The Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC) is a federal interagency committee that works to enhance scientific monitoring and research on local, regional, and global environmental issues in the Arctic. IARPC is tasked with developing a coordinated Arctic Research Plan every five years. Efforts starting in late 2019 through mid-2021 seek to engage a broad range of partners to help identify the priority research areas and key components of the next plan. Together with guidance from the IARPC Principals and staff group and informed by the various non-federal input submitted to IARPC, the Plan Development Steering Group offers this example framework (see above) for discussion and consideration by the workshop participants.

This infographic is meant to convey some of the key elements that need to be included (e.g., policy drivers, collaboration teams, etc.) and draw attention to specific places that need greater discussion (mainly, priority research areas and overarching principles). Offered as a jumping-off point, the infographic should not be viewed as any sort of final product.
Policy drivers (*infographic left side*): Over the last 50 years the national interests and objectives in the U.S. Arctic have remained remarkably stable. Three of the policy drivers draw on this long history of the Arctic as a national priority: enhance the **well-being** of Arctic residents; advance **stewardship** of the Arctic environment; strengthen national and regional **security**. In the last 20 years, understanding of the Arctic as a **component of planet Earth** has emerged as an additional policy driver. These **four policy drivers** continue to be relevant to today's needs.

Priority research areas (*center, outer circle*): We have received guidance from the IARPC Principals that we need fewer focus areas (9 research goals is too many). The next plan should identify a limited number (3-5) of crosscutting priority areas where federal cooperation and coordination could make a significant impact. Toward this end, the workshop is focusing on identifying a small list of potential priority research areas.

Convergence (*center, inner circle*): The very central circle highlights convergence from people to ideas. Convergence research is driven by a specific and compelling problem and relies on deep integration across disciplines or multiple types of knowledge. See the National Science Foundation [description of convergence research](http://www.nsf.gov) for reference.

Collaboration teams (*right side*): The IARPC collaboration teams provide a platform for federal and non-federal interaction and they are key to implementing the current plan. How might the collaboration teams support a smaller number of priority areas for more cross-discipline collaboration?

Overarching principles (*bottom/top*): The foundation of this effort are a few core principles that are essential to all the work that IARPC does, e.g., **equity and inclusion**; sustained engagement with northern communities; and transparency and accessibility.
Terms in 2017-2021 Plan: Definitions and Use for 2022-2026 Plan

Below are terms used in the Arctic Research Plan 2017-2021, how they have been interpreted and how we are migrating to new common terminology for the next plan. Arrows identify specific places where we are transitioning to updated terms.

**Policy Drivers: Issues of national importance requiring research to address.**
- There are currently four – these are a good foundation grounded in history and applicable to current national efforts.
- Is there anything missing here? Drivers can be slightly modified, adjusted for context or added too if necessary.

**Strategies → Overarching Principles: Criteria and guidance to keep in mind as agencies develop activities and implement projects.**
- The current plan has four strategies. We propose that the next plan consider “overarching principles” that provide a foundation for everything contained within the plan, e.g., equity and inclusion; sustained engagement with northern communities; transparency and accessibility.
- The plan should in some way contain mechanisms and actions that support each of the overarching principles.

**Research Goals → Priority Research Areas: A broad, crosscutting focus area for research progress that supports one or more of the policy drivers and meets the interests of more than one federal agency and engages multiple collaboration teams and other non-federal partners.**
- The current plan has nine research goals (one collaboration team focuses on each goal).
- The next plan should identify a limited number (3-5) of crosscutting priority areas where federal cooperation and coordination could make a significant impact.
- Priority area selection criteria from the federal perspective: respond to at least one policy driver; address mission priorities of two or more federal agencies; respond to non-federal and Arctic resident needs; and, be convergent and cut across multiple fields of research.