



SAON ROADS Advisory Panel

Teleconference 17th June 2025, 14-15:30 UTC, 16-17:30 CET, 10-11:30 am EST

1. Welcome and Review of Agenda

The SAON ROADS Advisory Panel (AP) meeting was opened by Co-chair Lauren Divine as she welcomed participants to today's teleconference (List of participants Appendix 1) and referenced today's agenda (Appendix 2). Lauren also provided highlights of the last AP meeting [Minutes from call 27th May 2025](#).

2. Update on the Advisory Panel Membership from SAON Board

Jan Rene Larsen reported on the discussions from the June 16th SAON Board meeting where an [Overview of existing members and renewal status](#) was presented for their consideration. The Board supported this updated AP membership. Jan Rene also presented a [List including other candidates](#) from which future AP members may be sought to augment expertise on the AP.

3. Finalize Phase I documentation for Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

Lauren reported that HAB Phase I documentation evaluation conducted by the AP ([Report](#)) has been provided to the HAB Expert Panel (EP). The EP has not yet had an opportunity to fully review the evaluation as the busy summer field season has started. Lauren was pleased to note that funding has been secured for the EP to conduct societal benefits analysis, so this work will be moving forward in the fall.

4. Taking lessons learned from the Survey into AP 2025-2026 Workplan

Co-chair Sandy Starkweather noted that the survey ([Survey - 'Internal' version](#)) provided valuable input to the design of the AP's 2025-2026 workplan. Jan Rene noted that eleven responses have been provided for the Internal version of the survey; and seventeen for the External version of the survey. While these are not large numbers, the input will be valuable in shaping the AP workplan. Jan Rene has compiled a set of draft recommendations based on this internal survey (See page 28 in ArcticPASSION deliverable [Report on SAON Progress in ROADS](#)). The five recommendations compiled are:

- i. Improve communication and clarity about roles, goals, and processes.
- ii. Strengthen Indigenous leadership and representation.
- iii. Make results more visible and accessible.
- iv. Foster stronger ties with funders and policy-makers.
- v. Encourage broader participation and cross-sector collaboration.

While all recommendations will need to be addressed, the three underlined recommendations are considered those that could most readily be incorporated into the 2025-2026 AP workplan. It was noted that the recommendations from the 2024 Arctic Observing Summit (AOS), that related to the SAON ROADS process, seem consistent with

these five recommendations and provide more input for future actions by the AP. After a brief discussion, AP members provided input directly into the google drive survey document with sub-bullets identifying specific action items that could be undertaken in support of these recommendations, noting which items came from the survey questions vs those coming from the AOS. Jan Rene noted that this input was appreciated in making the recommendations more detailed and specific, and that future opportunities for input will continue to be available over the coming months. Sandy observed that this more detailed material on action items will not only assist in the development the AP workplan but will also be a benefit in the recruitment of new AP members.

5. Upcoming Events

The following meetings were noted:

- Arctic Circle Assembly, 16-18 October 2025, Reykjavik, Iceland. There are several relevant proposals:
 - ROADS session ([submitted](#)) that will focus on Phase IV and working with the Arctic Funders Forum
 - AMAP sessions on permafrost, wildfire and plastic pollution
- [ISAR-8](#), 28-31 October 2025 Japan – consideration of a teleconference SAON Board in conjunction with the conference
- Arctic Science Summit Week and Arctic Observing Summit, 25 March - 1 April, 2026 Aarhus, Denmark – Alice Bradley reported that new leadership from outside of North America is currently being sought to co-chair the Summit, and that recommendations on this would be welcomed. The [First circular](#) is now available.

6. Other Business –

- a. Jan Rene noted that the [ArcticPASSION deliverable](#) will be finalized in June, and that the AP's input received today is appreciated.
- b. Sandy reported that a Letter of Intent will be prepared for the Prince Albert of Monaco Foundation (proposal seeking additional secretariat support for the AP and for Indigenous engagement efforts) Today's discussion on action items will be useful for the application.

7. Actions Items Recap and Closing Remarks

o Technical writer assistance for the ROADS documentation and templates

Writing assistance is being sought for the summer virtual sessions, as well as with the Writing retreat proposed for late August. All AP members are welcomed and encouraged to participate in this work.

Action Item: *Given that the AP will hold its next meeting in September, an email invitation will be sent to AP members seeking their participation in the summer writing work – both the virtual sessions and the retreat planned for late August.*

- Action items are highlighted under the relevant agenda items.
- The next regular meeting will be September 16, 2025 at 14-15:30 UTC, 16-17:30 CET, 10-11:30 am EST

Appendix 1

Participants ROADS Advisory Panel Meeting

June 17, 2025 Teleconference

Advisory Panel Member Participants

Alice Bradley, Williams College, AOS WG #4
Lauren Divine, Aleut International Association (AIA) – ROADS AP Co-Chair
Heikki Lihavainen, Arctic PASSION & SIOS, Co-Chair of SAON CON
Margaret Rudolf, RNA CoObs (& Food Security Expert Panel)
Sandy Starkweather, NOAA, USA – ROADS AP Co-Chair
Mikko Strahlendorff, FMI, Finland
Chantelle Verhey, World Data Systems (WDO), International Technology Office (ITO) &
Co-chair SAON Arctic Data Committee
Talia Wells, Arctic Institute of North America, (Sea Ice Expert Panel)

Member Regrets Absent

Alona Alexia, University of the North
Christine Barnard, ArcticNet, Canada
João Canário, University of Lisbon, Portugal & IASC
Cathy Coon, CBMP/CAFF
Ola Grabak, European Space Agency, Earth Observation Directorate
Hanna K Lappalainen, PEXX
Sten Lund, Government of Greenland
Ilkka Matero, SIOS (Permafrost Expert Panel)
Tero Mustonen, SnowChange
Gier Otterson, Institute of Marine Research, Norway
Volker Rachold, AWI Germany
Andrea Spolaor, CNR, Italy
Tetsuo Sueyoshi, JAMSTEC/NIPR, Japan
Victoria Qutuuq Buschman, ICC
Katriina Veijola, FMI, Wildfires EP (Wildfire Expert Panel)

Advisory Panel Ex-Officio members

SAON Secretariat – Jan Rene Larsen
SAON – IASC Fellow – Izuchukwu O Ezukanma

Appendix 2 - Agenda – ROADS Advisory Panel

Teleconference - 17th June 2025, 14-15:30 UTC, 16-17:30 CET, 10-11:30 am EST

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83162376946>

Workspace for agendas and meeting notes:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rm3aGZcGuKaVMagkNNpU8sOEzEChKWns>

1. Welcome and Update (any) on Membership (Lauren, 5 min)
 - [Minutes from call 27th May 2025](#)
2. Update on the Advisory Panel membership from SAON Board. [Overview of existing members and renewal status](#) (for SAON Board approval 16 June). [List including other candidates](#) (Jan, 3 minutes)
3. Finalize Phase I documentation for Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) (Lauren, 2 min)
 - [Report](#) (Lauren)
4. Taking lessons learned from the Survey into AP 2025-2026 Workplan (Total, 50 min), near term focus on summer actions (no regular meetings until September)
 - Update on survey results, (Jan, 5 min)
 - [Survey - 'Internal' version](#)
 - Draft report from ROADS survey. From page 28 in ArcticPASSION deliverable [Report on SAON Progress in ROADS](#). Draft recommendations (Jan, 5 min):
 - Improve communication and clarity about roles, goals, and processes.
 - Strengthen Indigenous leadership and representation.
 - Make results more visible and accessible.
 - Foster stronger ties with funders and policy-makers.
 - Encourage broader participation and cross-sector collaboration.
 - Choose breakout discussions based on 2-3 specific topics from draft recommendations above and recommend actions for: AP, SAON Board, EP's, AOS, other (All, 25 min)
 - Report Backs (Sandy, 15 min)
5. Upcoming events (Jan, 5 min)
 - Arctic Circle Assembly, 16-18 October 2025. Session proposals:
 - ROADS session ([submitted](#))
 - AMAP sessions on permafrost, wildfire and plastic pollution
 - [ISAR-8](#) Japan, 28-31 October 2025
 - Arctic Science Summit Week and Arctic Observing Summit. [First circular](#). 25 March - 1 April, 2026 Aarhus, Denmark (Alice Bradley)
6. AOB (Jan, 5 min)
 - [ArcticPASSION deliverable](#)
7. Actions items recap and closing remarks (Lauren, 5 min)
 - Technical writer assistance for the ROADS documentation and templates
 - Writing recruitment - summer virtual sessions
 - Next Meeting September 16, 2025 at 14-15:30 UTC, 16-17:30 CET, 10-11:30 am EST

Please reserve the third Tuesday every month 16-1730 CET / 10-1130 am EST / 14-1530 UTC. Agenda and other meeting documents will be made available here: <https://roadsadvisorypanel.org/meeting-documents>