

overview report
IPY in Japan

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for
IPY International Project Office

Contact

Japanese National Committee, IPY2007-2008

Secretary

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1. Budget and finances

No additional budget for IPY is available in Japan either for the research or logistics. All the projects need to seek the ordinary budget and sponsors.

2. Organization

IPY National Committee was established in 2004 in the Science Council of Japan (SCJ). SCJ started to change its structure drastically immediately after the date (for its own interest, not for IPY!), and recently completed the structure modification. A new National Committee was established in June 2006 in the new SCJ, and held the first meeting on 27 September 2006.

Members of National Committee:

Natsuo Sato, NIPR (chair)

Takatoshi Takizawa, JAMSTEC (deputy chair)

Shigeru Aoki, Hokkaido University

Shuki Ushio, NIPR

Tetsuo Ohata, JAMSTEC

Hiroshi Kanda, NIPR

Kazuyuki Siraishi, NIPR

Tatsuo Sweda, Ehime University

Takeshi Naganuma, Hiroshima University

Hiroshi Naraoka, Okayama University

Ryoichi Fujii, Nagoya University

Takashi Yamanouchi, NIPR

Yukuya Yamaguchi, Tokyo Marine University

Hajime Ito, NIPR (Secretary)

3. Research Project

All the IPY projects (full proposals) with Japanese scientists as their core members are summarized in the Table attached (Appendix 1).

A kick-off symposium is planned on 1 March 2007, the first day of the IPY. All the scientists intending to participate in IPY in any form are invited to present their research plans, and to discuss on execution, co-operation, common logistics etc. As IPY projects have all international character, the symposium also invites foreign

scientists, though VIPs will be extremely busy on this particular day. No circular is yet available at the moment.

4. Education, Outreach and communication

4.1. Research Proposal of School Pupils

A contest was held in 2004: young people of 12 to 18 years were requested to submit research proposals, assuming they were given opportunity to carry out their own research in the polar region. The report of this outreach activity is attached as Appendix 2.

The contest was repeated and will be repeated every year at least until the IPY is concluded. In 2006, the third contest of the series is held, and the awarded girls and boys will present their proposals to public in the Forum on 17 December.

4.2. Polar Research for the public

Lectures were given to general public on selected topics on the Arctic Research on 22 February 2005, on the first day of three days symposium, Third International Symposium on the Arctic Research, Tokyo. Top scientists were invited from the world to give a talk, and a simultaneous interpreter was employed for the public. The program is attached as Appendix 3.

Similar lectures for general public are planned, but this time for the Antarctic Research, on 28 and 29 January 2007 in the form of "Open Forum Antarctic". The program is yet in preparation.

5. Data management

The national committee has not started to organize activities concerning data management of IPY as a whole, although it assumes each individual discipline is working on the issue.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 IPY projects with Japanese Scientists

Appendix 2 Outreach Activity: Junior Contest

Appendix 3 Open forum: Arctic Environment Today