

# Ecosystem-based Management in the Arctic Council - Status and prospects

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# Reminder: **Why** EBM?

**Major changes** in ecosystems and societies  
relying on them

**Multiple drivers, interaction** biophysical and  
socioeconomic. Prediction difficult.

**Cumulative effects** - need to consider the  
totality of impacts

**Integrated management** of human activities  
Focus on **good status** of the ecosystem

# Evolution of global oceans governance system

Evolution of rights and obligations, principles

Extended coastal state jurisdiction

Sustainability principles: precautionary approach,  
ecosystem approach, MSY

= comprehensive global oceans governance system,  
institutions

The Law of the Sea Convention -  
UNCLOS (1982): a legal  
obligation to consider that...

*“... the problems of ocean space  
are closely interrelated and needs to  
be considered as a  
whole.” (Preamble)*

- Rio Declaration 1992: one mention of EBM.
- Johannesburg Plan of Implementation 2002: “Encourage the application by 2010 of the ecosystem approach ...” (30d).
- Rio Declaration 2012: “to effectively apply an ecosystem approach and the precautionary approach in the management, in accordance with international law, of activities impacting on the marine environment...”

# Processes under the General Assembly



- Annual resolutions
- UNICPOLOS/ICP
- BBNJ
- World Ocean Assessment
- Review conferences UNFA

# The role of the Arctic Council

# Arctic Council

The Arctic Council is the **leading intergovernmental forum** promoting cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States, Arctic indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues, in particular on issues of **sustainable development** and **environmental protection** in the Arctic.



# Arctic Council

- Political cooperation among eight Arctic states: Russia, Canada, USA, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Sweden - a forum
- Indigenous Peoples organizations - Permanent Participants
- Observers – 12 non-arctic countries including China, Germany, Japan, South Korea, and the UK; 9 IGOs including IUCN and UNEP
- Rotating 2-years chairmanship – currently USA, to be followed by Finland (2017-2019)

# Working Groups

- ACAP – Arctic Contaminants Action Programme
- **AMAP** – Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme
- **CAFF** – Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna
- EPPR – Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response
- **PAME** – Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment
- SDWG – Sustainable Development WG

# Task Forces

- Task Force on **Arctic Marine Cooperation** – TFAMC
- Task Force on **Telecommunication** Infrastructure in the Arctic - TFTA
- Task Force for Enhancing **Scientific Cooperation** in the Arctic – SCTF
- Expert Group in support of implementation of the Framework for Action on **Black Carbon** and **Methane**

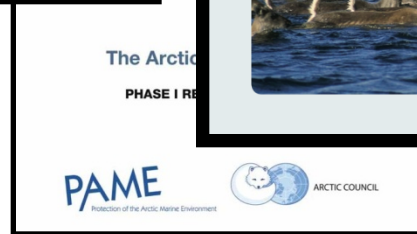
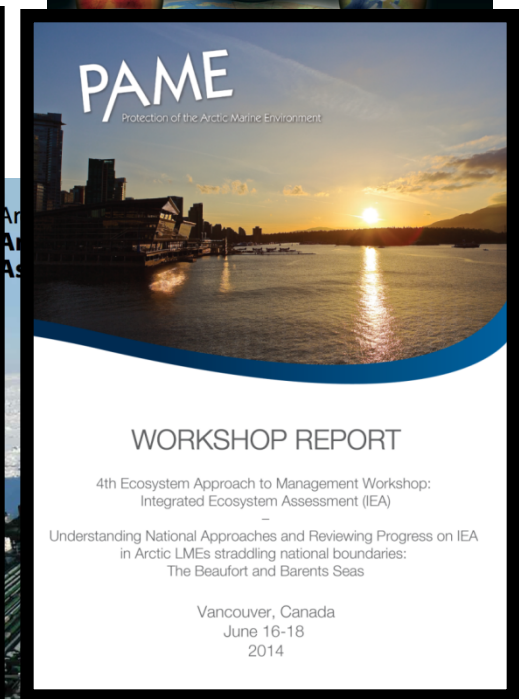
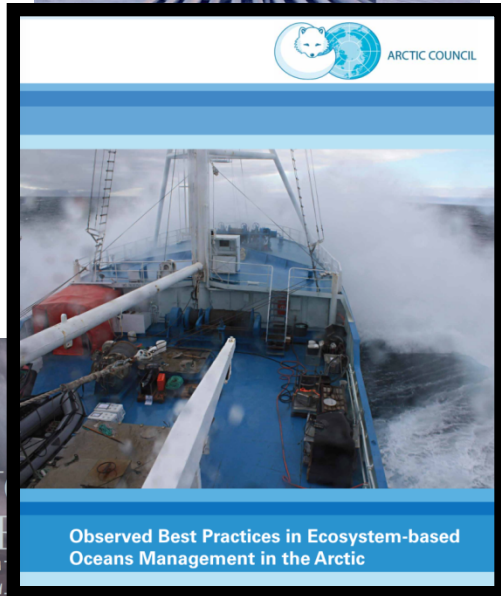
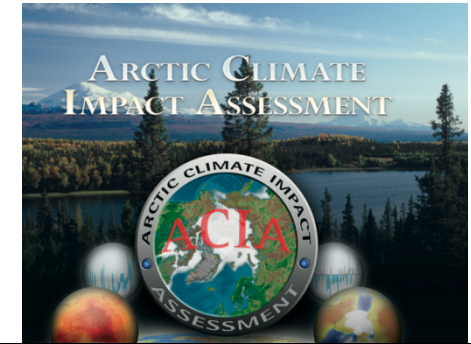
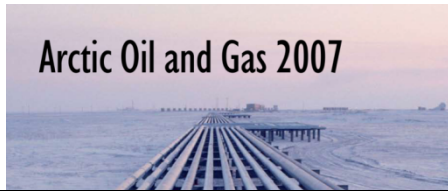
# Achievements

A long term **commitment to study & assessment** of the Arctic marine environment

A **large number of activities** relevant to understanding the status of the Arctic marine environment & drivers of change

Our **knowledge** of the Arctic is **vastly improved**

# Many relevant activities to EBM



# Iqaluit Declaration 2015

35. Recognize the multiple stresses on the Arctic environment and the **need for an ecosystem-based approach to management**, welcome and continue to encourage progress toward implementation of the **ecosystem-based management recommendations approved by Ministers in Kiruna**, and **request the development of practical guidelines** for an ecosystem-based approach to the work of the Arctic Council be completed as soon as possible,

# Arctic Council Arctic Marine Strategic Plan

2015-2025



Advance EBM as an  
overarching framework for  
conservation and sustainable  
use of living and non-living  
resources in the Arctic marine  
environment....

(Strategic action 7.3.1, 2015 AMSP)



# Arctic Council's role in EBM work?

- Substantial number of projects relating to EBM/EA and IEA
- What could the role of the Arctic Council and its Working Groups be in this regard?
  - Assessments (IEAs)
  - Development of methodology
  - Monitoring of implementation
  - Exchange of experiences

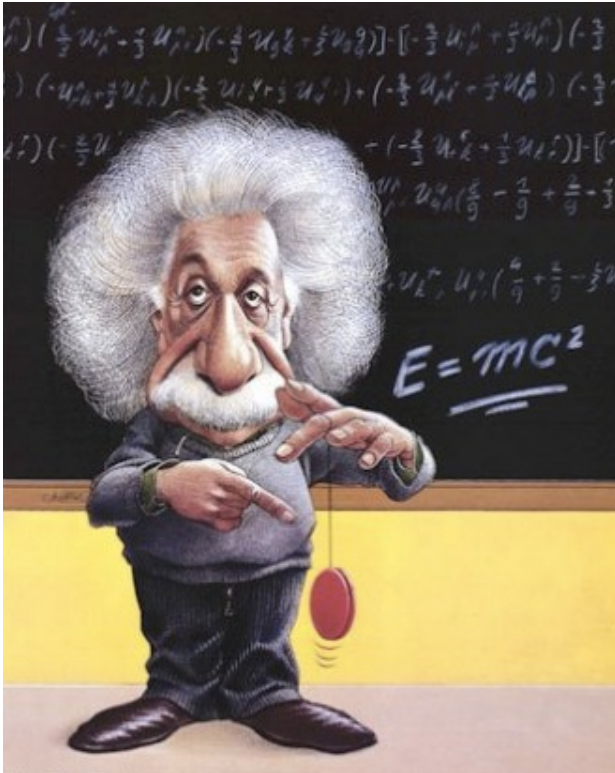
# EBM/EA: Implications for science

Scientific knowledge critical to address EBM issues

Integrated ecosystem assessments: Need information about many more aspects of ecosystems

Requires comprehensive & long-term monitoring and research = \$\$\$\$\$

# The science - policy relationship



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