



European Polar Research in action

@EUPolarCluster EU Polar Cluster

POLAR PROJECTS

Why are the Polar Regions so important for our planet?

Now more than ever the Polar Regions are facing rapid changes and it is important for the research community to monitor these areas in order to better understand the future of our planet.

The increasing level of interest and financial investment now being made across Europe is a clear demonstration of how crucial Polar research study results and outcomes are. They inform policy objectives, including those relating to climate change, energy security, global food security, innovation and economic growth.

What is the EU Polar Cluster?

The EU Polar Cluster is a network of collaborative Polar projects funded by the European Commission, and three permanent members, the EPB, SIOS and APECS.

It merges a broad spectrum of research and coordination activities – ranging from the most up-to-date findings on permafrost and sea ice, from enhancing observation to improving predictions, and from networking research stations to coordinating access to icebreakers.

It provides guidance and policy-relevant information, responding to the impacts of climate change on the Arctic and Antarctic's fragile environments.

Objectives

- ◆ Creating synergies between the EU Polar Cluster members to maximise impact and visibility of European Polar research.
- ◆ Create joint activities, including related to communication, policy advice, stakeholder engagement, data management and education.
- ◆ Increase sharing of knowledge among the Polar research community.
- ◆ Promoting sustainable development by cooperating with policy makers, indigenous peoples and local communities, business and NGO representatives and other societal actors.





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Challenges

SCIENTIFIC & TECHNOLOGICAL:

- Prioritise and specify the relevant Polar research themes by including all relevant stakeholders.
- Increase observations of the Polar Regions as well as providing projections of future change.
- Addressing global key and new challenges through Polar research on the climate and environment including land and oceans, biodiversity, permafrost, etc.
- Optimise and facilitate the use and access to Polar research infrastructure.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT:

- Inform and engage with stakeholders and produce usable and trustworthy predictive information for decision making.
- Fostering international cooperation, in communicating on the impacts of climate change on the fragile environment of the Polar Regions.
- Promoting sustainable development through cooperation with policy makers, indigenous peoples and local communities, business and NGO representatives.

SOCIETAL:

- Provide advice on climate action, environmental change, and resource efficiency.
- Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry and water research, together with the bioeconomy aspect.
- Support of communication, engagement, and co-creation of knowledge with Arctic indigenous and local communities.

Who benefits?



Research & Academia



Civil Society, NGO, Citizens



Infrastructure, logistics, data and observing system managers



Policy makers

The EU Polar Cluster Members

Active projects

Permanent members



Legacy projects

