



The SCAR Antarctic Data Management System

developed by the

SCAR Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management (SCADM)

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Antarctic Treaty (1959) – Article III-1c:

“scientific observations and results from Antarctica shall be exchanged and made freely available”



The SCAR Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management (SCADM) consists of:

- National Antarctic Data Centers
- National focal points for Antarctic data

Since 1997

Large range of available resources and capabilities



The Terms of Reference for SCADM are:

- 1) To promote long-term preservation and accessibility of data relating to Antarctica and the Southern Ocean in sustainable repositories,
- 2) To assist in establishing Antarctic data management policies, priorities and best practices,
- 3) To support the establishment and ongoing work of National Antarctic Data Centres, in accordance with ATCM XXII Resolution 4.1 (1998),
- 4) To encourage submission of metadata and data to the Antarctic Data Management System,
- 5) To further improve and populate the AMD and provide guidance to the AMD host,
- 6) To provide linkages to other relevant data management systems and thereby enhance the ADMS,
- 7) In partnership with SCAGI, to work with SSGs, COMNAP, CEP and the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat to identify and develop fundamental datasets of value to the Antarctic Community.



The Antarctic Data Management System (ADMS) is composed of:

- The Antarctic Master Directory (AMD)

- Metadata
- AMD hosted by NASA-GCMD since 1999
- Dataset descriptions in DIF format, using GCMD keywords
- 9229 DIFs (52% with direct link to online available data)

- The National Antarctic Data Centers (NADCs)

- Data
- NADCs host or coordinate the hosting of data
- Write or assist with writing high quality metadata (DIFs)



Steps forward:

- Include more national programs
- Coordinate with Arctic data community
- Learn from and use developments in other data management communities
- Move from centralized metadata search to federated (meta)data search
- Focus also on data access instead of metadata only