

# EPPR

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EMERGENCY PREVENTION PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

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# EPPR & THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

- EPPR is one of **SIX** working groups of the Arctic Council



Arctic Contaminants  
Action Program  
ACAP



Arctic Monitoring and  
Assessment  
Programme  
AMAP



Conservation of Arctic  
Flora and Fauna  
CAFF



Emergency Prevention,  
Preparedness and  
Response  
EPPR



Protection of the Arctic  
Marine Environment  
PAME



Sustainable  
Development Working  
Group  
SDWG

# EPPR MANDATE

*PREPAREDNESS, PREVENTION, AND RESPONSE FOR...*

- Environmental emergencies
- Search and Rescue
- Man-made disasters (RAD/NUC)
- Natural disasters



# EPPR WORK

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- Address gaps
- Prepare strategies
- Share information
- Collect data
- Collaborate with relevant partners on capabilities and research needs
- Develop guidelines and tools
- Coordinate response exercises and training
- Not an operational response organization



# INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

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EPPR is responsible for implementing the two legally binding Arctic agreements:

- The Agreement on Cooperation on Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response in the Arctic (**MOSPA**)
- The Agreement on Cooperation in Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue in the Arctic (**SAR Agreement**)



# EXPERT GROUPS

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- **MER (2016)**
  - Focus on implementation of the MOSPA Agreement and its Operational Guidelines
- Strengthen cooperation, coordination and mutual assistance on oil pollution preparedness and response through joint exercises and training
- Develop recommendations for future exercises and workshops based upon lesson learned
  - Deepwater Horizon, VIKING SKY, NORILSK

# EXPERT GROUPS

- **SAR (2016)**

- Focus on implementation of the Arctic SAR Agreement
- Evaluation of exercise reports, identify lessons, develop mitigation recommendations
- Support complementary operational fora in their action-oriented efforts (SAR exercises etc.)

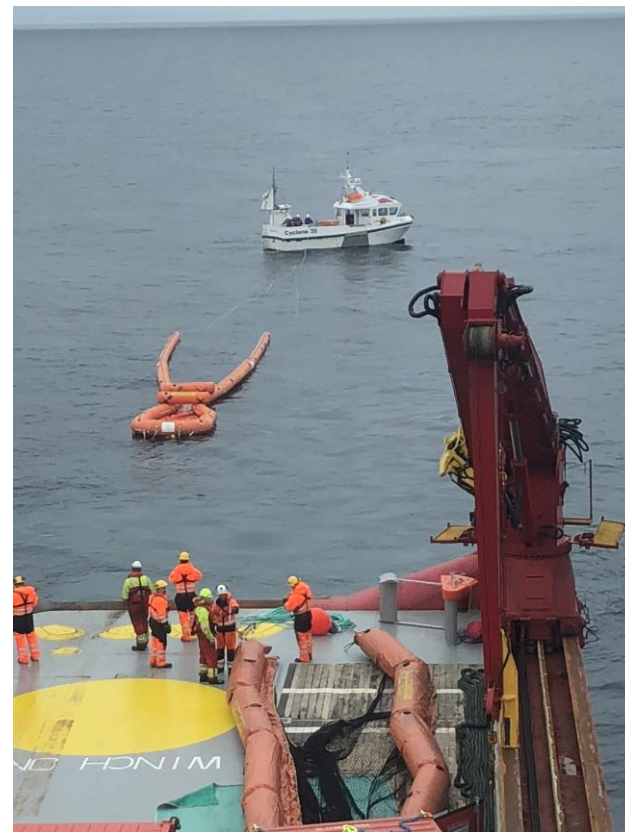
- **RAD (2019)**

- Focus on identifying and sharing competence on operations involving maritime radio-nuclear scenarios



# MER WORK PLAN/PROJECTS 2020-2021

- MOSPA Exercise Planning and Exercise 2020/2021
  - Offers of Assistance
  - Connectivity Tests
- Review of legal challenges related the MOSPA Agreement (recommendations follow up)
- Circumpolar Oil Spill Response Viability Analysis (COSRVA) – Phase 2
- Risk assessment methods and metadata – development of guidelines and a toolbox
- Prevention, Preparedness and Response for small communities – follow up (Animated videos)
- Lessons-learned Database
- Pan-Arctic Database of Arctic Response Assets







## SAR WORK PLAN/ PROJECTS 2020-2021

- Legal Review of SAR Agreement
- Mass Arctic Rescue Operations (receiving passengers ashore in remote regions)
- Transition from SAR to MER operations during a response

# RAD WORK PLAN/ PROJECTS 2020-2021

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- ARCSAFE
  - Cooperation network to improve emergency prevention, response and the safety of rescue workers in case of a maritime accident involving a potential release of radioactive substances
- RADSAR
  - ARCSAFE sub project on identifying and sharing competence on SAR operations involving maritime radio-nuclear scenarios
- EPPR Radiological/SAR Table Top Exercise 2019 (RADEX2019) lessons learned implementation
- Establishment of an EPPR Radiation Expert Group (RAD EG) – 3 year period



# NEW EPPR PROJECT/FOCUS AREA -- WILDFIRES

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## Circumpolar Wildland Fires Cooperation

- EPPR – response focus
- CAFF – environmental focus
- Existing cooperation
- Possible potential for further cooperation/agreement



# EPPR & COVID

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- While not specifically drawn out in our mandates, it is imperative we understand pandemic impacts to the Arctic's prevention and response strategies.
- All Arctic Council WGs are taking a deeper look into pandemic impacts to their work.

# THANK YOU

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