

## Request for participation in Sea Ice Expert Panel - SmartICE

### Overview

The Sea Ice Expert Panel (EP) has been created and called to action by Arctic PASSION with the intention of co-creating a joint European-Canadian effort to pilot the SAON ROADS Shared Arctic Variable process.

Sea Ice has been identified as a Shared Arctic Variable (SAV), representing a “measurable phenomena or processes that [is] important enough to multiple communities and sectors to make the effort to coordinate observation efforts worthwhile”. The goal of the sea ice EP is to co-develop observing and data management plans and structures to support decision-making and research by addressing the who, what, where, why, how, and when. The EP process is comprised of four phases:

#### Phase I - Initiate an Expert Panel

An initial expert group will propose an EP with scope, purpose, gaps, societal benefit, and recommendations for a diverse 10-to-12-person panel.

#### Phase II - Define and Assess Impactful Observables

The EP will convene and co-develop the “why” of the plan, specifically a cultural- and policy-relevant societal benefit analysis and potential impacts.

#### Phase III - Develop Observing and Data Systems Requirements

The EP will then co-develop the “who, what, where, how, and when” details of the plan.

#### Phase IV - Develop Implementation Strategies

The EP will co-develop strategies to implement their well-defined plan, including specific commitments. The EP and ROADS Advisory Panel will work to get the plan adopted and implemented.

As of February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, the Sea Ice EP is in Phase I.

### The list of goals for Phase I:

- **Convene to understand the scope and purpose of the theme;** what data and information exists, potential gaps being addressed through the work; and the theme’s relevance to Arctic societal benefits.
- **Identify additional experts** to co-create an EP of about 10-12 people, including those that span critical cultural boundaries (e.g. between academia and Indigenous communities) and those that span different disciplines and sectors.
- **Develop documentation** (Phase I Proposal) to explain the chosen theme, how benefit assessment will proceed, the anticipated impacts on observing and data systems and the proposed composition of the EP.

- **Develop a communication and engagement plan** to support collaboration and transparent decision-making.

### **Current Status of the EP**

The Sea Ice EP is focusing its efforts on the Baffin Bay region and is currently conducting a review on the status of observing efforts in order to identify gaps and refine its focus. The EP meets bi-weekly via Zoom, with the next meetings scheduled on February 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8 am MST/10 am EST.

### **Logistical Contributions**

The Sea Ice EP is requesting from SmartICE its expertise and support in determining, along with the other current members of the EP:

- 1) Scope of monitoring and gaps in monitoring in the Baffin Bay region
- 2) Instrumentation in use in the Baffin Bay region.
- 3) Inventory of organizations/communities they are working with in the Baffin Bay region.
- 4) Community identified needs in the Baffin Bay region.

### **Time Requirements**

Phase I (anticipated completion date - February 29, 2024)

- Meeting: February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 (1 hour)
- Meeting prep (2 hours)
- Research and contributions (8 hours)

Phase II (March 1 - Fall 2024)

- Quarterly meetings (4 hours)
- In-person meeting: March 25th, 2024 (ASSW 2024 in Edinburgh, Scotland UK)
- Meeting Prep (8 hours)
- On-going support (8 hours quarterly = 32 hours)

Phase II, III and IV

SAON ROADS recommends that EPs should plan for a 3-year work cycle. Time consumption would be 20 - 40 hours per expert per phase through quarterly meetings.