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1 Preamble

The *Nansen Legacy* comprises a dedicated Norwegian team of research excellence that has been assembled for the specific purpose of the 6-year project period (2018–2023).

The *Nansen Legacy* project explores the integrated nature of the environment, climate and the arctic marine ecosystem. The living Barents Sea is evolving under external constraints of physical forcing, and direct and indirect human impacts. The consequent management of the region and resources should be informed by, and based on the past, present and future.

The team reflects the complimentary scientific and logistic capabilities of the eight participating governmental institutions committed to Arctic research, and to the Barents Sea region in particular.

The Nansen Legacy will improve the scientific basis for future sustainable management of a region characterised by rapid and unknown changes and unidentified potential for the harvesting of marine resources.

This data policy is based on the principle of open access for any interested party to data, observations and scientific reports, free of charge. However, there will be some restrictions to the principle due to the need of confidentiality in certain cases i.e. when necessary for reasons of privacy, protection of endangered subjects, or intellectual property rights. Limitations to open access will be in accordance with general principles followed by the international scientific community and funding agencies.

The *Nansen Legacy* data policy is based on the basic principles decided by the *Nansen Legacy* board 2017, the [National strategy for publishing and sharing research data](#) and the [SIOS Data Policy](#) which in turn relates to Global Earth Observations System of Systems (GEOSS) Data Sharing Principles and compliance with the EU INSPIRE Directive 2007/2/EC and The EU Public Sector Information – PSI Directive 2003/98/EC, the Aarhus Convention on environmental data, EU Directive 2003/4/EC, the ICSU Declaration on Science and the Use of Scientific Knowledge, the International Arctic Social Science Association's Guiding Principles on the Conduct of Research, and the OECD Principles and Guidelines for Access to Research Data from Public Funding, April 2007.

2 Aims

The *Nansen Legacy* aims to share free and ethically open¹ scientific data and observations with other *Nansen Legacy* members, as well as with external users.

3 Principles

The *Nansen Legacy* data sharing principles are as follows:

- I. There will be full and open exchange of data, metadata and products within the *Nansen Legacy*, recognizing relevant international instruments and national policies and legislation;

¹ Ref [IASC Data Statement](#).

- A. Standard cruise data (details provided in the Nansen Legacy Data Management Plan) like the cruise log, meteorological and oceanographical instrument data shall be public available within 1 week after the cruise has ended;
- II. All data, metadata and products will be made available through the [SIOS Data Management System](#) (SDMS), freely with minimum time delay;
- III. All data, metadata and products are distributed free of charge;
- IV. All data are published using the [Creative Commons Attribution](#) license which is compatible with the Norwegian License for Open Government Data ([NLOD](#));
- V. All data are published in self describing form where possible, where this is not possible a detailed product manual shall be linked to the dataset;
- VI. Data access may be restricted when data release could compromise the confidentiality of human subjects or cause harm to endangered species or other vulnerable subjects;
 - A. Data used by Ph.D students may have a maximum embargo period of 4 years before they are published;
 - B. Embargo periods for data are decided by the Nansen Legacy project leader team following the procedure described in the Nansen Legacy Data Management Plan.
- VII. For datasets covered by the previous statement, discovery metadata describing the data, but not the exact location must be provided;
- VIII. Users of data supplied through the *Nansen Legacy* shall acknowledge in any publication or any other derived work, the contribution made by those who have created and worked up the data;
- IX. Following the decision of the *Nansen Legacy* board in 2017, all datasets shall, during the embargo period, be available for all project participants, regardless of institutional affiliation.

4 Scope

This data policy applies to the *Nansen Legacy* members and third parties contributing to the *Nansen Legacy* or using data supplied through the *Nansen Legacy*.

Normally², any natural or legal person or any association of legal or natural persons, including research users, shall have a right of access to the *Nansen Legacy* data, subject to the principles, conditions and exceptions defined in this data policy.

5 Definitions and concepts

The *Nansen Legacy* adopts the definitions and concepts outlined in the SIOS Data Policy for Dataset, Contributing data centre, Metadata, Timely manner and Life cycle management. The definition of timely manner differs slightly from SIOS in that data may have an embargo period to ensure that Ph.D. students can properly publish. This difference is covered in the principles.

² Exceptions must be justified.