2023 will open in Aug-Sept 2022. Apply for INTERACT Transnational Access to conduct research at the coolest places of the North!

INTERACT Virtual Access and Data Portal continue to develop strongly

Virtual Access means free and open access to data from the INTERACT stations and partners providing this modality of access. The INTERACT Virtual Access is available through the INTERACT Data Portal, currently providing information and access to nearly 1600 datasets from twelve research stations. The recent extensions in the INTERACT Virtual Access provision include access to datasets from several new stations and partners.

The collaboration of INTERACT Data Portal with major data repositories and data publishers, currently including PANGAEA, Nordicana D and SITES data portal, is acknowledged on the Collaborators page, launched on the INTERACT Data Portal in the spring.

Visit the INTERACT Data Portal to unleash the potential of Virtual Access for your research!



INTERACT Data Team

As part of the INTERACT data management activities, we have a Data Team working jointly on issues related to different INTERACT systems and data management issues, as well as arranging workshops both to INTERACT Virtual Access providers, to our TA Users and to others interested in data management to promote data interoperability and free access to data. The latest activity has been a Data Interoperability Workshop, arranged jointly with Arctic PASSION, INTERACT and SIOS, that gathered over 40 participants.

news from the stations

Sonnblick Observatory

Since March 2022, the Sonnblick Observatory can be visited virtually. For scientists planning a measurement campaign, e.g. in the framework of INTERACT, an extra digital tour with important information has been created. The virtual entry to the Sonnblick Observatory can be found [here](#).



The Western Arctic Research Centre

The Western Arctic Research Centre actively promotes science by working with local childcare providers and schools to deliver STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) programming to children and youth. The Covid-19 pandemic restricted the ability to deliver in-person community outreach activities. WARC has still found ways to continue delivering high quality programming, for example by regularly developing and distributing science kits to local families along with classroom science kit loans, with training available by videoconference. WARC has also started a Virtual Speaker Series - a platform for community members to engage with researchers, learn about their study results, and ask questions. Now in-person education and training has begun again with community-based monitoring programs, and drone training amongst other workshops and trainings.

Pallas-Sodankylä

Arctic Space Centre of Finnish Meteorological Institute in Sodankylä has a 24 meter high tower for all-year monitoring of boreal forest. Recently, remote sensing instrumentation has been updated with a spectrometer for SIF measurements and by increasing SAR frequencies. The tower was set up in 2017-2018 and has eight platforms. The area contains Scots pine forest typical for northern Finland. The tower has both remote sensing measurements and carbon measurements. Measurement setup following ICOS (Integrated Carbon Observing System) standards includes CO₂/CH₄ background concentration, CO₂ flux and meteorological measurements. The station visitor restrictions are now removed and in April 2022 Sodankylä received the first INTERACT TA visitors since the pandemic.



Tarfala Research Station

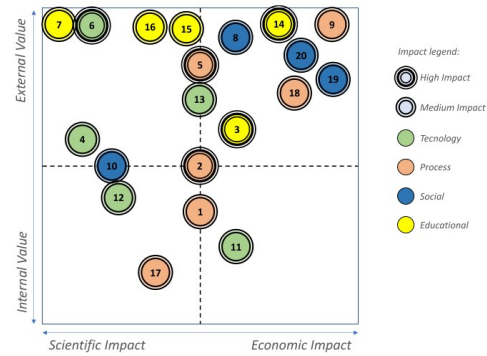
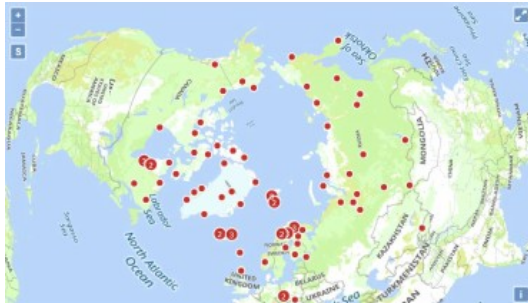
Tarfala Research Station is now fully operational again after the pandemic. The station was open for a spring campaign March 28 - May 2. However, harsh snow and weather conditions caused reductions in the field program and in the ability to host some scheduled visits. During a 2 weeks period in April the station received 1,5 m of snow which made fieldwork and transportation difficult. The station will open again for the summer in June 27. In August Tarfala research station will host 2 INTERACT projects and a new website will be launched in the near future.

milestones & deliverables

Deliverables from Work Package 1

Since the last newsletter, several deliverables have been submitted. From Work Package 1, there is D1.7 (Newsletter #4) and D1.14 (Innovation Progress Report).

All INTERACT deliverable reports can be found on our [website](#) and these specific reports can be downloaded [here](#).



Deliverables from Work Package 2

Work Package 2 has also submitted two deliverables: D2.2 - Updated digital Station Catalogue integrated in INTERACT GIS; and D2.7 - Pocket guide on how to reduce CO2 emissions from Arctic science. This pocket guide will also soon be available on the INTERACT website as a pdf for download (where all the other [pocket guides](#) and [INTERACT publications](#) are available).

Deliverables from Work Package 3

Work Package 3 submitted D3.3 (Virtual Access Assessment Report 1). Virtual access means free on-line access for users to metadata and datasets collected and maintained by the organizations and research infrastructures offering VA in INTERACT III.

All INTERACT deliverable reports can be found on our [website](#) and this specific report can be downloaded [here](#).





Deliverables from Work Package 4

Work Package 4 submitted D4.2 (Report on monitoring by Indigenous and local residents of extreme weather events and other unpredictable environmental challenges and their consequences) and D4.4 Report on the use of INTERACT station data to understand systematic forecast errors.

All INTERACT deliverable reports can be found on our [website](#) and these specific reports can be downloaded [here](#).

Deliverables from Work Package 6

From Work Package 6 there is D6.3-Demonstration Report on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, which is based on a workshop/demonstration held online earlier this year.

All INTERACT deliverable reports can be found on our [website](#) and this specific report can be downloaded [here](#).

```
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AMNISCIA 374 750x512  
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Predicted top fungi: ['Amanita muscaria'] ...Pseudo Certainty: 99.09909447265625 %
```



Deliverables from Work Package 8

The deliverable from Work Package 8 is called D8.2 – Protocols for (target and nontarget) screening of contaminants of emerging concern at INTERACT stations.

All INTERACT deliverable reports can be found on our [website](#) and this specific report can be downloaded [here](#).





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