

Announcement of Opportunity

SCAR and COMNAP Fellowships and CCAMLR Scholarship 2017

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP) and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) are working together to attract talented early-career researchers, scientists, engineers and other professionals to strengthen international capacity and cooperation in a range of fields. Details of each of the three opportunities are provided in this announcement.

Overview for SCAR, COMNAP, and CCAMLR Schemes:

SCAR Fellowships:

Eligibility:

1. Current PhD researcher or within 5 years of finishing PhD;
2. Visiting a facility in or run by a SCAR member country, which is different from applicant's (a) country of origin and (b) current country of residence;
3. Should contribute to the objectives of one or more of SCAR's [science groups](#), including the [Humanities and Social Sciences groups](#), and/or the [Scientific Research Programmes](#).

Award: 4 to 5 awards for 2017; up to USD \$15,000 per award; Home institute to bear in-home country costs (e.g. visa costs, domestic travel).

Application package contents: Research Proposal (with relevant appendices); Home Institute reference; Host institute agreement.

Last Date: 1st July 2017

Submission via: Online form at www.scar.org/fellowships/application

Any doubts/queries, contact: info@scar.org

COMNAP Fellowships:

Eligibility:

1. Any "early career" person, where here, "early career" person is defined as someone who is within the first five years after completion of the highest level of university award/certificate/degree obtained; or any person, regardless of university completion, that is under the age of 40 years old on the day of the last date for the application submission. So, as examples:
 - Those who have a doctorate, with not more than 5 years since your doctoral award.
 - Those who hold a master's degree, with not more than 5 years since your master's degree was awarded to you.
 - Those who hold an undergraduate degree, with not more than 5 years since your bachelor's degree or baccalaureate was awarded to you.
 - Those under the age of 40 on 1 July 2017.
2. Applications are welcome from a range of disciplines and fields, including but not limited to, those with Engineering, Environmental Management, Data Management, Technology, Social Sciences, Humanities, Education, Communication and Outreach,

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Law, Operations and Logistics, Search and Rescue, Medical and Science backgrounds.

3. Those wishing to visit a facility in or run by a [COMNAP Member](#) or Observer country, which is different from applicant's (a) country of citizenship (which should be a COMNAP Member or Observer country) and (b) country of current residence.
4. Applications must be for one of the COMNAP projects as indicated in the 2017 list of projects (attached); or, if the proposed project is not on list, the proposed project must fit within COMNAP's goals and purpose and should contribute to one or more objectives of the home or host National Antarctic Programme.

Award: Up to 1 award for 2017; up to USD \$15,000 funding; Home institute or applicant to bear in-home country costs (e.g. travel visa application, salary/wages, domestic travel).

Application package contents: Proposal (with relevant appendices); Home Institute reference; Host institute agreement.

Last Date: 1st July 2017

Submission via: Online form at <https://www.comnap.aq/SitePages/fellowships.aspx>

Any doubts/queries, contact: sec@comnap.aq

CCAMLR Scientific Scholarships:

Eligibility:

1. Current PhD researcher (or within 5 years of finishing PhD) from a CCAMLR Member;
2. Attending CCAMLR Scientific Committee workshops or working group meetings and relevant preparatory meetings;
3. Should make scientific contribution to the work of CCAMLR and relate to the current priorities of the Scientific Committee.

Award: 1 to 3 awards for 2017; up to AUD \$30,000 per award; Home institute to fund the work of the scientist during the proposed period of tenure of the scholarship; Senior scientist with experience of CCAMLR agrees role of Mentor.

Application package contents: See the [Scholarships section of the CCAMLR website](#) for full details of the scheme.

Last Date: 1st October 2017

Submission via: Email to science_scholarship@ccamlr.org

Any doubts/queries, contact: science_scholarship@ccamlr.org

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Further Details for the SCAR and COMNAP Fellowship schemes:

The SCAR Fellowship Scheme:

The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) is a body of the International Council for Science (ICSU) and is the leading independent organisation for facilitating and coordinating Antarctic research, and for identifying issues emerging from greater scientific understanding of the region that should be brought to the attention of policy makers. Its major objective is to initiate, develop, and co-ordinate high-quality international scientific research in the Antarctic and Southern Ocean region, and on the role of the Antarctic region in the Earth system. It works closely with other organisations with a polar interest.

The SCAR Fellowship Programme is designed to encourage the active involvement of early-career scientists, engineers, social scientists and humanities researchers in Antarctic research, and to build new connections and further strengthen international capacity and cooperation in Antarctic research.

The SCAR Fellowships are intended to allow researchers to undertake short-term visits to major international laboratories, field facilities, and/or institutes in or operated by SCAR member countries, so as to become acquainted with recent advances in research and/or to develop long-term links and partnerships. The work must be carried out in a research group of a SCAR member country different from that of (i) the applicant's origin and (ii) current residence.

Topics for support should make a contribution to the objectives of SCAR as embodied in the [research groups](#) and the [current Scientific Research Programmes](#).

Awards will be up to USD \$15,000, providing, as needed, economy-class round-trip travel and a modest subsistence allowance for the fellowship period. The Fellow's home institute will bear all expenses incurred in his or her home country (domestic travel, visa costs, etc.), and the host institute will waive any bench fees that they might normally charge trainees. In addition to the original SCAR Fellowships, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Fellowship is a biodiversity award – the recipient will be chosen by the Selection Committee from among the SCAR Fellowship applications. Four to five SCAR Fellowship awards will be made in total, depending on the quality of the applications and the budget available.

Eligibility:

The SCAR Fellowship programme is for PhD students, or those within five years of having completed a PhD on the day of the deadline for applications, to undertake research at an institute in one of the 43 SCAR Member countries (for a full list of countries, please visit the [SCAR National Committees page](#)). In special cases (e.g. maternity/paternity leave), this five-year period may be extended. Please contact the SCAR Secretariat (info@scar.org) if you believe this to be the case.

Fellowships are awarded purely on the criteria for competitive selection, which are clearly stated in the Evaluation section below.

The COMNAP Antarctic Fellowship:

COMNAP is the international independent association of National Antarctic Programmes. Formed in 1988, COMNAP has as its goal to develop and promote best practice in managing the support of scientific research in Antarctica.

The COMNAP Antarctic Fellowship is similar to the SCAR Fellowship Programme in that it is designed to encourage the active involvement of early-career Antarctic persons and to strengthen international capacity and cooperation in the spirit of the Antarctic Treaty. The difference between the Fellowships is primarily in regards to eligibility. The COMNAP Fellowship is open to people with a broad range of backgrounds and is intended to allow those from a COMNAP Member National Antarctic Programme country or COMNAP

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Observer country to participate in projects and undertake short-term visits to major international laboratories, field facilities, and/or institutes in, or operated by, other COMNAP Member National Antarctic Programmes (for a list of members, please visit [the Members page of the COMNAP website](#)). Finally, the proposed project should contribute to the objectives of the home or host National Antarctic Programme's objectives.

The award will be up to US\$15,000, providing, as needed, economy-class round trip travel and a modest subsistence allowance for the fellowship period. The Fellow's home institute will bear all expenses incurred in his or her home country (domestic travel, visa costs, etc.), and the host institute will waive any fees that they might normally charge.

Application for both schemes:

The last date for submitting an application is **1st July 2017**. All proposals must be made on the appropriate forms, and submitted online through the [SCAR Online Application page](#) or the [COMNAP Antarctic Fellowship page](#).

The proposal texts should make it absolutely clear what activities will be carried out, what will be achieved, what deliverables will ensue (e.g. papers, technologies), at what cost, and in what time frame. Guidelines for preparing the proposal are given on the Research Proposal sheet in the Application Pack. There is also a webinar on "Writing for Success" (English and soon Spanish) which may be of assistance at:

<http://www.scar.org/fellowship/mentoring>

In order to apply for a fellowship, candidates will be required to first contact and liaise with appropriate host Antarctic projects or programmes in order to secure the support and mentorship of an active team capable of including them in their own research programme or project group.

Elements of the Application:

1. **Proposal** – Prepared following the guidelines given in the Proposal section of the Application Pack. The Applicant must have the Proposal (with relevant appendices) as a single document, ready to be uploaded during the application process;
2. Applicant to send **Cover note 1 to the Home Institute Referee**, and the Referee to return it to the Applicant along with the reference letter, as a single document, ready to be uploaded during the application process;
3. Applicant to send **Cover note 2 to the Host Institute Referee**, and the Host to return it to the Applicant, ready to be uploaded during the application process;
4. **Online Application Form** – to be completed by the Applicant by the deadline of **1st July 2017**.

It is the Applicant's responsibility to make sure that all parts of the application (Proposal, Home Reference and Host Agreement) are completed and received by them before beginning their online application.

Evaluation for SCAR scheme:

SCAR will coordinate volunteers from the Antarctic research community with specific expertise in the indicated discipline areas to evaluate applications. This will be based on a series of 5 categories, with the following guidance included for potential applicants:

Quality of the proposal: (35%)

This section will evaluate the overall quality of the proposal with respect to the proposed research and methodology. This will be based primarily on your research proposal and the

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evidence you provide for its importance, timeliness and how well both your own background and the expertise of the host institute contribute to the proposal.

Relevance to SCAR and COMNAP activities and/or Groups: (25%)

How does the research you are proposing fit in with the existing research activities of SCAR Groups and Programmes and COMNAP science support efforts? How will you follow up with these activities after the Fellowship ends?

Does the proposal help build capacity in a country that would most benefit?: (20%)

What specific benefits will you as a Fellow, and your home institute, gain from the Fellowship? Do you plan to have specific Outreach activities at your home institute or elsewhere in your home country to communicate the results and experience of your Fellowship?

Is the study largely self contained?: (10%)

Has the proposal made it clear that the planned research is well thought through and has a data plan in place agreed with the host institute?

Is the study feasible in the time estimated and will it likely lead to publication?: (10%)

Your proposal needs to make clear that you have considered the practicalities involved in undertaking the research and that there are clear deliverables that can be achieved.

We expect to make a decision and inform awardees in early to mid-August. Fellowships run for one year so must be completed by the end of July 2018.

Evaluation for COMNAP scheme:

A review panel chaired by the COMNAP Chairman and in addition comprising member of the COMNAP Executive Committee, and members of the COMNAP Expert Groups will evaluate all proposals on the basis of the excellence of the proposed project. This evaluation will also take into consideration factors such as:

- its importance, timeliness and achievability within the time frame allotted;
- the extent to which links have already been established with the proposed host institute;
- the extent to which it will strengthen the capacity of other COMNAP Members or Observers with smaller or less well-developed Antarctic programmes;
- its 'fit' with COMNAP's objectives and purpose.

We expect to make a decision and inform the successful applicant in early August, with an official announcement being made to coincide with the COMNAP Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Brno, Czech Republic. Fellowships run for one year so must be completed by the end of July 2018.

Completion of Fellowship:

At the end of each Fellowship, the candidate must provide a report to be published on the SCAR and/or COMNAP websites. Reports should cover the accomplishments and a budgetary report and should be completed following a structure similar to those posted on the Fellows page of the SCAR or COMNAP website. A template for SCAR reports can be found [here](#). The SCAR and/or COMNAP Fellowship should be acknowledged in any resulting publications.