



IASC

INTERNATIONAL
ARCTIC SCIENCE
COMMITTEE





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PHOTO: RIA-MARIA ADAMS
Rovaniemi, Lapland, Finland.



THE INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SCIENCE COMMITTEE (IASC)

The **International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)** is a non-governmental, international scientific organization. The Founding Articles committed IASC to pursue a mission of encouraging and facilitating cooperation in all aspects of Arctic research, in all countries engaged in Arctic research and in all areas of the Arctic region. Overall, IASC promotes and supports leading-edge interdisciplinary research in order to foster a greater scientific understanding of the Arctic region and its role in the Earth system. Rather than defining human and environmental boundaries, IASC tries to bridge those boundaries. IASC is also committed to recognizing that Traditional Knowledge, Indigenous Knowledge, and “Western” scientific knowledge are coequal and complementary knowledge systems, all of which can and should inform the work of IASC.

[\[iasc.info\]](http://iasc.info)

IASC 2025



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PHOTO: MARIASILVIA GIAMBERINI

Arctic sea waters in Svalbard.



IASC 2024 STATE OF ARCTIC SCIENCE REPORT (SAS REPORT)

The IASC State of Arctic Science Report 2024 presents a synthesis of current and upcoming Arctic research activities and priorities with a broad range of input and contributions touching upon all aspects of Arctic research.

It is aimed at Arctic researchers, science agencies, managers, and users, including a wide range of decision-makers and policymakers, to help all Arctic science stakeholders and rights-holders stay up to date on Arctic research.

[SAS Report Series: iasc.info/about/publications-documents/state-of-arctic-science]

IASC 2025



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PHOTO: UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO/GLENN ASAKAWA

View of the Flatirons in Boulder, Colorado (USA), host city for the ASSW2025 and ICARP IV Summit.



ARCTIC SCIENCE SUMMIT WEEK (ASSW2025) & ICARP IV SUMMIT

The Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW) 2025 will be held in Boulder, Colorado (USA) from 20-28 March 2025. The theme of ASSW 2025 is "Arctic Research Planning for the Next Decade" as it will include the Fourth International Conference on Arctic Research Planning (ICARP IV) Summit, providing a unique opportunity for participants to contribute toward planning the next decade of Arctic research. The ICARP IV Summit will engage Arctic researchers, Indigenous Peoples, policymakers, and other interested parties from around the world, serving as a crucial milestone for shaping the Fifth International Polar Year in 2032-33.

[assw.info]

IASC 2025



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PHOTO: ANDREA SPOLAOR

Aerial view of the remote camp during the 2023 field expedition of the Sentinel and Ice Memory projects, which successfully recovered deep ice cores from Svalbard's Holtedahlfonna ice field.



5TH INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR (IPY)

IPY-5 in 2032-33 aims to address urgent global challenges by advancing polar research, focusing on the impacts of climate change in the Arctic and Antarctic. This coordinated effort will bring together scientists, Indigenous Knowledge Holders, and global stakeholders to produce actionable insights for mitigating and adapting to environmental changes, while promoting international collaboration and inclusivity.

[ipy5.info]



MAY

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PHOTO: FAVRE LIONEL, TECHNICIAN AND
FIELD ASSISTANT OF THE EERL EPFL

Foggy morning in the steppe of Lapland.



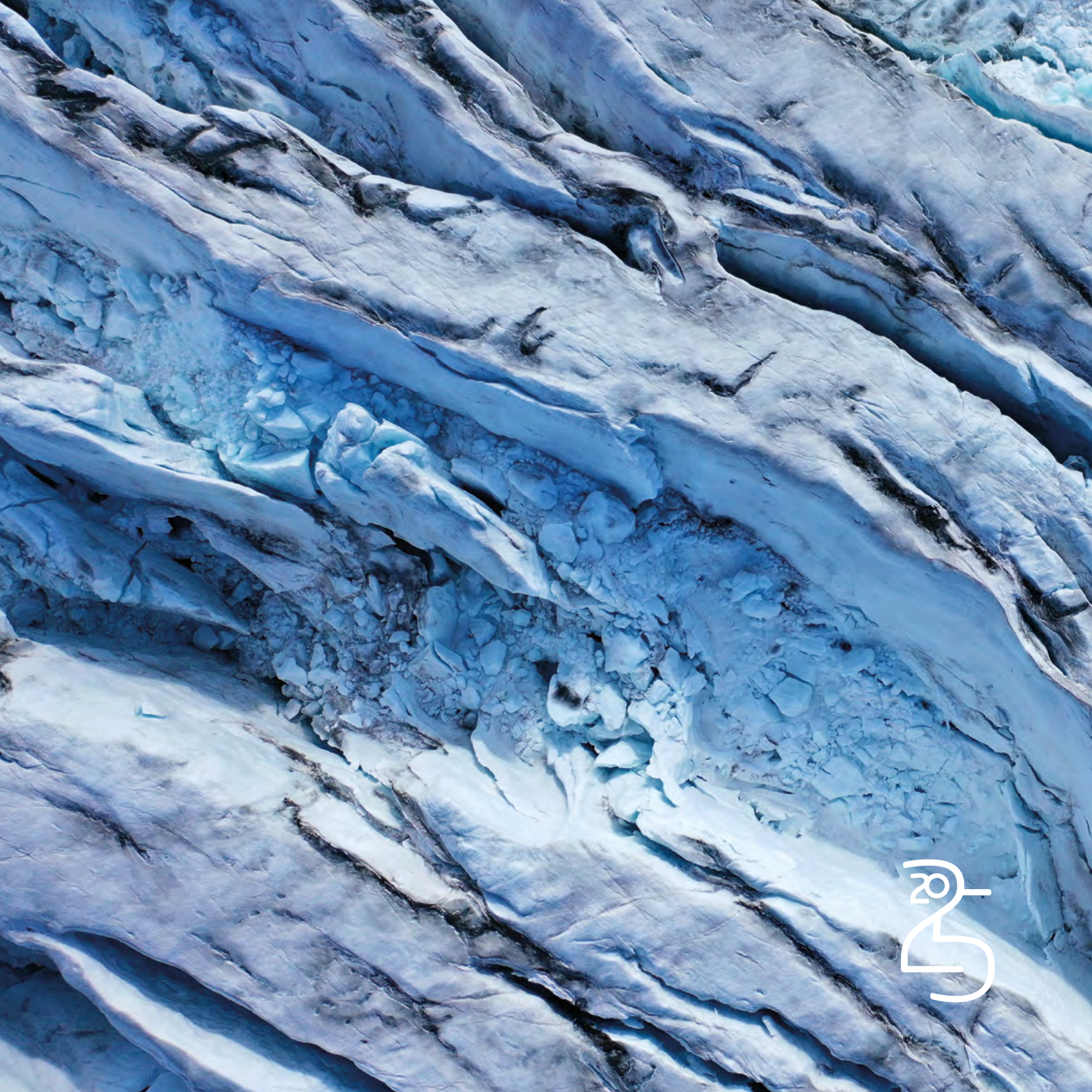
IASC ATMOSPHERE WORKING GROUP

The scientific scope of the **Atmosphere Working Group (AWG)** includes scientific research towards understanding and prediction of Arctic change, and considering the fate of perennial sea ice and the global atmospheric consequences of its disappearance. This includes past climate states, investigation of Arctic processes across data sets and approaches, and climate model projections. The scope includes local and regional impacts of Arctic change. The geographic scope of the AWG shall be the Arctic but will also include the Arctic's responses to global change processes (arctic amplification) and impacts of Arctic changes on the northern hemisphere atmospheric circulation.

[\[iasc.info/working-groups/atmosphere\]](http://iasc.info/working-groups/atmosphere)

The scientific core elements of IASC are its five Working Groups, which facilitate and support international, science-led programs.

IASC 2025



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PHOTO: NATALIA ŁATA CZ

Hansbreen, the westernmost glacier in Hornsund, the southernmost fjord of Svalbard Archipelago.



IASC CRYOSPHERE WORKING GROUP

The **Cryosphere Working Group (CWG)** supports and promotes all scientific or engineering research related to the Arctic and subarctic cryosphere, including glaciers, sea ice, snow, permafrost, seasonally frozen ground, and lake and river ice. It encompasses cryospheric interactions with the atmosphere, ocean, biosphere, and terrestrial systems in the past, present and future, and the cryosphere's role in climate and human society.

[iasc.info/working-groups/cryosphere]

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IASC 2025



JUL

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PHOTO: IREK SOBOTA

Svalbard.



IASC MARINE WORKING GROUP

The IASC Marine Working Group (MWG) facilitates international coordination of research in the Arctic marine environment and supports cross-cutting objectives. Annual face-to-face meetings and online communication are used throughout the year, including interaction and collaboration with terrestrial, cryospheric, atmospheric, and social scientists as appropriate. An important goal is to support early career scientists and involve them in international research coordinated by IASC member countries, including an expanded role for IASC Fellows in MWG tasks. Starting in 2023, a network of IASC Alumni Fellows will support IASC and Working Group activities and their current Fellows, and maintain an active network of early to mid-career researchers and collaborators (IASC Fox).

[\[iasc.info//working-groups/marine\]](https://iasc.info//working-groups/marine)

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IASC 2025



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PHOTO: FAVRE LIONEL, TECHNICIAN AND
FIELD ASSISTANT OF THE EERL EPFL

Drone view of the village of Narsaq in south Greenland.



IASC SOCIAL AND HUMAN WORKING GROUP

The scientific scope of the **Social and Human Sciences Working Group (SHWG)** shall include all aspects of social sciences and humanities research in the Arctic, as well as their connections with other IASC Working Groups. The actual work of the Social & Human Sciences WG is determined by a dynamic list of scientific focus areas.

The geographic scope of the Social and Human Sciences Working Group shall be the Arctic as defined in the map accompanying the Arctic Human Development Report (AHDR). The geographic scope can be extended south where it is appropriate for an understanding of Arctic social and human processes.

[iasc.info/working-groups/social-human]

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IASC 2025



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PHOTO: WAI YIN CHEUNG

Returning to the community of Pond Inlet after conducting glaciological monitoring on Fountain Glacier, Sirmilik National Park, in partnership with Parks Canada Nunavut Field Unit and the IceLab at Queen's University.



IASC MEDAL

The IASC Medal is awarded each year in recognition of exceptional and sustained contributions to the understanding of the Arctic. The whole IASC community, from all countries, backgrounds, and career stages, is invited to submit nominations to the IASC Secretariat (until 31 October each year). IASC supports inclusivity and diversity and therefore particularly encourages nominations which take these values into consideration.

[iasc.info/capacity-building/medal]



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PHOTO: ALEKSANDRA OSIKA

Northern lights over Adventdalen, Svalbard.



IASC FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The IASC Fellowship Program was established in 2014 and is meant to engage early career researchers in the work of the IASC Working Groups (WGs). Each year, at least one Fellow per WG is chosen. In addition, since 2020, at least one early career Arctic Indigenous Scholar or Knowledge Holder is selected per year. Applications for IASC Fellowship usually open in October each year.

[iasc.info/capacity-building/fellowship-program]

IASC 2025



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PHOTO: MARIASILVIA GIAMBERINI

Ny Alesund.



IASC TERRESTRIAL WORKING GROUP

The scientific scope of the **IASC Terrestrial Working Group (TWG)** shall include any scientific research on Arctic terrestrial and freshwater environments, landscapes and biota, and their responses to, and interactions with, other components of the Earth system. The remit encompasses the dynamics of the Arctic system; past, present and future. Geographically, the main area of interest of the IASC Terrestrial Working Group encompasses lands and fresh water within the area north of the latitudinal treeline with Arctic climate and Arctic vegetation. Several adjacent areas are included where highly relevant for certain disciplines and projects (a) boreal oceanic tundra (e.g. the Aleutian Islands, North Atlantic islands), (b) alpine tundra that is continuous with the Arctic tundra (e.g. the central highlands of Iceland, the Scandes Mountains, the Polar Urals), (c) the forest tundra, and (d) drainage basins to the south that connect with freshwater and marine areas of the Arctic.

[\[iasc.info/working-groups/terrestrial\]](https://iasc.info/working-groups/terrestrial)

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IASC 2025



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**PHOTO: FAVRE LIONEL, TECHNICIAN AND
FIELD ASSISTANT OF THE EERL EPFL**

Norther light above the helikite, the tethered balloon for air particles and trace gases measurements in Lapland during the fieldwork in PaCE.



IASC SECRETARIAT

The IASC Secretariat is responsible for the daily operations of IASC. Among its tasks, the Secretariat provides support for the IASC Working Groups, Council, and Executive Committee; is responsible for IASC communications, coordinates with IASC partners; and administers IASC finances. Currently the Secretariat is based in Akureyri, Iceland and is supported by Rannís, the Icelandic Centre for Research, through the end of 2026. Get in contact with the IASC Secretariat if you have any questions regarding IASC or Arctic Science!

[info@iasc.info]



COVER PHOTO: LUCA BRACALI

Svinafellsjökull, Iceland

IASC 2025

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