WP	**20**
Agenda Item:	3.1
Person Responsible:	A Van de Putte

EXCOM 2015

Tromsø, Norway 27-28 August 2015

SCADM Report

(Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management)

Executive Summary

Title: Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management (SCADM)

Authors: Anton P. Van de Putte

Introduction/ Background: Data and information are valuable and irreplaceable resources. Proper management of data and information is not an "add-on" or an additional task; it is a fundamental aspect of modern science.

SCAR has adopted a Data and Information Management Strategy (DIMS), developed by the SCAR Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management (SCADM), to ensure that the scientific user community has adequate access to data and information. The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) and the Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programmes (COMNAP) established the Joint Committee on Antarctic Data Management (JCADM) in 1997 to manage Antarctic data. In December 2008 the formal linkage with COMNAP ceased and JCADM became SC-ADM from January 2009.SC-ADM helps facilitate co-operation between scientists and nations with regard to scientific data. It advises on the development of the Antarctic Data Directory System and plays a major role in the International Polar Year data system (IPYDIS).

For the years 2014-2016 the priorities are:

1. Provide data access through the ADMS
2. Promote a distributed, interoperable network of accredited polar data centres
3. Data publication

Important Issues or Factors: Level of participation of countries is highly variable. Interaction with other stakeholders is becoming increasingly important.

Cost of travel limits participation to meeting. Online participation can be a cost effective alternative (Not only for SCADM but also for Secretariat, EXCOM and SCAR groups). In some case on site participation to meeting is still required.

Recommendations/Actions and Justification: In order to facilitate communication, the EXCOM to decide if online conference facility services are needed as well as decide on a system to be used.

Expected Benefits/Outcomes: SCAR conference facility services will improve communication for Secretariat, EXCOM and SCAR groups)

Partners: Secretariat, EXCOM and SCAR groups and other outside of SCAR.

Budget Implications: an annual budget for the use of online conference facility software/services.

Report on Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management (SCADM)

Background: A short strategy for SCADM 2014-2016

SCADM (JCADM) was originally established to assist National Antarctic Programmes to meet their obligations with regards to the Antarctic Treaty (section III.1.c): "Scientific observations and results from Antarctica shall be exchanged and made freely available."

Since then SCADM has been working to promote long-term preservation and accessibility of data relating to Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, in accordance with its terms of reference. To this end a Data Policy1 and a Data and Information Management Strategy2 have been developed for SCAR. SCADM's work should be guided by the Policy and serve to implement the Strategy.

For the years 2014-2016 the priorities are:

1. Provide data access through the ADMS

SCADM works to promote and provide long-term preservation and accessibility of data through the Antarctic Data Management System, which consists of

- · A unified data catalogue and access point providing data descriptions and data links – the Antarctic Master Directory (AMD), and;
- · A distributed system for storing and providing access to that data – the National Antarctic Data Centres (NADC).

SCADM will work to:

- · encourage submission of metadata to the Antarctic Master Directory,
- · make sure that all metadata provide direct data access by GET DATA links,
- · provide general guidance on data management to SCAR and national Antarctic programmes,
- · provide guidance to the AMD host
- · provide metrics on data usage,
- · enhance the ADMS by providing linkages to other relevant data management systems.

2. Promote a distributed, interoperable network of accredited polar data centres

Long term preservation, usability and discoverability of scientific data depends on a robust infrastructure of sustainable and trusted data repositories capable of interchanging data online, according to domain and IT standards.

SCADM will work to:

- · support the establishment and ongoing work of operational National Antarctic Data Centres, in accordance with ATCM XXII Resolution 4.1 (1998),
- · link the NADCs to ICSU's World Data System (WDS) through a network membership,
- · promote individual NADC accreditation by WDS,
- · keep the ADMS current and connect the ADMS to relevant global and emerging Arctic data systems through involvement with WDS and the Research Data Alliance,
- · support the development of a DIF and ISO compliant Polar Metadata Profile.

For an NADC to participate fully as a node in the ADMS it should have, as a minimum a:

- · portal on the AMD,
- · publicly accessible web site providing access to national Antarctic data,
- · published operational plan describing how data is managed and archived to permit re-use,
- · national Antarctic data policy complementary to the SCAR Data Policy, and
- · commitment and capability to publish data to SCAR-endorsed data distribution networks.

3. Data publication

The SCAR Data Policy establishes a few fundamental principles for the management and use of scientific data that SCADM should work to implement and promote. The principles include:

- · Scientific data should be made available fully, freely, openly, and on the shortest feasible timescale.
- · All data should be accompanied by a full set of metadata that completely documents and describe the data.
- · To recognize the valuable contributions of data providers and to facilitate repeatability of research results, data users should formally acknowledge data authors and sources.
- · Where possible, this acknowledgment should take the form of a citation.

SCADM will work to promote adherence to those principles, by:

- · encouraging all NADCs to publish their data under open licenses and make them citable
- by using persistent and universally unique identifiers, preferably DOIs,
- · promoting open data access through online data services,
- · ensuring that all dataset descriptions contain proper citation strings
- · providing appropriate guidelines and references («How to…?») on its own website,
- · promoting a culture of responsible data reuse, with proper attribution,
- · assisting members in establishing Antarctic data management policies, priorities and best practices.

Activities 2014-2015

Meetings

- SCADM annual meeting 1-3 September 2014, Auckland New Zealand (combined with SCAR Biannual Meeting)
- APECS World Summit workshop on "*Data Sharing and Open Science in Polar Research* " 6-7 June 2015, Sofia Bulgaria
- SOOS Data Management Sub-Committee Meeting, Hobart Tasmania, 10-12 June 2015.

Monthly Conference call last Monday of each month.

Planned

- SCADM annual meeting 25-26, 30th October 2015, Waterloo, Canada (Combined with Polar Data Forum)
- SCADM-ADC joint meeting 27 October 2015, Waterloo, Canada

Issues 2014-2015

The level op participation of different countries remains an issue. Currently we have contact information for about three quarters of SCAR member countries, which includes a lot of inactive contacts. Only half of the countries seem to participate in the annual SCADM meetings. A call was launched through the SCAR secretariat to identify contact persons for each country: Only 5 countries provided an official response.

Intersessional meetings and follow up need to be improved. One solution seems to be the implementation if online conference facilities through SCAR. This would allow better communication and follow up of SCADM activities as well as for other SCAR groups.

Interaction with other stakeholders

Where meetings in person are a requirement (between SCADM members or other Stakeholder within and outside of SCAR) increased travel support could be part of the solution SO that SCADM members can participant more easily in relevant meetings.