

Introduction to info sheets on Community-based monitoring

In the Arctic, it is a priority of governments and Indigenous peoples' organizations to increase the spatial and temporal coverage of environmental observations. One solution is to enhance community-based monitoring and citizen science observations. By their nature, community-based and citizen science programs tend to focus on those issues of greatest concern to local stakeholders; thus, outcomes from such observing programs have considerable potential to influence on-the-ground decision-making and natural resource management. Arctic community-based and citizen science programs are diverse, with many successful approaches. In this section examples of CBM systems are presented ranging from programs entirely undertaken by community members to programs led by scientists and where citizens are collecting the data.