



Norðurslóðverkefni við Stofnunar Vilhjálms Stefánssonar

Listi tekinn saman af Jóni Hauki Ingimundarsyni í mars 2012

International Arctic Social Sciences Association (IASSA) Secretariat (2008-2011) & 7th International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences (ICASS), Akureyri, 22-26 June 2011

At the IASSA 2008 General Assembly in Nuuk, Joan Nymand Larsen was elected president of the Association for a three-year term. The IASSA secretariat was relocated from Nuuk to the Stefansson Arctic Institute in Akureyri, where it operated till fall of 2011. Secretariat members were Joan Nymand Larsen, Lára Ólafsdóttir (Secretary) and Jón Haukur Ingimundarson (congress convener). The secretariat published the biannual IASSA newsletter, *Northern Notes*.

The 7th International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences was held in Akureyri on 22nd - 26th of June 2011. Hosts: The University of Akureyri and the Stefansson Arctic Institute.

IASSA was founded in 1990 in Fairbanks, Alaska, and ICASS is held every three years. The IASSA objectives are: To promote and stimulate international cooperation and to increase the participation of social scientists in national and international Arctic research; to promote communication and coordination with other research organizations; to promote the active collection, exchange, dissemination, and archiving of scientific information in the Arctic social sciences; to promote mutual respect, communication, and collaboration between social scientists and northern people; to facilitate culturally, developmentally, and linguistically appropriate education in the North; and to follow the IASSA statement of ethical principles for the conduct of research in the Arctic.

IASSA has observer status within the Arctic Council.

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Fishernet – Fishing Cultural Heritage Network

An ongoing collaborative project of fishing nations in Europe – with funding from the European Commission since 2008.

Objectives: preserving, disseminating and utilising cultural heritage connected with sea-farers, environmental knowledge and the unique culture of fishing communities.

Key participants are from the autonomous community of Galicia in Spain, the project leaders; Iceland; Norway; The Orkney Islands north of Scotland; Bulgaria; and Cyprus.

The Stefansson Arctic Institute's participation in the *Fishernet* project involves an emphasis on coastal- and fishing cultural heritage in Iceland, Faroe Islands, Greenland and Finland. The Institute places a strong emphasis on the participation and cooperation of a wide range of actors; not least grassroots initiatives creatively contributing to the dissemination of fishing cultural heritage, making it appealing and exiting for future generations. Through cooperation with numerous institutes, museums, exhibitions, scholars, organizations and enthusiasts that are in one way or another involved in this important aspect of cultural heritage, an extensive database is being compiled and created. This is a web-based collection of content relating to various aspects of coastal- and fishing cultural heritage, ranging from stories and objects of a distant past to contemporary issues; for example coastal relics, introduction of marine related heritage, light houses, completed or on-going various interesting projects. Additionally, published material,

essays, articles and lectures will be collected and a list of published books that are related to coastal- and fishing culture in various ways, compiled.

Contacts and project staff. Embla Eir Oddsdóttir (project manager IT), embla@svs.is ; Niels Einarsson (director), ne@svs.is ; Sigurbjörg Árnadóttir (project manager), sibba@svs.is ; Sölmundur Karl Pálsson (researcher), skp@internet.is
Websites: <http://www.fishernet.is/is> ; <http://www.svs.is/Fishernet/FISHERNETproject.htm>

Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR 2004)

Published in 2004 by the Stefansson Arctic Institute, the Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR) is the first comprehensive assessment of human well-being covering the entire Arctic region. Mandated under the Arctic Council's 2002 Ministerial Declaration as a "priority project" designed to provide a "comprehensive knowledge base" for the work of the Council's Sustainable Development Programme, the AHDR was a centerpiece of the Icelandic Chairmanship of the Arctic Council during 2002-2004.

The report contains 11 substantive chapters, an introduction, a conclusion and a Summary of Major Findings. Based on contributions from some 90 scientists located in all the members of the Arctic Council and coordinated by a secretariat based at the Stefansson Arctic Institute in Akureyri, Iceland, the report offers a wide-ranging scientific assessment of achievements and challenges relating to human development in the Arctic. According to the AHDR, "Arctic societies have a well-deserved reputation for resilience in the face of change. But today they are facing an unprecedented combination of rapid and stressful changes" involving both environmental forces like climate change and socioeconomic pressures associated with globalization.

The printed **English version of AHDR** is no longer available, but you can view and print the contents of the report at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/index.htm>.
To access the AHDR at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), see <http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/regionalreports/other/name,3262,en.html>

A **Russian version and a Finnish version of the AHDR** were published in 2007. You can view and print the contents of these books at <http://www.svs.is/AHDR/index.htm>.

The Arctic Social Indicators (ASI) project

The Arctic Social Indicators (ASI) project is a project following up on the activities of the Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR 2004), and is initiated by the Stefansson Arctic Institute, Akureyri, Iceland, which also hosts the secretariat. The goal is to devise Arctic social indicators which will help facilitate the tracking and monitoring of human development in the Arctic over time. ASI is funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers Arctic Cooperation Programme. The project has been endorsed by the Arctic Council and also received the endorsement of the IPY.

A book report on Arctic Social Indicators will be published in the *Thema Nord* series of the Nordic Council of Ministers (April 2010). The draft report can be viewed at <http://www.svs.is/ASI/Report%20Chapters/Report%20Chapters.htm>. The report is directed at a broad audience, including the science community, inhabitants of the Arctic, policymakers at all levels, and in particular the Arctic Council and its Sustainable Development Working Group.

Phase II of the ASI project (*Arctic Social Indicators: Implementation*) has begun and will be completed in May 2012 with a publication in the Nordic Council of Ministers book series. To ensure a long-term and Nordic-led IPY legacy, this follow-up project on ASI implementation aims to test, refine, and implement the social indicators developed by ASI, with the overall aim to facilitate the

on-going monitoring of changes in human development in the Arctic, and to inform policy decision-making.

Contact & Project leader and manager: Joan Nymand Larsen, jnl@svs.is

Co-project leader: Peter Schweitzer (University of Alaska Fairbanks). Other project participants and working group members: 40 individuals (from 33 organizations), including Jón Haukur Ingimundarson and Niels Einarsson at SVS.

Website: <http://www.svs.is/ASI/ASI.htm>

Arctic Human Development Report II (to be completed in 2014)

The purpose of the AHDR-II project – *Arctic Human Development Report II: Regional Processes and Global Linkages* – is to move the study of human development in the Arctic beyond the AHDR (2004) baseline, to provide the second assessment and synthesis report on the state of human development in the Arctic, and to contribute to our increased knowledge and understanding of the consequences and interplay of physical and social global change processes for human living conditions and adaptability in the Arctic, and to strengthen the competence and international leadership role in human dimension scientific assessments and research. The expected project completion is year 2014, ten years after the launch of the first AHDR in 2004. The first AHDR was a baseline report, and the assumption then was that the report would be followed by periodic new volumes (with 5 or 10 year intervals) to update and provide new overviews and assessments of the state of human development in the Arctic. With the production of AHDR-II – ten years on - it will be possible to move beyond the baseline report and make comparisons and contrasts between critical time periods in an era with rapid change impacts in the circumpolar region. The proposed project will be an important contribution to addressing this area of research on living conditions, quality of life in the North, and indigenous livelihoods, identified as high priority by the Arctic Council, residents of the Arctic, and the international research community.

Iceland has taken on the lead role for AHDR II, with secretariat located at the Stefansson Arctic Institute. This institute also hosted and managed the coordination of the first AHDR project, and the Arctic Social Indicators (ASI) follow-up projects. AHDR II is mainly funded by the Government of Iceland and the Nordic Council of Ministers Arctic Cooperation Programme. The project has been endorsed by the Arctic Council and is being prepared under the auspices of the AC SDWG, but in collaboration with other relevant groups and organizations, including the Permanent Participants, the Indigenous People's Secretariat, NGO's, the International Arctic Social Science Association (IASSA), the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), and the University of the Arctic. A Lead Author Procedure will ensure that the final text of the report is fully integrated and written in a manner that is understandable to interested lay readers. 1-2 lead authors have been selected for each chapter. In addition, there will be a number of contributing and/or consulting authors for each chapter of the report.

AHDR-II Objectives and Rationale:

- The AHDR-II will provide an update to the baseline in terms of which to evaluate trends that affect sustainable human development among residents of the circumpolar world;
- It will make it possible to better compare and contrast cultural, economic, political, and social conditions throughout the Arctic with similar conditions in other parts of the eight Arctic countries and in the world at large;
- It will facilitate comparisons across the Arctic regarding key elements of human development and, in the process, make it possible to identify innovative policies and institutions in specific areas that might offer lessons applicable to other parts of the Arctic;
- It will identify critical gaps in knowledge;
- The AHDR-II will provide a circumpolar assessment of human development and quality of life in the Arctic that the Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) of the Arctic

Council can use to identify priorities and to evaluate the relevance of proposals for projects submitted to it for endorsement;

- It contributes to our increased knowledge and understanding of the consequences and interplay of physical and social global change processes for human living conditions and adaptability.

AHDR-II Themes/Chapters; Introduction; Arctic Populations and Migration; Societies and Cultures; Economic Systems; Legal Systems; Resource Governance; Community Viability and Adaptation; Human Health and Well-being; Education and Knowledge; Security; Political Systems and Geopolitics; Globalization; Measuring Arctic Human Development - ASI; Conclusion: Arctic Human Development Ten Years Onward.

AHDR-II Overarching themes: Globalization and the Arctic; Climate Change in the Arctic; Gender issues

Contacts:

Project leader: Dr. Joan Nymand Larsen, Stefansson Arctic Institute, Iceland

Co-project leader: Dr. Gail Fondahl, University of Northern British Columbia, Canada

Website: <http://www.svs.is/AHDR%20II/AHDR%20II.htm>

**The Friendly Arctic Exhibition - Vilhjálmur Stefansson's Life, Legacy and Vision
Planned openings and with associated events in Canada and in Spain (2010-2012)**

The travelling exhibition - featuring a selection of Stefansson's his photographs, recordings, publications, diaries, maps and many other arctic items - is produced by the Stefansson Arctic Institute and Visionis ehf (Þórunn Þorgrímsdóttir), in collaboration with Dartmouth College. Small-scale version of the exhibition will be installed and hosted in Santiago De Compostela and Muros in Galicia, Spain, October - November 2010. The opening event in Santiago will include lectures by Stefansson Arctic Institute staff on arctic issues and research projects.

A full-scale version of the exhibition will open at the Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, in spring of 2012. This opening will take place in connection with Canada's major IPY-legacy event: The International Polar Year "From Knowledge to Action" Conference to be held in Montreal, April 22-27, 2012.

The exhibition was first opened in Akureyri Art Museum in November 2000. Subsequent openings include Reykjavík Art Museum (2000); Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich, Vermont (2002); Scandinavia House in New York City (2004); and North Atlantic House in Copenhagen (2007).

Small-scale versions of the Exhibit have been on display in Gimli (2001), Winnipeg (2002), Minneapolis (2002), Iqaluit (2002), Akureyri (2008), and Honningsvåg (2009).

Venues of further proposed exhibition openings include Ilimmarfik in Nuuk (September 2012) and Arktikum in Rovaniemi (Spring 2013).

Web-version of *The Friendly Arctic Exhibition*: <http://thefriendlyarctic.svs.is/>

Contact and exhibition curator: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson, jhi@svs.is

**Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC):
WG II - Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability**

Joan Nymand Larsen (Stefansson Arctic Institute, Iceland) and Oleg Anisimov (State Hydrological Institute, St Petersburg, Russia) are Coordinating Lead Authors of Chapter 28, *Polar Regions*, of the Working Group II contribution to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report (AR5). The volume is scheduled for completion in 2014.

Other Lead Authors include: Anne Hollowed (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, USA), John Stone (Carleton University, Canada), Nancy Maynard (NASA Goddard Space

Flight Center, USA), Pål Prestrud (CICERO Center for Climate Research, Oslo, Norway), and Terry Prowse (Environment Canada and University of Victoria, Canada).

Northern Narratives: Social and Geographical Accounts from Norway, Iceland and Canada (NORSAGA)

NORSAGA is a BOREAS collaborative research project and an official US NSF IPY project. It is comprised of three individual projects focused on four geographical areas research: Iceland; Labrador/Nunatsiavut; Arctic Canada and Alaska, and Norway. The Canadian and Icelandic components are funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council for Canada (SSHRC) and by RANNÍS.

NORSAGA recognizes that economies, cultural traditions, and lifestyles in boreal landscapes are intrinsically closely bound to the environment. Within this context, the focus of the project is on histories, narratives and movements in northerly regions, specifically on mountainous and coastal areas. The study aspires to enhance understanding of perceptions of environmental changes, impacts and adaptations in Canada, Iceland and Norway over the last 300 years. Historical and literary analyses are being combined with sociological methodologies and advanced laboratory analyses of climate proxy data and natural archives.

Project Leader: Astrid Ogilvie, University of Colorado, Boulder, and Senior Affiliate Scientist, Stefansson Arctic Institute.

Principal Investigators: Níels Einarsson, Stefansson Arctic Institute; Ingibjörg Jónsdóttir, University of Iceland; and William Patterson, University of Saskatchewan.

Contacts: Níels Einarsson, ne@svs.is; Astrid Ogilvie, astrid.ogilvie@colorado.edu

Land-Ocean Interaction in the Coastal Zone (LOICZ)

LOICZ is a core project of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) and the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP). LOICZ aims to provide science that contributes towards understanding the Earth system in order to inform, educate and contribute to the sustainability of the world's coastal zone. Therefore LOICZ seeks to inform the scientific community, policymakers, managers and stakeholders on the relevance of global environmental change in the coastal zone.

Contact: Joan Nymand Larsen, LOICZ Scientific Steering Committee member, jnl@svs.is

Website: <http://www.loicz.org/>

Political Economy of Northern Regional Development (POENOR)

The purpose of this official IPY project - which is ongoing and began in 2007 - is to carry out research and publication on sustainable development and Arctic economies. POENOR participants form an international consortium consisting of 28 scientists from different disciplines and from all countries of the Arctic region except Sweden and Finland. POENOR was established owing to through the initiative of the Arctic Council on Arctic human development (AHDR and ASI) and sustainable development (SDWG) and owing to the Science Plan on Arctic economies and Sustainable Development under the International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP II) in Copenhagen 2005 and in Potsdam 2006. This project has received funding from the Commission for Scientific Research in Greenland, the Nordic Council of Ministers, The Greenland Home Rule Research Unit and the Obel Family Foundation.

Volume 1 of *Political Economy of Northern Regional Development* has been published (March 2010) in the Nordic Council of Ministers' publication series: ThemaNord 2010:521; ISBN 978-92-893-2016-0; <http://www.norden.org/da/publikationer/publikationer/2010-521>
This volume includes articles by Jón Haukur and by Joan Nymand.

Project leader: Gorm Winther, University of Alborg

Contacts and consortium members: Jón Haukur Ingimundarson, jhi@svs.is ; Joan Nymand Larsen, jnl@svs.is

The Arctic Governance Project (AGP)

This recently initiated international project is a product of collaboration between Centre for Sámi Studies at the University of Tromsø, The Heinz Centre (The H. John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics, and the Environment) in the USA, the Arctic Centre in Rovaniemi, and Stefansson Arctic Institute. The AGP Secretariat is located at Centre for Sámi Studies and Executive Secretary is Else Grete Broderstad. The AGP convened a group of experts on Arctic governance for a first meeting on January 29th - 30th, 2010 in Tromsø.

The project's purpose is to join scientists and policy makers in defining the most urgent problems of Arctic governance in times of rapid change in nature and communities, and looking for creative solutions for a sustainable future in the Arctic. By drawing on both traditional ecological knowledge and scientific knowledge, the project has collected a variety of perspectives and proposals on science-based Arctic governance solutions in its compendium. It will pay particular attention to opportunities for strengthening existing mechanisms like the Arctic Council. Project aspires to compiling a set of responsible and widely supported policy recommendations that will be presented to key policymakers in the national, international and non-governmental sectors to help guide the efforts underway to come to an international consensus on management of Arctic resources.

Contact: Níels Einarsson, ne@svs.is, AGP Scientific Consultant

Website: www.arcticgovernance.org

Thematic Network in Global Change in the Arctic: A curriculum development project of the University of the Arctic (UArctic) and the Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM)

The goal of this UArctic thematic network is to strengthen the delivery of higher education in all areas related to global change in the Arctic, both when it comes to physical processes, such as environmental change, as well as the knowledge of impacts, adaptation to change, and cultural consequences. Further, the project aims at increasing the capacity of northern universities, other higher education institutions, and indigenous peoples to participate in the knowledge generation and knowledge transfer on global change in the Arctic. The Thematic Network has been in operation since 2006, with funding from the Nordic Council of Ministers Arctic Co-operation Program. The Network is hosted by the Thule Institute at University of Oulu and includes 32 partners from the Nordic countries as well as from Russia, Canada and the USA. Contact person: Kirsi Latola, kirsi.latola@uarctic.org.

The Thematic Network on Global Change in the Arctic together with the Arctic Portal and Teikn á Lofti are partners in the Nordic Council of Ministers' project Arctic Virtual Learning Tools, which involves the development and publication of a virtual classroom and online textbooks ("Open textbooks"). The first implementation steps include the running of pilot online courses in the fall of 2010: "Adaptation to the Globalization in the Arctic" (led by Professor Svein Mathiesen at Sámi University College in Kautokeino) and three PhD training courses on "People and Ecosystems in a Changing World". Further online curriculum developments underway include the construction of the course "Arctic Economies and Livelihoods in a Changing Arctic". Academic Leader for this

project is Joan Nymand Larsen, while co-leaders are Lee Huskey (U of Alaska Fairbanks) and Gérard Duhaime (U of Laval).

Contact: Joan Nymand Larsen, jnl@svs.is

Websites: <http://www.uarctic.org/SingleArticle.aspx?m=174&amid=405> ;

<http://apecs.arcticportal.org/apecs-news/1462-arctic-virtual-learning-tools-project-joint-workshop>

Syntheses of Sea-Ice, Climate and Human Systems in the Arctic and Subarctic (SYNICE)

The NSF-ARCSS sponsored SYNICE project seeks to improve the understanding of pan-Arctic and North Atlantic climate and human systems through the integration and syntheses of several sea-ice data sets, together with information from the physical and social sciences. The project is analyzing data from the past 1000 years, with major emphasis on the period c. AD 1800 to the present. Project period: Sept 2006 - Sept 2009.

Project Leader and investigator: Astrid Ogilvie, University of Colorado, Boulder, and Senior Affiliate Scientist, Stefansson Arctic Institute. Other investigators include Niels Einarsson, Stefansson Arctic Institute.

Contact: Astrid Ogilvie, astrid.ogilvie@colorado.edu

Website: <http://synice.colorado.edu/>

Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic (SWIPA): The Arctic Council's Project on Climate Change and the Arctic Cryosphere

The SWIPA project was established by the Arctic Council in April 2008 as a follow-up to the 2004 Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA). Its goal is to assess current scientific information on changes in the Arctic cryosphere, including the impacts of climate change on the ice, snow, and permafrost characteristics of the Arctic, which have potentially far reaching implications for both the Arctic and the Earth as a whole. SWIPA is coordinated by the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), in cooperation with the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) and the WCRP-CLIC Program.

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Website: <http://www.amap.no/swipa/>