

Appendix 2

Implementing the IARPC Arctic Research Plan FY2017-2021 with IARPC Collaborations

IARPC Collaborations is the primary structure for implementing the Plan. Membership is open to anyone who can contribute to efforts to implement the Plan, and thus it serves as a mechanism for bringing together Federal government program managers, the research community, and other stakeholders to accelerate the pace of Arctic research.

To implement the Plan, IARPC Collaborations will be organized into nine thematic Collaboration Teams, each corresponding to one of the nine Research Goals in the Plan. Each team will be co-chaired by a Federal program manager and a co-chair from a different Federal agency or a non-federal partner. Collaboration teams will meet virtually on a regular basis to discuss updates to Performance Elements and share information relevant to accomplishing research objectives.

The IARPC Collaborations website at www.iarpccollaborations.org is the primary tool that IARPC Collaborations members use to communicate and collaborate between team meetings. It was designed to support implementation of the IARPC Arctic Research Plan FY2013-2017. The website serves dual purposes as both a content driven dialogue system and a project management and tracking system.

- (1) *Content driven dialogue system.* In order to share information, generate ideas, and form opportunities for collaboration, IARPC Collaborations members log into the member space of the website and post updates, documents, and events related to their or their organizations' research or Arctic-related activities. These posts are permanently archived on and available to any member of IARPC Collaborations through the website. Open dialogue is encouraged through the comment section available on every post and "@tagging" system which allows interaction with any specific website member.
- (2) *A project management and tracking system.* Through event and document posting, the website serves as the platform for organizing collaboration team meetings and delivering meeting information to team members. The performance element database section of the website keeps a record of specific actions taken on Performance Elements as well as information on people, agencies, collaboration teams, and deadlines involved. Team leaders and website administrators can enter actions on Performance Elements directly into the database, while any member can submit an action to a performance element by commenting or posting. The database can be exported into a report format for annual and biennial reporting.

The IARPC Collaborations, collaboration teams, and the website are open to anyone who can contribute to IARPC's efforts to implement the Plan. Request an account by entering your contact information and a brief explanation of your background and interest in Arctic research at <http://www.iarpccollaborations.org/request-account.html>

Each fall team leaders will produce summary accomplishment reports for IARPC Principals and in support of the National Strategy for the Arctic Region. Additionally, the secretariat will produce a biannual report summarizing accomplishments by policy driver in order to better understand how the various efforts in the plan relate to each other in the context of the policy drivers.

Collaboration Team leaders will develop annual implementation plans which focus on Research Objectives and Performance Elements to be accomplished in the upcoming year. Their plans will include meeting schedules with specific references to how the meetings support plan implementation.

Collaboration Team leads will coordinate their scheduling in order to promote coordination between teams pursuing related activities. For example, several teams may coordinate their meetings and activities around the cross-cutting theme of food security or the carbon budget.

The IARPC secretariat will host annual meetings of team leaders to support inter-team coordination. At this time, team leaders will explore overlapping Research Objectives and Performance Elements and pursue a joint course of action around related activities.

Regular Federal-only meetings will be arranged for agency representatives to explore collaborations to address cross-cutting issues for which multiple agencies are responsible.

The IARPC Staff Group and Principals will continually examine how well IARPC is addressing research Goals and Objectives in support of the policy drivers and how well the policy drivers are providing a framework for integration across the plan.