

SCADM

Standing Committee on Antarctic Data Management

*The Antarctic data management system, making
scientific research in Antarctica discoverable*



The Antarctic Treaty & Open Data

Article III

1. In order to promote international cooperation in scientific investigation in Antarctica, as provided for in Article II of the present treaty, the Contracting Parties agree that, to the greatest extent feasible and practicable:

...
Scientific observations and results from Antarctica shall be exchanged and made freely available.

Global Change Master Directory

The goal of the GCMD is the discovery of and access to data, related services, and ancillary information (which includes descriptions of instruments and platforms) relevant to global change and Earth science research.

Today, the GCMD is one of the largest public meta-data inventories in the world.

The International Polar Year

The International Polar Year (IPY) 2007–2008 was a global effort to simultaneously collect data from both polar regions. In the framework of the IPY a IPY specific subset was created within the GCMD.

In order to be an official part of IPY, each Project had to follow the IPY 2007-2008 Data Policy. In order to take part in an IPY 2007-2008 Project, participants agreed to submit information and data from their component of the project and comply with the IPY 2007-2008 Data Policy.

The Antarctic Master Directory

The AMD is the largest collection of Antarctic data set description in the world, holding over 8500 dataset descriptions from 25 countries of which more than 50% provide access to data.

The AMD is hosted by the GCMD and is the main repository for all SCAR data.

The Southern Ocean Observation System

Data sharing is at the heart of SOOS. It aims to make all Southern Ocean data. all accessible from one place. At the same time, SOOS wants to protect researchers' rights to get first use out of data that they collected.

As SOOS is also using the GCMD it complementary with the AMD ensuring easy flow of information between the two portals.

National Antarctic Data Centres

NADC's provide the national focal point for the ADMS and assist national scientists in the production and maintenance of metadata records. Furthermore they provide advice on Antarctic data management issues

Research Scientists:

Complete and submit metadata records to NADCs or other instances responsible for metadata record content. Research scientists remain custodian of their data (though responsibility may be transferred to another organisation).

The Role of SCADM

Promote the establishment, coordination and support of the ADMS

Promote data management within the Antarctic scientific community

Assist in establishing Antarctic data management policies and priorities

Report to SCAR on Antarctic data management issues

Provide guidance to the Antarctic Master Directory (AMD) host, the Global Change Master Directory (GCMD)

Participate in the development of the International Directory Network (IDN)

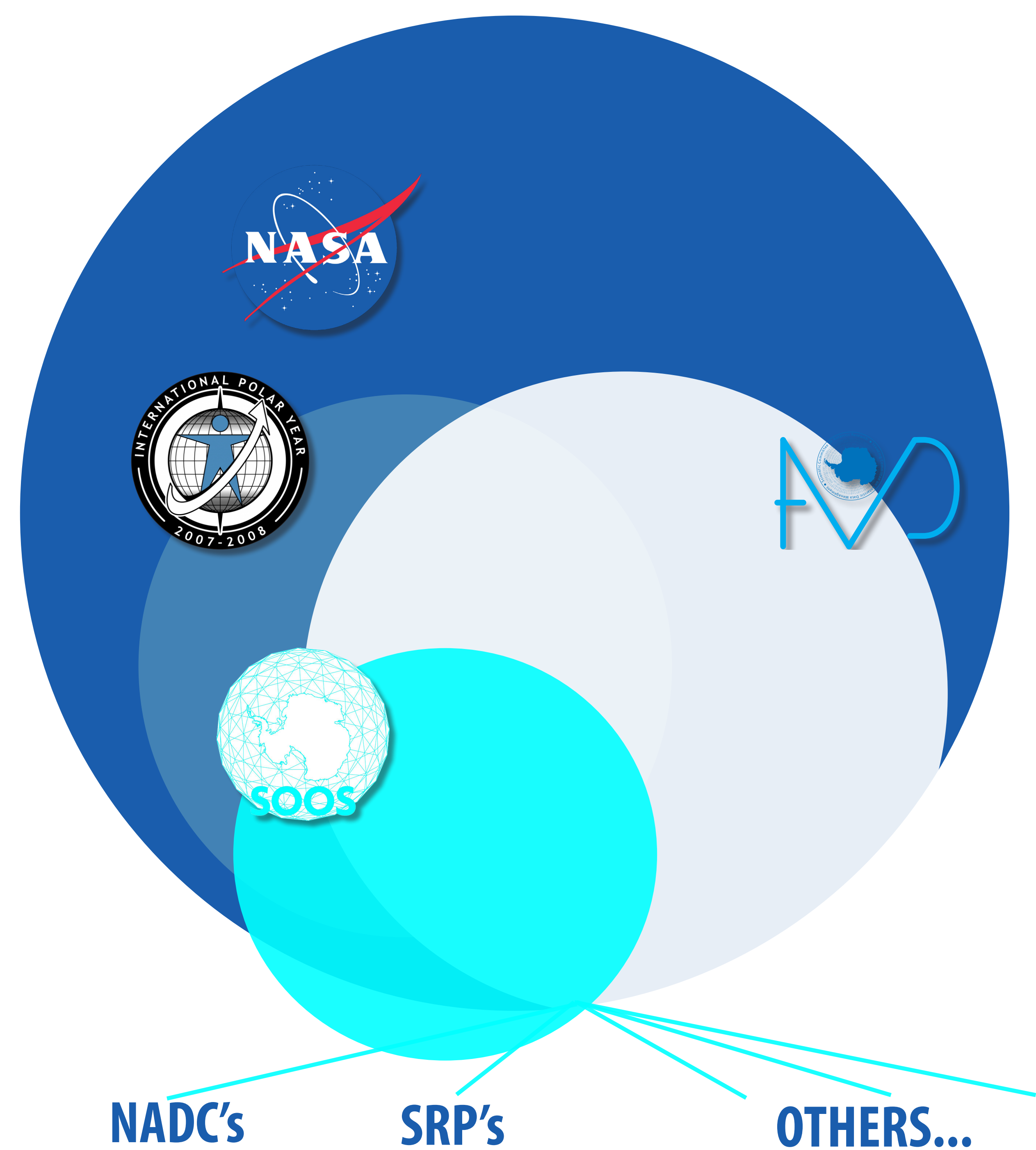
Antarctic Data Management System

The ADMS is composed of:

The Antarctic Master Directory (AMD)

The National Antarctic Data Centres (NADCs)

The NADCs are a link between Antarctic scientists and the AMD. Antarctic scientists are responsible for creating metadata, but are also the major beneficiaries of the system.



Principles

The ADMS contains data descriptions - it is not a central database containing the actual data All Antarctic scientific data will be described - including:

historical data
environmental monitoring data
data with restricted access

Data custodians (eg research institutions, funding bodies) are responsible for determining conditions of access to the data.

Access to the directory will not be restricted - the directory and its products will be widely promoted.

The continued development of a comprehensive directory of Antarctic data is not a trivial task. It requires the commitment and participation of all SCAR member countries, and significant ongoing resources. At this stage we encourage SCAR Scientific Research Programmes and Expert and Working Group to get in touch and learn more about the Antarctic Data Management System