

Asian Forum for Polar Sciences

— Overview and Progress

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About AFoPS

- The Asian Forum for Polar Sciences (AFoPS) is a non-governmental organization established in 2004 to encourage and facilitate cooperation for the advance of polar sciences among countries in the Asian region.



AFoPS Operations

- AFoPS Committee
 - Representatives and coordinators from member countries
- Rotating chair on a two-year term
 - Current chair: NCPOR, India
- AFoPS now has a long-term Secretariat
 - Current Secretariat: PRIC, China



AFoPS Operations

- Annual General Meeting in Goa and Special Meeting at Boulder in 2025



Major AFoPS Activities

- **IPY5-AFoPS roadmap for collaborative endeavors**

1. Based on feedback from the IPY 5 Questionnaire, an IPY5-AFoPS Roadmap forum was held at the AGM 2025. Delegates discussed advancing collaboration under AFoPS and preparing for IPY-5, focusing on next-generation leadership and international initiatives.
2. Outcomes include a proposed AFoPS working group and a PRIC-led proposal to establish an AFoPS Summer School.

- **Fellowship, trainings, and education programs**

1. KOPRI Fellowship Program
2. Overwintering Trainings
3. AFoPS Summer school (July 2026)

Major AFoPS Activities

- **Research collaborations**

1. Joint field campaigns in Antarctic and Arctic

JTRES led by PRIC, STAPLES led by NCPOR, Malaysia's field research through Türkiye and China facilities, etc.



JTRES group photo



International team of STAPLES drilling
Antarctic lake cores



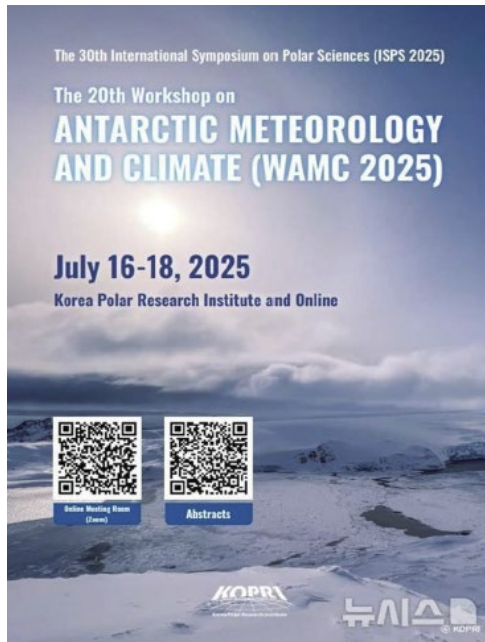
Malaysia's field research through
Türkiye facilities in Antarctica

Major AFoPS Activities

- **Research collaborations**

2. Science symposiums

- Korea - 30th International Symposium on Polar Sciences led by KOPRI,
- China - Xuelong 2 and beyond: Advancing polar research and Thailand–China Cooperation
- India - 4th National Conference on Polar Sciences, Sept 2025

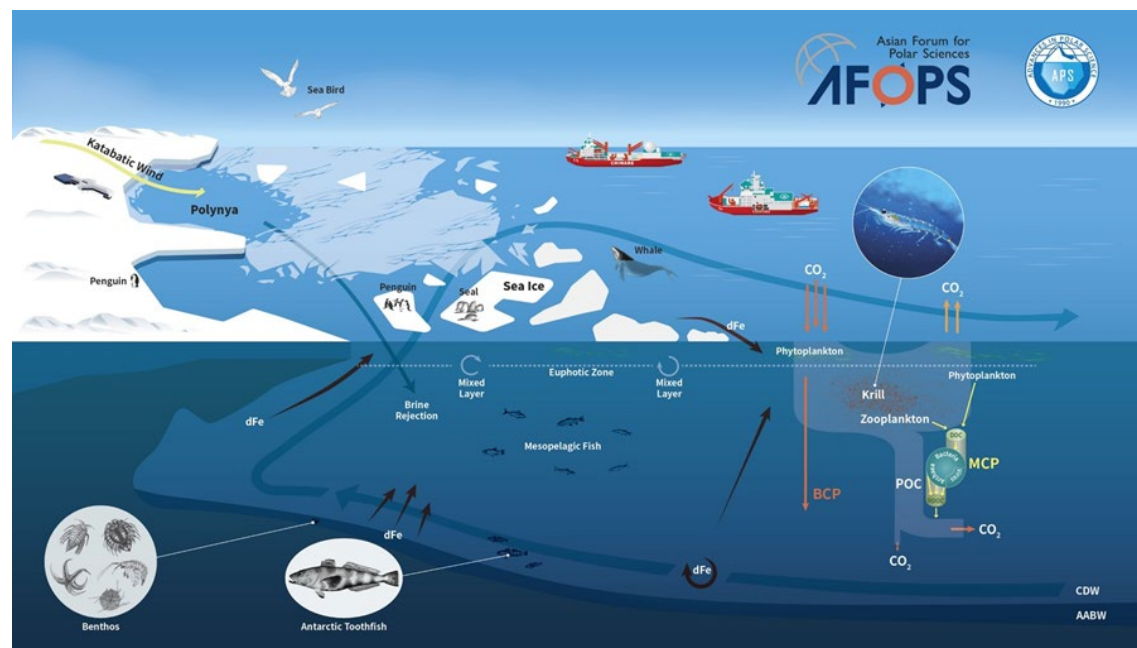


Major AFoPS Activities

- **Research collaborations**
- Journal cooperation and special issues

Special issue “Sustainable development in the Arctic for Indigenous peoples” in *Polar Science Advances in Polar Science* (APS) became an officially endorsed journal of AFoPS

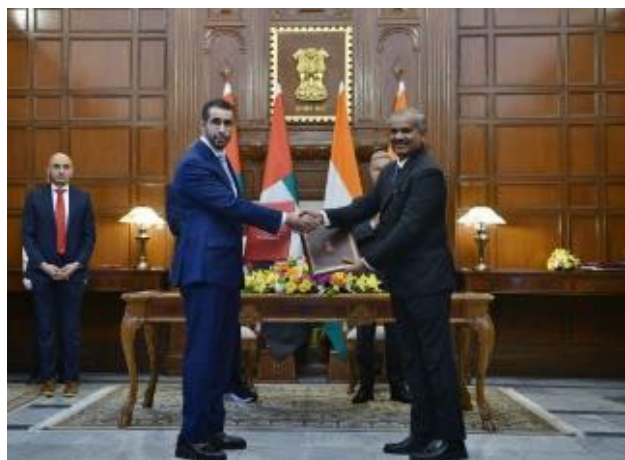
AFoPS special issue “Response of polar ecosystems to climate system changes” in 2027 with APS



Major AFoPS Activities

- **Inter-organizational cooperation**

1. Submit information papers to ATCM (documents will be discussed later)
2. MOU with IASC and SCAR for Cooperation (MoU renewal will be discussed later)
3. AFoPS members inter-organizational cooperation:
Indo-UAE MoU, YPASM-BAS MoU, YPASM-TÜBİTAK MoU, etc.



Signing of Indo-UAE MoU



Exchange of YPASM-TÜBİTAK MoU

Thank you

