

International Antarctic Zone (iAnZone) Background Information

Data Management

The iAnZone SSC has not considered the recommendations of the SCOR data management meeting. iAnZone oceanographic data are submitted to data banks in accordance with the funding regulations of each participating nation. There are standard data centres for CTD and mooring data. The primary repository is usually the CLIVAR data centre. This situation is less clear with new instruments such as the lowered acoustic Doppler current profiler where an international data centre is not yet announced.

GOOS

iAnZone has had no interactions with GOOS to date.

Southern Ocean Research

All of iAnZone's research is in the Southern Ocean, and in particular the region between the Antarctic Circumpolar Current and the continent. Our Southern Ocean plans are coordinated with the CLIVAR/CliC/SCAR Southern Ocean Panel. We also maintain communications with FRISP, IPAB and ASPECT. There is cross-membership with each of these groups. Our plans for IPY are to implement the SASSI project. This centres around a series of 'hedgehog' sections radiating outward from Antarctica across the continental shelf and slope, to be occupied simultaneously during the period January-March 2008. It also includes moored arrays on these sections, where possible, to obtain winter data. The second primary part of SASSI is to deploy in the sea-ice zone around Antarctica under-ice floats (analogous to Argo floats) and the associated sound sources needed to track them.

Time-Series stations

Some time series stations have been maintained in the Antarctic Zone by iAnZone projects, but none of these has had indefinite funding. Moored arrays were maintained in the Weddell-Scotia Confluence region as part of DOVETAIL for ~3 years. Moored arrays are currently on the continental shelf and slope in the Ross Sea for ~3 years. We would welcome support for longer term time series stations around Antarctica.

Environmental Assessments

iAnZone has not been asked by any global assessment organisations for data, model results or advice.