Milestones and deliverables of AntEco are structured around three overarching inter-disciplinary questions:

- How has Antarctic biodiversity evolved in response to past environmental change and what does this tell us about its capacity to respond to future changes?
- What are the systematic and environmental geographic features of Antarctic biodiversity, and what mechanisms underpin the current distribution and abundance of biodiversity?
- Given the evolved geographic distribution of diversity and forecast threats, what conservation actions are required for the preservation of biodiversity, and mitigation of, and adaptation to, change?
AntEco answers these questions through 5 research sectors:

- Spatial ecology
- Molecular ecology and evolution
- Ecoinformatics and systems biology
- Paleoecology
- Impacts, trends and conservation
• Cross-Program SCAR workshop on ‘Interactions between biological and climate processes in the Antarctic’ was held in September 2015 in Barcelona, Spain.

• SO-AntEco Expedition to the South Orkney Islands.

• Multiple Ant-Eco sessions and workshops at the OSC.

• Support for early career scientists at the ‘VIII Southern Connection Congress 2016’, the SO-AntEco expedition and the SCAR OSC.
22 participants, 9 countries and 16 institutes

8 dedicated places for early career researchers

Research and monitoring required by CCAMLR to inform and support the management of Marine Protected Areas

#SOAntEco hashtag reaching an audience of over one million twitter users
2015-16 funds fully spent

- Cross program workshop - Barcelona
- ANTOS workshop
- ECR support for conference attendance
- VII Southern Connection workshop
- Supporting spatial analyses and microbiome workshops
- Supporting mid career/established researchers to attend OSC
- Supporting ECRS to attend OSC
AntEco Received very positive reviews:

- impressive publication list
- exceptional value for money
- good progress with the assessment of impacts
- Biogeographic Atlas is an outstanding contribution to Antarctic science and conservation

Emphasis on synthesis for the future
The AntEco committee believes that SCAR should centrally co-ordinate activities such as:

- Collating education materials
- Media & publicity
- Stimulating interactions with members with less well-developed Antarctic Programs

And supports the provision of additional funds and person time to do so.
Ant Eco
State of the Antarctic Ecosystem

Future

- Supporting and adding value to existing conferences (e.g. SCAR OSC, SCAR Biology, Polar Gordon Research Conference and Gordon Research Seminar)

- We will continue to encourage and support early career scientists

- Supporting meetings and workshops that seek to build new collaborations

- A workshop or symposium dedicated to synthesis of the new information amassed by AntEco