SCAR report

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SCAR Strategy for Capacity Building (Education and Training)



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTIC RESEARCH

at the

Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, United Kingdom

SCAR Report

SCAR Report is an irregular series of publications, started in 1986 to complement SCAR Bulletin. Its purpose is to provide SCAR National Committees and other directly involved in the work of SCAR with the full texts of reports of SCAR Standing Scientific Groups and Group of Experts meetings, that had become too extensive to be published in the Bulletin, and with more comprehensive material from Antarctic Treaty meetings.

SCAR Bulletin

SCAR Bulletin, a quarterly publication of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, carries reports of SCAR meetings, short summaries of SCAR Standing Scientific Groups, Action Groups and Groups of Experts meetings, notes, reviews, and articles, and material from Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings, considered to be of interest to a wide readership.

SCAR STRATEGY FOR CAPACITY BUILDING (EDUCATION AND TRAINING)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SCAR is committed to helping scientists in all of its Member countries to participate in understanding scientifically the physical, biological, chemical and geological processes at work in the Antarctic region, to use that understanding to predict change both there and elsewhere in the world, and to provide objective and independent advice to policy makers, especially the Antarctic Treaty System. To achieve that goal requires that efforts be made to raise national scientific capacities, especially in developing countries. SCAR is also committed to promoting the incorporation of Antarctic science in education at all levels. The SCAR Strategic Plan 2004-2010 called for SCAR to develop a strategy setting out how it proposes to meet those objectives. This document is that Strategy. It explores ways in which SCAR can work with its Members, with COMNAP and with others to meet the stated needs.

The document describes the current situation, then spells out the scope, aims and objectives of the strategy. The strategy is designed to help Members' scientists achieve the following objectives:

- i. to engage in high quality international scientific research in the Antarctic region, and on the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system;
- ii. to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from SCAR's main programmes and other activities:
- iii. to provide free and unrestricted access to their Antarctic scientific data and information, and make best use of others' data and information;
- iv. to provide objective and independent scientific advice to their own governments and to Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings and other organizations on issues of science and conservation affecting the management of Antarctica and the southern Ocean:
- v. to make the best use of Antarctic examples to illustrate key scientific principles in schools and universities.

The strategy recommends the application of ten principles, and emphasises the importance of developing partnerships to take the programme forward. It lists a number of possible mechanisms for achieving the aims and objectives, and notes that the International Polar Year provides an excellent opportunity to start a wide range of capacity building and education initiatives. It sets out a mechanism for implementation, which will be coordinated by a Capacity Building and Education Group working to clearly defined targets within a specified timeframe. Finally it provides a set of performance indicators that can be used to assess progress over time.

This document was approved in draft by the SCAR Executive Committee meeting in Sofia in July 2005, and circulated by e-mail for consultation with national committees and delegates in August 2005. The final version was approved by the XXIX Delegates' meeting in Hobart (July 2006), pending minor amendments. Delegates noted that depending on consultation with and feedback from COMNAP, the draft may be modified in future to take COMNAP requirements into account.

1. INTRODUCTION

Antarctica is a unique component of the Earth System. We may perceive Antarctica as isolated, but in fact it is connected in significant ways to the atmosphere, ocean and biota of the rest of the world. Hence it is SCAR's vision "To establish through scientific research and international cooperation a broad understanding of the nature of Antarctica, the role of Antarctica in the Earth System, and the effects of global change on Antarctica." Among the purposes of that vision is to identify issues emerging from greater scientific understanding of the region that should be brought to the attention of policy makers. In a world where scientific information is fundamental to understanding many of the critical issues facing society - ranging from climate change to the crucial challenge of achieving sustainability - making wise policy decisions has become increasingly dependent on good scientific advice.

Up to now Antarctica has a unique legal status ruled by the Antarctic Treaty, founded on peaceful scientific cooperation. So achieving SCAR's vision and this stated purpose demands that as many countries as possible participate in understanding scientifically the physical, biological, chemical and geological processes at work there, and in using that understanding to predict change both locally and elsewhere in the world. To enable all countries to participate in this grand scientific challenge requires that efforts be made to raise their capacity to levels at which they can fully participate in, contribute to, and benefit from the scientific research required to achieve SCAR's vision. The term commonly used to describe such efforts is 'Capacity Building'.

The Antarctic scientific research programmes of SCAR's Member nations vary greatly in their size and capacity. Some Members have scientific communities that are large, scientifically advanced and long-standing. Others have relatively small and new Antarctic science communities that are still developing. To enable all in the SCAR family to contribute to SCAR's activities, it is incumbent on SCAR to work with appropriate agencies to help to enhance the Antarctic scientific research capacity of all of its Members and Associate Members. This requirement has become more pressing with the significant increase in SCAR Membership in recent years.

SCAR also recognizes the need to help to create the cadre of Antarctic scientists for the future, which demands engaging the attention of the young, and interesting young scientists, everywhere, in Antarctic research. In this context there is a need for scientific education about Antarctica, which is regarded as complementary to scientific capacity building.

In response to these growing needs, the Delegates at the XXVIII SCAR meeting (Bremerhaven, October 2004) adopted a new aim: "to develop scientific capacity in all SCAR Members, especially with respect to younger scientists, and to promote the incorporation of Antarctic science in education at all levels".

The SCAR Strategic Plan 2004-2010 called for SCAR to develop a strategy setting out how it proposes to meet that objective. This document is that Strategy. It explores ways in which SCAR can work with its Members, with COMNAP and with others to meet the stated needs. Success will require the development of capacities within countries by their own efforts, and the assistance of developed countries to those still in a state of development. The Strategy for Capacity Building and Education is complementary to the SCAR Communications Plan, which deals with raising awareness about Antarctica and Antarctic science and policy issues through communications.

The approach that SCAR has adopted is consistent with the Strategic Plan of its parent body, ICSU (the International Council for Science), which requires that capacity building is given the necessary attention in all the activities of the ICSU family, and that young scientists be included in ICSU programmes. Advice on the implementation of capacity building within the ICSU family is provided in ICSU's 2006 "Priority Area Assessment on Capacity Science" Building in (available from the SCAR http://www.scar.org/about/capacitybuilding/). That document in turn draws on the 2003 report "Inventing a Better Future: a Strategy for Building Worldwide Capacities in Science and Technology", published by the InterAcademy Council (IAC), which brings together all of the world's science academies; the document can be downloaded from http://www.interacademycouncil.net/.

2. CURRENT SITUATION

In the past, SCAR has not taken a systematic approach to capacity building or to education. Things are changing, however. There is an Education and Training button on the 'About SCAR' page on the SCAR web site, which leads to an Education and Training page on which there is a range of information about capacity building activities (http://www.scar.org/about/capacitybuilding/).

A SCAR Fellowship Programme was launched in 2002 with the Prince of Asturias Award of US\$50,000, which paid for 5 Fellowships for 2003-2004. Since then the programme has since been sustained by contributions from SCAR Members and from other sources of revenue as they become available. It is designed to encourage the active involvement of young scientists and engineers in Antarctic scientific research, and to strengthen in Antarctic research and capacity cooperation http://www.scar.org/awards/fellowships/). The award is for postgraduate and/or post-doctoral researchers from SCAR Member countries and who are younger than 35. The Fellowships allow researchers from one SCAR Member country to undertake short term visits to major international laboratories, field facilities, and/or home institutions in or operated by other SCAR Member countries, so as to become acquainted with recent advances in research and/or to develop long-term scientific links and partnerships. Reports of the work of the SCAR Fellows are posted at http://www.scar.org/awards/fellowships/.

As a contribution to the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007-2008, SCAR is exploring with partners the possibility of SCAR Fellowships being connected to the Belgian offer to provide places at its new Antarctic base in Dronning Maud Land, to facilitate capacity building under the IPY's 6th Continent Initiative (6CI) programme.

The Joint SCAR/COMNAP Committee on Antarctic Data Management (JCADM) is helping SCAR Members to create National Antarctic Data Centres, for which capacity building is commonly required. JCADM ran regional capacity building workshops in 1998, 1999, 2003, and 2005. The JCADM web site provides guidelines on all aspects of Antarctic data management, and on e-learning programmes.

Quite a number of capacity building opportunities, particularly for training, are provided already at the national level. To give a just a few examples of existing programmes, New

Zealand has provided opportunities for Malaysian scientists to work at Scott Base, and runs a postgraduate Certificate in Antarctic Studies and a Masters degree programme at Gateway Antarctica (see http://www.scar.org/about/capacitybuilding/index.html). The UK and Germany provided initial Antarctic opportunities for Dutch scientists. The USA has run and financially supported several post-graduate training courses at McMurdo Station that are internationally advertised and strongly competed for. Argentina has just begun to offer a postgraduate Certificate in "Geología del Sector Antártico Argentino" at San Martin National University (see http://www.posgrado.unsam.edu.ar). This list is not exhaustive.

On the education front, some SCAR Members have developed educational material, for example in Antarctica Schools Pack published by the UK and prepared for UK schools by the British Antarctic Survey (the BAS and other examples are downloadable from the Education and Training page: http://www.scar.org/about/capacitybuilding/). In Argentina a booklet edited for school children has been made available by the Consejo para las Relaciones Internacionales (CARI) and the Ministry of Education

3. SCOPE, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

A more systematic approach is now needed to meet SCAR's new aim: "to develop scientific capacity in all SCAR Members, especially with respect to younger scientists, and to promote the incorporation of Antarctic science in education at all levels".

In terms of scope, the term 'capacity building' can cover a wide range of subjects, from human capacity (more and better trained scientists), through institutional capacity (the right balance of institutions to enable Antarctic science to move forward effectively at the national level), to infrastructure capacity (access to appropriate equipment, field stations, research ships and so on). JCADM is addressing both human and institutional capacity in promoting the development of National Antarctic Data Centres and providing training for their personnel. Recognising SCAR's limited resources, this document proposes that SCAR focus its efforts at the international level on working with Members to facilitate the building of human capacity (i.e. Education, Training and Awareness-Raising), leaving to Members the bulk of the effort on building institutional capacity and infrastructure.

SCAR's capacity building efforts should be designed to help Members' scientists achieve the following objectives:

- to engage in high quality international scientific research in the Antarctic region, and on the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system;
- ii. to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from SCAR's main programmes and other activities;
- iii. to provide free and unrestricted access to their Antarctic scientific data and information, and make best use of others' data and information;
- iv. to provide objective and independent scientific advice to their own governments and to Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings and other organizations on issues of science and conservation affecting the management of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.

In addition, SCAR's education efforts should be designed

v. to help Members to make best use of Antarctic examples to illustrate key scientific principles in schools and universities.

4. PRINCIPLES AND PARTNERSHIPS

The following ten principles are designed to guide the development of SCAR's strategy for capacity building and education.

SCAR's Capacity Building and Education Programme should:

- help scientists and students, especially from developing countries and non-traditional polar researching nations, to develop interests in Antarctic scientific research, and understanding of the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system;
- be implemented at the international level, by SCAR, and at the national level by National SCAR Committees, whichever is most appropriate for the issue at hand;
- 3. lead to sustained improvements in human capacity, enabling Member countries to move to a position where they can take all necessary actions to continuously improve their own capacity;
- 4. be undertaken in partnership with national stakeholders and national or international donors from the outset, and satisfy the priorities of both;
- 5. work to clearly stated requirements, with well defined and achievable targets, and short-term, medium-term and long-term goals, established through consultation with .national committees and agencies;
- 6. capitalize on existing systems, maintaining and strengthening them as necessary, and developing new systems where appropriate;
- 7. be embedded in all SCAR scientific research programmes and activities;
- 8. recognize the related interests of other global and regional science and observation programmes of other organizations and of Members, avoid duplication of effort, and work in concert with them where appropriate;
- 9. optimize limited resources;
- have well-designed accounting or follow-up of activities, enabling performance to be measured, adaptations to be made, and focus to be retained.

The second principle, above, is based on the fact that SCAR has very little money to invest in capacity building activities, most of which will be funded from national or other international sources. SCAR's role is to promote these activities and facilitate them by seeking appropriate funds and helping to develop the kinds of partnerships that seem to be essential for the success of capacity building and education in any context. Inevitably, then, national Antarctic science committees have a key role to play in stimulating the development of Antarctic science at national levels.

The fourth principle recognizes that no one organization can build all the capacity that any one nation may require. Bilateral or multi-lateral partnership projects or programmes offer one possible way forward. Such partnerships would bring together developed and developing world countries with similar scientific questions and priorities. Activities should be

designed by all partners working together towards mutually beneficial and mutually agreed objectives. There should be long-term commitment, with financial or in-kind contributions by all partners. Partner organisations might include, for instance the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS; http://www.twas.org/), the Islamic Academy of Sciences, and world bodies such as ICSU or WMO.

5. MECHANISMS FOR ACHIEVING AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

To meet the five objectives [(i) through (v)] of Section 3 (above) SCAR **encourages all Members to consider** how they can contribute individually or collectively to capacity building, including education and training, by applying the above principles and by supporting any or all of the following activities, through bilateral or multilateral arrangements.

Objective (i) to help all Members to engage in high quality international scientific research in the Antarctic region, and on the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system;

Provide Fellowships enabling students to spend time in leading polar science institutions elsewhere.

SCAR itself offers 3-5 fellowships per year

(see http://www.scar.org/awards/fellowships/index.html).

Fellowships can also be provided through international programmes such as ICSU, or the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS);

(see http://www.twas.org/),

or the European Commission (EC)

(see http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/index_en.cfm)

for instance, or supported by individual agencies at their own discretion.

Provide training through research.

Institutions in countries with well-developed Antarctic programmes can provide opportunities for scientists from countries with less well-developed Antarctic programmes to participate in joint projects, joint field activities, and joint cruises, or to undertake PhD studies.

Encourage development of Distinguished Visiting Researchers programme to bring top scientists to countries with less well-developed Antarctic programmes for short periods to teach or spend sabbaticals.

Facilitate advanced lecture series and hands-on workshops with national Antarctic programmes of non-US/EU countries.

This will enable a larger audience from these countries to get access to the latest developments in Antarctic Sciences.

Build and sustain a number of network nodes on specific scientific issues.

Interested scientists can visit these nodes to seek opportunities for collaboration.

Provide libraries of countries with less well-developed Antarctic programmes with appropriate key journals, and consider providing access for SCAR Members to e-books and e-journals through the SCAR web page.

At the end of 2005, five complete sets of the Journal *Antarctic Science* were sent free to the National Polar Institutes of Brazil, Bulgaria, Pakistan, Ukraine, and Uruguay, by arrangement with the Editor of the Journal, courtesy of Cambridge University Press.

Help scientists from countries with less well-developed Antarctic programmes to publish in top quality international journals, for example by providing advice on the formal English required for papers submitted to leading international research journals.

Consider developing a Voluntary Cooperation Programme of the kind run by the World Meteorological Organisation, in which the needs of countries with less well-developed programmes are circulated through the community to see to what extent they can be met by those with well-developed programmes.

Objective (ii) to help young scientists, to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from SCAR's main programmes and other activities;

Get scientists from countries with well-developed Antarctic programmes working on Antarctic topics in partnership with scientists from countries with less well-developed Antarctic programmes.

Enable all scientists to participate in the activities and meetings of SCAR's Action Groups, Expert Groups and Scientific Research Programmes.

Provide funds for scientists from countries with less well-developed Antarctic programmes to attend SCAR meetings and workshops (sources being national agencies and international organisations like TWAS or the EC).

Consideration also needs to be given to attracting scientists from countries with no traditional Antarctic science programme to work with SCAR Members and programmes, as a means of broadening interest in Antarctic science.

Objective (iii) to help all Members provide free and unrestricted access to Antarctic scientific data and information, and make best use of others' data and information;

Although such access is a mandatory requirement of the Antarctic Treaty System, the requirement is not being met in practice.

Encourage all countries to make their data readily available. This will include encouraging all countries to get their analog data records digitised, and onto the web in forms suitable for analysis and exchange.

Continue training national data managers in the development of National Antarctic Data Centres.

These activities have already begun under the aegis of JCADM.

Create networks of specialists trained in the use of Antarctic region data acquired by remote sensing from space satellites.

Objective (iv) to help all Members to provide objective and independent scientific advice to their own governments and to Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings and other organizations on issues of science and conservation affecting the management of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.

Educate/train managers/lawyers/administrators in aspects of the benefits and applications of Antarctic science.

Provide advice on preparing briefing papers, and, where appropriate, short professional courses on topical issues.

Ensure that scientists are aware of the need for and importance of providing scientific advice, and encourage their participation in SCAR's Standing Committee on the Antarctic Treaty System.

(adapted from Objective (i), above) Build and sustain a number of network nodes on specific scientific issues.

Interested policy makers can visit these nodes to obtain information that will influence policy decisions.

Objective (v) to help Members to make best use of Antarctic examples to illustrate key scientific principles in schools and universities.

Education can take two main routes: (i) direct contact with young people in school and universities to interest them in Antarctica and its science; and (ii) contributing information about Antarctica and its science to educators, to enable them to spread the message by incorporating information in their coursework. SCAR can provide some of what is required by posting information about Antarctica and Antarctic science on the SCAR web site. However, recognizing the broad spread of languages within the SCAR family, much of the responsibility for these activities must rest with National Antarctic Committees and Programmes.

To facilitate education (addressed here) and the raising of awareness about Antarctica (addressed in SCAR's Communications Plan), SCAR should develop a web Portal through which a wide range of educational and other materials on Antarctica could be made

available. This Portal currently exists under the heading "Antarctic Information" on the SCAR web page (http://www.scar.org/information/).

At schools level, two examples of providing scientific material for schoolchildren are:

- i. the educational pack of the British Antarctic Survey (http://www.scar.org/information/);
- ii. the work by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution with an educational publishing company to bring real-world ocean science into the classroom in the Turnstone Ocean pilot and ocean Explorer kits (see http://www.steck-vaughn.com).

Other possible educational examples (for schools or universities), from the IPY Plan (see section 6, below) include:

- generating polar emphasis in existing science/environmental programmes;
- including polar themes in science and history contests/programmes;
- having an international polar day at schools around the globe;
- getting teachers to organize curriculum projects based on IPY projects, activities and results;
- organising summer schools with a polar focus.

At university level capacity building efforts can be designed to:

Provide places for Members' young scientists, especially from countries with less well-developed Antarctic programmes, in MSc or other specialist courses in major polar education and training centres;

Several Members have academic or government organisations offering advanced specialised training courses on some aspect of polar science. Usually there is the potential for these courses to be joined by participants from countries with less well-developed Antarctic programmes, provided that a source of funds can be found.

Provide access to training in the use of new technologies;

Training in the interpretation of remotely sensed data from satellites can be arranged with the assistance of the Working Group on Education and Training (WGEdu) of the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) (see http://wgedu.ceos.org/). Access to and training in the use of freeware packages for numerical modelling can be arranged via the Internet.

Provide tailor-made distance learning programmes.

SCAR is a member of the new International Antarctic Institute, which is developing to combine the teaching capabilities of a range of institutions from different countries. The IAI initiative is being led by the University of Hobart, Tasmania.

(see http://www.scar.org/about/capacitybuilding/antarcticinstitute/index.html).

6. THE INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR (IPY) 2007-2008

The development of the IPY offers a splendid opportunity to enhance capacity building. SCAR is well placed, through membership of several SCAR scientists on the Steering Committee for the IPY, to promote the building of human capacity for Antarctic research, and the aim of raising the profile of the Antarctic region in education.

As mentioned above, SCAR is working with the International Polar Foundation, based in Belgium, through the IPY's 6CI programme to link SCAR Fellowships during the IPY to the Belgian offer to provide places at its new Antarctic base in Dronning Maud Land to facilitate capacity building.

The IPY will be promoting many of the approaches set out in section 5 above, through its newly formed Education and Outreach Committee, which should produce a strategic plan by the end of 2006.

(see http://www.ipy.org/concept/framework/outreach.html).

The SCAR web Portal could be organized in conjunction with the IPY.

7. IMPLEMENTATION, TARGETS AND TIME FRAME

7.1 A SCAR Capacity Building, Education and Training Group

As a first step towards developing a capacity building and education strategy, Delegates meeting at SCAR XXVIII (Bremerhaven, October 2004) agreed:

- to create a SCAR Capacity Building and Education Group, here expanded to include Training, to help SCAR Members:
 - work towards building human capacity for Antarctic science by a variety of means;
 - promote education and training of students so as to increase awareness of the value of Antarctic science;
 - manage the SCAR capacity building, education and training programme.
- ii. that one of the SCAR Vice Presidents would take responsibility for reporting on capacity building and education.
- iii. that capacity building efforts should focus on Asia for 2 years (2005-2007), then on South America, and then on any other SCAR Member with a new or less well-developed Antarctic programme.

The CBET Group shall comprise representatives nominated by Members, representatives of SCAR's major scientific research programmes and other SCAR experts as appropriate, representatives of donor organizations, and the Executive Director. The Group will report to the Delegates Committee on Outreach and Administration.

The Group's Terms of Reference should be to:

- initiate, plan, and oversee the implementation of SCAR capacity building, education and training;
- develop policies and plans for funding.
- promote educational activities highlighting the importance and value of Antarctic science;
- evaluate the performance of the programme and suggest changes as appropriate.

7.2 Strategic Guidance

The strategy should be flexible, recognising that different countries have different needs. It should be creative, to leverage expertise, equipment, facilities, capital and funding sources to increase the scope and impact of the programme. It should capitalise on growing Internet access for disseminating information that can be used for training.

The strategy should exploit the various capacity building initiatives of other institutions, such as the IOC (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission), WMO (World Meteorological Organisation), ICSU, IGBP (International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme), CEOS (Committee on Earth Observation Satellites) and others, and the contacts that these organisations have within developing country regions.

The strategy should also exploit the existing capacity building initiatives of Members. As a first step it will be instructive to compile an inventory of ongoing capacity building initiatives, not least as a means of identifying possible gaps.

The strategy should consider the needs of different regions, with a focus initially on Asia, followed by South America and then on any SCAR Member country with a new or less-well developed Antarctic programme.

Implementation of the strategy will require the development of well-targeted proposals for funding, at both the national and international level.

7.3 Targets and Time Frame

This document sets out some provisional targets. One of the tasks of the Capacity Building and Education Group will be to refine these targets and timeframes.

2 Year Targets:

- Maintain and if possible enlarge the SCAR Fellowship programme;
- Review gaps in education and training;
- Develop plans to maintain and strengthen education and training;
- Develop a network of experts involved in existing national and global capacity building initiatives to participate in future capacity building;
- Inform Members of existing efforts in capacity building and education;
- Encourage the development of a capacity building component in all SCAR activities;
- Facilitate access to data and numerical models particularly for developing countries;
- Develop priorities for new or augmented efforts in capacity building;
- Devise a SCAR web Portal.

6 Year Targets:

- Obtain funding of multinational capacity building programmes;
- Refine monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for determining the efficacy of capacity building and education efforts;
- Continue to facilitate appropriate education and training:
- Refine priorities.

10 Year Target:

 Have in place a viable sustained capacity building, education and training programme that will have significantly enhanced the capability of all Members, and particularly those with new or less well-developed

Antarctic programmes, to participate in and contribute to Antarctic scientific research and advice to policy makers, and that will continue to make such enhancements as needed.

8. PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Each capacity building project should specify the objectives, anticipated results and expected schedule against which the success of the activity can be judged.

Performance measures might include, for example:

Input Measures, such as:

- Expenditure on education, training and technical cooperation;
- Sources and amounts of new funding;
- Number of staff managing education, training and technical cooperation;
- Number of experts aiding in these activities.

and

Output Measures, such as:

- Number and type of education activities;
- Number and type of training activities;
- Number and type of capacity building workshops;
- Type and amount of technology transfer;
- Number of reports resulting from the activities;
- Number of publications resulting from the activities;
- Number of men/women participants;
- Countries of people participating;
- Examples of key achievements
- Outcomes (e.g. improvements in the scope, quality and quantity of data from observing systems)
- Impacts (e.g. impacts of weather forecasts that would not have been possible without the activities)

9. LINKS WITH COMNAP

COMNAP has a Coordinating Group on Education and Training (CEDAT), which coordinates and/or guides the work of two subgroups: (i) TRAINET, which deals with training; and (ii) INFONET, which deals primarily with Education and Outreach. COMNAP held an INFONET workshop on April 10-11, 2006, in Washington DC, at which SCAR was represented by the Executive Director. This provided an opportunity to explore possible future links between SCAR and COMNAP in the general area of Education and Training. The focus of INFONET is likely to be on Education, Outreach and Communication. SCAR's Communication needs are addressed separately from Education and Training, in the SCAR Communications Plan (see http://www.scar.org/communications/). An INFONET Plan has yet to be developed. As a first step towards linking SCAR and COMNAP more closely may be the development of awareness-raising briefing notes for the public and policy makers – an idea that emerged during the INFONET Workshop.

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

CBET Capacity Building, Education and Training Group

CEDAT Coordinating Group on Education and Training (of COMNAP)

CEOS Committee on Earth Observation Satellites

COMNAP Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programmes

EC European Commission IAC Inter-Academy Council

ICSU International Council for Science

IGBP International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme

INFONET Information Network (of COMNAP)

IOC Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

IPY International Polar Year

JCADM Joint SCAR/COMNAP Committee on Antarctic Data Management

PhD Doctor of Philosophy

SCAR Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research

TRAINET Training Network (of COMNAP)
TWAS Third World Academy of Sciences

WGEdu Working Group on Education and Training

WMO World Meteorological Organisation