



AAROM Program Update and Report Back

National AAROM Meeting
November 20, 2019



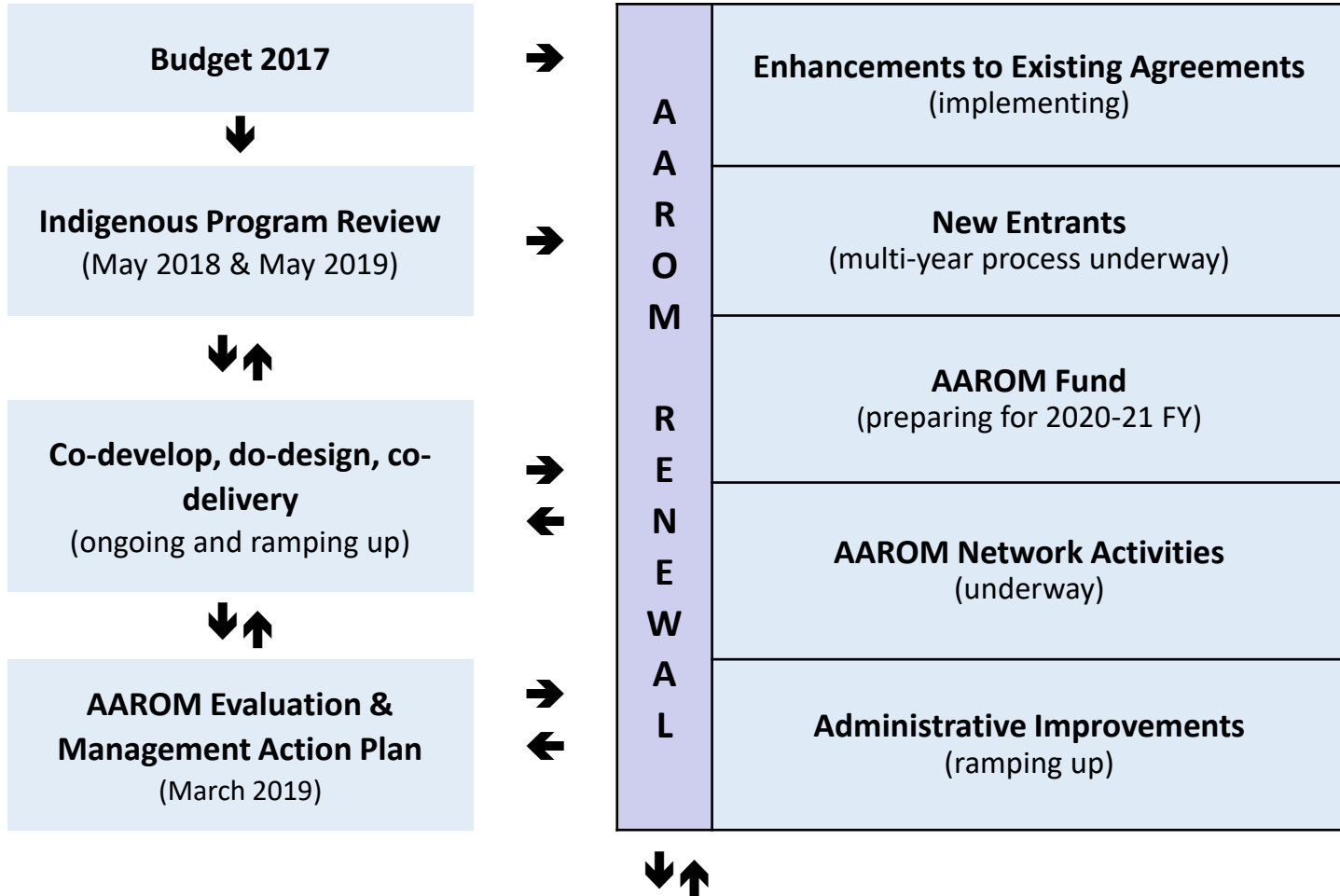


Objectives

- Provide an annual update from DFO on the AAROM program and progress on its renewal
- Set context for some other agenda items including links to sessions on the AAROM Fund, AAROM Capacity Assessment, and AAROM Marketing and Partnership Toolkit
- Answer general AAROM program questions



AAROM Renewal Process

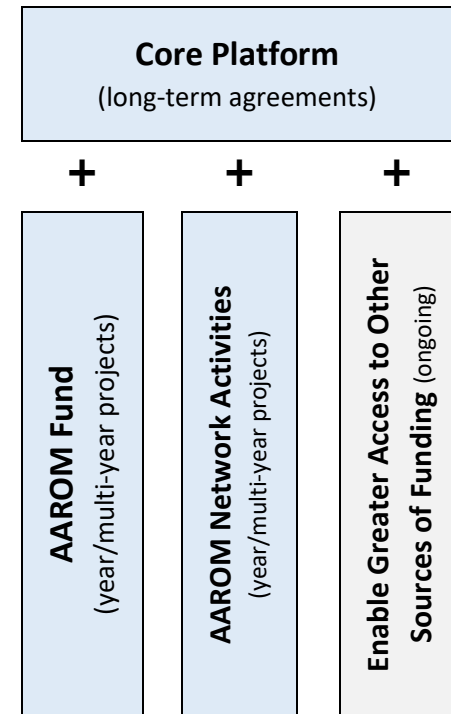




A Renewed Approach to AAROM

Moving forward, a more strategic approach to AAROM funding would focus on four main objectives:

1. Develop and maintain robust AAROM departments (core platform/capacity)
2. Fund, improve and diversify project activities (funded by AAROM)
3. Support a strong network of AAROM departments (including sharing and developing capacity as well as growing co-development, co-design, co-delivery capacity)
4. Promote access to other funding



Combined, these serve as a catalyst to support long-term growth and retention of capacity.



Managing New Funds

Notional AAROM Budget (new funding)	
Enhancements to Existing Agreements	\$2M
New Entrants	\$1.8M
AAROM Project Fund	\$2.5M
AAROM Network Activities	\$0.5M

Considerations

- Establishing a more transparent, equitable and nationally-consistent approach to program funding and administration
- Budget is dynamic (e.g., new entrants process is multi-year, requiring ramp up).
- Drive towards improvement will be ongoing (i.e., continue to listen, learn, correct, and improve)



Funding Enhancements

Implementation underway with final amendments being completed now

- Permanent increases with no reduction in historical funding
- \$2M in funding enhancements implemented covering 100% of watershed and technical/advisory AAROM departments
- Goal of ensuring more equitable funding for core staffing and operations (e.g., closing historical gaps between AAROM departments and strengthening the network overall).
- Majority of funding being used to support staff costs

Enhancement Outcomes			
Group	Number of Departments	Total Value	Enhancement Approach
1. Historical Gap/Inequity (well below the median)	9 (14)	\$1,332,000	Raise to the median (\$415K/\$251K) (values vary based on starting budget and right-sizing)
2. Mid Range Budget (just below or above the median)	10*	\$443,000	Increase of \$44,300
3. Upper Range Budget (above the median)	9	\$225,000	Increase of \$25K
Total	28	\$2,000,000	



New Entrants

Multistep and multiyear process

1. Expression of Interest (EOI) **(completed)**
2. Capacity Development and Planning **(underway)**
3. Strategic Plan Submission and Review
4. Become an AAROM Department

Key considerations

- Fill a significant gap in the existing AAROM network
- Opportunities to deliver a variety of services and form partnership (e.g., with DFO/GoC, provinces/territories, academia and industry)
- Reasonable representation of Indigenous communities within the proposed management area

Status

- Three EOIs approved and moving to Capacity Development and Planning step



AAROM Fund

Preparing for launch of projects in 2020-21

Specific session on the AAROM Fund tomorrow afternoon, seeking input on:

- Annual funding priorities for 2020-21 (types of activities to be supported)
- Criteria for assessing proposals
- Development of an Application Review Committee

Also something to keep in mind during other sessions related to building AAROM capacity including, for instance:

- Indigenous Knowledge
- Human resources
- Indigenous procurement



Networking

National AAROM Meeting

- Annual action-oriented operational meeting for Directors of AAROM departments and DFO program managers
- Focused on driving innovation, shared solutions, and continued growth in the network of AAROM departments and co-delivered (i.e., joint steering committee)
- Co-developed, co-designed and hosted by an AAROM department each year



Marketing and Partnership Toolkit

- 101 on AAROM departments, including who's-who of AAROMs, guidelines, tools, best practices, and protocols (targets AAROM departments, government, and external partners)
- Combining with internal DFO/GoC outreach campaign
- Mentorship





Co-development, co-design, co-delivery

Continuing to ramp up

- Long-term support for Steering Committee for National AAROM Meeting
- Bring items before AAROM departments at the National AAROM Meeting and be accountable (e.g., annual reporting and funding priorities)
- Build co-governance and co-delivery into AAROM (e.g., management and application review committees)
- Co-develop Capacity Assessment definitions and tools
- Co-develop marketing and partnership toolkit



Co-development, co-design and co-delivery

The 'co, co, co' is a special working arrangement.

It's about collaboration at the technical and operational levels, without policy or political agendas, to improve on-the-ground activities and build long-term Indigenous capacity.

This requires frank, open and pragmatic dialogue, which drives the development and implementation of practical and innovative solutions. In the 'co, co, co', Indigenous experts and government officials can work with respect

– even when they have differing views on the issues or the potential solutions – to find ways for programs and practises to function more effectively, efficiently, and fairly so as to maximize benefits for Indigenous peoples.



AAROM Evaluation & MAP

In 2018-19, a DFO evaluation of the AAROM program was completed

Based on the recommendations made, the AAROM program has committed to:

- co-develop and implement capacity assessment and development models and tools for the AAROM program (there is a session on this tomorrow)
- develop/co-develop tools, guidance and structures that can improve cooperation and coordination between federal programs and AAROM departments (linked to AAROM toolkit)
- improve and standardize, across all regions, data collection and management of performance and contribution agreement data through the development or updating of related guidelines, training, tools, business practices, and management/oversight functions (largely internal to DFO systems)