

ITEM 7: Arctic Offshore Resource Exploration and Development

PAME I – 2020

Oslo, Norway

Agenda 7.1 – Outreach for MEMA Part II

Planned Activities

- Promote / communicate good practices and key lessons from MEMA Part II Report to raise awareness on factors that are important to achieve meaningful engagement (for e.g., brochure /poster, etc.).

Brochure



MEMA

Meaningful Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine Activities Project

Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in marine activities that may affect them is critical to protecting their way of life, their well-being, and their culture. It is also critical for the success of any such activities. The purpose of the MEMA project was to:

- take stock of existing guidance, recommendations, protocols and requirements on engagement with Indigenous peoples and local communities;
- analyze these data; and
- identify good practices and lessons learned.

PAME
Partnership for Arctic Marine Environment

THE MEMA REPORT

Available on PAME.is

PAME is developing a "Reference Guide for Meaningful Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine Activities."



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MEMA

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THE MEMA DATABASE

The MEMA project developed an informational database with over 750 documents that contain legislation, regulations, policies, requirements, recommendations, and guidance, from governments, Indigenous Peoples, the Arctic Council, industry, scientists/academics, and NGOs, on how engagement can be achieved.

www.memadatabase.is

These data were analyzed and good practices for meaningful engagement were identified.



GOOD PRACTICES

1. Identify issues and factors where engagement is needed and engagement strategies could help.
2. Identify potentially affected people and organizations.
3. Consider any existing and potential legal obligations relevant to engagement.
4. Consider cultural differences, community locations and resources available.
5. Build relationships based on trust and respect between project proponents and Indigenous peoples and local communities; conduct interactions in a transparent and culturally appropriate manner.
6. Pinpoint the best times to begin engagement processes throughout an activity's lifetime.
7. Determine how best to communicate with Indigenous peoples and local communities.
8. Use multiple approaches and tools to engage, and practice early and proactive engagement at all levels.
9. Develop an engagement plan or agreement with the community, and report back on progress.
10. Set up supportive measures like recordkeeping, process reviews, conflict resolution mechanisms, as appropriate.

KEY LESSONS

General

1. There is no single approach to meaningful engagement; it depends on the context.
2. Consider outlining what all parties consider to be a meaningful role.
3. Make Indigenous peoples and local communities aware of any rights or opportunities to be meaningfully engaged.

Relationship development

4. Understand communities and the culture, heritage and traditions of the people.
5. Keep relationship building and engagement ongoing to make the relationship meaningful.
6. Collaborate and coordinate among partners, including those who do not normally communicate directly with one another.
7. Develop capacity in communities by providing education, training, infrastructure and funding, when available.
8. Make an effort to incorporate and apply Indigenous knowledge and local knowledge through engagement approaches.
9. Develop a foundation of trust and provide clarity, consistency and reliability through constructive dialogue; also include time for events and activities not directly related to issues being considered.

Process

10. Plan for engagement while being flexible with the process, since this can lead to more fruitful outcomes.
11. Aim for an engagement process that balances interests and provides for positive outcomes for all partners.
12. Aim for representation on advisory councils and decision-making boards.



Agenda 7.2 - MEMA update / status report on
the
development of a handbook or reference guide
for meaningful engagement with Indigenous
Peoples and local communities.

Project Results

- MEMA Part II Report and database welcomed in Spring 2019 at Ministerial meeting.
- Findings included three elements:
 1. Factors that are important to achieve meaningful engagement
 2. Good practices of meaningful engagement
 3. Key Lessons
- MEMA Database
 - Contains over 750 documents related to engagement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities for use by practitioners who want to engage meaningfully.
 - Is a living information database that can be added to anytime.

Next Steps for MEMA Findings

- PAME asked Project Leads to consider developing a practical tool (such as a reference guide) to help industry, non-governmental organizations, governments, academic researchers, and Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic make use of the information in the MEMA Part II Report.
- The handbook or reference guide is to be based on the MEMA database and Part II Report. Co-leads considered this to be a communications exercise.
- Co-leads to explore possible linkages with MPA and EA (and EIA) work on meaningful engagement in marine areas with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.

Determining Needs

- Project Co-leads engaged a communications consultant to conduct a “Needs Analysis”, to help inform the development of a possible tool:
 - Two Workshops held in Sept 2019 (Iceland) with MEMA Co-leads (Sept 8) and with PP’s (Sept 9).
 - Conducted (8) interviews with key informants (Indigenous Peoples, local community members, governments and other proponents) who have different roles to play in meaningful engagement.
 - It was important to hear different perspectives to understand who specifically could benefit from using the good practices and lessons outlined in the MEMA Part II report and their underlying needs.
 - To present recommendations to Co-leads for designing a possible practical and useful communications tool(s).

Needs Analysis - Conclusion

- Needs Analysis :
 - Could not identify the specific parameters for a particular “tool”.
 - Confirmed that:
 - there is no single tool that will be suitable / appropriate for all potential users.
 - different tools are needed for different users.
 - outputs could include communications product(s) to build awareness (brochure, poster).

Next Steps

- MEMA Reference Guide
 1. Factors that are important to achieve meaningful engagement
 2. Good practices of meaningful engagement
 3. Key Lessons
- PAME could recommend to AC Secretariat / SAOs that MEMA reference guide be used as a resource for all AC projects.

Agenda 7.3 – Update / Status on Current Offshore Oil and Gas Activities

Background

- Survey prepared.
- States to provide updates on activities / legislation since AMAP's 2010 OGA report.
- White Paper to be prepared based on country submissions.

Status

- Responses to Survey received to date:
 - USA
 - Greenland/Kingdom of Denmark
 - Canada
- No Response:
 - Norway will submit in Spring
 - No word from:
 - The Russian Federation
 - Faroe Islands/Kingdom of Denmark
 - Iceland