

European Polar Board Current Polar infrastructure Activities



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Towards the Strengthening of European Coordination between Polar Environmental Observatories in the Arctic Region



Overview document
French Presidency of the Council of the European Union-Principality of Monaco
Ministerial Conference on Observing Environmental changes and facing their challenges.

- EC Presidency Event
- Polar Climate Call
- INFRAPOLAR
- ERICON-AB
- Infrastructure and Programmes Mou

European Polar Board initiatives for polar science and polar environment observations



The Cryosphere today

Identification of observation gaps of the Arctic Ocean and surrounding continents are very important for obtaining accurate picture of Climate Change and its impacts on European nations and Arctic countries. By establishing a framework for coordination at the European level between the Polar Environmental Observatories in the Arctic region it will drive political engagement by international par-

thers and result in significant action by the international community in relation to understanding and monitoring the Arctic environment. Long term records are crucial in helping to forecast climate changes and vulnerabilities along with upgrading and expanding systems that monitor snow and ice stability, oceanic parameters, river inputs, biodiversity and ecosystem processes



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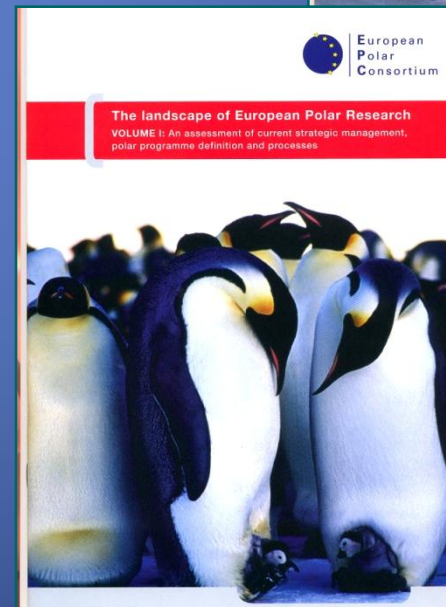
MOU European Polar Framework Agreement

- ❑ General strategy and funding coordination
- ❑ Programmes and Joint Research Calls
- ❑ Infrastructure coordination and Access
- ❑ Convergence of National Polar Activities of European Scale and Scope
- ❑ 27 Organisations from 19 Countries to be signed in late June

European Polar Capacity and Infrastructures Arctic and Antarctic

The Consortium started in early 2005. Its first action was to carry out a deep survey on the European Polar assets and programmes.

The infrastructure survey produced the most comprehensive assessment of the European Polar Capacity as a whole ever done by the European Commission, demonstrating the impressive polar capacity of Europe as a whole. (see WP2 Final Report)



European Partnerships in Polar Climate Science PolarCLIMATE

Research Themes

1

*Climate variability-Northern and Southern Hemisphere Oscillations, the scales and indicators of change and the forecasting of future threats and possibilities.
The Joint projects in this priority area should address major regional scale indicators with data obtained from a variety of European/International data collection platforms (oceanographic vessels/Research stations/satellites etc).*

2

*The current status of snow and ice in the Polar Regions, the spatial distribution and magnitude of cryospheric stability.
Projects which have an integrated approach using ground based and space based assets are particularly encouraged.*

3

*Impacts of climate modification on ecosystems and bio-systems in extreme environments (Arctic and Antarctic).
Joint research projects should address the rates and magnitude of the impact and the adaptation and modification of the systems. Joint projects which encompass a regional or Bi-polar perspective are particularly encouraged.*

36 Multinational Pre-proposals requesting 35 Million Euros
22 Full proposals with significant infrastructure requests
7-10 projects will be funded Autumn 2009

ERICON-AB

European Polar Research Icebreaker Consortium

AURORA BOREALIS



A European Pan Arctic observing platform from seabed to atmosphere

EPB- INFRAPOLAR v 2

The INFRAPOLAR platform is a large-scale strategic coordination initiative from the EPB to support the networking, synchronisation and trans-national access to European and International research stations in the Polar Regions (Arctic and Antarctic).

Targeted call in December 2009 EC FP 7

7-8 Million Euros targeted size of submission



V 2

It aims to create an international network to allow an interconnection of clusters of research and monitoring facilities and facilitating access of researchers to these facilities

