

ICARP III Activity - Reporting Template

Title of activity Arctic major future tasks in terms of polar education & outreach (E&O)		
Type of activity Survey	Date August – November 2014	Place online
Main organizer(s) (name and/or organization) and additional partners Polar Educators International (PEI)		
Abstract¹ For PEI, as a non-scientific institution, the main focus within ICARP III will be on finding solutions and tools to distribute the scientific knowledge, on developing new partnerships with local and national institutions and on helping to build constructive relationships between producers and users. PEI sees its role mainly as moderator/communicator between research and public, with the task to filter the scientific findings and make them available in a transparent and understandable form for laymen. Besides PEI is also interested in providing their future priorities in terms of polar issues, and to hence broaden the pure scientific inventory of recent and future activities to a more collaborative and interdisciplinary one. Accordingly an online survey to PEI membership was developed and applied between August and November 2014, with the participation of about 70 members from eleven countries in order to know a) which are the key topics related to the polar regions, especially the Arctic b) how could PEI better support the scientific community and c) what are the major challenges / problems for educators concerning the dissemination / teaching of polar topics.		
Main contributions to ICARP III² in terms of the ICARP III priorities³ PEI aims by means of this survey to provide the basic information to successfully contribute to ICARP III's fourth priority: "build constructive relationships between producers and users of knowledge". Based on the outcomes of the presented activity PEI hopes 1) to contribute to increase the scientific literacy of society promoting knowledge on the polar regions through a clear language and accessible to all, 2) to foster the bridge between the scientific community and the community at large, 3) to clarify the most important points in E&O in polar science, 4) promote and encourage the scientific community to the importance of E&O on a responsible research and innovation and 5) to define the biggest challenges for educators concerning the dissemination and teaching of polar topics now and in the future.		

¹ Provide a short summary of the activity

² List a few key statements (findings, priorities, recommendations) that you would like to see reflected in the overarching ICARP III products

³ ICARP III priorities:

- identify Arctic science priorities for the next decade
- coordinate various Arctic research agendas
- inform policy makers, people who live in or near the Arctic and the global community
- build constructive relationships between producers and users of knowledge