

1 NZ Sponsors SOOS

We are pleased to welcome the New Zealand Antarctic Research Institute (NZARI) as a new sponsor of the SOOS International Project Office.



Launched in August 2012, NZARI's goal is to strengthen Antarctic research capacity in New Zealand through international collaboration on research projects.

Antarctica New Zealand has also generously renewed their sponsorship of the SOOS IPO in 2013.

Thank you New Zealand!

2 SOOS Meetings

The SOOS calendar is filling fast in 2013. Planning is well underway for the following meetings and workshops:

- **SOOS Scientific Steering Committee Meeting**, 20-22 May, Shanghai, China
- **SOOS 'Asian Workshop'**, 23-24 May, Shanghai, China (see item 7 for more information)
- **SOOS Data Management Sub-Committee Meeting**, 23-24 May, Shanghai, China
- **COMNAP 'SOOS Workshop'**, 7 July, Seoul, Korea
- **XIth SCAR Biology Symposium**, 16-19 July, Barcelona, Spain

For more information about these and other SOOS-related meetings in 2013 see the SOOS [Calendar](#) on our website.

Are other important events missing from our website? If you know of other events that should be included on the SOOS Calendar please email the International Project Office (info@soos.aq).

3 Data Portal Launched!

The **SOOS Data Portal** was launched on 1 February 2013 and the operational prototype is available at

<http://soos.aodn.org.au/soos/>

The Data Portal is a key component of the SOOS initiative and aims to make access to Southern Ocean data a simple 'one-stop shop' process. It has been developed in close collaboration with the Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS) eMarine Information Infrastructure (eMII) and the Australian Ocean Data Network (AODN).

Roger Proctor (SOOS Data Management Sub-Committee) will introduce the Data Portal to the broader community at next month's European Geosciences Union General Assembly meeting in Vienna, Austria.

4 POGO-14

SOOS was well-represented at the **POGO Annual Meeting (POGO-14)** in Cape Town, South Africa, in January, with Mike Meredith (SSC Co-Chair), Sebastiaan Swart (SSC member) and Mike Coffin (IMAS) in attendance.

Mike Meredith presented a SOOS update, which was enthusiastically received. POGO has renewed their support by endorsing the SOOS programme in 2013.

A copy of SOOS's formal report to POGO, outlining SOOS activities in 2012, is available from the International Project Office (info@soos.aq) upon request.

5 Southern Ocean Panel

Alberto Naveira Garabato, Steve Rintoul and Fiona Taylor attended the **CLIVAR/CLIC/SCAR Southern Ocean Panel (SOP) Meeting** in Hobart, Australia, 21-22 April. Alberto presented a SOOS overview and update, and Steve presented an overview of discussions arising from last year's SOOS-led 'Seeing Below the Ice Workshop'.

6 GOOS Regional Alliance

Oscar Schofield (SSC Co-Chair) will represent SOOS at the **Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) Regional Alliance Forum** (Honolulu, 14-16 May) to further SOOS linkages with other ocean observing systems.

7 SOOS Asian Workshop

SOOS will convene an **Asian Workshop** in Shanghai, China (23-24 May) to highlight Asian activities in Southern Ocean observations and research and to stimulate discussion and foster involvement in SOOS from Asian nations.

Day 1 of the Asian Workshop will feature guest speakers from the Asian scientific community to highlight their national and organisational research and capabilities in the Southern Ocean. Day 2 will see small working groups discuss how Asia can engage further in SOOS activities.

To register to attend the Asian Workshop please email info@soos.aq

Registrations close 23 April

The Asian Workshop is generously sponsored by PRIC, SCAR and SCOR.

8 SOOS Executive Officer

Louise Newman returns to her role as the SOOS Exec Officer in March, after six months maternity leave (and some timely house extensions).

Welcome back Louise!

Fiona Taylor will finish in SOOS as the Acting Exec Officer in April, resuming her position at the UTAS Faculty of Science, Engineering & Technology.

Thanks Fiona!

Please contact info@soos.aq if you have any comments/questions about this Update.