Opening Doors to Native Knowledge

- Creating opportunities for local communities to engage in natural resource management



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Background

Naalakkersuisut wants to increase local management of natural resources

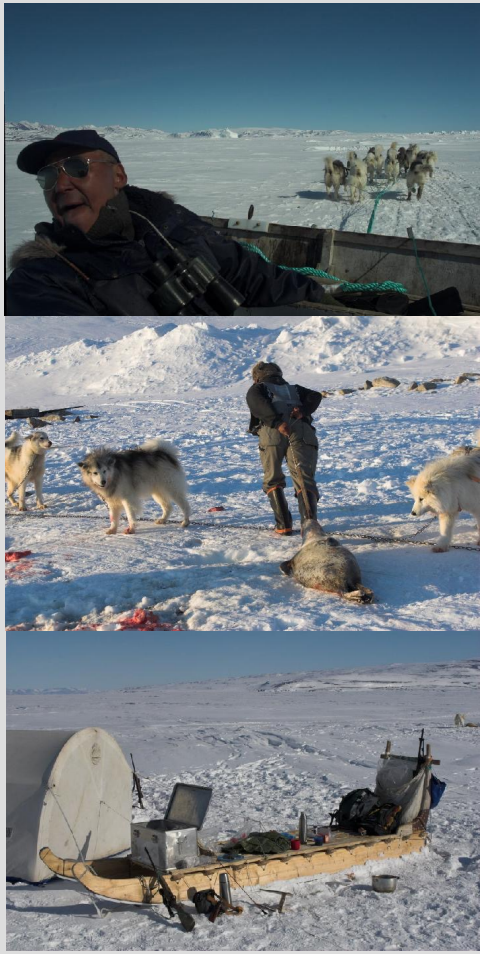
Law and Executive Orders on hunting state that user knowledge should be used in quota setting

NINA report on local management in Greenland

CAFF – Community-based monitoring strategy (handbook)

CITES – open for the use of simple cost-effective community-based monitoring in the Non-Detriment Finding process

Experience show Community-based monitoring to be a cost-effective management tool elsewhere



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Long term goal from a Greenland Self Rule perspective

<u>Evaluate the potential of Community based monitoring to contribute to:</u>

- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Increased awareness and capacity building in relation to sustainability issues
- Increased local responsibility and sense of ownership in resource management

…and make recommendations on its future implementation in Greenland.





Monitoring in Greenland

Greenland Institute of Natural Resources (GINR)

- 5 year monitoring plans for commonly used and nationally important resources (e.g. cod, red fish, halibut, crab, bird species, main populations of muskoxen and reindeer)
- Ad hoc monitoring of many larger mammal species (polar bear, walrus, narwhal, etc.)
- No plans for monitoring less utilised local populations (reindeer, muskoxen, arctic char, etc.)
- Department of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture and Department of Domestic Affairs, Nature and Environment represented in GINR Board.



Constraints:

- Sparsely distributed species
- Infrastructure limited
- Cost of monitoring acitivities and funding

Result:

- Regular monitored species enables adaptive management
- Infrequent monitoring of some species/populations may lead to risk of unsustainable use increasing with time from biological advice and less possibilities for adaptive management in response to population changes

Monitoring in Greenland

Harvest statistics

- Annual reports from hunters
- Special reporting forms for quotated species

<u>Usefulness for management</u>

- No population estimate, but comparison possible between years, however
- Like any monitoring influenced by a number of external factors (e.g. quotas, weather, changes in demography and methods, etc)

<u>Harvest statistics as a Community-based monitoring method</u>

- Locally collected data, however
- No local involvment in analysis and decision making
- Limited ownership and capacity building in relation to sustainable use issues

Digitalisation of reporting can ease administrative work and lead to faster aquisation of data







Monitoring in Greenland

Greenland Self Rule sees a need for:

- cost-effective supplement to existing monitoring to encourage adaptive management of a broader number of populations that are important to local communities (involving local communities, game wardens, etc.)

- truely iclusive monitoring that can create local ownership, responsibility, capacity building, awareness of sustainability issues and contribute to a sustainable development process





Opening Doors to Native Knowledge

Greenland Self Rule sees Opening Doors as an opportunity to develop and test Community-based monitoring in Greenland and provide recommendations on its use in Greenland.

Issues in relation to development of Community-based monitoring in Greenland

- Data requirements (frequency, quality/accuracy)
- Methodology and species
- Incentives for local involvement
- Transparency and accountability
- Institutional set-up (data collection, data management, data analysis, decision making)
- Making Community-based monitoring part a a national monitoring strategy
- Possibilities for nationwide implementation and long term sustainability of the scheme

Important to stick to timephrame and keep momentum



Opening Doors to Native Knowledge



Qujanaq – Thank you