

# ARCTIC SDI BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Reykjavík, Iceland, 22- 23 May  
2019

All documents can be found at:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LiUuA7j9a7PXju14ds3YYRY9lQu9TL\\_O?hl=fi](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LiUuA7j9a7PXju14ds3YYRY9lQu9TL_O?hl=fi)

**Board Members:** Finland, Arvo Kokkonen, Director General National Land Survey of Finland

Canada, Prashant Shukle, Director General, Canada Centre for Mapping and Earth Observation, Strategic Policy and Results Sector, Natural Resources Canada

Denmark, Kristian Møller, Director General, Danish Agency for Data Supply and Efficiency

Iceland, Eydís Líndal Finnbogadóttir, Acting Director General, National Land Survey of Iceland

Norway, Per Erik Opseth, Director of Geodesy, Norwegian Mapping Authority

Russia, Vyacheslav Spirenkov, Deputy Head, Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Mapping

Sweden, Susanne Ås Sivborg, Director General Swedish Mapping, Cadastre and Land Registration Authority

USA, Kevin Gallagher, Associate Director U.S. Geological Survey

**Secretariat:** Gunnar H. Kristinsson, Heli Ursin, Jani Kylmäaho, Andrey Mukhin

## **1. Welcome and practical information**

Eydís welcomed the Board members and gave the floor to Arvo Kokkonen.

## **National Mapping Agency “Hot topics”**

Each country board member gave a short presentation about what is happening in the institutions and countries.

## **2. Approval of the agenda**

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ymqdB7fKTBoYaComKYaspIEvnhck0pit>

Iceland proposed one item under AOB: *Arctic DEM demonstration*. Joaquin Belart (ISL) Agenda approved with proposed change.

## **3. Update from Executive Board Meeting**

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1GUMSpXXDQRMgrbEAGuCdHgkUgp4d9nyc>

Arvo Kokkonen reported on the main decisions made at the Executive Board meeting in Moscow.

## **4. Arctic SDI Chairmanship report and change of chair**

**Biennial Report. Arvo Kokkonen (FIN).**

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=160MZZn8Z3fikjSRaibhWKXzHLZIKY5Fj>

Arvo Kokkonen introduced the Biennial Report report and the main results of the

Finnish chairmanship for last two years.

Finland was thanked for their leadership during last two years and specially Heli Ursin who has been with Arctic SDI from the beginning and led the secretary well.

Arvo thanked all board members and secretariat and handed the chairmanship to Iceland.

### **Icelandic Chairmanship Priorities. Eydís Líndal Finnbogadóttir (ISL)**

Eydís Líndal Finnbogadóttir introduced the main priorities for the Icelandic chairmanship in Arctic SDI as well as the priorities for the Arctic Council.

- The Icelandic plan for next two years in the Arctic SDI will be to finish some of the projects that's already started during last few years
- To provide methods to use Arctic DEM as national data to build Digital elevation model of Arctic Glaciers and estimate the changes
- To update the strategy of Arctic SDI
- To see increase in access to spatial data from Arctic regions and increased use of the Arctic SDI base map and gazetteer.

## **5.**

### **Activities**

#### **5.1 Arctic SDI Geoportal demonstration.**

Jani Kylmäaho demonstrated the Geoportal and reported about the Geoportal WG activities, here under the Key Performance Indicators (KPI). All major setup functionality is in place like the Gazetteer, time series and SDG's visualization.

Following a discussion about map layer name translation it was decided that the matter is important and needs to be looked into.

**DECISION:** NCP's are asked to prepare a document outlining how to implement the UN languages for Map Layer names and Geoportal.

## 5.2 Operational Setup – Status

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nkZzD\\_eNMVbDnig8wyFbVaJjQk7q0n04](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nkZzD_eNMVbDnig8wyFbVaJjQk7q0n04)

Gunnar H Kristinsson presented the status of the operational setup.

In May 2018 the Board approved the overall Operational Setup requirements identified for the Arctic SDI Central Services. As of beginning of May 2019 most activities are finalized and implemented.

**Discussion:** Board noted the status for the implementation of the Operational Setup activities with approval.

## 5.3 Prioritized activities – Executive Summary

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1e-9mkTfoDDeQe2G64FE4ddqGqECVL1oA>

Executive Summary on Prioritized Activities and Request for Board approval summarizes key accomplishments for 2018/2019 and outlines the high level categories of work for 2019/2020, as tracked on the Prioritized Activities List. The working groups have worked very hard to finalize prioritized activities as noted in the WG reports and Prioritized Activities List. New prioritized activities have been put forward by the WG's for a board decision.

**DECISION:** Vector Tile support new activity is welcomed by the board and should be put on the Prioritized Activities list as suggested by the WG.

**DECISION:** Pilot on Vector tiles new activity is welcomed by the board and should be put on the Prioritized Activities list as suggested by the WG

**DECISION:** Arctic SDI high level data flows diagram and architecture new activity is welcomed by the board and should be put on the Prioritized Activities list as suggested by the WG

**DECISION:** OGC Marine SDI CDS – Pilot new activity is welcomed by the board and should be put on the Prioritized Activities list as suggested by the WG

**DECISION:** User scenarios new activity is welcomed by the board and should be put on the Prioritized Activities list as suggested by the WG

**DECISION:** Evergreen Catalog of Arctic spatial web services and data holdings new activity is welcomed by the board and should be put on the Prioritized Activities list as suggested by the WG

**DECISION:** Consider improvements on placename in the Basemap new activity is welcomed by the board and should be put on the Prioritized Activities list as suggested by the WG

**DECISION:** Board supports Canada to continue with the Automated Harvesting initiative.

## **6. Cooperation with Arctic Council working groups**

### ***Invited guest Tom Barry, Executive Secretary of CAFF***

Tom Barry introduced the work of CAFF and how the Arctic SDI services and tools can be used to promote scientific work in the Arctic. CAFF is getting better status as data provider in the Arctic. All information CAFF provides “should” be freely available and free of charge if possible.

Two initiatives have been launched to see how to take advantage of the data that is already available: Wetland data and Satellite imagery.

Working with Arctic SDI to provide contacts for wetland data discovery and collection. The goal is that over the next six months there will be formed a small working group to find out how to use the NMA wetland information. A goal is also to find an optimum compromise between the requirements and the effort required to gather and process the data.

CAFF is the only AC WG which has a consistent data management policy. Other groups can better benefit from the data/baseline information layers that Arctic SDI can provide for them.

Best way to access AC working groups is to provide solutions to the individual projects and demonstrate them

## 7. Pilot projects with Arctic Council working groups

- **Embedded maps pilot project**

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1CNHMgyv4P7G0oJdFQq6pesHUswROBgPA>

The project aims to improve the way geographic information can be integrated in the AC webpages and modernize the way AC can communicate information on the AC website. A proof of concept for considering the way forward and need for a Data Stewardship Pilot initiative. The Norwegian Mapping Authority with support from Arctic SDI will facilitate this project within a timeframe of six months.

- **Data Stewardship pilot project**

A Data Stewardship Pilot Project in cooperation with the AC Secretariat and working groups is a way to test building up data storage and distribution capacity within the Arctic Council

The pilot project will be a logical extension of the ongoing Arctic SDI cooperation with the AC Secretariat on utilizing embedded maps provided by Arctic SDI

**Request to the Board:** It is recommended that the Board approves the development of a project proposal based on experience from the cooperation with Arctic Council secretariat and the Working Groups. Limited funding is available from the Arctic 2030 program in 2019. The window to apply for additional funding will likely be in the spring 2020.

**DECISION:** Board agrees to start the proposed pilot project

## 8. Arctic SDI Strategy 2020 – 2025

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1m31J-2GxzzcRFuFNKC5-y4MaNrFFFpfq>

In 2015 the Arctic SDI Board approved a Strategic Plan 2015-2020 which provided a high-level overview of the background, organization and philosophy of the Arctic SDI. In 2018 the Board decided that: “The strategy should be renewed during 2019-2020”.

## Vision and Mission

It is recommended to streamline the vision and mission statements to better reflect the direction of the Arctic SDI.

**Vision suggestion:** Facilitate reliable and interoperable access to geospatial information in support of social, economic and environmental monitoring and decision-making in the Arctic.

**Mission suggestion:** To promote the development of a Spatial Data Infrastructure that enables sharing and use of Arctic location-based data, with a focus on data management best practices and value creation.

**DECISION:** The Board approves the following vision statement: “Facilitate reliable and interoperable access to geospatial information in support of social, economic and environmental monitoring and decision-making in the Arctic.”

**DECISION:** The Board approves the following mission statement: “To promote the cooperation and use of the Arctic Spatial Data Infrastructure, enabling sharing of Arctic location-based data, while pursuing data management best practices and value creation”

**DECISION:** The NCP’s are asked by the board to come up with a definition of Spatial Data Infrastructure

**DECISION:** The Board accepts the following key considerations

- Use the same format for the new strategy ..... Not using too many resources developing a new format for the strategy.
- Review the status of the strategic actions identified in the 2015 – 2020 Implementation Plan and highlight issues not addressed
- Incorporate Value Creation as well as Data Management Best practices
- Next generation Arctic SDI services
- Align goals and objectives with the UN-GGIM SDG’s

- How to increase the use of Arctic SDI

### **Suggested timeline**

- May 2019: Arctic SDI Board provides guidance to new strategy and Vision and Mission updates
- September 2019: First draft
- January 2020: Second draft including merged Roadmap and Implementation Plan
- February 2020: Executive Board discussion on draft
- May 2020: Arctic SDI Board Request for Decision on Final Draft

**DECISION:** The Board approves the suggested timeline. Board asks to be involved in the first phase of the work through the NCP's and will have a Skype meeting after first draft is released.

### **9. Working Group Lead and membership:**

Introduced

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1leXJf5STp5yvvRp7D6L-unkA4iOWK2mV>

Arctic SDI Lead Secretary introduced how the working groups are manned and how the eight countries are participating in the working groups.

### **10. Arctic SDI Side event during UN-GGIM**

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1iEZbYQu1KAEUPYdAbeflmAUU0G6Aw6f\\_](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1iEZbYQu1KAEUPYdAbeflmAUU0G6Aw6f_)



A joint Arctic SDI, ARMSDIWG and OGC Marine WG contribution at UN-GGIM 9 in August 2019 is planned as a best practice to guide UN-GGIM participants on the formation of regional Spatial Data Infrastructures.

**Request to the Board:** Approve this outreach activity and contribute to the Side Event through active participation. Agree on who from the Board that will contribute and provide input to the presentation together and coordinated with ARMSDIWG representatives according to the preliminary outline provided in Arctic SDI Board meeting Document 10

**DECISION:** The Board approves this outreach activity at UN-GGIM 9. The Board will contribute to the event and will appoint someone to present when the agenda is ready.

### **11. Memorandum of Understanding - renewal** Background

The MoU entered into force on 15 May 2014. The MoU “remain in operation for (5) five years, unless extended or discontinued by the Participants” (Paragraph 7a in the MoU)

On Board meeting 2018 it was agreed to formalize an extension of the MoU by signing an MoU Extension Document at the 2019 Arctic SDI Board Meeting and that the document shall be made available for signing in French, English and Russian

**DECISION:** The Board approved the MoU extension and signed it.

### **12. Calendar of Events**

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1grMh2nd1clc\\_MgZBIQoAhBBVTb-Fi8c1](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1grMh2nd1clc_MgZBIQoAhBBVTb-Fi8c1)

### **Meetings relevant to Arctic SDI planning processes 2019/2020**

Approved by the Executive Board  
2019

- Arctic Circle, Iceland. October  
2019

- Third Polar Data Forum and Workshop, Finland. November 322019

**For approval by the Board**

Arctic Frontiers Conference, Norway. January 2020

**DECISION:** The Board approves an active involvement in the Arctic Frontiers Conference in Norway. January 2020

**13. AOB**

**Arctic DEM demonstration:** Joaquin Belart (ISL)

**14. Confirmation of next Board Meeting:** Per Erik Opseth (NO)

**DECISION:** The Board accepts the invitation for the next meeting in Tromsø. Dates are: 15. - 17. June 2020.

**15. Approval of Arctic SDI Board Decisions**

The board approves the minutes and decisions.