

CUMULATIVE IMPACT MONITORING PROGRAM'S DECISION-MAKER NEEDS WORKSHOP


November 16 + 17, 2011

- ## Objectives of Workshop
1. Develop a shared understanding of CIMP's new mandate, role and strategic plan
 2. Develop a shared understanding of cumulative impacts and identify and confirm a set of shared priorities for cumulative impact monitoring for the next five to ten years in the NWT
 3. Foster a shared commitment to working collaboratively to improve environmental and cumulative impact monitoring in the NWT

- ## Day 1: Getting everyone on the same page
- History of CIMP – the good, the bad and lessons learned
 - CIMP's draft 5-year strategic plan

Facilitated Discussion: History of CIMP


The good, the bad and lessons learned



- ## A few CIMP facts to start with
- The legislative basis for CIMP is described in Section 146 of the MVRMA:
 - "The responsible authority shall, subject to the regulations, analyze data collected by it, scientific data, traditional knowledge and other pertinent information for the purpose of monitoring the cumulative impact on the environment of concurrent and sequential uses of land and water and deposits of waste in the Mackenzie Valley".
 - Comprehensive land claim requirements (Gwich'in, Sahtu, Tlicho)
 - Memorandum of Understanding with Inuvialuit Settlement Region

CIMP is part of an integrated system of land and water management

- Originally through the Cumulative Effects Assessment and Monitoring Framework (CEAMF)
- Now described in the Environmental Stewardship Framework (ESF)



CIMP Governance Structure

- AANDC is Responsible Authority
- Guidance provided by Working Group (members & observers)
 - ▣ Regional Aboriginal organizations
 - ▣ Federal & Territorial Governments
 - ▣ Co-management Boards
- Partnership approach is essential!

CIMP funding

- Prior to 2010, there was no core funding for CIMP
 - ▣ 2 dedicated CIMP employees (shared with CEAMF) coordinated by Environment and Conservation Division of AANDC
 - ▣ No dedicated funds for CIMP proposals & projects – money was found on an annual basis within the region
- Nonetheless and since 1999, over 220 projects were funded related to cumulative effects monitoring, research, training and capacity-building.

Just the facts...

History of CIMP

- Is this your understanding of CIMP to date?
- Does anyone have anything to add to the facts of the CIMP program to date?
- Can anyone give an example of how monitoring done under CIMP has impacted their organization and/or decisions made by their organization?

Tell me how you really feel...

History of CIMP

- What is your first response or feeling to what you have heard or your CIMP experiences to date?
- What was originally exciting about CIMP? Has it frustrated you since then?
- What felt like the biggest accomplishments of the program to date? The biggest short-comings?

What does it all mean?

History of CIMP

- What patterns have we seen and how can we learn from them?
- What does this mean for CIMP going forward?
- What does it mean for all of us?

What are the implications?

History of CIMP

- From this discussion, what can you pick out as shared concerns? Shared values?
- How to summarize what we have learned from our experience with CIMP to date?

So what's the plan then?

Let's **CIMPLify!**

...as described in the Draft
CIMP Strategic Plan for 2010-
2015...

Facilitated Discussion: CIMP Strategic Plan

Objective: to develop a common understanding of CIMP's new mandate, role and strategic plan

Just the facts...

CIMP Draft Strategic Plan

- Any questions of clarification?
- What stood out for you in the presentation?
- Key messages?
- Anything new for you?

Tell me how you really feel...

CIMP Draft Strategic Plan

- Did you hear anything that really surprised you?
- Anything that gave you confidence?
- Anything that made you feel worried?

What does it all mean?

CIMP Draft Strategic Plan

- What are the opportunities with respect to the new mandate and types of activities etc?
- What are the challenges?
- What seems most significant?

What are the implications?

CIMP Draft Strategic Plan

- What are people's thoughts on the needs for more effective collaboration and/or alignment going forward?
- What are people's thoughts on the need for prioritization of monitoring going forward?

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What we heard yesterday

History of CIMP discussion

- When asked if anyone had used CIMP-funded data for decision-making, no one had an immediate "Yes!"
- But after some discussion, it became clear that CIMP has affected some decisions and it was agreed that likely there were a number of indirect uses of CIMP data that are difficult to quantify

What we heard yesterday

History of CIMP discussion

- Acknowledged that CIMP has focused on capacity building – and the benefits of this may not be seen immediately but can emerge over time
- That the CIMP program hadn't been taken seriously enough
- That the role of CIMP in the big picture/framework hasn't been well defined – in part because we have been busy putting the other big picture pieces together (land claims

What we heard yesterday

Lessons learned?

- Should be less focus on collecting data and more focus on analyzing data, determining cause and effect, showing trends
- Need to differentiate a "funding program" from a "monitoring program"
- Must meet the prioritized needs of decision-makers
- Must define where CIMP fits exactly in the big picture

What we heard yesterday

Lessons learned?

- Need better mechanisms for partnerships – since its people who do things, not processes
- CIMP should direct the monitoring (not vice versa)
- Need to analyze patterns within funded projects
- Must manage expectations
- Need to balance TK and science
- Contribution of southern researchers need to be clear and

What we heard yesterday

Lessons learned?

- With all the monitoring going on, CIMP and others must clarify "who's doing what"
- Data should be collected and analyzed such that we are able to compare "apples to apples"
- Should have more projects that are funded long-term

What we heard yesterday

CIMP Strategic Plan

- Felt too ambitious, still trying to be “everything to everybody” – worry that if focus is on standard protocol development that this would use all the money available
- Caution that others have tried and failed to make common protocols and that some organizations will never sign on to that
- Concern about common protocols for community-based monitoring in particular

What we heard yesterday

CIMP Strategic Plan

- Some cautious optimism about the activities described - workable
- Should consider using some of the money to just get some key things done rather than hoping that the RFP process will deliver all that is needed
- Vision statement was incomplete as it did not include who we were doing this for (clients)
- Caution to prioritize based on ~~stresses, not just on MC's~~

Before getting into today's agenda

- CIMP to speak on what they want to get out of today re: prioritizing and the upcoming RFP process
- Follow-up discussion on issues raised about the development of common protocols

Focus of Day 2?

- Detailed review of analysis of questionnaire responses – and validation of whether CIMP heard what they thought they heard
- Validating monitoring priorities that will be used:
 - As the basis for upcoming RFP process
 - To guide which monitoring protocols will be developed first
 - To guide use of CIMP staff time
 - ...