



ALL-ATLANTIC OCEAN RESEARCH ALLIANCE

Creating an Atlantic Ocean Community by Implementing
the Galway and Belém Statements

AA-MARINET report – Polar line of activity (NMPRI):

Final report on Research
Cooperation from Pole to Pole
and related workshop
“Research Cooperation from
Pole to Pole”



BUILDING AN ALL ATLANTIC
OCEAN COMMUNITY
Implementing the Belém Statement



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ALL-ATLANTIC JOINT PILOT ACTIONS

Following a year-long collaborative process among more than 70 stakeholders at the Atlantic level, the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Multi-Stakeholder Platform, divided into 5 sub-multi-stakeholders platforms, identified more than 1000 initiatives towards strengthening marine research and innovation collaboration at the Atlantic level, 56 gaps and 79 needs/recommendations to achieve the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance ambition, guided by a total of 20 Strategic Objectives, 20 Operational Objectives, and 10 Key Performance Indicators.

Based on these findings and on the idea of collaboration, alignment, and use of existing resources, they have developed six ambitious and long-term collaborative Joint Pilot Actions:

- [All-Atlantic Training Platform \(AA-TP\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform \(AA-ATiP\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Marine Biotechnology Initiative \(AA-BIOTECMAR\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Data Enterprise 2030 \(AA-DATA2030\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Blue Schools Network \(AA-BSN\)](#)
- [All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network \(AA-MARINET\)](#)

This report is developed by the **All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network (AA-MARINET)** Joint Pilot Action, that provides tools to support a transatlantic network of Research Infrastructures initiatives, promoting Trans-National Access and other methods for sharing infrastructures in the Atlantic area. It will work as a platform where stakeholders can share information about planned observation activities and available spare capacities, creating a forum where thematic networking and synergies will bring a better articulation of infrastructure-related activities in the Atlantic basin, improving the support of multidisciplinary science to address global societal challenges.

This report is a deliverable in scope of AA-MARINET, Polar line of activity (NMPRI), task 6.3.2 “Research Infrastructures for Polar Research: 1 physical workshop” that aimed at defining a roadmap for enabling researchers and technicians long-term mutual access to polar stations (that can be extended to other types of Polar RIs). After the first workshop (organized under Task 6.3.1: “Networking from pole to pole: facilitating access for research and infrastructure”, 2nd June 2021), it was decided to focus on science cooperation as a necessary first step before discussing access to polar infrastructures. Instead of a Roadmap, Task 6.3.2 delivered a *Final report on Research Cooperation from Pole to Pole* instead.



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SUMMARY

SUMMARY

Task 6.3.2 followed the preparatory work achieved under task 6.3.1 “Setting up polar group with representatives from polar programmes and managers, from the Arctic to the Antarctic”. It aimed at defining operational actions needed in order to create a viable sharing mechanism for polar research infrastructures. An in-person workshop was held as a side event to the [5th All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Forum](#) – Ministerial event. It focussed on presenting research priorities of the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance, with the goal of identifying common interests and therefore cooperation opportunities.





1. Task objectives

Polar Research is one of the six priority thematic areas identified by the Belém Statement. AA-MARINET (All-Atlantic Marine Research Infrastructure Network) aims at fostering the convergence of research and innovation initiatives and promoting research infrastructure sharing, including in the area of polar research. A wide range of polar research facilities and platforms (year-round and seasonal stations, seasonal laboratories, camps and shelters, and research vessels) could benefit from stronger sharing mechanisms, since difficult and expensive access to infrastructures is an important challenge of polar research. Thus, access to research infrastructures was selected to be the focus of the first stage of discussion on polar research and innovation infrastructure sharing. It is a prerequisite to develop further sharing initiatives and offers valuable opportunities of strengthening long-term collaboration.

Task 6.3.2, “Research Infrastructures for Polar Research: 1 physical workshop”, initially had the objective of developing a roadmap for access to Polar station through the organization of a workshop. After the first workshop (organized under Task 6.3.1: “Networking from pole to pole: facilitating access for research and infrastructure”, 2nd June 2021), it was decided to focus on science cooperation as a necessary first step before discussing access to polar infrastructures.

The task deliverable was D6.3.2. “Roadmap for enabling researchers and technicians long-term mutual access to polar stations (that can be extended to other types of Polar RIs)”. However, it was decided during the implementation of task 6.3.1 that it was too early to deliver a roadmap, and that further discussions were needed. This task produced a *Final report on Research Cooperation from Pole to Pole* instead.



2. Description of the work

The Polar Research Action (NMPRI) organised an in-person meeting with about 50 attendees as a side event to the [5th All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Forum](#) – Ministerial event. The in-person workshop “Research Cooperation from Pole to Pole” took place on 12th July at the Residence of the Portuguese Ambassador in Washington D.C. This workshop took up the discussions started during the first workshop organized under task 6.3.1 regarding common scientific priorities, future cooperation opportunities and possible sharing of infrastructures.

The workshop informed about research priorities of the different All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance partners. It comprised short presentations on national research priorities and overarching topics and closed with a moderated discussion about joint interest and next steps. This workshop also provided a platform to discuss better cooperation in the future for polar research (Arctic and Antarctic/Southern Ocean) and infrastructures through the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance.



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3. Outcomes

The in-person workshop “Research Cooperation from Pole to Pole” gathered about 50 Atlantic stakeholders. The Workshop agenda can be found in Annex I. The list of stakeholders that participated in the workshop and well as the Final Report on Research Cooperation from Pole to Pole can be found below. All these documents are also accessible the [AA-MARINET portal](#), including the workshop recording.

a. Workshop list of participants

The workshop list of participants can be found below:

	Name	Country	Institution
1	Juliet Hermes	South Africa	University of Cape Town
2	Tamaryn Morris	South Africa	Weather SA
3	Precious Mongwe	South Africa	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
4	Jefferson Cardia Simões	Brazil	Vice President SCAR
5	Fabiano Thompson	Brazil	JPA-BIOTECMAR leader
6	Roberto de Pinho	Brazil	Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation
7	Evan Bloom	USA	Moderator for event
8	Steve Diggs	USA	Technical Director of the Hydrographic Data Office (CCHDO)
9	Paul Cutler	USA	Antarctic Glaciology Program Officer
12	Timothy Walsh	USA	Acting Director, Joint Polar Satellite System
13	Staci Rijal	USA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
14	Sarah Zaunbrecher	USA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
15	Zoraida Perez Delgado	USA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
16	Terry Schaefer	USA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
17	Monica Morales	USA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
18	Sean Mahaffey	USA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
19	Candace Nachman	USA	US Senior Ocean Policy & Program Advisor for Marine Transportation Systems
20	Michael Sfraga	USA	Chair & Distinguished Fellow, Polar Institute // Chair, US Arctic Research Commission
21	Andrea White	Canada	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
22	Liisa Peramaki	Canada	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
23	Chris Hemmingway	Canada	Director, Marine Spatial Data Services, Canadian Hydrographic Service



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24	Catarina Guerreiro	Portugal	College on Polar and Extreme Environments (Polar2E), Uni Lisbon
25	Jose Xavier	Portugal	University of Coimbra
26	Teresa Cabrita	Portugal	Portuguese Polar Programme
27	Isabel Sousa Pinto	Portugal	CIMAR - Centre for Marine and Environmental Research
28	Paolo Montagna	Italy	Italian Polar Institute
29	Birgit Njåstad	Norway	CEP Chair, Norsk Polar Institute
30	Svein Østerhus	Norway	TIPPACS coordinator, NORCE
31	Thomas Jung	Germany	AWI vice director
32	Francois Houllier	France	IFREMER director
33	Szylvia Nemeth	EU	European Commission
34	Sigi Gruber	EU	European Commission
35	Edoardo Casarotto	EU	European Commission
36	Bernhard Florent	EU	Science attaché in the EU Delegation
37	Sofia Cordeiro	AANChOR	FCT, Coordinator of AANChOR CSA
38	Florence Coroner	AANChOR	IFREMER, AA-MARINET coordinator
39	Marta Norton	AANChOR	FCT, AANChOR coordination team
40	Louise Flensburg	Denmark	Youth Ambassador
41	Aurora Heim	SAMI	Youth Ambassador
42	Veronica Willmott	Germany	ARICE project manager
43	Diego Hernandez	Italy	European Space Agency
44	Renuka Badhe	The Netherlands	Executive director EPB
45	Nicole Biebow	Germany	EU-PolarNet 2 coordinator, EPB chair
46	Anneli Strobel	Germany	EU-PolarNet 2 manager
47	Jose Moutinho	Portugal	AIR Centre, AA-MARINET coordinator

b. Final report on Research Cooperation from Pole to Pole

The following recommendations have been developed from this workshop.

“We need knowledge [from the polar regions], which is backed up by data, thus making it actionable by policymakers”.

1. **Access to infrastructures:** Transnational access to infrastructures usually works on personal contacts. A process and a permanent mechanism is needed for ensuring transparency and equitable transnational access to polar infrastructure. This would also maximise the utility of the available



infrastructure. Infrastructure includes all polar infrastructure (ships/stations) but also infrastructure locally including in-country laboratories (e.g. at universities, or polar research organisations). The following points shall be supported:

- A. Access to information, data and both data & modelling infrastructures; Ensuring open access to data according to FAIR and CARE principles
- B. Sharing of infrastructure
- C. Implementation of large-scale international collaborative initiatives
- D. Digitalisation of infrastructure

2. **Funding:** Polar research (and supporting logistics and infrastructure) is costly. There is a need to ensure that available infrastructures are optimally utilised. A balance is needed between research and infrastructure funding particularly in the polar regions as both science and logistics/infrastructure are extremely expensive to run and maintain. Further, funding is essential for ensuring that the data collected is processed and made freely accessible.

3. **Communication:** Identification of stakeholders and ensuring that the right language (and timescale) is used for each stakeholder is important. This would also increase knowledge and understanding of the polar regions for the general public. Messages to policy makers need to be clear and evidence-based, thus making them actionable.

4. **Diversity:** “Talent is equally distributed, opportunity is not!” We need to have equitable and inclusive access to the polar regions, ensuring the widest diversity of voices at the table. Diversity should encompass – gender, local and indigenous knowledge, career stages, mindset, geographical diversity, amongst other things. Best-practices are needed to measure the success of co-development.

5. **Cooperation:** The polar community shall make efficient use of existing networks, best practices and programmes from the polar regions to further advance cooperation and amplify outcomes and messages.

6. **Legacy:** Successful projects and initiatives produce both data and deliverables that are extremely useful to the community. Legacy planning for selected deliverables will ensure that these products continue their usefulness in supporting the polar research community for years beyond the project timescales.

c. NMPRI general outcome

Based on the contacts made and the discussions performed in the two AA-MARINET NMPRI tasks (T6.3.1 and T6.3.2), a consortium was formed to apply to the HORIZON-INFRA-2023-SERV-01-01 call, subtopic: Research infrastructure services for sustainable Arctic/Polar Regions. The scope of this topic is to provide trans-national access (on-site or remote) and/or virtual access to integrated and customised Research Infrastructure services for challenge-driven research and innovation in the Arctic and Antarctic. The consortium is lead by AWI, which also lead the AA-MARINET NMPRI tasks, and includes European and



International partners. The All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance partners Canada and USA are directly involved as beneficiaries offering access to the polar infrastructures to European researchers and South Africa is involved as a cooperation partner.

4. Annex I – Workshop agenda



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EMBASSY OF PORTUGAL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Research Cooperation from Pole to Pole

Side event to the All Atlantic 2022 Ministerial Meeting



Organisers:



Date and time	12 July 2022
Location	Residence of the Portuguese Ambassador in the USA, Washington, DC
Time:	09:00 – 13:30 (lunch 12:30 – 13:30?)
09:00 – 09:30	Official Opening of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Francisco Duarte Lopes, Portuguese Ambassador in the US (TBC) John Bell, Healthy Planet' Director, DG RTD, EC (recorded) Szilvia Nemeth, Deputy Head of Unit Healthy Ocean and Sea (DG RTD) EC
09:30 – 10:30	Setting the scene: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aim of the meeting - Nicole Biebow Introduction to AANCHOR - Sofia Cordeiro Southern Ocean Action Plan (UN Ocean Decade) – Renuka Badhe CEP 5 years priorities - Birgit Njåstad EU Polar Cluster – Anneli Strobel ESA Polar Cluster – Diego Fernandez
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break and Networking
11:00 – 12:00	Introduction to the Southern Ocean/Antarctic Research interests of the All-Atlantic partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> US: Paul Cutler Europe: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portugal by Teresa Caprita Germany by Thomas Jung Italy by Paolo Montagna Norway by Svein Østerhus South Africa by Tamaryn Morris/ Juliet Hermes Brazil by Jefferson Simoes Canada ??
12:00 – 12:30	Panel discussion on challenges, and best practices for All-Atlantic cooperation and preparation of recommendations and next steps to facilitate an All-Atlantic cooperation in Polar research Chair Evan Bloom Panelists: Jose Xavier, Veronica Willmott, Tamaryn Morris/ Juliet Hermes, Thomas Jung, Steve Diggs, Canadian colleague Summary of the recommendations – Nicole and Renuka
12:30 – 13.30	Networking buffet



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AANCHOR is a Coordination & Support Action project aimed to support the implementation of the Belém Statement. It has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 818395.

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YouTube: **All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance**



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