

The Polish Academy of Sciences (the formal representative to the ICSU) established the National Committee on the IPY 2007/08 with Chairman - Professor Alexander Guterch (President, Committee on Polar Research, Polish Academy of Sciences - CPR,PAS).

His address is as follows:

Institute of Geophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences,  
ul. Ksiecia Janusza 64  
Warsaw, Poland  
[aguterch@igf.edu.pl](mailto:aguterch@igf.edu.pl)

The Committee consists of members of the CPR, PAS and members of the Committee for Preparations of the IPY 2007/08 of the Conference of Rectors of the Polish Universities and some other distinguished persons from Academy of Sciences and different agencies.

There is a final procedure of evaluation and possible founding of the project entitled: "Structure, evolution and dynamics of the lithosphere, cryosphere and biosphere of Arctic and Antarctic regions", a preparatory project for the IPY 2007/08. The project is planned for 2 years (2004-2006). Application is directed to the Ministry of Research of the Polish Government. The main themes of the project are:

1. Lithosphere of the Arctic and Antarctic - its evolution in the geodynamic system of the Earth
2. Response of abiotic components of the polar environment to the global climatic change
3. Structure, evolution and dynamics of biodiversity in both polar regions of the Earth (a comparison).

This project (when supported) will be a background for application for a special governmental grant for the most intense research and monitoring activity during the IPY 2007-2009.

Areas of the main Polish research interest during the IPY will be limited to selected regions:

- a) In the Arctic we plan to study Svalbard, Iceland and Kola Peninsula and surrounding sea areas (in wide international co-operation). The most important reference point will be the permanent Polish Polar Station at Hornsund, Spitsbergen, Svalbard.
- b) In the Antarctic - King George Island (using Arctowski Station), Antarctic Peninsula and surrounding seas.