WMO-SCAR Fellowship

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Summary of activities from 2016-18 and any other important matters
This paper announces a Joint WMO-SCAR Fellowship Programme for early-career scientists. Those supported will be expected to undertake research, on a topic that is relevant to the programme priority areas of WMO, at major international laboratories, field facilities, and/or institutes in or operated by SCAR member countries with the goal to expose them to recent advances in research and to develop long-term scientific links and partnerships. Selected fellows will not be expected to come from SCAR member countries in keeping with aim of the WMO Fellowship Programme to support the education and training of qualified and suitable candidates, particularly from least-developed and developing countries, countries with economies in transition, and countries more vulnerable to natural disasters.

Summary Budget 2017 to 2020
The full amounts for the Fellowships, and the total per annum, to be provided by WMO, will be finalized in the lead up to the first announcement.
Progress and Plans

Background
The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) has an extensive education, outreach and capacity building programme. SCAR is committed to helping scientists in all of its Member countries to participate in scientifically understanding the physical, biological, chemical and geological processes at work in the Antarctic region, to use that understanding to predict change both there and elsewhere in the world, and to provide objective and independent advice to policy makers, especially the Antarctic Treaty System.

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has a similar focus on and interest in education and outreach. Partly in support thereof, the WMO Fellowship Programme aims to support the education and training of qualified and suitable candidates, particularly from least developed and developing countries and Small Island Developing States. In particular, it is important to promote the development of research and cooperation between academic institutions and National Meteorological and hydrological Services (NMHSs). This initiative will assist in building appropriate capacity in these areas. Eventually, it aims to strengthen the network between researchers, operational meteorologists and policy makers on various important issues regarding science, operations and sustainable development.

SCAR has a long history of working with WMO, in particular through its co-sponsored World Climate Research Programme\(^1\), on science activities in the Antarctic and Southern Ocean region, and with regard to the Antarctic Treaty Consultative meetings.

The Joint Fellowship Programme
Recognising shared capacity-building priorities and long history of collaborative work, the WMO and SCAR have established a joint fellowship programme. The Fellowship Programme is targeted at those within five years of having completed a Ph.D. Successful candidates will undertake research, on a topic that is relevant to the programme priority areas of WMO. Candidates will undertake this work at major international laboratories, field facilities, and/or institutes, in or operated by SCAR member countries. The goal is to expose candidates to recent advances in research and to develop long-term scientific capability, links and partnerships.

The Fellowship Programme candidates will be selected from least-developed and developing countries, countries with economies in transition, and countries more vulnerable to natural disasters, who are members of WMO, to pursue a research programme on Antarctic-related issues of relevance to the international community.

\(^1\) https://www.wcrp-climate.org
Importantly, applicants need not be from SCAR Member countries, with the aim to encourage capacity to research Antarctic topics of relevance to countries which do not necessarily have active national, Antarctic programmes.

The WMO and SCAR will in due course announce further details about the Fellowship Programme and the application process on their websites. SCAR will incorporate this new joint programme into its broader capacity-building Fellowship activities (https://www.scar.org/capacity-building/capacity-building/), and WMO via https://public.wmo.int/en/programmes/education-and-training-programme.