



ROADS Advisory Panel Meeting 24th May 2022

17-19 CET / 11 - 13 EST / 16-18 UTC

Meeting via Zoom

Workspace for meeting documentation: [here](#)

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The ROADS Advisory Panel (AP) co-chair, Sandy Starkweather opened the meeting and welcomed participants to this fourth meeting of the Panel. Participants on the Zoom call were confirmed (Appendix 1) and the Agenda was adopted (Appendix 2). Sandy spoke briefly of the modifications to the AP process due to the Arctic Council pause, stating that details had already been provided to all members via email. She noted that the AP will be busy over the coming months in preparing guidance documentation for our partners who will propose Expert Panels (EPs). This work will be cognisant of the efforts being conducted under the Arctic PASSION project (see following agenda item) and that it will be important that the two processes move lock-step together to maximize each other's efforts.

2. Update from the Arctic PASSION project

The agenda was altered to accommodate member availability and Agenda #3 was moved forward. Jan Rene Larsen provided a short presentation on the EU-funded Arctic PASSION project (see link to meeting documentation) given his responsibility for the documentation framework for the Shared Arctic Variables (SAVs) within Arctic PASSION. Jan Rene described two Work Packages within Arctic PASSION that are most relevant to the AP. These are: WP1 - Establishing an adaptive and more complete Arctic observing system; and, WP6 - International Cooperation and Clustering for essential Arctic Integration. This planned work shows close collaboration between the ROADS process and Arctic PASSION.

The following Arctic PASSION Tasks and Milestones are highly relevant to the AP process as well:

Task 1.1.b - Defining and implementing Essential/Shared Arctic Variables (EAV/SAVs). Will organize expert panels to provide input for defining EAV/SAVs including impact and priority, spatial and temporal resolution, accuracy requirements, period, comparability, required commitment for observations, requirements for engaging and supporting CBMs.

Task 6.1.b – Framework for Essential Arctic Variables. Will prepare processes and definition templates to document EAV/SAVs, thereby facilitating the ROADS process. Will coordinate this work among WP1, the SAON Board, the ROADS Advisory Panel, CON and AOS working groups. Will present EAV proposals at Arctic Observing Summits and GEO weeks.

MS16 EAV/SAVs Expert Panels in coordination with WP1 and SAON set up, documentation framework set up

Jan Rene reported that work under Arctic PASSION is well advanced and that three candidates are being considered as Expert Panels. These are: Integrated Fire Risk Management; Pan-Arctic requirements-driven Permafrost Service; and Improving Safety for Shipping in Polar Seas. Within each of these proposed EPs will be a series of SAVs. Mikko Strahlendorff is also working on Arctic PASSION and he noted that both processes can learn from each other. He said that while Arctic PASSION may need to move more quickly (e.g. as per timelines under the 4-year EU funding) than the ROADS process, opportunities will exist to

advance practical aspects that are helpful to both processes. Jan Rene emphasized the need to make sure that Arctic PASSION work is closely synchronized with the AP work. Given the involvement of personnel on both processes (e.g. Jan Rene Larsen, Heidi Sevestre, Heikki Lihavainen, Mikko Strahlendorff, Volker Rachold), this close coordination will be possible.

Sandy Starkweather proposed that a Workplan could be developed describing the AP process over the coming year (with timing and deliverables) that would be helpful for the Panel to better understand its workload and that could be shared with the Arctic PASSION team. It was noted that this document would be valuable for both internal to ROADS processes and external users such as the AOS WGs and Arctic PASSION. There was agreement that this was a good idea, and that it would be conducted in addition to the Guidance document for the EPs.

It was agreed that the AP Co-Chairs will draft a Workplan and share this amongst the AP members, with the objective of providing it to the Arctic PASSION process.

3. Input to the ROADS Guidance Document

Sandy Starkweather noted that discussions were undertaken at the March 2022 Arctic Observing Summit (AOS) that have advanced the understanding of Shared Arctic Variables. This work was led by AOS Working Group #4 (Systems Integration) and Alice Bradley (SAON CON Co-Chair) and Julian Dann were invited to discuss this work. Alice Bradley presented the WG's Recommendations that included work on refining a definition of what SAVs are; how are SAVs defined (e.g. Arctic PASSION and RNA CoObs); as well as outcomes from two Mock Expert Panels that were held on Wildfires and Fisheries (see link to meeting documentation). Amongst the key messages from WG#4 was the importance that the process for developing SAVs must place people first, particularly Indigenous groups in the Arctic.

Alice stated that the conduct of Mock Expert Panels had been very useful in testing out the process and that this work reinforced the "learn by doing" approach of practical efforts. She reported that it is important that the AOS WGs and the ROADS AP work closely together with the objective of advancing SAVs, perhaps with the aim to present at the 2024 AOS. A comprehensive WG draft report will be available soon and it was noted that this will be very useful for the ROADS process.

There was discussion on whether lessons-learned could be adopted from other processes and how unique the development of SAVs might be. It was acknowledged that CAFF CBMP has been working on this, and that international organizations (e.g. WMO) have worked on Essential Variables but that the uniqueness of the ROADS process is the "shared" aspect of the observation variables and their development with a broad spectrum of individuals. The term boundary-spanners was introduced as a means of describing the ability to span the divide between information producers and users; it was thought that this may provide an opportunity for Early Career Scientists to be engaged in the development of SAVs. Julian Dann, WG #4, suggested that funding and centering on boundary spanning groups/individuals could also help to scale up from community identified priorities to regional/global coordination.

It was suggested by Finn Danielson that the term SAVs be described in one or two slides (working with existing material from ROADS, WG#4, Arctic PASSION), emphasizing why SAVs are unique and the importance that these be developed with people.

Sandy Starkweather summarized the discussions noting that the presentations of work conducted by WG#4 will be posted on the ROADS google drive for easy access by committee members. The input derived from WG#4 discussions will be used to strengthen the draft Guidelines for EPs and improve the visual aids of this documentation. Two timeline documents (e.g. for internal and external use) will also be developed that will address the need for more engagement and use of boundary spanners. In addition, slides will be developed that better describe the term SAVs.

4. Arctic Circle Assembly – 13-16th October

Lauren Divine noted that an in-person side meeting of the AP is planned for the Arctic Circle Assembly (ACA). It is proposed that a hybrid option would work best for the side meeting (Note: this is only for the side meeting and not for the ACA in general). There will be several very relevant SAON-ROADS sessions at the ACA, including two sessions that are proposing to move forward as ROADS Expert Panels. AP members are encouraged to attend the ACA in person to join in these sessions.

5. Next Call and Confirmation of Meetings over coming months

Helen Joseph reported that with the AP now reconvening, the meetings will be regularly held on the third Tuesday of each month. The next call will be on Tuesday, June 21st- 15-17 CET / 9-11 am EST / 14-16 UTC. (Note: the length of the meeting may be shortened depending on agendas). At this point, no meeting is planned for July and this time will be used for writing and reviewing purposes. Meetings will resume again on August 16th and September 20th. As discussed under Agenda Item #4, the October meeting will be associated with the Arctic Circle Assembly meeting.

Participants ROADS Advisory Panel Meeting

May 24th, 2022

Advisory Panel Member Participants

Christine Barnard, ArcticNet
Joao Canario, University of Lisbon, Portugal & IASC
Cathy Coon, CBMP/CAFF
Finn Danielsen, Nordic Foundation for Development and Ecology (NORDECO)
Lauren Divine, Aleut International Association (AIA) – ROADS AP Co-Chair
Hanna K Lappalainen, PEXX
Heikki Lihavainen, Arctic PASSION & SIOS
Sten Lund, Government of Greenland
Volker Rachold, AWI Germany
Andrea Spolaor, CNR, Italy
Mikko Strahlendorff, FMI, Finland
Sandy Starkweather, NOAA, USA – ROADS AP Co-Chair
Tetsuo Sueyoshi, JAMSTEC/NIPR, Japan

Guests

Alice Bradley, AOS WG#4 and SAON CON Co-Chair
Julian Dann, AOS WG#4

Member Regrets

Amber Budden, University of California, USA (nominated by ADC)
Victoria Buschman, RNA CoObs
Ola Grabak, European Space Agency
Sten Lund, Government of Greenland
Hanne Sagen, NERSC, Norway/ INTAROS
Maxim Tatarkin, Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute, Russia

Advisory Panel Ex-Officio members

SAON Board Chair – Sandy Starkweather, NOAA, USA and ROADS AP Co-Chair
SAON Secretariat – Jan Rene Larsen, Helen Joseph (consultant support)

Ex-Officio Member Regrets

SAON Secretariat - Heidi Sevestre
SAON – IASC Fellow – Christina Goethel

ROADS Advisory Panel

Teleconference May 24th, 2022 17-19 CET / 11-1 pm EDT / 16-18 UTC

Zoom connection link: <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/4105560408>

Workspace for agendas and meeting notes: [here](#)

1. Welcome and opening remarks (Sandy Starkweather, 15 min)
 - a. Modifications to our process under the Arctic Council pause
 - b. Focal point: developing a guidance document for Expert Panels
2. Input to the guidance document (Starkweather, Divine, WG4, 45 min)
 - a. Read out of the recommendations from SAON-ROADS related working group of the Arctic Observing Summit 2022 (WG4)
 - b. Q&A on recommendations
 - c. Group discussion on recommendations
3. Update from the Arctic PASSION project on its plans for structured documentation (deliverable of Arctic PASSION project) for Shared Arctic Variables developed in the context of their project. (Jan Rene Larsen, 10 min)
4. Arctic Circle Assembly – 13-16th October. We are planning an in-person side meeting of the AP with hybrid option for side meeting (not for the ACA in general). There will be several very relevant SAON-ROADS sessions, including two sessions that are proposing to move forward as ROADS Expert Panels and we encourage you to attend ACA in person to join in those sessions. (Lauren Divine, 10 min)
5. Confirmation of timeline over the coming months and Next call: The next call is planned to be held Tuesday, June 21st - 15-17 CET / 9-11 am EST / 14-16 UTC (Helen Joseph, 10 min)