

20 years of Antarctic Biodiversity data: From SCAR MarBIN to the SCAR Antarctic Biodiversity Portal

Van De Putte Anton, Gan Yi-ming, Plasman Charlie, Deschepper Pablo

OD Nature, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Vautierstraat 29, Brussels, Belgium

E-mail: avandeputte@naturalsciences.be

Belgian researchers in collaboration with the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) have been instrumental in mobilizing Antarctic biodiversity data for two decades, significantly enhancing our understanding of this unique ecosystem. This presentation traces the evolution of Antarctic and Southern Ocean Biodiversity data management efforts, beginning with the establishment of the SCAR Marine Biodiversity Information Network (SCAR-MarBIN) in 2005. SCAR MarBIN provided a crucial foundation for aggregating and disseminating marine biodiversity data, facilitating collaborative research and informing conservation efforts in the Southern Ocean. Over time, technological advancements, improved data standards, and an expanded scope necessitated a more comprehensive platform. This led to the development of the SCAR Antarctic Biodiversity Portal, a unified access point for diverse data types, encompassing both marine and terrestrial environments. Here we highlight key milestones in this journey, showcasing the growth in data volume and diversity, the development of advanced search and visualization tools, and the impact of these data resources on scientific discovery, policy development, and environmental management in the Antarctic.

Keywords

Southern Ocean; Biodiversity; Data; FAIR