

ANTARCTIC ENVIRONMENTS PORTAL CONTENT MANAGEMENT PLAN



Antarctic Environments Portal - Content Management Plan

Purpose of the Portal

The Antarctic Environments Portal (the Portal) places information at the fingertips of Antarctic policy-makers and managers. It is designed to be an on-line resource of policy-ready information on Antarctic environments to support the work of the ATCM and CEP, presenting high quality, unbiased, a-political information in a synthesised form. The bulk of the content comprises short summaries of the state of knowledge on priority issues, linked to other resources that the main users of the Portal will find useful. Links include connections to data portals and repositories to allow the source of the original data to be identified. The Portal is not meant to duplicate existing information and is designed to complement existing data repositories (e.g. biodiversity.aq).

The Portal includes an interactive map, where different relevant thematic, spatial information can be overlaid and displayed. The Portal presents content in the four official languages of the Antarctic Treaty.

The Portal will continue to evolve as priorities change and as the knowledge-base to support the information grows.

Content in the Portal is primarily written for CEP Members as well as for other delegates at ATCMs, and has potential utility also for CCAMLR. Secondary users include national Antarctic operators, and scientists. The public are also expected to be an interested audience, using the Portal to gain a greater understanding of the complexities of managing Antarctica.

Once published on the Portal website, articles are regularly reviewed (approximately every 18 – 24 months) by the original authors if possible and updated as required.

Purpose of this Content Management Plan

The Portal aims to provide a regular flow of new material for publication on the AEP website. The content published on the AEP website is contemporary and relevant to current issues being attended to by the CEP and ATCM.

This content management plan aims to identify a series of topics or issues for which knowledge summaries are required, so as to support the CEP and ATCM, and potentially CCAMLR.

The content management plan is intended to be regularly reviewed by the Editor, Deputy Editor and Editorial Group (e.g. at Editorial Group meetings) and regularly updated by the Editor.

The content management plan provides an opportunity for engaging the CEP and providing an opportunity for the Committee to review topics that are being considered for publication in the Portal, and to comment on them, or make suggestions for new topics it would like to see included.

Suggestions for new topics (e.g. following meetings of the CEP and ATCM) will be added to this content management plan.

Criteria for selecting content for the Portal

The following is intended to guide the selection of topics or issues for which articles would be desirable for inclusion in the Portal. Not all of the following need apply in all cases.

As a general guide, Portal content should be based on:

- its relevance to the policy or management interests of the CEP or ATCM, where relevant is taken to mean:
 - A subject matter or topic under current or planned discussion by the CEP or ATCM;
 - A subject matter or topic that is included on the CEP's five-year work plan or contained within the CEP's climate change response work programme;
 - Providing important context and information, including new information that managers and policy makers need to be aware of in light of broader policy and management interests;
- peer-reviewed published literature;
- a request directly made through the CEP or ATCM;
- a suggestion made by a researcher, research group or organisation with justification as to the policy or management relevance;
- a sufficiently defined scope so as to be able to be summarised within the format and word limits for Portal articles.

Further definition of the topic or issue may still be required at the early editorial stage.

Content Management Plan

The following table sets out a series of subject matter headings that are currently under consideration for development as Portal articles or are currently being drafted. A short rationale for including the topics in the Portal is provided. This table will be updated annually based on feedback provided.

Topic or Issue	Rationale for inclusion	Status
Biodiversity knowledge		
Marine Biodiversity	Use of the Portal to bring a major SCAR publication to the attention of the CEP and to provide background state of knowledge information to the Committee.	Published 10/02/2018
Geothermal areas in Antarctica	Geothermal areas are significant for their biodiversity and science value. CEP and ATCM have endorsed a SCAR code of conduct for undertaking activities in geothermal areas – Resolution 3 (2016).	Published 06/02/2018
Freshwater and saline Antarctic water bodies	Freshwater systems are significant for their biodiversity and science value. Relevant to the management of non-native species risks as well as the implementation of the CCRWP	At drafting stage
Terrestrial Biodiversity	To provide the CEP with an understanding of the current state of knowledge on terrestrial biodiversity. Of relevance to the CCRWP.	At drafting stage
Marine ecosystems		
The importance of sea-ice in the Southern Ocean	Of background interest to the Committee in relation to the CCRWP. Of interest also to CCAMLR.	At drafting stage
Antarctic atmosphere		
The impact of the ozone hole	Of background interest to the Committee in relation to the CCRWP.	Under development
Climate change		
Southern Ocean acidification	Use of the Portal to bring a forthcoming SCAR publication to the attention of the CEP and to provide background state of knowledge information to the Committee. Highlighted as important at CEP XX (para 21 of the CEP XX Report).	On hold pending completion of SCAR publication
Response of terrestrial ecosystems to climate change	Of direct relevance to the implementation of the CCRWP.	Under revision
Monitoring climate change impacts on the Southern Ocean	Of direct relevance to the implementation of the CCRWP.	Under peer review
Ocean temperature shifts	Of direct relevance to the implementation of the CCRWP.	At drafting stage
Permafrost and clathrates	Of background interest to the Committee in relation to the CCRWP.	At drafting stage
Introduction of non-native species		
Pathways for non-native species introductions	A priority topic for the CEP. Relevant to the CEP's five-year work plan.	Under peer review
Micro-organisms as non-native species	A priority topic for the CEP. Relevant to the CEP's five-year work plan.	Published 13/03/2018
Environmental Impacts and Pollution		
Micro-pollutants in Antarctic wastewater	An emerging issue that CEP members may be unaware of.	Published 02/04/2018
Micro-plastics and their distribution	An emerging issue that CEP members may be unaware of. Highlighted as important at CEP XX (para 21 of the CEP XX Report).	Being translated
Environmental Remediation	Pollution events and environmental clean-up is a priority issue for the CEP. Of relevance to the CEP's five-year work plan and also to Annex VI discussions.	Published 11/02/2018
Environmental consequences of UAV use	Of current interest to the CEP and ATCM. Requested at CEP XIX (para 23 of the CEP XIX Report).	Not yet commissioned
Impacts of trampling and ground disturbance	Of relevance to site visitor management.	Published 13/03/2018
Inorganic pollutants in Antarctica	Of interest to the Committee in relation to Annex III and advising the ATCM on the state of the Antarctic environment.	Under discussion
Long-range transported organic pollutants in	Of relevance to impacts on species and habitats in	At drafting stage

Topic or Issue	Rationale for inclusion	Status
Antarctica	Antarctica. SCAR produced a report on persistent organic pollutants in Antarctica in 2009.	

Topic or Issue	Rationale for inclusion	Status
Conservation and Area Protection		
Antarctic conservation biogeographic regions	Endorsed by the ATCM by means of Resolution 6 (2012) and has been updated recently by the researchers. Relevant to the management of protected areas and to the CEP's five-year work plan.	Not yet commissioned
Antarctic Heritage Conservation	No overview of the status of Antarctic heritage conservation exists. A key role of the CEP is to maintain an overview of listed historic sites and monuments. Significant effort has been put into conserving some Antarctic buildings. Relevant to the CEP's five-year work plan.	Not yet commissioned
Geological conservation in Antarctica	An issue of recent discussion within the CEP. Relevant to the CEP's five-year work plan.	Not yet commissioned