

Polar Planetary Biology

One overarching theme could be the way in which polar regions on Earth can help us understand extraterrestrial environments. Areas of interest might be :

- use of polar regions to understand Mars and the Martian polar regions.
- use of subglacial lakes to understand Europa and other icy moons
- use of polar regions to prepare for the human exploration of Mars and elsewhere and so on.

The purpose of this theme would be to focus on the way in which polar regions as extreme environments can help us understand the physical and potential biological conditions to be found elsewhere.

Such a theme might be overseen by UK and US scientists and would fit within the plan for IPY to explore new frontiers.