



# **Local Involvement for the STAR Program: Challenges and Opportunities**

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## **Key Challenges for STAR to enhance local relevance and engagement:**

- **Integrating user community interactions in the 3 major science themes**
  - **Incorporating local knowledge, concerns, and advice at the research design stage**
- **Engaging and communicating effectively with various distinct local target audiences**
- **Communicating effectively in plain language across linguistic barriers**
- **Achieving and sustaining local involvement and interest at a time of intense local research activity (IPY)**

# Strategic Options

- **Develop a STAR communication and outreach plan**
  - **Targets, timelines, measure of success**
  - **Identification of information products/communication approaches for specific local interest groups**
  - **Appropriate use of local media**
  - **Clear recognition of costs**
- **Ensure a meaningful role for local advisory group**
- **Utilize and learn from existing participatory research models**
  - **E.g. Sea ice collaborative research (Laidler; Gearheard), Community vulnerability assessment**
- **Continue to Foster local research collaborations**
  - **Wind study with the City of Iqaluit, data-sharing arrangement with INAC water resources**
- **Maximize use of local personnel, resources and expertise**