

Assessing Human Development in the
Arctic:
Relevance for Nordic and International
Research Initiatives

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The AHDR

The 2002 Inari Declaration

- approved “as a priority project .. the Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR) to be developed into a comprehensive knowledge base for the Arctic Council’s Sustainable Development Programme.”

- Strong Nordic input and interest
- Icelandic lead – priority project



What is the AHDR?

- A scientific assessment rather than a report on the findings of new research: A roadmap
 - Review of existing knowledge regarding each topic or theme. 11 substantive chapters, 87 contributors, 140 involved.
 - Synthesis in search of overarching patterns and important insights/trends. Not an encyclopedia like Mark's!
 - Identification of gaps in knowledge requiring attention in the future

What does the AHDR cover?

- Part I: Orientation
 - Ch. 1 Introduction: Human Development in the Arctic
 - Ch. 2 Demography
- Part II: Core Systems
 - Ch. 3 Societies and Cultures
 - Ch. 4 Economic Systems
 - Ch. 5 Political Systems
 - Ch. 6 Legal Systems

What does the AHDR cover?

- Part III: Crosscutting Themes
 - Ch. 7 Resource Governance
 - Ch. 8 Human Health and Well-being
 - Ch. 9 Community Viability
 - Ch. 10 Education
 - Ch. 11 Gender Issues
 - Ch. 12 International Relations (Heininen)
- Part IV: Conclusion
 - Ch. 13 A Human Development Agenda for the Arctic

Key elements

- Policy-relevant Conclusions
- Arctic Success Stories
- Gaps in Knowledge
- Human Development in Perspective.
- AHDR Follow-up



Gaps in Knowledge

- ✓ Demography – We need to collect better and more consistent information on the Arctic's residents using common data protocols
- ✓ Cultures and Societies – We need a better understanding of the effects of cumulative change on cultural and social well-being, resilience and vulnerability in the Arctic
- ✓ Settlers/newcomers – We need to learn more about the experiences of recent arrivals in the Arctic and their interactions with the region's indigenous peoples

Gaps in Knowledge

- ✓ Industry – We need to improve our understanding of the roles that largescale extractive industries play in the pursuit of sustainable development at the regional level
- ✓ Governance – We need to do more in comparing and contrasting new institutions in the Arctic and distilling lessons relevant not only to the Arctic but also to other areas of the world

AHDR Follow-Up

- *Dissemination* – translation (Russian), access (Internet)
- *Monitoring* – indicator construction/SLICA
- *Gaps in Knowledge* – priority setting workshop
- *ICARP II and IPY Planning* – dissemination of findings
- A tool/framework to communicate with the policy community
- Arctic Council. Gives the baseline, recognition of social science. Perceived as salient, credible and legitimate.
- Nordic input and the NCM– Nordic Common Denominators (residents in the Arctic).

AHDR LAUNCH NORDICA HOTEL NOVEMBER 21, 2004



ARCTIC HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT

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