The Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) was created by the Arctic Council in 1998 in accordance with Article 1. (c) of the Declaration Establishing the Arctic Council (1996).

A guiding principle for SDWG work is to pursue initiatives that address the human dimensions of the Arctic. This includes a commitment to the well-being of the inhabitants of the Arctic, including recognition of the special relationship and unique contributions to the Arctic of the indigenous people and their communities.

The Arctic Council is a high level forum to provide a means for promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States, with the involvement of the Arctic indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues, in particular issues of sustainable development and environmental protection in the Arctic.

The Council recognizes the traditional knowledge of the indigenous people of the Arctic and their communities and takes note of its importance and that of Arctic science and research to the collective understanding of the circumpolar Arctic.

The SDWG promotes cooperative activities to address Arctic issues requiring circumpolar cooperation, and to ensure full consultation with and the involvement of indigenous people and their communities and other inhabitants of the Arctic in such activities.

www.sdwg.org
EALLU: The Arctic Indigenous Youth, Climate Change and Food Culture (EALLU) project seeks to maintain and further develop a sustainable and resilient reindeer husbandry in the Arctic in the face of climate change and globalization.

RISING-SUN: Reducing the Incidence of Suicide in Indigenous Groups—Strengths United through Networks seeks to create common metrics for evaluating suicide prevention efforts in the Arctic as a key component of scaling-up and evaluating interventions across the circumpolar region. Please visit: www.nimh.nih.gov/about/organization/gmh/risingsun/index.shtml

One Health: Operationalizing a One Health approach in the Arctic seeks to forge co-equal, all inclusive collaborations across multiple scientific disciplines and Arctic communities in order to enhance resiliency of the Arctic inhabitants through an enhanced understanding of climatic change impacts on health risks to people, animals, and the environment.

WASH: Improving Health through Safe and Affordable Access to Household Running Water and Sewer (WASH) focuses on water-related health challenges in Arctic and sub-Arctic communities. Please visit: http://wihah2016.com

ECONOR III: Economy of the North 2015 provides an updated overview of the economy, socio-economic living conditions and environmental issues in the circumpolar Arctic, as impacted by the global economy and climate change.

ARENA: Arctic Remote Energy Networks Academy addresses the need for development of community energy experts to ensure affordable, reliable, renewable source energy solutions for Arctic communities. Please visit: http://arena.alaska.edu

The Arctic as a Food Producing Region is assessing the potential for increased production and added value of food from the Arctic, with the overarching aim of improving food security, and enhancing the social and economic conditions of Arctic communities.

AREA: The online Arctic Renewable Energy Atlas is intended to contribute to sustainable development and healthy, resilient communities in the Arctic, by providing energy resource maps that allow easy visualization of localized supply and demand and encourage clean energy prospecting and investment. Visit: http://arcticrenewableenergy.org

Gender Equality in the Arctic II: This project will establish a formal network of experts and promote and expand the dialogue on Gender Equality in the Arctic region, building on previous SDWG projects, initiatives and conferences.

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