## ARCTIC MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME

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About AMAP

Rolf Rødven, Executive Secretary

Assessment Programme

## AMAP Mandate:

"to monitor the levels of, and assess the effects of, anthropogenic pollutants in all components of the Arctic environment."

"... assessment of the effects of [...] climate change on Arctic ecosystems."

"... human health impacts and the effects of multiple stressors."

## AMAP Scientific Assessments 2021

AMAP Assessment 2021: Impacts of Short-lived Climate Forcers on Arctic Climate, Air Quality, and Human Health

MAP Arctic Climate Change Update 2021: **Key Trends and Impacts** 

AMA

AMAP Assessment 2020: POPs and Chemicals of Emerging Arctic Concern: Influence of Climate Change

Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)

AMAP Assessment 2021: Mercury in the Arctic

AMAP

AMAP Assessment 2021: Human Health in the Arctic

## The Arctic is getting warmer during the 'warm' season

## The Arctic freeze-up season is getting warmer even faster



Snowfall patterns are changing







## River ice is getting thinner













Figure 2.11 Maximum winter ice thickness for six major Arctic Russian rivers for the period 1955 to 2018. Multiple trend metrics are presented: the annual linear regression-derived slope, the change equal to the slope multiplied by the number of years, the percentage equal to the change divided by the number of years, expressed as a percentage and the *p*-statistic which describes the probability that the trend is a false-positive. Linear trend in riverice thickness is shown as a solid line (updated from Shiklomanov and Lammers, 2014).



season

**0** 

#### Indigenous access to and quality of traditional food has declined

**1. Travelling** has become less safe for wildlife hunting and fishing



Increased need for search and rescue operations

2. Shorter season for hunting, fishing and dog sledding on frozen land and water



3. Wildlife availability and timing of migrations has changed

**4. Food quality and storage** in ice cellars has suffered from warmer winters, heavy rainfall, and rapid snowmelt



#### Climate change impacts on reindeer pastoralism on the different seasonal pastures





**Resilience:** Loss of land affects opportunities to adapt to adverse weather conditions and the presence of predators

Autumn

Warm temperatures can reduce abundance of muchrooms

Rain-on-snow events

Less fat reserves and lower herd productivity

Summer

Spring



NUNATARYUK ACCOP®
Ramage J et al, 2021. Population living on permafrost in the Arctic, *Population and Environment*, https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s1111-020-00370-6

# Coastal erosion, permafrost thaw and land collapse have damaged housing and infrastructure.



Two-thirds of all Arctic settlements are located in permafrost regions

Stability of permafrost support for buildings and infrastructure has declined by about 17%



**Svalbard:** About 250 homes, traditionally built on wooden beams resting on permafrost, are to be demolished and housing relocated

**Eurasia:** Warmer winters have cooccurred with extreme snowfall or heavy rainfall, increasing the risks of avalanches, road destruction, spring flooding, and landslides



Release of pathogens and pollutants resulting from permafrost thaw

## 资

#### Permafrost thaw, contaminated sites



Langer et al., Thawing permafrost poses environmental threat to thousands of sites with legacy industrial contamination, *Nature Communications*, 2023, 14:1721, https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-37276.





Rising global temperatures



Extreme weather & disasters



Changes in seasons



Precipitation extremes



Sea-level rise



Extreme heat





**CLIMATE CHANGE** 

**EFFECTS OF** 



Pathogen distribution & ecology

Air quality & allergens



Heat-related illness



Injuries & death







Noncommunicable diseases



Infectious disease

## CITE – Climate Impacts on Terrestrial Environments





Create a digital tool for herding communities for systematic documentation of herders' observations and experiences related to observed changes on their land; and to facilitate the collection, sharing and communication of environmental data;





# THANK YOU

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## www.amap.no

Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme