

# International Polar Week 2020: Indigenous Collaborations

## Geographical distribution

- Approximately one million people, or 9% of the total population in the Arctic is of indigenous heritage (Source: Nordregio)
- Arctic indigenous peoples include, for example, Saami in Circumpolar areas of Finland, Sweden, Norway and Northwest Russia, Nenets, Khanty, Evenk and Chukchi in Siberia, Aleut, Yupik and Inuit (Iñupiat) in Alaska, Inuit (Inuvialuit) in Canada and Inuit (Kalaallit) in Greenland. (Source: Arctic Centre)



Left to right: Fire ceremony, Yakutsk, Russia (S.Ksenofontov); Evenki dance performance, Yakutsk, Russia (S.Ksenofontov); Ilulissat, Greenland (V.Buschman)

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Indigenous peoples distribution in the Arctic (Map compiled by Norwegian Polar Institute)

## Collaborations between scientists and Indigenous people

In order to better involve indigenous organizations in scientific activities, share knowledge and experiences about field of studies/collaborations/contacts, scientists always try to establish project group on indigenous partnership.



Indigenous Youth at the Arctic Leaders Summit in Rovaniemi, Finland, 2019. Photo by S.Ksenofontov



Indigenous Hunters Workshop, Canada.  
Photo by M.Sheremata

## Collaboration goals

Our group aims to build close partnerships with the Arctic indigenous organizations in order to get involved in each others activities and thus mutually benefit from each other.

In doing so, we seek to:

1. Form partnerships with indigenous organizations that could help to set the priorities of the group;
2. Find mutual interests of future partnerships for shared benefits;
3. Design better strategies for building relationships with indigenous communities (to avoid complicated situations for/with researchers and individuals in the community);
4. Recruit young people and early career scientists (ECS) interested in becoming involved in the project group to guide Council members towards actions that would fulfill our partnership agreement and benefit indigenous communities as well as our membership;
5. Develop a guide on how to promote community-collaborative research projects, highlighting examples of success stories, as well as integrating events which give a voice to indigenous communities into our [International Polar Weeks](#)

## What is APECs?

The Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECs) is an **international and interdisciplinary organization** for students, postdoctoral researchers, early faculty, early career professionals, educators and others with interest in the **Polar and Alpine regions and the wider Cryosphere**. It aims to:

- Create a network of polar researcher
- Provide the opportunity for career development
- Promote education and outreach

APECs celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017. The current membership number in July 2019 is about 2873\* from 70 countries.

\*Due to a complete restart of our membership list in May 2018 to comply with the new General Data Protection Regulation in the European Union

## Projects

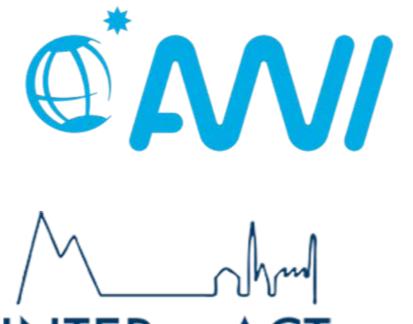


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APECs, at times, is involved in larger projects responsible for their training and outreach activities. Since 2016, and in cooperation with its hosting institutions, APECs has been a partner in four EU Horizon 2020-funded projects of the EU Arctic Cluster:

- APPLICATE - Advanced Prediction in Polar regions and beyond: modelling, observing system design and Linkages associated with a Changing Arctic ClimaTE
- INTERACT - International Network for Terrestrial Research and Monitoring in the Arctic
- ARICE - Arctic Research Icebreaker Consortium
- Nunataryuk

APPLICATE.eu  
Advanced prediction in polar regions and beyond



INTER = ACT



Arctic Research Icebreaker Consortium



NUNATARYUK  
Da CnD

## Get Involved in APECs!

APECs is proof that a community-driven effort can become a robust professional organization in just a few short years. By working with senior scientists and other mentors, APECs members' enthusiasm has successfully been harnessed in the APECs we see today. You can be part of it!

- Attend an APECs Webinar
- Organize or attend a Panel or Workshop
- Join the APECs Council or Executive Committee
- Join an APECs Project group or create one!
- Get involved in one of our National Committees (or create your own if your country doesn't have one yet!)
- Post jobs, events and articles to [www.apecs.is](http://www.apecs.is)