



IP

10

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Agenda Item: 7.2
Person Responsible: M Sparrow

Partnerships

Executive Summary

Title: Partnerships

Authors: M Sparrow

Introduction/ Background: In pursuit of its Vision and Mission, SCAR often forms partnerships as an efficient means to achieve its goals and objectives. SCAR's partners include other ICSU bodies, entities of the Antarctic Treaty System, organizations with a polar focus, and organizations with a polar interest. The types of partnerships SCAR form vary considerably since each is tailored to best accomplish the shared objectives. In some instances, formal co-sponsorship of an activity is warranted entailing shared responsibility for programme management and resourcing. SCAR is always open to, and looking for ways, to strengthen existing partnerships and establish new ones.

This paper summarises recent developments with regards to SCAR partnerships. The Delegates are asked to comment as appropriate.

Partners: IASC, IACS, COMNAP, CCAMLR, ICSU, SCOR, WCRP etc.

Budget Implications: Co-sponsorship does involve some budgetary commitments. This is \$3000 for CliC (as previous) and \$4000 for other co-sponsorships such as CLIVAR/CliC/SCAR Southern Ocean Implementation Panel, IPICS and ICED.

SCAR Partnerships

Partnerships with organizations with complementary skills, technologies and interests bring added value to SCAR's activities. SCAR partners with ICSU bodies, advisory bodies to the Antarctic Treaty System, organizations with a polar mission, and global programmes with polar interests. Partnerships support SCAR's goals to provide authoritative scientific advice to policy makers, expand its advisory sphere of influence on global issues, develop the capacity of students and early career scientists, and encourage cooperation with Arctic counterparts.

This paper summarises recent developments with regards to partnerships. For further information see: <http://www.scar.org/about/partnerships/>

Memorandum of Understanding and Letters of Agreement

All SCAR partnerships will need to be reviewed as the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or Letters of Agreement come up for renewal. Those partnerships that are seen to be beneficial will be continued and those that are not should be revised or terminated.

SCAR renewed its Letter of Agreement with IASC in 2011 (see below).

SCAR currently has a MoU with the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) – see: <http://www.scar.org/about/partnerships/wcrpmou.html>. This MoU (signed in 2008, due for renewal in 2013) is between SCAR, IASC and WCRP on co-sponsorship of the Climate and Cryosphere (CliC) project. The SCAR Executive Director attended the last CliC Steering Committee in March 2012 and agreed with the incoming Executive Director of CliC (Jenny Baeseman) and the Executive Secretary of IASC (Volker Rachold) that this would be revisited after the WCRP Conference and SCAR Delegates' Meeting, both of which are in July 2012. It was felt that co-sponsorship should not be of CliC per se, but of individual projects that are of interest to two or more of the organisations (in SCAR's case such as ISMASS, the CLIVAR/CliC/SCAR Southern Ocean Panel, ASPeCT and the International Programme on Antarctic Buoys).

A new MoU has been signed by several organisations who work in the cryosphere realm (see attached paper). The main purpose of this MoU is to co-ordinate the activities of the above organizations, in particular the organization and planning of symposia, conferences and workshops so as to avoid conflict of those activities. This is of course very relevant to similar activities carried out by SCAR by the AGMRA (WP28).

The relationship SCAR has with APECS is an important one (see IP 16 for details). It should be noted that the joint MoU between SCAR, IASC and APECS is due for renewal in 2013 (see: http://www.scar.org/information/apecs/APECS_SCAR_IASC_MoU_Jul08.pdf). Discussions have already begun between the three organisations on this issue.

Relationship with the International Council for Science (ICSU)

The International Council for Science (ICSU) is SCAR's parent organization and SCAR supports the vision, mission, and goals of ICSU. SCAR has ensured that polar issues are on the agenda of the ICSU General Assembly, with the SCAR Executive Director, IASC Executive Secretary and APECS Executive Director giving a joint keynote talk to ICSU Delegates at the General Assembly in Rome (September 2011).

SCAR also received another ICSU grant (with IASC, APECS and WCRP) of 30,000 Euros in 2012 for the ISMASS workshop on the 14th of July 2012. SCAR has been hugely successful in obtaining these grants (with so far a 100% success ratio).

SCAR actively pursues linkages with other ICSU bodies. Examples include joint support of the Southern Ocean Observing System (SOOS) and the Integrated Analyses of Circumpolar Climate Interactions and Ecosystem Dynamics in the Southern Ocean (ICED) programme with SCOR (see WP 19). Strong links will continue with ICSU's Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics (SCOSTEP) and Climate and Weather of the Sun (CAWSES) in support of SCAR's solar-terrestrial physics programme. Links have been established with the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS), International Astronomical Union (IAU) and the International Association for Cryospheric Sciences (IACS), though SCAR needs to work to improve its interactions with the other ICSU Unions. SCAR is working with ICSU with regards to the World Data Centers (WDC) and is contributing to the development of the Polar Information Commons (PIC).

The SCAR Executive Director and IASC Executive Secretary will meet with the new Executive Director of ICSU, Dr Steven Wilson, later in the year to ensure that interactions with our parent body continue to thrive.

Relationship with other Treaty Bodies

SCAR has historically had close ties with the Council of Managers of Antarctic Programs (COMNAP). SCAR coordinates its activities with COMNAP through: (i) joint meetings of the SCAR and COMNAP Executives; (ii) joint meetings of the full memberships of both organizations when possible; and (iii) liaison in the margins of the ATCM meetings (in 2012, for example, COMNAP and SCAR jointly submitted a paper on Tsunami risk). SCAR and COMNAP also jointly run their fellowship programmes (see also IP 13). SCAR is committed to working bi-laterally and multi-laterally with National Antarctic Programs and collectively through the Council of Managers of Antarctic Programs (COMNAP) in mutually beneficial ways.

SCAR has been working to improve its strategic partnership with the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR). A joint Action Group will be formed to examine this strategic partnership (see Appendix 1) and will meet in October 2012.

Bipolar Activities: The International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)

SCAR recognizes and values the many interests that the Antarctic and Arctic science communities have in common. SCAR has re-signed its Letter of Agreement with the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC). SCAR has been making and will continue to make special efforts to increase bipolar cooperation and coordination with IASC in areas of common interest. A new Bipolar Action Group (BiPAG II) was established and charged with identifying areas for bipolar scientific cooperation (see WP 24). IASC is now a co-sponsor of the SCAR Expert Group on Antarctic Ice Sheet Mass Balance and Sea Level (ISMASS).

SCAR and IASC jointly represented ICSU on the Montreal IPY 2012 Steering Committee as well as at the last ICSU General Assembly. Once a year SCAR and IASC will also issue a joint Newsletter, with a focus on bipolar cooperation (see:

http://www.scar.org/news/newsletters/issues2011/SCAR_IASC_Newsletter_2011.pdf)

Other Partnerships

SCAR co-sponsors several activities with the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) including the joint CLIVAR/CliC/SCAR Southern Ocean Implementation Plan (that provided major input into the design of the SOOS), co-sponsorship of the ISMASS workshop being held in Portland and endorsement of the SOOS, to name a few. Since the two organisations have a joint interest in climate variability and predictability in the Antarctic and Southern Ocean this is a partnership that should be nurtured. Similarly SCAR now has a member on the WMO EC Panel of Experts on Polar Observations, Research and Services.

There are many other bodies that offer potential partnership opportunities (see Appendix 2). Partnerships support SCAR's goals to provide authoritative scientific advice to policy makers, expand its advisory sphere of influence on global issues, develop the capacity of students and early career scientists, and encourage cooperation with Arctic counterparts.

Appendix 1: Draft Terms of Reference for joint SCAR CCAMLR Action Group

The joint SCAR/CCAMLR Action Group would have the following aims:

- determining what SCAR's and CCAMLR's expectations of each other are or should be, based on what is of benefit to Members of each organisation, and on a more strategic understanding of what each organisation can provide to make the partnership viable, sustainable and valuable
- offering advice on ways and mechanisms that SCAR and CCAMLR might implement to work together more effectively and in a more strategic manner
- offering guidance on ways in which SCAR and CCAMLR might work together more effectively in the future to provide advice to the ATS
- identifying a series of topics/issues that are of common interest to SCAR and CCAMLR that could form an agenda for the way forward.

Appendix 2: Examples of SCAR Partners

ICSU Bodies	Antarctic Treaty System	Organizations with a Polar Focus	Programmes with a Polar Interest
International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS)	Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP)	Southern Ocean component Global Ocean Ecosystem Dynamics Program (SO-GLOBEC)	Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)
International Astronomical Union (IAU)	Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)	Integrating Climate and Ecosystem Dynamics in the Southern Ocean Program (ICED)	Integrated Global Observing Strategy Partnership (IGOS-P)
International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)	Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP)	International Permafrost Association (IPA)	Past Climate Changes (PAGES)
Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR)	Committee on Environmental Protection (CEP)	International Partnerships in Ice Core Sciences (IPICS)	Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans (POGO)
Scientific Committee on Solar Terrestrial Physics (SCOSTEP)		Association of Early Career Scientists (APECS)	Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS)
World Climate Research Program (WCRP)			
The Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA)			