

Cryosphere Working Group Summary 2023

UK reps: Richard Essery (University of Edinburgh), Kelly Hogan (BAS)

Kelly Hogan is newly appointed to succeed Poul Christoffersen as one of the two UK representatives on the CWG. The other representative, Richard Essery, has been reappointed for a second 4-year term. We thank Poul for his contributions.

The CWG did not request full reports on national activities this year. Instead, time was made in the agenda to go around the room and online for brief updates. Comments made by the UK reps were:

- ASSW 2024 will be hosted by the UK in Edinburgh
- the Canada Inuit Nunangat UK Arctic research programme has been launched with 13 funded projects
- In 2021/22 several UK-community workshops have been held for Polar scientists (Arctic + Antarctic) to scope wants/needs for the UK's new Polar research vessel, RRS Sir David Attenborough (SDA). This included specific sessions on future goals/wishlist for Arctic marine science.
- There will be a major new multidisciplinary UK project in SE Greenland using RRS SDA to Kangerlussuaq Fjord in summer 2024* (*awaiting full confirmation of cruise dates). Led by scientists from British Antarctic Survey and Durham also includes 2 other UK universities and collaborators from 6 further IASC member countries.
- It was noted that over summers of 2023 and 2024 there will be 5 major marine expeditions around Greenland's coasts that will more or less cover all sectors of the island (S – Swiss; SE – UK; N – Swedish; NW – IODP; W – USA). This could be an opportunity for great collaboration to acquire similar measurements across the 2 seasons.
- In September 2022 there was a horizon scanning workshop for UK Arctic researchers hosted by the Univ. of Oxford. No report has been published so far, unsure what end goal of the workshop is

One other point to note from the round table reports is the opening of a new Austrian Polar Research Centre in Tasiilaq, E Greenland with space for ~20 researchers/students. Might be of interest to the UK Arctic community for collaborative work.

IASC WGs are required to allocate 40% of their funding to cross-cutting projects with support from two or more of the five WGs. Brief reports from the last round of funded projects were given by CWG members on projects such as BEPSI-II, the Arctic Permafrost Atlas, ART of MELT. This year, there were no CWG-only proposals and all nine were cross-cutting. All the proposals were judged to be acceptable, and all were awarded funding at the level requested. The CWG decided that they could not support one late request because, although highly relevant, it had not passed through the same submission and review procedure as the other applications. In the run up to ICARP IV and IPY 2032-33, the CWG would like to encourage some cryosphere-specific proposals.

Discussion of ICARP IV planning focussed on the intended audiences of ICARP outcomes and how outcomes can be evaluated; these were not thought to have been clear for ICARP III.

To note for ASSW 2024: hybrid arrangements for the CWG meeting did not work well. Emails were coming in during the meeting from people online who were not able to join using the provided zoom link. People who were able to join reported that the sound was of poor quality. One lapel mic. for the chair and one handheld mic. to pass around the room were insufficient.