WP 5
Connecting the Arctic:
Transport and Communication
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Task D5.1: Report on Significance of the Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation for Research in the Arctic.

- M5.1: Policy briefing - Arctic
- M5.2: Policy briefing - Antarctic
Aims of WP:

Task 5.2 (Iridium)

Reduce barriers of communicating among stations, local communities and the outside world

Iridium has continued work to assess the satellite communications needs and requirements of the INTERACT III partners in Task 5.2. There are no specific deliverables associated with Task 5.2.
Progress made during the last year

- Design survey with WP2
- Conduct Survey (2021 GA)
- Write report (2022)

COVID-19 & war
Progress made during the last year

- Design survey with WP2
- Conduct Survey (2021 GA)
- Conduct Second Survey (after 2022 GA)
- Write report (2023)
- Disseminate report (2023/2024)
AGREEMENT ON ENHANCING INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

NON-BINDING ILLUSTRATIVE MAP

This non-binding illustrative map shows the approximate extent of the Identified Geographic Areas described in Annex 1 of the Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation. It is intended for illustrative purposes only and does not form part of the Agreement.

Approximate Extent of Identified Geographic Areas
62°N
Arctic Circle
Additional areas covered voluntarily by Canada

*Continental shelf areas are not depicted.*
U.S. Department of State, OES/OPA, April 12, 2019
• Survey 1
  • 40 respondents from 12 countries
  • Conducted during INTERACT GA 2021, both online and in-person

• Survey 2
  • 22 respondents from 11 countries
  • Conducted fully online post INTERACT GA 2022
1: How would you describe your level of knowledge of the Agreement?

2: Are you aware of the reporting mechanism?

3: Do you think the reporting mechanism is sufficient?

4: Should the Agreement be better promoted?

Recommendation: **Promotion of the Agreement** - It was suggested the Agreement could be proactively disseminated at relevant science conferences, through national authorities, provided to Arctic research stations and included in funding proposals to reach the Arctic scientific community.
Recommendation:
**Improved awareness of National Points of Contact (NPCs):** To improve visibility of NPCs, it would be useful if NPCs are listed at relevant websites (such as websites used for applying for permits) or make relevant NPC contact details available at sites such as research stations.
Recommendation:
Improving importing and exporting of samples internationally - A recommendation would be to either provide a very clear framework that includes all sample-regulations per country as a starting point for scientists, or to attempt to homogenise sample-regulations in the Arctic countries multilaterally.
Recommendation:

**Data standardisation:** A recommendation would be to continue the effort (including the providing of necessary resources) to stock-take current data policies in research stations, and attempt to standardise data in the future.
Recommendation:
Improved awareness and visibility of existing publically available information platforms - A recommendation to improve awareness to identify the right permits for researchers active in the Arctic region, promotion of the INTERACT page on ‘Permits and Regulations for Arctic Fieldwork’ may be an option, as it lists per country and region information about applying for permits to conduct fieldwork in the Arctic region.
1: If you had three wishes free for improving international scientific cooperation - what would they be?

- Less sanctions, 2%
- More international language proficiency, 4%
- Less bureaucracy, 2%
- More collaboration, 12%
- Improved data standardisation and sharing, 14%
- Improved personal contact, 6%
- Improved communication between stations, 8%
- Improved funding, 25%
- Better access for staff, equipment and samples, 15%
- Improved online meeting infrastructure, 6%
- Digital collaboration tools, 4%

2: If you had three wishes for improving international scientific cooperation - what would they be?

- Native English speakers learning a second language, 3%
- Outline new regulations post BREXIT, 3%
- More interaction with local communities, 3%
- Clean mattresses, 3%
- More science diplomacy, 3%
- More funding, 15%
- Less bureaucracy, 12%
- No travel restrictions, 3%
- More data sharing, 6%
- More gender equality, 3%
- Better incorporation of indigenous knowledge, 6%
- More INTERACT, 9%
- More collaboration, 22%
Report D5.1: Dissemination

**Upcoming in-person outreach at events:**

- 2023 Arctic Circle (October), EU Polar Cluster Booth/Session
- 2024 SCAR Open Science Conference
- Communicating the results of the report with National Points of Contact
Ways forward

• Who knows their National Point of Contact?
• Look up who your National Point of Contact is!
• Use the Agreement when planning research
• Let others know the Agreement exists