



ACCESS
Arctic Climate Change
Economy and Society



Project no. 265863

ACCESS

Arctic Climate Change, Economy and Society

Instrument: Collaborative Project
Thematic Priority: Ocean.2010-1 "Quantification of climate change impacts on economic sectors in the Arctic"

D7.14 – Advisory Board meeting minutes

Due date of deliverable: **31/03/2013**

Actual submission date: **20/12/2013**

Used Person/months:

Start date of project: **March 1st, 2011**

Duration: **48 months**

Organisation name of lead contractor for this deliverable: **UPMC**

Project co-funded by the European Commission within the Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013)		
Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

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Minutes of the ACCESS Advisory Board member advice provided at the General Assembly of ACCESS in Vilanova i la Geltru, Spain, 5.-8.3.2013

The following members of the ACCESS Advisory Board were present:

Ms. Adele Airoidi

Honourable Inuuteq Holm Olsen

Honourable Hannu Halinen

Professor Oran R. Young

Professor Hajo Eicken

Comments or input from the AB members as far as they directly address ACCESS's role or way of functioning:

Honourable Inuuteq Holm Olsen

He pointed out that there is a general lack of Indigenous people's aspects, although it is very important to note that they do want to have a say in what is to be decided. Some of the relevant aspects, however, may not be obvious for scientists. He poses the provocative question if we really need or want to interact with them or ignore their point of view. We should be honest about this. If we do want to interact, it needs resources, including money and linguistic resources. It should also be realized before what is actually meant with interaction or engagement. And one key issue when it comes to involvement with indigenous peoples, and which is usually underestimated by scientists, is: 'contacts, contacts, contacts', meaning that it needs time and dedication to build up the contacts, before a true interaction can begin.

Ms. Adele Airoidi

ACCESS should actively seek the dialogue with the EU on its role and how it is seen within the EU administration. A key question is how ACCESS can find the best way to feed into the EU commission. From experience, it is very important to address the right people at the right level. It may be promising to find a direct way of communication also to the DG Mare and the European Parliament.

Both the EU and ACCESS are interested to organize lunch debates with EU MEPs in Brussels.

It should be made clear by ACCESS, also to the outside, that it is a project which shows how serious the EU takes its involvement into Arctic research issues.

Panel discussion:

Adele Airoldi argued at a later occasion that it will be important for ACCESS to help the EU to match the actions with identified needs and with the project findings.

Adele raised the issue of ACCESS to be prepared for questions from the EU sometimes on very short term.

Oran Young points out that in some cases ACCESS may be able to play a role as an independent panel of experts in the discussion of very up to date (and maybe controversial) nature, e.g. wrt the Polar Code.

Hajo Eicken conforms this saying that ACCESS should step up for science really carefully and should point out problems and contribute to the 'best standards'.

Hon. Inuuteq Holm Olson points out that it is important for ACCESS to connect 'the dots', so that everything is connected, and that an intellectual discussion is needed on regulations, including a 'reality check' of them.

Hajo Eicken warns to use the time stakeholders (including Arctic inhabitants) wisely, to engage them truly into the process. In the course of the synthesizing it may be good to discriminate between linkages and synthesis. Also he advises to re-read the EU output communication see what the EU really wants. He stresses the point that it would be unwise to 'just dump' the ACCESS output in year 4 after finish of the project. He supports to use indicators and that ACCESS can play an important role for setting the observational systems. With respect to the MSP his best advice would be to use it, then it will turn out if its built in a proper way. A test drive of it would be very beneficial, he advises to make use of the tools for this which were mentioned by Oystein Godoy.

Oran Young mentions the rather unexplored interaction of the AC and the business world. He also mentions the potential role of ACCESS to begin producing documents on climate change in the Arctic which draw on knowledge of science, and impacts on systems as different as the natural environment and the socio-economy.

He also points out that he sees two possible routes of science projects like ACCESS for the future: one to produce results for adaptation, and another one for information on change effects.

Hannu Halinen confirmed all the appreciation by the Arctic Council for cooperation with ACCESS (authenticated by the letter from the AC president Gustav Lindt).