



Updated POGO information for SCOR Capacity Building website

Agency or program

Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans

Description

The Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans, POGO, is a forum created in 1999 by directors and leaders of major oceanographic institutions around the world to promote global oceanography, particularly the implementation of an international and integrated global ocean observing system. POGO works with representatives of other international and regional programmes and organisations. POGO is a partnership of institutions involved in oceanographic observations, scientific research, operational services, education and training.

As the scale of these activities becomes global, there is an increasing value in coordination among the institutions involved. Through joint planning and exchange of information, the community can make better use of the limited resources available. POGO does not set scientific goals, but focuses attention on implementation issues such as technical compatibility among observing networks; shared use of infrastructure; and on public outreach and capacity building.

Main website

<http://ocean-partners.org>

Capacity Building link

http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4&Itemid=36

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Activity summary

Lack of trained personnel is considered to be a major obstacle to development of a global ocean observing system. Therefore, a central element of the POGO agenda is capacity building and training. POGO has developed an extensive array of training and education activities targeted primarily at scientists from developing countries and those with economies in transition.

POGO-SCOR Fellowship Programme: In partnership with the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR), POGO has developed a Visiting Fellowship programme on Oceanographic Observations under which young professionals from developing countries can spend up to three months studying in their speciality at a major oceanographic

institution. This programme has been running since 2001 and has been very successful in providing training for scientists and students from developing countries as well as in developing collaborations between institutes. Around a dozen trainees benefit from this initiative each year. The programme fills a real need: it is oversubscribed by a factor of eight.

POGO Visiting Professorship Programme: In collaboration with the Nippon Foundation, POGO established a Visiting Professor Programme under which marine scientists of international standing taught at marine institutions in the developing world for periods of up to three months. This highly successful programme ran for three years and has now metamorphosed into another collaboration with the Nippon Foundation, namely the Centre of Excellence in Ocean Observations. Due to the success of the programme, the POGO Visiting Professorship Programme was re-introduced in 2010.

Nippon Foundation – POGO Centre of Excellence in Ocean Observations: The Centre is hosted at the Bermuda Institute for Ocean Sciences (BIOS). This is an intensive training course for young professionals at the doctoral level, ten months in duration, with an intake of ten trainees per year. This programme exposes young scientists, particularly from developing countries, to the best oceanographers world-wide and facilitates the formation of professional contacts, invaluable in the development of their scientific careers. The programme has a strong component of on-board training on an ocean-going vessel on various aspects of ocean observations. In addition, experts from BIOS and from elsewhere provide training to the scholars on various aspects of ocean observations and their applications.

Nippon Foundation – POGO Regional Training Programme: The programme is part of the activities of the NF-POGO Centre of Excellence in Bermuda. Since 2009, a regional training course is organised each year. Previous trainees from NF-POGO Centre of Excellence in Bermuda provide a nucleus for the regional programme. This programme is also seen as vehicle for identifying suitable candidates for other capacity-building initiatives.

POGO AMT Fellowship Programme: The latest POGO-SCOR venture is the visiting fellowship programme for on-board training on an Atlantic Meridional Transect cruise. This offers the opportunity for a scientist from a developing country to participate in cruise preparation and planning, to help make hydrological, biological and ecological observations on board the ship, and to analyse and interpret the results after the cruise.

Universidad de Concepción Austral Summer Institute: Austral Summer Institute is an initiative of the Universidad de Concepción, with international collaboration and funding support from various sources (including a UNESCO Chair). The programme is organised as a series of short, intensive courses on various topics in ocean sciences. Lecturers of international repute from around the world are invited. The programme was designed primarily for the benefit of students from Chile. POGO support allows participation of students from neighbouring countries (about 6-8 students each year). This represents a modest contribution, but with high impact

University of Cape Town: POGO Bursary: The programme started in 2008. It provides bursary for an African student (from outside South Africa) to undertake graduate programme at the University of Cape Town. This is seen as a vehicle for African countries to benefit from oceanographic expertise in South Africa and to develop University of Cape Town as a regional centre of excellence in oceanography.

ChloroGIN: POGO Capacity Building through Networking: ChloroGIN is the Chlorophyll Globally Integrated Network. The project started in 2006. It addresses the GEO task EC-06-07: “Build upon existing initiatives e.g. ANTARES in South America to develop a global network of organization-networks for ecosystems, and coordinate activities to strengthen observing capacity in developing countries.” ChloroGIN aims to promote in situ measurement of chlorophyll in combination with satellite derived estimates and associated products. The network presently consists of three principal Regional Centres in Latin America, South Africa, and India, with an additional one under development in South-East Asia, which are all linked by good communications to three Northern Centres in UK, EC-JRC, US, and Canada. The project has developed a) ChloroGIN.org global web server that is linked to regional sites, b) connections between networks and receiving stations, c) best practice protocols for in situ measurements; and d) training event and specific promoting activities.

In addition to these in-house capacity building programmes, POGO often sponsors other training programmes on an *ad hoc* basis. Taken together, these initiatives have made, and continue to make, a very solid contribution to raising the world capacity to make ocean observations.

Resources

- [POGO-SCOR Fellowship Programme](http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=309&Itemid=42) [http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=309&Itemid=42]
- [Report on the 2009 POGO-SCOR Fellowship Programme](http://ocean-partners.org/attachments/039_Fellowship_report_2009.pdf) [http://ocean-partners.org/attachments/039_Fellowship_report_2009.pdf]
- [POGO Visiting Professorship Programme](http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=310&Itemid=43) [http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=310&Itemid=43]
- [Nippon Foundation-POGO Centre of Excellence in Ocean Observations](http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=42&Itemid=44) [http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=42&Itemid=44]
- [POGO AMT Fellowship Programme](http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=308&Itemid=45) [http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=308&Itemid=45]
- [Universidad de Concepción Austral Summer Institute](http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=494&Itemid=46) [http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=494&Itemid=46]
- [ChloroGIN](http://www.ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=235:chlorogin-chlorophyll-ocean-global-integrated-network-meeting-and-workshops&catid=40:pogo-8-meeting&Itemid=74) [http://www.ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=235:chlorogin-chlorophyll-ocean-global-integrated-network-meeting-and-workshops&catid=40:pogo-8-meeting&Itemid=74]
- [POGO publications](http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=35&Itemid=23) [http://ocean-partners.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=35&Itemid=23]