

## ICCI Annual Report 2021

In accordance with its bylaws, ICCI in the field of the cryosphere and climate change has as its purpose the conduct of work and projects, contingent on grants from, or contracts with multilateral organizations (UNEP, Nordic Council), governments, or other public or private foundations and organizations.

As in 2020, ICCI's activities during 2021 were in many ways dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, despite the new "virtual" reality, ICCI was able to carry out many significant efforts in the climate and cryosphere sphere, as well as coordinating the Cryosphere Pavilion at COP26, while also contributing strongly to the negotiations of the so-called "Glasgow Climate Pact."

Most of ICCI's work, except at COP26 in Glasgow, had to be carried out virtually. ICCI and participating researchers gave several briefings to organizations: in Sweden via ICCI-Europe (Protect Our Winters/POW-Sweden, Climate Sweden, etc.); and elsewhere, for example, to several departments of the Canadian government as well as to the US House Select Committee on Climate. ICCI with Climate Analytics also carried out several analyses of climate plans from a number of key countries, including Switzerland, the UK, Canada, and Sweden, as well as Scotland, just ahead of COP26 in Glasgow.

ICCI also took the initiative in April to found the 50x30 Coalition ([www.50x30.net](http://www.50x30.net)), which aims at making more clear the need to reduce emissions by 50% by the year 2030. The Coalition was founded together with several other organizations, including the American Geophysical Union (AGU), the European Geophysical Union (EGU), the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC), the University of Massachusetts Amherst, the University of Bristol and Imperial College London.

The High Urgency Cryosphere Chatham House Rule group met several times virtually, though a physical meeting in September in Bern had to be canceled at short notice when the Covid situation worsened again.

The second half of the year was very much concentrated on organizing a new Cryosphere Pavilion in Glasgow at COP26, which took place from 31 October-12 November. The Pavilion hosted more than 70 different side events within the different cryosphere topic areas, with the support of the Nordic Council of Ministers, Switzerland, Scotland, the Bolin Centre/Stockholm University, and the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), among others. All side events were broadcast live and are available on ICCI's YouTube channel. A "virtual" Pavilion was also coordinated with the Bolin Center in Stockholm, and with the University of Geneva in Switzerland. A pavilion in Kathmandu, Nepal at ICIMOD Headquarters was also up and running for several days of COP26.

ICCI with the "High Urgency" group was very active at the COP26 negotiations in advocating a stronger role for the cryosphere, including in the Glasgow Pact. Although the ultimate goal - to have a "Cryosphere Dialogue" - did not succeed, the cryosphere ultimately was noted in the Preface (the first such mention in any COP "cover text"). Perhaps of equal importance to the textual inclusion of "cryosphere", a new group of affected mountain countries such as Nepal, Bhutan, Peru and Mexico joined the High Urgency Cryosphere group, which will continue be active before the 2022 Subsidiary Bodies meetings in June and COP27 in Egypt.

Of note for the sister organization ICCI-Europe, the project Capacity for the Cryosphere, a "capacity building" project supported by the Swedish Postal Code Foundation originally set to end in June 2021, was extended until June 2022 due to the Covid-19 crisis. In addition to the new Global Outreach Coordinator, a Nordic Outreach Assistant was hired and participated in POW-Sweden's meetings in September and helped coordinate the virtual Cryosphere Pavilion in Stockholm. Several Swedish language information sheets were created for both the general public, and junior high/high school students; and ICCI-Europe joined the umbrella NGO group, "Climate Sweden."

ICCI and ICCI-Europe continued work on black carbon, including for woodstoves/domestic heating. Several reports on lowering emissions from woodstoves were finalized as part of a previous grant from UNEP/CCAC, and are now available on the ICCI website as well as the dedicated website [www.burnright.org](http://www.burnright.org). In Vermont, ICCI continued community-level work on lowering emissions from woodstoves, focused on the few in-person meetings during the year; as well as virtual communications and postings on the local community network Front Porch Forum.

Throughout the year, ICCI and ICCI-Europe also continued working (despite lack of specific funding) on fire-free agriculture and preventing black carbon emissions from agricultural burning; including under the LRTAP Convention, though its virtual meetings. In addition, a new project was developed with the US Forest Service and USAID in Ecuador. This will be implemented in 2022, and is intended to lead eventually to a broader project: first within Ecuador, and then hopefully in neighboring Andean nations such as Peru (where the earlier UNEP/CCAC project took place) as well as Colombia and Chile.