# ICELINK Newsletter

# #03 (Oct 2025)

Welcome to the third ICELINK newsletter, providing a summary of our varied activities since June, as presented by WP leaders at the second scientific steering committee meeting (SSC) on Sept 23rd and, summarised below. The next SSC will take place in December and will also be a longer meeting, giving adequate time for discussions after updates.

The ICELINK workshop I on *'Snow and Ice Processes'* will be held at UCPH on 27-29 Oct, and you can register your attendance here > CLICK LINK <

You will have seen that EU Liaison Officer Astrid E Hasselbalch has circulated a practice financial reporting exercise, that will serve as good experience for getting our finances correctly compiled before we submit our first proper reports to the EU next year. Fill out the Excel spreadsheet forms and return them to Astrid by the 15th November so she can provide individual feedback. The test financial reporting is for the costs incurred over the first 9 months of the project (1. Feb. – 31. Oct. 2025). Please ensure that you forward the spreadsheet and details of the task to whoever oversees the ICELINK finances at your institution.

If you have any updates for inclusion in the next newsletter from your work packages or institutions, kindly contact Eliza or Christine.

With regards, ICELINK Project Office

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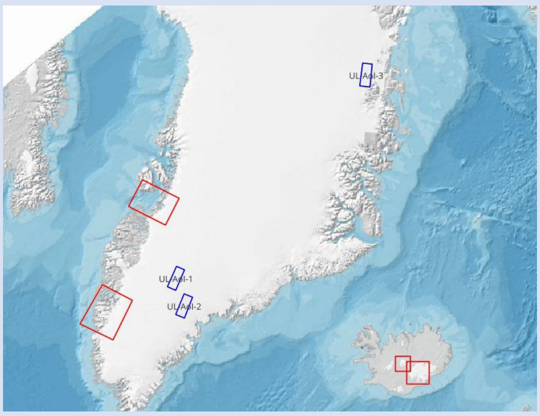
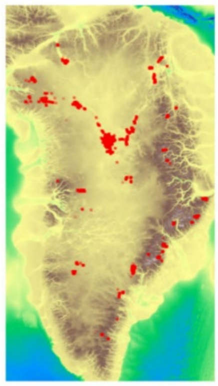
## 2nd Scientific Steering Committee: Update Summary

- **WP1: Surface mass balance (VI) Tomas**



Identified physical snow parameters from EO data for ice covered and ice-free areas for Greenland and Iceland include snow extent, snow surface classes on ice and snow melt phases in Greenland (ASCAT). Satellite data SAR (S1, etc), ASCAT, optical images (S3 SLSTR/OLCI, MODIS, S2) will be applied to test areas: Disko Bay and Nuuk Fjord (GrIS), and Hofsjökull, Vatnajökull (Iceland) (Tasks 1.1 and 1.2). The first demo products are being generated. We are well into the processing of surface dimensions in Greenland – there are monthly datasets, on a pan-GrIS grid, and data for 05.0213 to 12.2023 has been published and integrated in ICELINK data cubes. The time series is showing seasonal variation. Effort since last SSC has been to fill out the full time series for CryoSat2 (07/2010-12/2024). Processing 2013-2014 is complete and more complete than for GrIS. In Iceland – the Processing pipeline has been retargeted to Vatnajökull where CryoSat-2 has good enough monthly coverage of the ice cap. (Task 1.2). In-situ mass-balance records for Vatnajökull, Hofsjökull and Langjökull will be available around mid-October on IceCloud (from “icelandicglaciers.is”) (Task 1.3). They are developing a flexible data cube framework for GrIS and Iceland SMB balance that allows users to combine heterogeneous datasets Task 1.4).

- **WP2: Ice dynamics and hydrology (GEUS) Anne Solgaard**



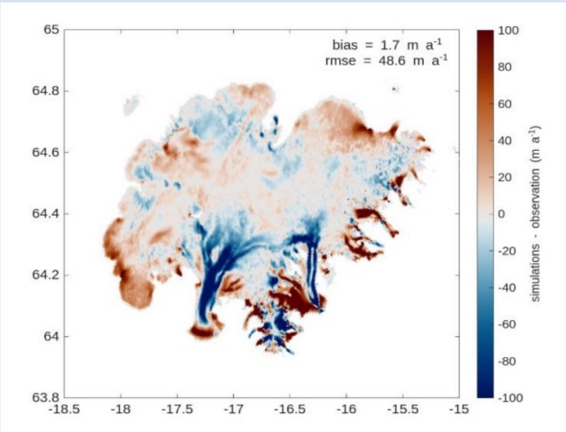
Current set of training tiles (based on BedMachine); red squares

They have worked on development / implementation of processing lines for InSAR velocity retrieval using multi-frequency SAR (C- and L-band): Extending ice velocity data sets for Greenland and Iceland: 10-yrs Sentinel-1). Next steps include the development of algorithms for 3d velocity retrieval using ascending descending orbits for target areas (Task 2.1). They have been getting acquainted running the new version of the PISM ice flow model and started a spin-up for GrIS and the next step is being able to run PISM for a drainage basin and established the framework of an Enhanced Super-resolution Generative Adversarial Network for inverting Greenland bed topography (Task 2.2).
They have set up velocity inversion in Úa ice flow model at Kangerlussuaq glacier, for summer and winter mean surface velocity from 2019 to 2024 for basal slipperiness parameter C (Task 2.3).

- **WP3: Historical Data (AWI) Johannes Freitag**

Milestone 5 ‘Plan for ice core drilling on GIS 2026 (Due 31 Jan 2026)’ is being developed, and that some maintenance is required on the shallow drill at UCPH prior to the field season (Task 3.1). Measurements and data analyses are dependent on the shallow drilling, and they have established a database for sample management and research data (iceDB) They had chance to test the bore hole equipment in Antarctica, and established workflow for density and microstructure measurements. For Iceland Thorsteinn has been preparing the shallow ice core drilling, we have been testing since Feb and hopefully one more test can be made prior to October. (Task 3.2). The work on Geodetic mass balance of selected glaciers has just started and is ongoing (Task 3.3).

- **WP4: Improved ice and climate models (ULIEGE) Brice Noel**




Evaluation of Greenland ice sheet coupling in EC-Earth3 completed and Integration into newest version EC-Earth4 is in the early testing phase (Task 4.1). In Task 4.2, GrIS work is underway to simulate 1850 to present-day ice flow with PISM using hydrology module from WP2 to capture present day state and historical evolution and provide initialised state of the ice sheet for WP5. For Iceland, we have input data, including initial thickness estimates, surface DEM, yearly surface MB and geothermal heat flux. For MARv3.14 forced by ERA5 reanalysed at 5 km was statistically downscaled to 500 m over the Greenland ice sheet, including tundra regions, and shows good agreement with standard observational datasets. The approach will be exported and applied to Iceland (Task 4.3). Kirsty (ASIAQ) worked on the calibrated energy balance model for Greenland. Results show trends in snow and rain on snow events since 1990 and this work is being written up as a manuscript, and the model will be applied to the Qeqertarsuaq region (Task 4.4).

- **WP5: Projections, impacts and synthesis (DMI) Shuting Yang**

Since WP5 is about future projections, only the Task 1.1 has started, and requires development of the (CMIP7) historical simulations (input from WP4). A joint meeting with WP4 will be organised they While they await model and data inputs for other Tasks, they are working on development, including exploratory experiments using EC- Easrth3-ESM with interactive GrIS under idealised warming scenarios. The recruitment of a postdoc is pending.

- **WP6: Supporting Adaptation Strategies (ASIAQ) Alexandria Messerli**

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Milestone 3) has been submitted, and the team in the process of making an info package and will begin to contact known stakeholders soon. Lots of dialogue with WP7 regarding outreach and engagement during Greenland Science Week (Task 6.1). Two deliverables (D6.1 and D6.2) have been extended, that will allow adequate time to follow up stakeholders after our stakeholder events.

- **WP7: Dissemination, exploitation and communication (UoL)**

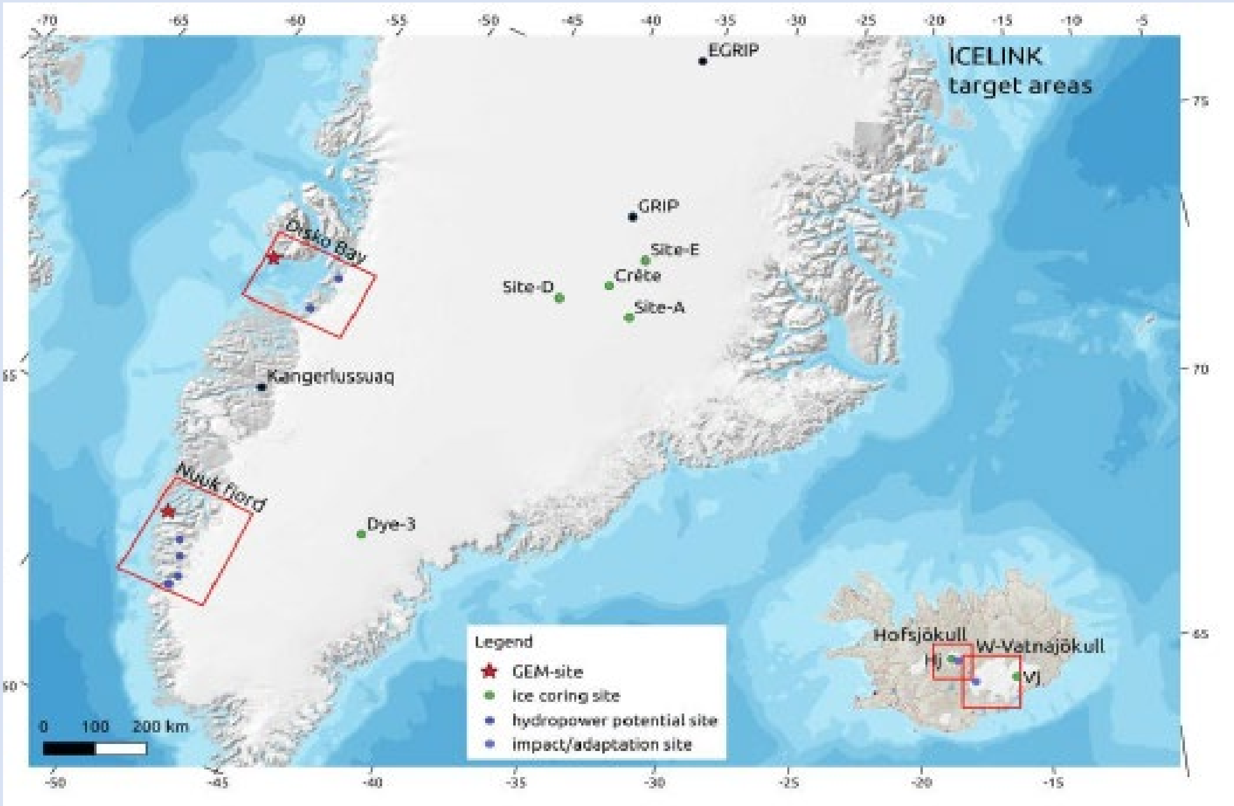
The ICELINK Exploitation Plan will be worked on over the coming months with WP leads, for submission in April (Task 7.2). Tolly and Tim have established a regular WP7 meeting with partner representatives and the first meeting was in October. This will contribute to Task 7.3, to make ICELINK science actionable. Tim will stay in Greenland from Oct-Nov, for collaboration on ICELINK outreach and representation at Greenland Science Week (https://www.scienceweek.gl/): 10-14th November, Nuuk.

- **WP8: Management**

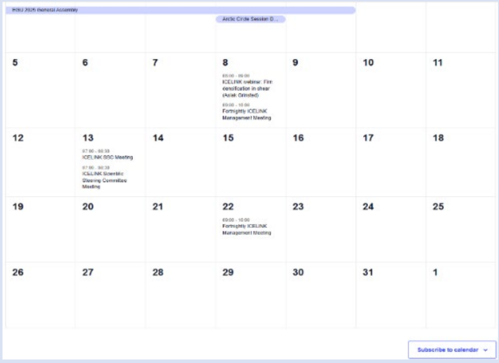
Management team submitted the Data Management Plan, and updates to this document will be collected in the quarterly data panel meetings. The second Scientific Steering Committee was held on 23rd Sept. The next SSC will be held in December 2025 and will take the form of a longer format meeting to accommodate the more detailed scientific updates with more time for questions.

# Fieldwork news

Plans are underway for the 2026 fieldwork campaigns. AWI will submit a fieldwork plan for Greenland shallow core drilling in January (Milestone 5). The sites of the cores are marked below. Thorsteinn Thorsteinsson will hopefully run a shallow drill test once more in Iceland before winter.



# Calendar of Events



Please check the calendar on icelink-project.eu for the schedule of upcoming events.

- **Fortnightly basis: ICELINK Management Office Meeting (Online).** If you have any points you'd like the team to discuss, please send them to Eliza/ Christine.

- **16th October 2025: ICELINK Webinar (Zoom):**
  **Mikkel Lauritzen (UCPH)** *Modelled Greenland Ice Sheet evolution constrained by ice-core-derived Holocene elevation histories*
  **Abstract:** During the Holocene, the Greenland Ice Sheet (GrIS) experienced substantial thinning, with some regions losing up to 600 m of ice. Ice sheet reconstructions, paleoclimatic records, and geological evidence indicate that, during the Last Glacial Maximum, the GrIS extended far beyond its current boundaries and was connected with the Innuitian Ice Sheet (IIS) in the northwest. We investigate these long-term geometry changes and explore several possible factors driving those changes by using the Parallel Ice Sheet Model (PISM) to simulate the GrIS thinning throughout the Holocene period, from 11.7 ka ago to the present. We find that since the Holocene onset, 11.7 ka ago, the GrIS mass loss has contributed 5.3 ± 0.3 m to the mean global sea-level rise, which is consistent with the ice-core-derived thinning curves spanning the time when the GrIS and the Innuitian Ice Sheet were bridged. Our results suggest that the GrIS is still responding to these past changes, having raised the sea level by 23 ± 26 mm SLE ka−1 in the last 500 years. Our results have implications for future ice sheet evolution, which should account for this long-term transient trend.
  Time: 14:00 CEST.
  Zoom link: https://ucph-ku.zoom.us/j/67806184543?pwd=U2JDL2pOeUI3RmpPcDNVRk1Jb3JVUT09

- **16-18th Oct 2025: Arctic Circle Assembly (Reykjavik, Iceland).** ICELINK WP7 team will attend and represent the project at this event which brings together governments, corporations, universities, think tanks, Indigenous communities etc, for Arctic dialogue. ICELINK aims to submit a session at the 2026 meeting.

- **27-29th Oct 2025: ICELINK Workshop on ice processes and data (UCPH, Copenhagen, DK).** (Hybrid event)
  Location: PICE room F506, 2nd Floor of Tower F (Address: Jagtvej 132, 2200 Copenhagen N)

  **Overview:** This workshop will bring together researchers from the ICELINK project with researchers from related ESA projects to discuss how seasonal variations are linked to the long-term evolution in ice sheet mass balance and flow. We will have focused discussions on seasonal variations in snow density, accumulation rate and ice velocity, how the parameters and their seasonal variations are observed, what are the forcings of these variations, how data can be combined with models to advance the understanding of snow and ice processes, and how short term variations are linked to long-term evolution of glaciers and ice sheets.
  See the Agenda, invitation and sign up following the link to the google doc:
  https://docs.google.com/document/d/11xMnaU0uDI8Jovp-D9KHGVCdLOxq5y0jsO4tmMr137o/

- **29-31st Oct 2025: IGS Nordic Branch Meeting (GEUS, Copenhagen, DK).** Details can be found here: https://eng.geus.dk/igs-nordic-branch-meeting-2025

- **15 November 2025: WP Leaders submit test financial reporting to Astrid Hasselbalch.**

- 7-14th November 2025: Greenland Science Week (Nuuk, Greenland). There are side events in other cities along the west coast. Asiaq are organising a Cryosphere seminar day on Monday 10th (contact Alex Messerli for details). https://www.scienceweek.gl/

- TBC December 2025: 3rd ICELINK Scientific Steering Committee: (Online)
  A doodle poll will be sent around in November to choose a date.

- 3-8th May 2026: EGU Suggested Session: 'Linking observations and models of inland ice, snow, and permafrost dynamics' (Convened by Christine).

# Media, Communications & Dissemination

Please forward any press releases and media coverage to Tim James and remember to log your dissemination activities, such as conference attendance on the Outreach Spreadsheet, here > Click Link < .

WP7 have joined forced with 4 artists' projects, (Konstantine Vlasis – percussionist and composer
Keving Trappeniers – transdisciplinary artist in Belgium, Ran Flygenrin – commissioned to create ICELINK graphics, Sermit Joklar – are a group in Greenland and Iceland, working with us on exhibit for GSW. The exhibit materials will be available for other ICELINK institutional events.

# New Publications

**Faria SH,** Arrizabalaga-Iriarte J, Cortés D, González-Santacruz N, Muñoz-Marzagon P. *(2025)* **Reflections on United Nations' Decade of Action for Cryospheric Sciences and International Year of Glaciers' Preservation.** *PLOS Climate* 4(7) (Click Link)

# Latest Deliveries and Milestones Submitted

Since the previous Newsletter #2, the following Deliverables and Milestones have been submitted.

- WP8: UCPH, **D8.2: Data Management Plan** (7 July 2025). Lead author, Eliza Cook
- WP6: ASIAQ, **Milestone 3: Plan for Stakeholder engagement plan** (25 June 25). Lead author, Alexandria Messerli
- WP7: UoI, **D7.2: Set up and release ICELINK Website (**30 Sept 2025). Lead Author, Tim James

# Upcoming Deliverables and Milestones

Spreadsheets detailing the schedule of Deliverables and Milestones are saved on ERDA. Please familiarise yourself with deadlines. **The following deliverables and milestones are due within the next six months:**

- D7.3: **Exploitation plan**. Report on strategy for data management, protection and exploitation of the results, and IPR (Due April 26) UoI (report contact Tim James).
- Milestone 4: **Workshop jointly with other projects on ice processes and data 1** (Due 31 Jan 26) UoI (lead contact Christine Hvidberg).
- Milestone 5: **Plan for ice core drilling on GIS** (Due 31 Jan 26) AWI (lead contact, Johannes Freitag)

# Submitted Publications

**Log your papers!** Submitted and Accepted papers should be logged on a shared file: Click Link. The details entered on the Publications List will be compiled and published in the newsletter and on the website, as the project progresses.

Is your intended journal EU compliant? https://journalcheckertool.org/ is an essential resource when clarifying whether publishing and OA fees of journals will comply with the Horizon Europe mandate (i.e. eligible costs). If not, then alternative journals/funding needs to be sought before submitting your manuscript.

**Full Acknowledgement line for use in your publications:** *This project has received Horizon Europe funding under the ICELINK grant agreement Nº 101184621. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Climate, Infrastructure, and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.*

*If the journal has a limited word count, please contact the ICELINK Management Office, who will agree the following shortened version of the acknowledgement, as follows: *This project has received Horizon Europe funding under the ICELINK grant agreement Nº 101184621. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union.*

## Deposit your Published Papers in an Open Repository!

- All publications must be Immediate OA – no embargo periods
- Use the latest available version of Creative Commons Attribution International Public Licence - CC-BY.
- Peer-reviewed publications (plus underlying data) must be deposited in an open repository at the same time as publication. Information on research output/tools/instruments needed to validate the conclusions of the scientific publication must also be open.
- Include a README file with instructions for how to open and manipulate files, to facilitate interoperability and re-use.

We have established an ICELINK community on the Zenodo repository for this purpose (Click Link). But your institute's repository could also be used.

15. October 2025

**Overview of ICELINK meetings and events.**

This document provides an overview of ICELINK events, and the roles and obligations of ICELINK participants.

**ICELINK project meetings:**

In ICELINK project meetings, we coordinate activities and discuss research within the team.

A full description of the roles, obligations, meeting schedules and management procedures can be found in the document: Book of management procedures (D8.1), submitted in March 2025.

- **The WP teams** organize themselves with regular meetings, and all members of ICELINK participate in their relevant WPs. Each WP has a WP lead, and a WP co-lead. The WP leads report to the Scientific Steering Committee about progress and results of the WP.
- **The Scientific Steering committee** meets four times per year. The Scientific Steering Committee consists of the Coordinator, the Co-coordinator, the WP leads, the WP co-leads, representatives for the Data management panel, the ECR panel, and the collaboration panel. The SSC meetings are open for all members of ICELINK.
- **The General Assembly** is the highest decision-making body in ICELINK. Each participating institution appoints one representative to the General Assembly. The General Assembly meets once a year at the Annual meeting.
- **The Annual Meeting** is held in person once a year, in connection with a General Assembly meeting and a Scientific Steering Committee meeting. The annual meetings are planned to be in: Copenhagen (2025), Reykjavik* (2026, 2027), Bruxelles (2028).
- **The Project Office** meets every second week to discuss ongoing management questions. The Project Office consists of the Coordinator, the Co-coordinator, the EU Liason Officer, the Project Manager, the Communications Manager, and the Data manager. ICELINK participants can bring up questions, and participate in the meeting if relevant.

*held in connection with the Arctic Circle meeting in Reykjavik.

**WP6 and WP7 events:**

We have committed ourselves to engage with stakeholders (WP6 – Supporting adaptation strategies), and to communicate and disseminate results internally and externally (WP7 – Dissemination, exploitation, communication). The WP6 and WP7 teams organize various events to fulfill this, and they invite for contributions when needed. They coordinate with other meetings to save travel.

A full description of our tasks can be found in the DOA (Description of Action), see the WP6 and WP7 descriptions as well as related deliverables and milestones.

- **In WP6, there will be a number of stakeholder engagement meetings** organized by the WP6 team. The partners who contribute to WP6, participate in the planning of these events as outlined in the WP6 description.

- **In WP7, there will be synergistic events** to engage with ICELINK researchers/other researchers/other projects, and outreach events to the public and to policy-makers, organized by the WP7 team. All ICELINK partners contribute to WP7, and are expected to contribute to WP to some extent through the project. The goal is that these events are beneficial and relevant for all involved.

**How we will improve on the communication about WP6 and WP7 events:**

In SSC meetings, WP6 and WP7 events will be reported in the WP reports, or in a specific agenda point. This will separate these events from general management updates and the planning of ICELINK project meetings, such as the Annual meetings or SSC meetings, and help clarify what is expected from the team.

**Planned ICELINK meetings and WP6 and WP7 events:**

2025:

| | |
|---|---|
| **23 September** | **Quarterly SSC meeting (Eliza, Christine)** |
| 16-18 October | Arctic Circle, Reykjavik: |
| | Reconnaissance for 2026 (Tim, Tolly) |
| 29-31 October | IGS Nordic Branch meeting, Copenhagen: |
| | WP7 Workshop on snow and ice processes I (Christine) (28-29 October) |
| 10-14 November | Greenland Science Week, Nuuk: |
| | WP6 stakeholder meeting (Alex) (11 November) |
| | WP7 outreach and dissemination (Alex, Christine, Tim…) |
| **? December** | **Quarterly SSC meeting (Eliza, Christine)** |

2026:

| | |
|---|---|
| **? February/March** | **Quarterly SSC meeting (Eliza, Christine)** |
| 3-8 May | EGU 2026, Vienna: |
| | WP7 Proposed session with sister project (Christine) |
| **? May/June** | **Quarterly SSC meeting (Eliza, Christine)** |
| **5-7? October** | **Annual meeting in Reykjavik (Tolly, Tim, Christine, Eliza)** |
| 8-10 October | Arctic Circle, Reykjavik: |
| | WP7 outreach and dissemination (Tim, Tolly, Christine, others) |
| | WP6 stakeholder meeting (Thomas,…) |
| ?Oct/Nov/Dec | WP7 Workshop on snow and ice processes II (Christine) |
| **? December** | **Quarterly SSC meeting (Eliza, Christine)** |