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## Calendar of Upcoming IPY Events

U.S. Opening Ceremony for IPY  
Washington, DC, USA  
26 February, 2007  
For more information: [www.us-ipy.org](http://www.us-ipy.org)

IPY Opening Ceremony  
Paris, France  
1 March, 2007  
For more information: [www.ipy.org](http://www.ipy.org)

Smithsonian Polar Science Symposium  
"Smithsonian at the Poles: Contributions to International Polar Year Science"  
3-4 May, 2007  
Washington, DC, USA  
For more information: [www.si.edu/ipy](http://www.si.edu/ipy)

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1. **New IPY Solicitation Released from the National Science Foundation:** This special solicitation for IPY proposals will support specific research and education activities within the following emphasis areas: Understanding Environmental Change in Polar Regions, Human Biotic Systems in Polar Regions, and Education and Outreach.

Proposals are due 16 March, 2007. For more information:  
[http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=501036&org=Opp&from=home](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=501036&org=Opp&from=home).

2. **March 1, 2007 IPY Launches in Classrooms Around the World:** Teachers and students around the world are invited to celebrate the beginning of IPY 2007-2008 in their classrooms. The "Breaking the Ice" flyer (PDF) describes a few simple activities that can be carried out in classrooms, science centres, parks, galleries, even at home. For more information: [http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/detail/ipy\\_2007\\_2008\\_school\\_launch\\_event](http://www.ipy.org/index.php?/ipy/detail/ipy_2007_2008_school_launch_event).

*There are many websites with information about IPY, but four of the most useful are:*

[www.us-ipy.gov](http://www.us-ipy.gov)  
[www.us-ipy.org](http://www.us-ipy.org)  
[www.ipy.org](http://www.ipy.org)  
[www.ipyeaso.aari.ru](http://www.ipyeaso.aari.ru)

- 3. Danish Polar Center to Establish Logistics Platforms:** The Danish Polar Center (DPC) is planning to establish logistics platforms at different sites in Greenland during IPY and is calling for letters of intent from scientists and research groups in deciding the specific locations for the platforms. For more information: <http://www.dpc.dk>.
- 4. International Early Career Polar Scientist Network:** The Early Career Polar Scientist Network was launched December 10, 2006. It aims to bring together young researchers and early career scientists from around the world with an interest in polar regions. This network will provide a forum for polar scientists to begin international and interdisciplinary collaborations early in their careers, fostering international science which is naturally important to polar research to improve our understanding of these systems on a global level. The network's website (<http://dept.kent.edu/polar>) is currently under development.
- 5. National Science Foundation Funding for IPY:** The 109<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congress has adjourned without completing action on the FY 2007 appropriations bills, so nearly all federal agencies are currently operating by Continuing Resolution (CR), or flat funding based on FY 2006 levels. The incoming congressional leadership has announced plans to continue funding by CR for the entire fiscal year. This means the proposed funding increases to NSF, including the \$62 million for IPY activities, are in question. When available, more information will be provided in a future issue of the USNC for IPY Newsgram.
- 6. Report from the IPY International Programme Office:** From David Carlson, Director of the IPY International Programme Office:

First report of 2007. I wish happy New Year for all, and a very successful year for the polar community!

You have perhaps seen and used the new IPY web site. We receive many positive comments and, more important, many many uses and contributions. You can still get to the previous IPY site by clicking on Classic IPY Site under WHAT IS IPY. We will maintain some functions on the classic site, including materials for the up-coming 5th meeting of the Joint Committee. We will also keep the searchable Project and Expression of Interest databases.

We have a searchable IPY Project database on the new site. As you use it, you will quickly notice which Projects have NOT submitted their short media summaries. Journalists, of course, will also make that discovery! Please encourage all your Projects leaders to complete their summaries!

In the IPO planning meeting today, all the IPO staff had the IPY Launch near the top of our task lists. At the Opening Ceremony in Paris on 1 March, we will make a 30 minute IPY presentation, conduct a 30 minute formal press conference, and then hold a luncheon during which additional press interactions can occur. The 30 minute IPY presentation will consist of short introductions from ICSU and WMO, the best 18 minutes of IPY excitement and energy that I can produce, and conclusions from the IPY Joint Committee co-chairs. We will finish with a symbolic handing of the polar legacy from an IGY veteran researcher to a young IPY researcher. A media advisory for this event will go out tomorrow. ICSU will send invitations to journalists and to national IPY representatives, very soon. For more information about the Opening Ceremony and various national

events, please see the IPY web site. The IPY Launch page includes a schedule outline for that busy week, 26 February through 2 March.

The IPY web site includes a recent list of international, national and institutional press contacts for the launch events. Please check to see that we have the appropriate names for your nation or institution. We need names for a similar list of education contact persons - please send those names to Rhian ([ipy.ras@gmail.com](mailto:ipy.ras@gmail.com)).

The 'Scope of IPY Science' document, composed from many contributions and assembled thanks to a very skilful effort by Ian Allison, now undergoes final editing by IPO and WMO. With financial and technical support from WMO, we will have that document published and printed in time for 1 March 2007 ceremonies.

As many of you know, IPO, with help from the Danish Polar Centre, conducts an on-going assessment of IPY Project funding. We posted a current report of that funding (on the new web site, of course, look under Participants or Links & Resources). Out of 228 Projects, 35 report substantial funding. Another 84 report partial funding. More than 90 Projects have not yet responded. Many of those 90 Projects involve leadership from Canada or the USA, where funding announcements (Canada) and opportunities (USA) proceed more slowly than expected.

In the past few weeks the IPO has worked with Norway to define the terms of an IPY Data Coordinator position. We now agree on responsibilities: that person will work with a wide range of near-real-time IPY data sources and providers. We also agree on the costs, approximately €280,000 for 26 months starting now. Norway agrees to provide 50% of that cost; Canada provides another 15%. We need additional contributions for the remaining 35%, approximately €50,000 per year for two years. This task represents one of IPY's most important and urgent needs!

In addition to working on the IPY Opening Ceremony, the IPO begins to assemble materials for the 5th meeting of the IPY Joint Committee, which occurs 28 February and 2 March, around the IPY Opening Ceremony. National committees or national contact persons who wish to submit a national IPY report, or to submit an idea or request for Joint Committee consideration, should provide those materials or that information to IPY ([ipyipo@bas.ac.uk](mailto:ipyipo@bas.ac.uk)) before Friday, 9 February 2007.