



Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG)

SDWG accomplishments submitted to Arctic Council Ministers Meeting, 07 May 2019

The SDWG plays the lead role in addressing the human dimensions of the Arctic within the Arctic Council. Maintaining a focus on the three pillars of sustainable development – social equity, economic development, and environmental protection – the working group encourages the generation and acquisition of new knowledge, capacity building, and innovative approaches to the unique challenges and opportunities emerging in the Arctic. Building self-sufficient, resilient, and healthy Arctic communities for present and future generations – while protecting the environment, subsistence ways of life, and cultural traditions – is a primary goal of the working group.

Finland chaired the SDWG during the Finnish Chairmanship of the Arctic Council from May 2017 to May 2019. In this period SDWG engaged in more than 20 projects. This work falls into one or more broad thematic areas identified in the *SDWG Strategic Framework*:

- Community vitality
- Economic assessments
- Educational opportunities
- Heritage and culture of Arctic communities
- Human health
- Infrastructure:
- Reduction/elimination of inequalities
- Science and research for sustainable development
- Sustainable business involvement and development
- Sustainable energy
- Transportation links
- Water and sanitation services

Among the SDWG accomplishments submitted to Arctic Council Ministers this week are:

Community Vitality:

- Report: ***Arctic Resilience Action Framework (ARAF) Progress Report 2017-2019***
- Report: ***Report of the 1st Arctic Resilience Forum 10-11 September 2018 in Rovaniemi, Finland***

Educational Opportunities:

- Book: ***Including the North: A comparative study of the policies on inclusion and equity in the circumpolar north***

- Recommendations: ***Teacher Education for Diversity and Equality in the Arctic***

Heritage and Culture of Arctic Communities:

- Report: ***EALLU – Arctic Indigenous Peoples’ Food Systems: Youth, Knowledge & Change 2015-2019***

Human Health:

- Report: ***One Arctic - One Health***
- Report: ***Project CREATEs: Circumpolar Resilience, Engagement and Action Through Story***
- Videos: ***Project CREATEs Digital Stories***

Infrastructure:

- Report: ***Good Practices for Environmental Impact Assessment and Meaningful Engagement in the Arctic – including Good Practice Recommendations***

Reduction/Elimination of Inequalities:

- Information Sheet: ***Gender Equality in the Arctic II***
- Website: ***GEAll website: <https://arcticgenderequality.network>***

Sustainable Business Involvement and Development:

- Report: ***The Arctic as a Food-Producing Region Final Report***

Sustainable Energy:

- Report: ***Arctic Sustainable Energy Futures: The Arctic Community Energy Planning And Implementation (ACEPI) Toolkit***
- Toolkit: ***Arctic Community Energy Planning And Implementation Toolkit***
- Report: ***Arctic Remote Energy Networks Academy (ARENA) Achievements Report***
- Website: ***ARENA website - <http://arena.alaska.edu>***
- Webinars: ***ARENA webinars - <http://arena.alaska.edu/2017-webinars/>***
- Report: ***Arctic Energy Summit 2017 Final Report***

Water and Sanitation Services:

- Report: ***Best Waste Management Practices for Small and Remote Arctic Communities***

Please visit the SDWG website (www.sdwg.org) for copies of reports and other information about our activities.