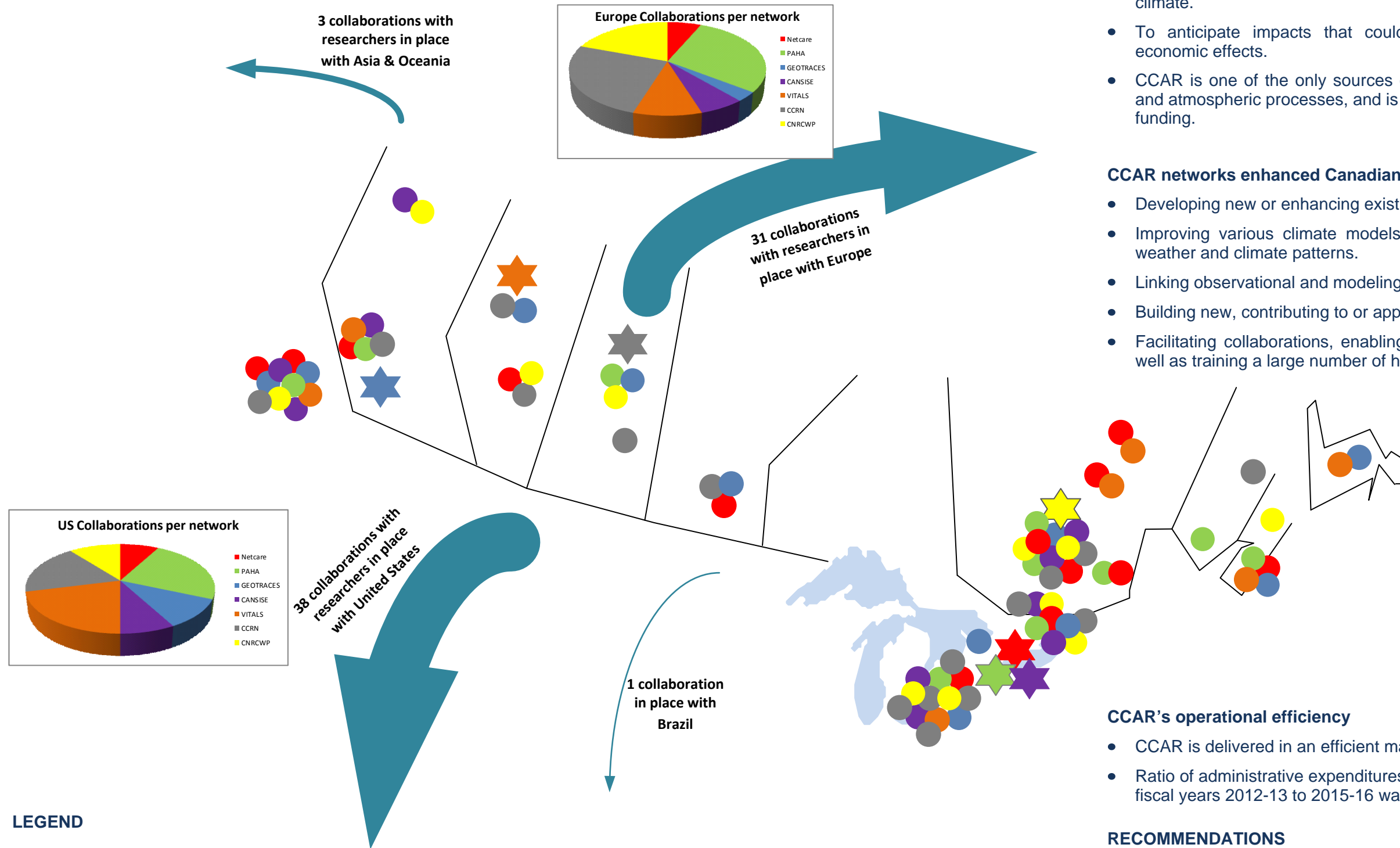


Evaluation of Climate Change and Atmospheric Research Networks



NETCARE - Network on Climate and Aerosols: Addressing Key Uncertainties in Remote Canadian Environments
PAHA (PEARL) - Polar Environment Atmospheric Research Laboratory
GEOTRACES - Biogeochemical and tracer study of a rapidly changing Arctic Ocean
CanSISE - Canadian Sea Ice and Snow Evolution
VITALS - Ventilation, Interactions and Transports Across the Labrador Sea
CCRN - Changing Cold Regions Network
CNRCWP - Canadian Network for Regional Climate and Weather Processes.

Funding climate change and atmospheric research through CCAR is important:

- To understand the underlying physical processes that are changing the Canadian climate.
- To anticipate impacts that could have serious ecological, health, social and economic effects.
- CCAR is one of the only sources of public funding for research on climate change and atmospheric processes, and is the largest in terms of the amount and duration of funding.

CCAR networks enhanced Canadian research by:

- Developing new or enhancing existing knowledge.
- Improving various climate models and systems used to help predict changes in weather and climate patterns.
- Linking observational and modeling data.
- Building new, contributing to or applying existing observational datasets.
- Facilitating collaborations, enabling knowledge dissemination, transfer and use, as well as training a large number of highly qualified personnel (HQP).

CCAR networks trained the next generation of researchers

- Over 400 HQP hired and trained.
- HQP received opportunities to: develop research and professional skills; contribute to research publications; and, present at national and international conferences.

CCAR collaborations enhanced:

- The pace of discovery and the quality of the research produced by networks.
- Dissemination, transfer and use of knowledge and products developed by the networks.

CCAR's operational efficiency

- CCAR is delivered in an efficient manner.
- Ratio of administrative expenditures for every \$1 of grants expenditures between fiscal years 2012-13 to 2015-16 was 4.45 cents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) Continue to fund fundamental research in climate change and atmospheric processes through NSERC's CCAR initiative, as long as these areas remain priorities for the federal government.
- (2) Maintain the requirement that collaborations involve active research participation of scientists from at least one federal government department.
- (3) Consider expanding the funding model of the CCAR initiative to include large networks and small research projects.
- (4) Consider developing a performance measurement strategy, as well as revising to their reporting templates.