



**SDM** **42**  
Agenda Item: 9.3  
Person Secretariat  
Responsible:

**XXXV SCAR Delegates Meeting  
Davos, Switzerland, 25-26 June 2018**

**Highlighting the role and activities of  
SCAR Groups, Union Members and  
National Committees**

**Report Author**

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**Summary**

The work going on within SCAR groups, Member countries and within the ICSU Union members dealing with better understanding Antarctica is extensive. Yet, it is often difficult to get a quick overview of what groups are doing, where new researchers might be able to get involved, and how countries might better collaborate with each other. This paper describes the activities within SCAR that have been employed to help with communication of groups.

In particular we highlight the “SCAR Activities Poster Session” at the Open Science Conference in Kuala Lumpur in 2016 and the “Polar Expo Poster Session” to be held during the Polar2018 meetings in Davos.

**Recommendation**

Delegates are requested to note the range of activities being highlighted at the Polar Expo through the Polar2018 meetings and ensure that the opportunities for further participation are communicated at a national level.

**Summary Budget 2018 to 2020**

No specific budget is required however SCAR Groups actively highlight their activities and incur some costs in doing so.



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### **Introduction**

The work going on within SCAR groups, member countries and within the ICSU union members dealing with better understanding Antarctica is extensive. Yet, it is often difficult to get a quick overview of what groups are doing, where new researchers might be able to get involved, and how countries might better collaborate with each other. This paper describes some activities within SCAR that have been employed to help with communication of groups, as well as opportunities for the future.

### **Recent Activities**

#### ***SCAR Activities Poster Session at OSC***

The first SCAR Activities Poster Session was held during the Open Science Conference in 2018 at Kuala Lumpur. This was designed to give groups an opportunity to present to the SCAR Community their activities, as well as to entice new participation in projects. 45 SCAR groups, member countries, and union members signed up to be part of this effort.

#### ***New Website***

SDM 40 details the introduction of the new website launched in September 2017 which allows greater integration of Group products and publications with their respective webpages.

#### ***New Online Newsletter***

An online newsletter format was introduced which is more closely integrated into the SCAR website. It includes several new sections, including a 'Get to Know SCAR' section where we will feature various SCAR Committees and groups. A similar section could also be created for national committees and union members to help highlight recent news, or even just provide a general overview of what is happening and what might be coming up. For more information on the newsletter, please see SDM 27.

#### ***Science Features***

From time to time, groups share with the Secretariat a new paper that has been released. We are happy then to share it with the wider SCAR community via the website, newsletter and social media. We encourage groups to send us information on new publications that have arisen from group activities.

### **Future activities**

#### ***Polar Expo Poster Session at Polar2018***

Building on the success of the SCAR activities poster session in 2016 a "Polar Expo" will be held during Polar2018 which gives an opportunity to again highlight the range of activities that are undertaken under the SCAR umbrella. As a joint session between SCAR and IASC there were 41 SCAR submissions, 40 IASC submissions and 37 joint Polar submissions, demonstrating the large overlap in activities between the two organisations.



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***History of SCAR video***

To complement the celebration of SCAR's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Polar2018 meetings a video is being produced to highlight some of the achievements of the organisation over the last 60 years. This will be played at the "Sixty years of SCAR" event on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June.

***"What is SCAR?" video***

In order to provide an engaging and friendly introduction to SCAR for those in the Antarctic community new to SCAR, and to a more general audience, a short video overview explaining SCAR's mission and its activities will be produced. This will be easily accessible from the website and made available to be used as presentation material for those introducing SCAR to new audiences.

**Recommendations/Expected Outcomes**

We ask Delegates to send any additional ideas they have to the Secretariat.