



**EXCOM/COs Meeting 2011**  
**Edinburgh, 16,18,19<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

Agenda Item: 6  
Person Responsible: R Badhe,  
R Ravindra

## **CBET activities**

# Executive Summary

**Title:** CBET activities

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**Relevant URLs or references to other reports:**

<http://www.scar.org/about/capacitybuilding/>  
<http://www.scar.org/about/capacitybuilding/antarcticeducation/>  
[http://www.scar.org/publications/reports/27/Report\\_27.pdf](http://www.scar.org/publications/reports/27/Report_27.pdf)  
<http://www.scar.org/awards/fellowships/>  
<http://www.scar.org/communications/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2514526253>  
[www.museprize.org](http://www.museprize.org)

**Introduction/ Background:** SCAR is committed to developing scientific capacity in all SCAR Members, assisting students, early career scientists, underrepresented groups, and emerging Antarctic programs to participate in Antarctic research. SCAR promotes and facilitates the incorporation of Antarctic science into all levels of education.

**Important Issues or Factors:** The CBET committee has been active and working on CBET and related issues. It is proposed a Visiting Professor scheme will be launched in 2011/12.

**Recommendations/Actions and Justification:** Continued support of both SCAR and national CBET activities is encouraged by all SCAR members.

**Expected Benefits/Outcomes:** Increased Capacity in SCAR Member countries and early career scientists and students.

**Partners:** Association of Early Career Scientists, ICSU, COMNAP, International Arctic Science Committee, International Polar Foundation, and others.

**Budget Implications:** The budgeted amount is supplemented with voluntary contributions. The initial allocations were:

SCAR CBET Scheme	Current allocation for 2011 (Delegates 2010) USD	Suggested allocation for 2011 USD
Fellowships	30,000	35,000
SCAR Visiting Professor	0	10,000 (Indian Contribution)
Early careers scientist support and general	4,000	5,000
SCAR Secondment	0	4,000

SCAR has been successful in obtaining external grants to support CBET activities, for example, in 2010, 30,000 Euros from ICSU "Education and Outreach Lessons from IPY" with APECS, IASC and IPY office; \$30,000 in travel grants from the Tinker Foundation to help Latin American scientists attend the Oslo 2010 IPY Conference, and management of the Martha T. Muse Prize for Science and Policy in Antarctica.

## CBET activities

The SCAR CBET committee has been successfully revamped since the 2010 Delegates meeting, with new Terms of Reference and revamped membership. The new committee will take on tasks such as the design of a Visiting Professor Scheme, review Fellowships, and other tasks as agreed by EXCOM.

Capacity Building, Education and Training (CBET): SCAR's main contributions to Capacity Building, Education and Training are through its Fellowship Programme and through working closely with the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS), which SCAR co-sponsors. In 2010 SCAR funded four fellowships, with India contributing an additional USD 10,000 to the Fellowship programme for 2010. For 2011, India has again provided an additional USD 10,000 to be used for Capacity building activities, e.g. visiting professor scheme.

Discussions with COMNAP have resulted in a successful collaboration for the 2011 fellowships, released as a joint SCAR and COMNAP activity. In 2011, a total of 41 applications were received, of these, 37 were considered further for review. 9 of these had also applied for the COMNAP fellowship. The fellowship form has been revamped and the entire process including the review process is now exclusively online. Further discussions are ongoing with other organisations with a similar remit for other schemes using shared resources for maximum impact.

SCAR continues to work closely with APECS (below), acting both in an advisory manner and by co-sponsoring APECS initiatives of relevance to SCAR, such as Virtual Poster sessions for early career scientists and the support of several workshops. APECS had sent an observer to XXXI SCAR, as well as nominated representatives to SCAR science meetings where invited. APECS has also been invited to participate as a reviewer in the 2011 SCAR COMNAP Fellowship scheme. Further opportunities for increasing interaction were discussed with the APECS Executive committee in November 2011.

SCAR is an Associate Member of the International Antarctic Institute (IAI), and has been working with them regarding mutually beneficial Capacity building activities, e.g. the Visiting Professor program.

Since 2010, SCAR is an active member in the Cambridge Conservation Forum (CCF), a hub of leading global conservation organisations like UNEP-WCMC, TNC, IUCN, TRAFFIC, WWF, RSPB, Birdlife, etc, all based at Cambridge. Through this membership, the MPhil in Conservation Leadership course at the University of Cambridge has now included a module on Antarctic Conservation and a SCAR Lecturer (Prof D Walton). Another initiative through the CCF was the submission of a project proposal for having a graduate project on Carbon Foot-printing to be hosted at SCAR. SCAR also participated in both the Student Conference on Conservation Science and the Annual Symposium of the Cambridge Conservation Forum.

An ICSU grant – Education and Outreach lessons from IPY – of EUR 30,000 was obtained in partnership with APECS, IASC and the IPY office. The project is now close to completion, and the final report is to be presented at the ICSU grand assembly, Rome, September 2011.

SCAR SSGs and SRPs contributed resources to fund travel grants for students and early career scientists to attend the OSC at XXXI SCAR. Around 300 applications for these grants were received, of which 99 were approved for funding.

SCAR successfully ran the second (2010) and is midway in the third (2011) year of the Martha T Muse Prize for Science and Policy in Antarctica, a USD 100,000 unrestricted yearly prize given to an individual who has demonstrated excellence in Antarctic science or policy.

The CBET web pages (<http://www.scar.org/about/capacitybuilding/>) now include a large number of Antarctic Education Websites separated into different categories and languages. SCAR now also has other active online and interactive communication spaces on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter, where SCAR, polar news and other items of interest are regularly posted.