



Education, Outreach and Awards

SCAR is committed to developing the scientific capacity of all its members and engaging countries not traditionally involved in Antarctic research. It also works with early career scientists and students to develop the next generation.

Awards

Awards provide the opportunity for sponsors to become directly involved in the vital work of SCAR.

SCAR Fellowships

are designed to encourage the active involvement of early career scientists and engineers in Antarctic scientific research, by allowing them to spend time in another country or facility.

SCAR Visiting Professorships

are directed at later career researchers, supporting them in undertaking a short-term visit to another country for research and to provide training and mentoring.

Martha T Muse Prize

is awarded to an individual by the Tinker Foundation who has demonstrated potential for sustained and significant contributions that will enhance the understanding and/or preservation of Antarctica.

SCAR Medals

are awarded biennially at the SCAR Open Science Conference, recognising excellence in Antarctic research and international coordination.

SCAR itself is honoured to have been awarded the Spanish Prince of Asturias award and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation's Prix Biodiversité, in recognition of its work in the Antarctic region. The funds that accompanied both these prizes are being used to support and promote international science and capacity building activities.

Contributing to SCAR's Work

Are you interested in contributing to Antarctic science?

SCAR's work is supported through its national membership fees, external grants and voluntary contributions from a variety of sources. Capacity building initiatives such as the Fellowships and Visiting Professorships rely heavily on contributions from organisations and individuals.



If you or your organisation would like to support our work in the Antarctic and Southern Ocean please contact us or see www.scar.org/donate

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SCAR is registered as a Company and a Charity in the UK:
Company Number 6564642; Charity Number 1124840



Design: Graham Moores, Dazey



"We came to probe the Antarctic's mystery, to reduce this land in terms of science, but there is always the indefinable which holds aloof yet which rivets our souls."

Douglas Mawson

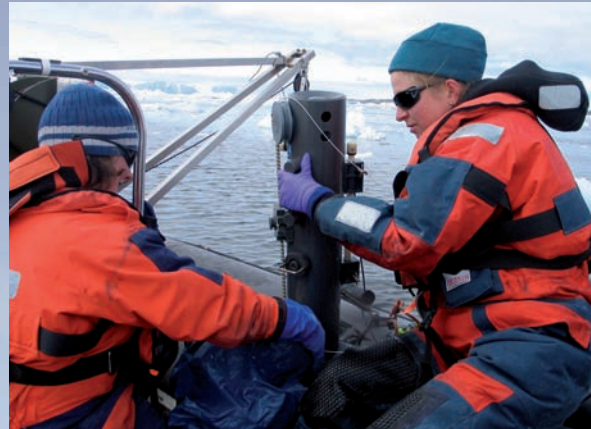
SCAR is devoted to ensure Antarctica is a place of research and understanding. To this great task all people can contribute and we offer opportunities to support our mission.



ANTARCTIC SCIENCE AND POLICY ADVICE IN A CHANGING WORLD

What is SCAR?

SCAR is an interdisciplinary body of the International Council for Science, and is charged with the initiation, promotion and co-ordination of scientific research in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean and providing independent scientific advice to the Antarctic Treaty system and other bodies. It was formed in 1958 and currently includes 37 Member Countries.



Observing Systems

Multi-disciplinary observations are needed to understand and predict the response of living things to changes in the Southern Ocean and on the Antarctic continent. SCAR has co-founded a Southern Ocean Observing System with the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research and is seeking support to create a parallel Terrestrial Observing System.

Vantage Point

Antarctica has unique characteristics that make it a highly desirable vantage point for near-Earth, upper atmosphere, solar, astrophysical, historical and astronomical observations.

Policy and Scientific Advice

SCAR provides independent and objective scientific advice and information to the Antarctic Treaty and other bodies such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as to national programmes and NGOs. SCAR identifies issues emerging from scientific understanding of the region and brings them to the attention of policy makers.

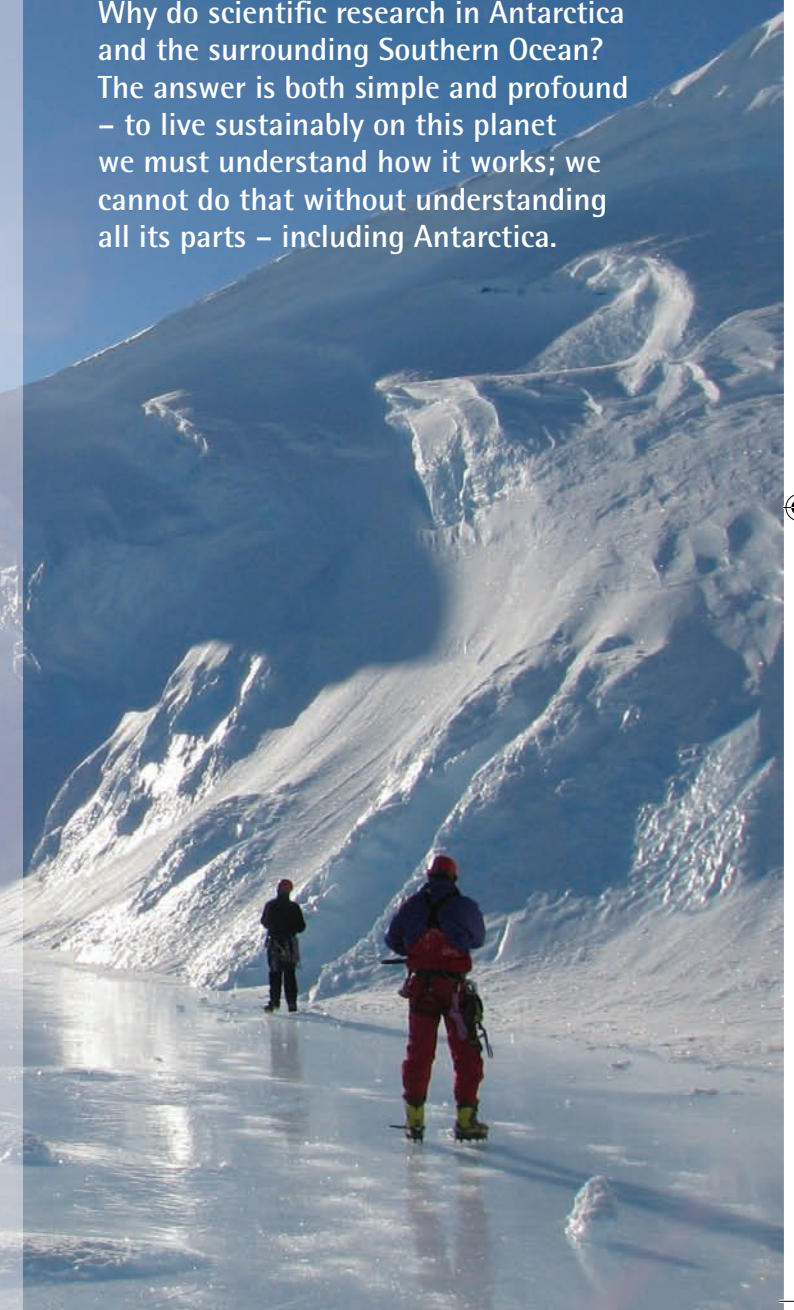
SCAR has provided advice to the Antarctic Treaty on topics including, among others, climate change, biodiversity, marine noise, subglacial lakes and the spread of non-native species and organic pollutants.

With key partners, SCAR is developing a strategy for protecting the Antarctic Environment entitled "Antarctic Conservation in the 21st Century".



Antarctica is the coldest, windiest, driest, iciest and highest of all the continents. It plays a key role in the Earth system, affecting global climate, ecosystems and sea level.

Why do scientific research in Antarctica and the surrounding Southern Ocean? The answer is both simple and profound – to live sustainably on this planet we must understand how it works; we cannot do that without understanding all its parts – including Antarctica.



SCAR Science

The study of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean and their role in the global Earth system has never been more important, as the region is experiencing dramatic changes that have global implications. The Antarctic is a matchless "natural laboratory" for vital scientific research that is important in its own right and impossible to achieve elsewhere on the planet.

Antarctica and Climate

The climate, physical and biological properties of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean are closely coupled to other parts of the global environment. In 2009 SCAR published the landmark Antarctic Climate Change and the Environment Report and continues to publish yearly updates.

Ice Sheets and Under the Ice

Several international and intensive field programmes are aimed at understanding the past, current and future dynamics of Antarctica's ice sheets, ice shelves, glaciers, sea ice and what is hidden beneath kilometres of ice.

Ecosystems and Biodiversity

Life scientists strive to understand the evolution and diversity of life in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean to determine how these processes have produced unique Antarctic ecosystems, and what they can tell us about the limits to life on this planet and potentially elsewhere.