International Polar Partnership Initiative (IPPI)
(by the Steering Group on a Long-term Cooperative Polar Initiative)
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AMAP  APECS  EPB-ESF  IASC  IASSA  ICSU  IOC  SCAR  UoA  UNEP  WMO

IHO

futureearth
research for global sustainability
Concept Evolution: IPY, 10 IPYs, IPD, IPI, IPA, IPPI

“Will the Initiative bring us what we could not obtain if it did not exist?”

IOC, Paris, February 2014

Saint-Petersburg, April 2011
Motivation (1)

Poles: Fastest Rate of Change and Transformation

“Change is outpacing our understanding”

Arctic amplification of the global warming

AO sea-ice reduction

Max. ocean acidification & impact on carbon sink

Fast warming of the Antarctic Peninsula

Surprises: ozone hole now in Arctic!

Stability of the West Antarctic Ice Sheet

New sea routes, oil & gas, risks, safety, governance

Heavily impacted ecosystems & people
Motivation (2)
Multiple Impacts of Poles on Mid-latitudes & Even Tropics
“What happens in the poles does not stay in the poles”

Polar vortex & jet stream

2010 heat wave, Russia

2014 cold wave, East N America

2010 Pakistan flood

Ice sheets melt leads to sea-level rise in tropics
Are key polar problems adequately addressed?

**Arctic:** the lack of sustainable adequate information services is a **huge impediment for the sustainable development** of the North.

**Southern Ocean & Antarctica (despite SOOS!):** inadequate observing system + insufficient understanding of this part of the Earth System.

Main polar issues are **not addressed** at present as effectively as needed. The current **failure to effectively address these issues will be felt much stronger by future generations.**
Does previous R&D, i.e. under IPY, make it possible to address the locally- and globally- important issues?

All solutions exist as prototypes: “From knowledge – to action”

Resources! 😞 No organization can effectively achieve its objectives in the Polar Regions without coordination and sharing resources.

Need for a fundamental change in approach. Increased efficiency of using funding, the ability to do more with less; return on investment in observations, R&D; focus on practical use of the research outcomes.

Key: cooperation, coordination, and sharing the resources towards achieving an agreed set of socially valuable regional & global goals.
IPPI: approach & communities

Observations, research

Datasets, Analysis, Predictions, Guidance, …

Users, Services

Participants/Stakeholders:

- Professional organizations
- Stakeholders in governance
- Social sciences
- Youth, education
- Polar science organizations and polar operators
- Private Sector/Industries + Nations + Local and Indigenous People(s)

Economical approach: mini-secretariat, etc.

Framework Agreement + Implementation Plan

WMO will participate in IPPI
Next steps

Given the level of support to IPPI, the Group+ will start developing an IPPI Implementation Plan. 2015 will be spent on seeking agreements to participate. IPPI may start in 2017 or so. IOC support to IPPI & its contributions to the Plan are extremely welcome.