

UArctic Climate Interventions

Statement of Principles for Academic Assessments

The UArctic *Climate Interventions* project is a minimum five-year initiative designed to provide academic assessments of existing and proposed interventions aimed at reversing, stabilizing, or delaying climate change impacts in the northern and Arctic regions. It builds on an initial [rapid assessment of 61 climate interventions](#) conducted by a team comprising UArctic members, GRID-Arendal, and the Arctic Centre/University of Lapland. Content from that report has been transferred to an online library of interventions at <https://climateinterventions.org/>, which will be continuously updated alongside regular and enhanced assessments of these intervention ideas.

Phase 2 of the *Climate Interventions* project will provide an academic review of all interventions identified in phase 1 of the project, delivering a solid knowledge-based assessment of each intervention. At the same time, an independent Indigenous assessment will offer a complementary perspective on the interventions. These analyses can help academia, governments, policymakers, investors, philanthropists, and civil society to identify and prioritize knowledge gaps, research and development needs, and provide a balanced overview of concerns and opportunities related to the potential implementation of each intervention.

To ensure meaningful comparisons, the project must establish a trustworthy academic assessment process that is perceived as fair. This is a complex task, requiring evaluation across diverse natural systems and human interests.

The comparison and evaluation system for the academic assessment will be transparent and based on independent reviews. Using the competence profile of the UArctic-wide network, along with our partners, will ensure trust a rigorous process that delivers high-quality, peer-reviewed results.

1. Assessments will be **knowledge-based**, incorporating the best available scientific evidence, primarily from peer-reviewed literature and data.
2. Assessments will use **neutral and objective language**. The *Climate Interventions* project is not an advocacy tool for any specific idea or for the use of climate interventions in general. Reviews will not take a stance for or against any intervention but will focus solely on conveying the outcomes of the assessment process. Assessments may include links to relevant actors for each intervention—along with perspectives from skeptics—to ensure a balanced presentation.
3. Assessments shall conclude with an **evaluation** that helps users compare the pros and cons of different ideas.
4. Assessment team members are not required to agree on the scoring of each category. However, they should **identify areas of disagreement** and explain the reasons behind the differing opinions.
5. Assessment teams should **recommend research needs** to address a) points of contention and b) central questions that are important for determining whether an idea is viable.
6. Assessment results will be **transparent**. All findings, including data sources and areas of disagreement, will be publicly available on the project website.

7. Assessments will be conducted by teams, each addressing specific domains of knowledge needs. These teams will include **diverse voices and relevant expertise**, with established review teams covering fields such as the atmosphere, terrestrial ecosystems, marine ecosystems, the cryosphere, economics, society, business, legal frameworks, and governance. Team members will be primarily recruited from UArctic Thematic Networks, UArctic Chairs, and the broader UArctic membership, along with individuals identified by partner organizations.
8. A separate and independent assessment of climate interventions will be conducted by **Indigenous Peoples** to reflect the perspectives of local communities in the Arctic. The results of this assessment will be made available on the project website. Although this assessment will be confined to the Arctic, at some point an effort will be made for broader engagement with Indigenous Peoples outside the Arctic.
9. Assessment teams will **use the existing criteria** developed for the rapid assessment but may refine or expand on the criteria as needed. The phase 1 assessment established twelve evaluation criteria that received general acceptance; however, these criteria are not fixed and may be adjusted as the assessment process evolves.
10. **Assessments will be regularly updated** to reflect new scientific advancements and emerging issues, as resources allow, ensuring that information on climate interventions remains current and relevant.

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