

## Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure Board met in Toronto, Canada

The *Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure* – Arctic SDI – is cooperation between the 8 National Mapping Agencies of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and USA. The aim of the Arctic SDI is to provide Arctic Council, politicians, governments, policy makers, scientists, private enterprises and citizens in the Arctic with access to geographically related Arctic data, digital maps and tools to facilitate monitoring and decision making.

Important data sets are produced and distributed by many stakeholders – public and private sector – and most of it can be geographically referenced. A spatial data infrastructure provides tools for data distributors to ensure that their geospatial data is easier for users to access, validate and combine with other data. The Arctic SDI was established to address the need for readily available spatial data in the northern areas of the globe. The Arctic SDI works with stakeholder organizations to make their key data accessible and interoperable, by providing a tool for presenting all kinds of spatially related data on a reliable base map.



*L-R: Magnús Guðmundsson, Susanne Ås Sivborg, Kristian Møller, Arvo Kokkonen (Chair of the Arctic SDI Board), Anne Cathrine Frøstrup, Kevin Gallagher, Prashant Shukle, Viacheslav Spirenkov*

Arctic SDI Board met in Toronto, Canada, on May 29-30, 2018, and approved the future development plans for Arctic SDI and geoportal. The Board endorsed the continued collaboration with the Arctic Regional Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure Data Working Group (ARMSDIWG) of International Hydrographic Organization.

The **Arctic SDI harmonized basemap** is produced using the existing data from the Arctic Mapping Agencies and new Arctic elevation model - the ArcticDEM. It provides a unified topographic view over the entire Arctic with details such as elevation, rivers and lakes and other geographic features.

Important part of the Arctic SDI is the **Geoportal**, which is built for browsing, visualizing, analyzing, and sharing spatial information. Geoportal users can combine map layers to visualize the phenomena of their choice. The Geoportal features for example a Time Series tool, which can be used to visualize how various phenomena, e.g. sea surface temperature change over time in the Arctic. The Arctic SDI geoportal can be used free of charge by anyone, including decision makers.

More information:

<https://arctic-sdi.org/>

<https://geoportal.arctic-sdi.org/>