

INTERNATIONAL POLAR FOUNDATION

ANNUAL
REPORT
2012



INTERNATIONAL
POLAR
FOUNDATION

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FOREWORD

2012 marked ten years of endeavour and achievement by the International Polar Foundation, founded in 2002 by Belgian polar explorer Alain Hubert, with scientists André Berger and Hugo Declair.

Created as foundation for the public good to connect science and society, the International Polar Foundation now works throughout the world to support and communicate polar scientific research, to advance human knowledge, and promote informed action on climate change and the development of a sustainable society.

As part of this mission, Inside the Station was inaugurated in December 2012, taking thousands of visitors on an interactive journey inside Princess Elisabeth Antarctica, the world's first zero emission polar research station. Visitors experienced living and working in Antarctica, and learned about polar science and the continuing evolution of the wind and solar-powered centre for international polar scientific research.

Meanwhile, in Antarctica, the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 austral summers saw the International Polar Foundation team at Princess Elisabeth Antarctica welcome scientists from Belgium, Europe and around the world, who came to Antarctica for polar scientific research, crucial for broadening knowledge of our planet.

While the scientists carried out their work in the field – the station team prepared for out major upgrades to the structure of the station, as well as remodeled its water treatment system and further developing its zero emission energy sources, and smart grid technologies.

In 2012, the International Polar Foundation also focused on communicating climate issues and promoting acceptance of renewable energy amongst EU citizens, via the internationalization

of the Class Zero Emission initiative, which engages hundreds of school age children and teachers on polar science, climate change, and our everyday use of energy.

Throughout the year the Foundation team presented its mission, and the Princess Elisabeth Antarctica project during financial, educational and scientific fora, and within projects and initiatives in Europe and around the world. The Foundation highlighted the role of polar science, and the need for an intelligent, considered global response to climate change, such as the reduction in our use of fossil fuels

The successful Arctic Futures Symposium, held in Brussels in October 2012, bore witness Foundation's support for increased EU engagement and responsibility in Arctic issues, and that international cooperation between all stakeholders is the way forward to achieving sustainable Arctic policies.

In 2013, the International Polar Foundation will further develop its projects, and continue to demonstrate that the climate challenge can be met through goodwill and collaboration between civil society, business and governments, and that it is possible to achieve a low carbon society without compromising our collective or individual wellbeing.



Alain Hubert,
President of the Board of Directors of the IPF

THE INTERNATIONAL POLAR FOUNDATION: CONNECTING SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

The International Polar Foundation supports polar scientific research for the advancement of knowledge, the promotion of informed action on climate change, and the development of a sustainable society.

The Foundation was created with the objective of providing a novel interface between science and society, and was recognised by Belgian Royal Statute as a foundation for the public good in 2002. It seeks to bring about a keener appreciation of the role of science, particularly research in the Polar Regions, through a re-examination of the planet's interconnections, its fragility, the impact of human actions on the environment, and the evolution of millennial climate cycles.

As we advance through the 21st century, there is an urgent need to find coherent responses to questions concerning our relationship with the Earth, with particular regard to climate change. The impact of human activities on the finite, fragile biosphere on which we depend for survival has disturbed natural cycles. The future depends on our ability to objectively unravel the complexity of natural variations and to analyse the risks of a deviation. This heightened understanding will enable us to make a rapid and intelligent response to the unprecedented situations that humanity currently faces. The longer we wait before taking substantive action, the more limited our choices.

Researchers in the Polar Regions are actively trying to fill gaps in knowledge that will address the uncertainties surrounding the pace, magnitude and direction of change related to global warming.

Painstaking research on the polar ice caps of Antarctica and Greenland has yielded evidence of the causal link between human-

related carbon dioxide emissions, mean surface temperature, and climate change.

Even better tools are now needed to further assess future risks from warming phenomena, which could accelerate the melt of polar ice sheets and cause sea levels to rise.

The dual function of the Arctic's sea ice also has a part to play. Its particular sensitivity to warming trends on the planet make it both an early warning system and a reflective shield that keeps warming partially in check.

Due to the crucial role of the Poles in regulating the Earth's heat balance, it is necessary to sustain scientific efforts towards understanding these mechanisms, and to facilitate the transmission of the latest scientific findings to the wider public. To this end, the International Polar Foundation supports the efforts of the global scientific community by providing new tools for disseminating and communicating research findings, and by leveraging support for research infrastructure and activities.

INTERNATIONAL POLAR FOUNDATION STRUCTURE

HONORARY PRESIDENT:

HRH Prince Philippe of Belgium

FOUNDERS:

Alain Hubert, Civil Engineer, Polar Explorer, Mountain Guide
André Berger, Climatologist, Emeritus Professor at UCL (Belgium),
Honorary President of the European Geosciences Union
Hugo Declair, Glaciologist, Emeritus Professor at VUB (Belgium)

HONORARY MEMBERS:

Roger Barry, National Snow and Ice Data Centre (NSIDC), USA
Paul Crutzen, Max Planck Institute, Mainz, Germany
Ivan Frolov, Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute (AARI), Russia
Claude Lorius, Laboratoire de Glaciologie et Géophysique de l'Environnement (LGGE), France
Lawrence Mysak, McGill University, Canada
Olav Orheim, Norwegian Research Council, Norway
Dahe Qin, China Meteorological Administration (CMA), China
Chris G. Rapley, University College London (UCL), UK
Susan Solomon, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA
Konrad Steffen, Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences, University of Colorado
Jorn Thiede, St Petersburg State University, Russia
Svein Tveitdal, GRID Arendal, UNEP, Norway
Okitsugu Watanabe, National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR), Japan

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

Alain Hubert: President
Nighat Amin: Vice President, International Affairs
Thierry Touchais: Executive Director
Henri Tassenoy: Financial Director

INTERNATIONAL POLAR FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

Alain Hubert - Founder - Chairman of the Board of Directors
Explorer, Emeritus Writer, Civil Engineer, Mountain Guide

André Berger - Founder
Climatologist, Emeritus Professor at the Université Catholique de Louvain
(Belgium) and former President of the European Geophysical Society

Hugo Declair - Founder
Glaciologist, Emeritus Professor at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Belgium)

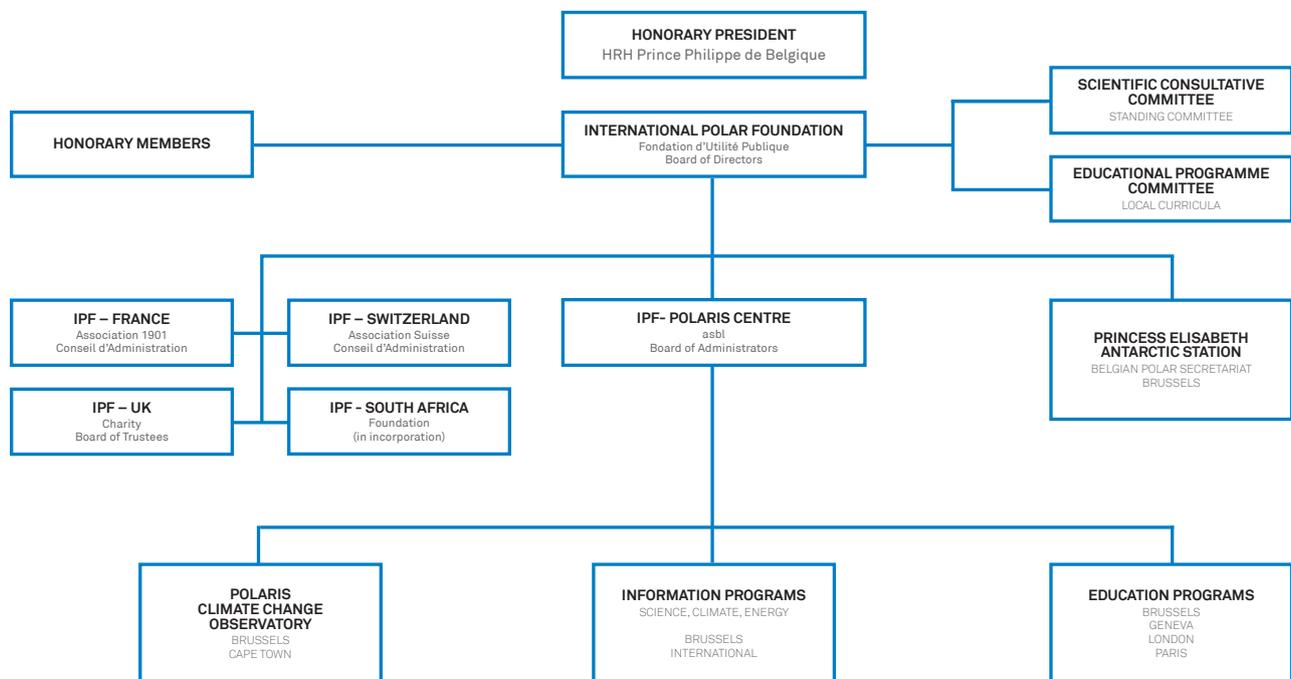
Jacques Brassinne de la Buissière - Vice-President IPF
President of the Brussels Museum of Polar History and Exploration

N.F.D. Johnson-Amin - Vice-President IPF
Environmental Chemist, Global Strategies Director

François-Xavier Huberlant - CEO Airpar

Philippe Bodson - Engineer & MBA, Independent Director

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www.educapoles.org
www.sciencepoles.org
www.explorapoles.org
www.antarcticstation.org

INTERNATIONAL POLAR FOUNDATION OFFICES

The International Polar Foundation headquarters are located at the heart of Europe, in Brussels, Belgium. We also have regional offices in the UK, France, Switzerland, Luxemburg and South Africa

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FOCUS: MARKING TEN YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENT



October 3rd, 2012 saw the International Polar Foundation mark ten years of achievements, in the presence of their Royal Highnesses Prince Philippe and Princess Mathilde of Belgium, and His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco, along with 300 guests at the Foundation's gala dinner.

The event, which took place at Tour & Taxis in Brussels, welcomed honorary members of the foundation - including renowned polar scientists - along with international dignitaries and corporate executives.

The International Polar Foundation was created in 2002 by Belgian polar explorer Alain Hubert and scientists André Berger and Hugo Declair, as a foundation for the public good tasked with connecting science and society.

Ten years later, the Foundation continues to raise the profile of polar scientific research, in order to advance human knowledge, and to promote informed action on climate change and the development of a sustainable society.

"It was with great pleasure that the Foundation welcomed our honorary president His Royal Highness Prince Philippe of Belgium to celebrate our first decade", said International Polar Foundation President Alain Hubert. "Thanks to His support, and the support of our partners and friends, the International Polar Foundation has accomplished goals far beyond our own expectations, and we look forward to another ten years of working for a more sustainable future".

During its first ten years, the Foundation has developed audacious landmark projects, including the revolutionary zero emission polar research station Princess Elisabeth Antarctica, the annual Arctic Futures Symposium, the Class Zero Emission education programme, and the planned network of Polaris Climate Change Observatories.

During the gala evening, the 2012 InBev-Baillet Latour Antarctica Fellowship was awarded to German glaciologist Dr. Reinhard Drews.

ACTIVITIES OF THE IPF

ANTARCTICA

The International Polar Foundation is the Belgian Polar Secretariat's appointed Antarctic operator and manager of the revolutionary zero emission Princess Elisabeth Antarctica station, providing logistics and infrastructure support to scientists from the international research community who come to work in Antarctica.

BELARE 2011-2012

For the 2011-2012 season, the Princess Elisabeth Antarctica team provided professional support to 20 geologists, glaciologists, microbiologists, seismologists and meteorologists from Belgium, Germany, Japan and the US, ensuring they could work smoothly and safely in the harsh Antarctic conditions, in what would be the most logistically demanding season since operations began in 2008. In addition, further development of the Antarctic station's energy efficient zero emission systems was carried out, including an upgrade to higher capacity storage batteries, producing an estimated 25% increase in capacity.

BELARE 2012-2013

For the 2012-2013 BELARE season, Princess Elisabeth Antarctica was set to welcome 30 scientists working in the fields of atmospheric science, glaciology, meteorology, geology, and microbiology, from several different countries, including Belgium, Germany and Japan.

Planned projects include:

BELATMOS - Ozone, UV radiation and aerosols
- Belgian Royal Meteorological Institute

BELDIVA: Exploration of microbiology diversity,
National Institute of Polar Research, Japan

BE:WISE: Research on buttressing effects on
ice shelves, Université Libre de Bruxelles

GEAI: Polar 6 airborne survey, Alfred
Wegener Institute (Germany)

GIANT-LISSA: Dr Olivier Francis,
University of Luxembourg

ICECON: Understanding ice dynamics – led
by the Université Libre de Bruxelles

LGGE: Surface mass balance observations by
the International Polar Foundation on behalf
of Grenoble-based Laboratoire de Glaciologie
et Géophysique de l'Environnement, France

Micrometa: Search for microscopic
extraterrestrial dust, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

SAMBA: Meteorite search on the Nansen
Icefields, Université Libre de Bruxelles,
Vrije Universiteit Brussel, National
Institute of Polar Research, Japan

STATION MAINTENANCE

Amongst the 2012-2013 maintenance projects at Princess Elisabeth Antarctica was the complete refurbishing and reinforcement of the station's entrance hall and the technical areas. While the main building is positioned on a granite ridge, both entrance hall and the technical areas are integrated into the ice. After extensive work by the Princess Elisabeth team, the entrance hall is now mounted on flexible foundations and reinforced against the pressure of the moving Antarctic ice cap for the next twenty years.

The team also carried out remodelling of the station's water treatment system, turning it into one of the most advanced in Antarctica. The station's membrane bioreactor is a unique prototype installation, based on space technology, which can provide a recycled water supply for 20-30 people. A new 30-meter high Antenna mast for radio communications was installed, along with a new model of wind turbine for on-site testing.

ARCTIC FUTURES 2012

Held each year in the heart of Brussels, the Arctic Futures Symposium is the International Polar Foundation's high profile initiative to raise public interest in future development of the Arctic regions, to promote dialogue between Arctic stakeholders and empowerment of inhabitants of the Circumpolar North.

The interdisciplinary event brings together Arctic stakeholders, prominent international policymakers, scientists, academics, Arctic indigenous peoples and industry representatives for open and frank discussions on the future of the Arctic.

Arctic Futures focuses on building cooperation and dialogue, and explores matters such as the development of shipping, search and rescue capabilities, indigenous affairs, transport and infrastructure, scientific research and monitoring, ecosystem stewardship and management of natural resource development.

Held on October 4th and 5th, the 2012 edition of the international multidisciplinary symposium was held at the Committee of the Regions Jacques Delors building in Brussels' EU Quarter. The event drew high-level speakers, such as the opening session's presentations by HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, EU Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Maria Damanaki, and Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders.

Charles Emmerson, a Senior Fellow at Chatham House and author of *The Future History of the Arctic*, led a panel discussion on governance that featured Canadian Ambassador to the EU David Plunkett, five of the eight Arctic Council Senior Arctic Officials, and representatives from the Russian and American missions to the EU. The symposium addressed topics such as the future of energy resources in the Arctic, management of Arctic marine resources, improving maritime safety in the region, and the importance of long-term scientific monitoring in the Arctic.

The symposium was organised by International Polar Foundation, with sponsorship from

Belgium's Federal Public Service for Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, with the support of the EU Committee of the Regions, the European External Action Service, and the European Commission.

"The success of Arctic Futures demonstrates how international cooperation and dialogue are key to achieving sustainable Arctic policies that benefit the people that live work there, to protect the region's fragile ecosystem and to explore the way forward for scientific research and the development of natural resources."- Nighat Amin, International Polar Foundation Vice-President.



www.arcticfutures.org

CLASS ZERO EMISSION

During 2012, the International Polar Foundation's pedagogical workshop, Class Zero Emission continued to provide school age children and teachers with up-to-date science knowledge on polar science and climate change.

Over the course of the year, Class Zero Emission gave 26 classes to 555 French-speaking students, 49 classes to 1053 Dutch speakers, and one solely for teachers.

The January 2013 rollout of the mobile Class Zero Emission UK was also put in motion; aimed exposing the Polar Regions and climate change to students and children from three years old and up, CZE UK will tour science centers and on public venues throughout Britain.

WORKSHOP ON ENERGY AND POLAR REGIONS IN BRUSSELS

From November 12, 2012 until June 2013, the International Polar Foundation offered a "Pôles Energies" interactive workshop in Brussels, based on Princess Elisabeth Antarctica. The workshop was aimed at Belgian French speaking classes from 10 to 18 years of age; in 2013, the Dutch version, 'Poolenergie' is planned.

MONTREAL IPY2012 CONFERENCE: FROM KNOWLEDGE TO URGENT ACTION?

In April 2012, the International Polar Foundation joined two thousand polar researchers, policy-makers, and representatives of industry, education, non-government organizations and circumpolar communities who came together in Montreal for the third International Polar Year conference. The Foundation's education team actively participated the PolarEDUCATORS Workshop and the Public Engagement strand, during which Sandra Vanhove and Isabelle Dufour presented on polar education, and facilitated panels and events.

POLAREducATORS WORKSHOP

Prior to the Montreal meeting, the International Polar Foundation facilitated two workshops on experiments related to the consequences of melting of land and sea ice at a two-day professional development workshop, [PolarEDUCATORS](#).

POLAR EDUCATORS INTERNATIONAL

The Foundation's Sandra Vanhove became a member of the steering committee of a new global professional network founded in 2012 for those that educate in, for, and about the Polar Regions, Polar Educators International - a legacy project of the International Polar Year.

APECS

In October 2012, the Foundation's Education team presented the scientific and "zero emission" aspects of Princess Elisabeth Antarctica to young polar scientists during two events organised by APECS (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists).

POLAR QUEST

During the 2011-2012 Antarctic season, Belgian schoolteacher Koen Meirlaen spent a month at Princess Elisabeth Antarctica, where communicated the work of polar scientists to students back in Belgium, at Leiepoort Deinze Campus Sint-Hendrik School after they won the Polar Quest contest, by designing a project increase awareness of teachers, parents and students on sustainable development.

ITALIAN SUMMER SCHOOL

The Foundation participated in the second edition of the Polar Summer School for teachers, organized by the Italian Museo Nazionale dell'Antartide between 16th and 20th of July 2012.

The summer school trains 12 Italian teachers to address polar science topics in their classrooms. Education officer Isabelle Noirot presented the Foundation's projects and held a workshop featuring experiments related to climate change.

U4ENERGY

Education officer Isabelle Noirot lead the Foundation's second collaboration with U4Energy, an initiative funded through the Intelligent Energy Europe programme, and managed by European Schoolnet. U4Energy is a competition for teachers and pupils to learn about energy efficiency, by performing actions to reduce daily consumption in their schools.

INSIDE THE STATION

Inaugurated in December 2012, the International Polar Foundation's *Inside the Station* takes visitors interactive journey inside Princess Elisabeth Antarctica, the world's first zero emission polar research station. People of all ages are able to experience what it's like to live and work in the frozen south, and to learn about polar science and the continuing evolution of the wind and solar-powered centre for international polar scientific research.

"In 2007, an incredible 35,000 people came to Tour & Taxis to see Princess Elisabeth Antarctica for themselves before it was shipped south to Antarctica", said International Polar Foundation Executive Director Thierry Touchais. "It has been our pleasure to welcome the public to once again share in the success story that is Princess Elisabeth Antarctica".

Inside the Station features reconstructions, giving visitors the opportunity to experience firsthand:

- The technologies used at Princess Elisabeth Antarctica- the electrical smart grid, the renewable energy systems, and more
- The incredible Antarctic environment - including glaciers, rugged mountains, blue ice fields and exotic wildlife
- Logistics - the arduous yet exciting journey to the Antarctic - using satellites, aircraft, ships, and tractors
- The scientific programmes at Princess Elisabeth

Antarctica, which help us to learn more about our planet, its climate and how it works

- Daily Life - Working, eating, sleeping and managing energy use in the remote and frozen South
- Princess Elisabeth Antarctica as an example of how we can deal with climate change - and the actions we can take at a personal and community level to respond to this challenge.

- Inside the Station coincided with Belgium's Antarctic Research mission (BELARE 2012-2013), during which some 30 scientists from Belgium and other countries lived and work at Princess Elisabeth Antarctica.

PCCO CAPE TOWN

- August 2012 - IPF and V&A Waterfront sign a MoU giving IPF the authorization and the exclusivity to develop the PCCO and other projects on the Collier Jetty.

This agreement is for one year but has been negotiated already to be extent for another year.

- Michel de Wouters and IPF have recruited Guy Lundy, former CEO of Accelerate Cape Town, to pursue the development of the local public and corporate network.

- We had extensive meetings with authorities and organizations to discuss the project.

We realized that the concept of the PCCO should be adapted to the local profile but also to the actual global economic situation. We put the focus of creating partnership with other parties who could be present in the PCCO or on the Jetty.

- Meeting in Johannesburg with SKA, Square Kilometer Array, gigantic astronomy project allotted to South Africa in April 2012. This project is a multi-billion Rand project to be set in the Karoo desert. They are highly interested to have a visibility in Cape Town. A synergy with PCCO looks a strong opportunity for them but also for IPF with a heavy local partnership linked to Science, to Education and with an "dream" and popular interest.

- Visit and meeting with the CEO of the Maropeng Museum near Johannesburg.

Very interesting experience and an unconventional approach of what should be a attraction.

- Visit and meetings with the CEO of the Table Mountain Cable Way.

Interesting analyze of what is an attraction in Cape Town.

Importance of new indoor attractions which are missing in CPT.

The Cable Way is a private company and their development is limited today because they are submitted to environmental and heritage restriction.

They are potentially interested to work with us.

- Different meetings with potential VIP's or media figures in South Africa to discuss about "paarainage".

- From the last term of 2012, IPF has rent an office in Waterfront. We needed a place to work and to welcome visitors.

- Meeting with University of Western Cape and their new department for Hydrogen energy research. Also willing to be part of the project.

- Permanent consultancy with ARUP, GAPP and V&A Waterfront to update the strategy and work about the concept to prepare a general workshop.

- We have decided that we are ready now to hold a workshop with all the parties involved in the development. The workshop will be held in 2013 with architects, developpers, V&A W, engineering consultants, potential sponsors or investors, field specialists.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

DR REINHARD DREWS RECEIVES INBEV-BAILLET LATOUR ANTARCTICA FELLOWSHIP



On October 3rd 2012, German glaciologist Dr Reinhard Drews received the prestigious €150,000 InBev-Baillet Latour Antarctica Fellowship, from His Royal Highness Prince Philippe of Belgium, for his proposal to investigate how the potential disintegration of Antarctic floating ice shelves could contribute to increased ice flow from glaciers, and a rise in global sea levels.

A joint initiative between the International Polar Foundation and the InBev-Baillet Latour Fund, with the support of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the InBev-Baillet Latour Antarctica Fellowship promotes science and scientific excellence in Antarctica by young scientists under 35. The fellowship recognises the importance of science carried out in Antarctica for improving the understanding of the Earth system, and encourages scientific research at, or close to Princess Elisabeth Antarctica.

Under the Fellowship, Dr. Drews will carry out two field campaigns in Antarctica. He travelled to Princess Elisabeth Antarctica during the 2012-2013 BELARE season to carry out the first part of his BE:WISE work in the field.

CITY OF GENT RECEIVES INTERNATIONAL POLAR FOUNDATION PRIZE AT BELGIAN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

To mark UN World Environment Day on June 5th 2012, International Polar Foundation president Alain Hubert presented the City of Gent with an award for initiatives that make a significant impact against climate change, for the city project 'From aerial thermography to roof insulation', as part of the 7th Belgian Energy and Environment Awards..

BRUSSELS' MANNEKEN-PIS BECOMES A POLAR EXPLORER

Brussel's world-famous icon, the mischievous Manneken-Pis statue of the "little peeing boy", became an Arctic and Antarctic adventurer on October 8th 2012, to mark ten years since the founding of the International Polar Foundation. The statue was dressed in a miniature polar expedition suit presented by Belgian polar explorer and Foundation president Alain Hubert.

CONFERENCES AND PARTICIPATION

The Foundation's staff presented its work at several Belgian and International conferences and events in the course of 2012:

The International Polar Foundation became a member of the Antarctic Ocean Alliance, a coalition that has identified 19 key areas that warrant protection as a network of designated, no-take marine reserves that would cover 40% of Antarctica's Southern Ocean. the guest of its partner SWIFT, giving conferences on "Finance and Climate change" and taking part in the seminars "Innotribe" and "Banks for a Better World".

The Foundation was also present at the Paris Palais de la Découverte on February 15th, where Princess Elisabeth Antarctica was the focal point of the launch of the 'Mardis durables du Palais', a series of round tables on sustainable energy launched with the opening of the EU's FP7 SCICOM "Energy Island" exhibition.

ONLINE OUTREACH

Over the course of 2012, the International Polar Foundation's five websites received a total 261,130 unique visitors, serving 955,074 pages to a worldwide audience.

- antarcticstation.org: 52.09% increase in unique visitors compared to 2011
- educapoles.org: 24.15% increase in unique visitors compared to 2011
- explorapoles.org: 26.73% increase in unique visitors compared to 2011
- polarfoundation.org: 4.93% increase in unique visitors compared to 2011
- sciencepoles.org: 23.47% increase in unique visitors compared to 2011

On average that's an increase of 26.27% compared to 2011.

POLARFOUNDATION.ORG

The International Polar Foundation's principal website communicates the initiatives, projects, and events, that form the Foundation's mission to connect science and society.

Polarfoundation.org speaks directly to the general public and features movies, picture galleries, news items and press releases.

In 2012, polarfoundation.org served 102,615 pages to 25,312 unique international visitors. The top ten countries were Belgium, United States, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Canada, India, Australia, Switzerland and Spain.

ANTARCTICSTATION.ORG

Featuring the International Polar Foundation's flagship project, Princess Elisabeth Antarctica the world's first zero emission polar research base. The website keeps the general public and the scientific community up-to-date with the day-to-day operations, science projects, and the evolution of the remarkable renewable energy systems and smart grid being used at the station.

The site features regular news updates and picture galleries videos, project updates, as well as interviews with team members and international polar re-searchers.

In 2012, the antarcticstation.org website served a total of 227,646 pages to 49,798 unique visitors. The site has a broad International audience, but with and a strong focus on Belgian visitors. Top 10 countries arranged by the number of visits: Belgium, United States, United Kingdom, Germany, France, Canada, Netherlands, Australia, Spain and India.

SCIENCEPOLES.ORG

Dedicated to raising global public awareness of polar science, the Science-Poles.org platform supports polar research institutions and scientists in the communication of their research findings. By clearly explaining and demystifying complex scientific issues, the website contributes significantly to the Foundation's mission to connect science and society.

- Catering to policy makers as well as the general public, Sciencepoles.org features:
- news updates on recent findings and publications,
- in-depth interviews with prominent members of the polar research community,
- feature galleries on polar environments and research,
- picture galleries of polar landscapes, logistics, and scientific fieldwork,
- a detailed calendar of polar research-related events.

In 2012, SciencePoles.org attracted 115,291 pages to 51,025 unique visitors. The site has a very broad International audience, with visitors from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Belgium, France, Italy, Germany, India and Spain. SciencePoles publications in 2012

EDUCAPOLES.ORG

EducaPoles.org brings together the International Polar Foundation's educational and multimedia tools, with the missions of informing the teaching community, raising awareness of the poles' importance as an early warning system and unique laboratory, and mobilising people, by providing the means to take informed action against climate change.

Aimed at teachers, future teachers, and all those involved in education, Edu-caPoles.org offers pedagogical dossiers, flash animations, videos, picture galleries, tales and ready-made contents such as quizzes, scientific experiments, and classroom activities.

EducaPoles.org served a total of 438,754 pages in 3 languages to 110,206 unique visitors in 2012, led by France, Belgium, United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Switzerland, Australia, India and Morocco

Breakdown of EducaPoles visitors by languages:

- French: 55,51%
- Dutch: 9,82%
- English: 28,79%

In 2012, a total 7,917 pedagogical dossiers were downloaded. If we assume that each dossier was shared with on average of 15 students, then around 118,755 students were reached.

Breakdown of downloads per language, for 7,917 Downloads

- French downloads: 5,724 - 72.30%
- English downloads: 891 - 14.69%
- Dutch downloads: 1,030 - 13.01%

EXPLORAPOLES.ORG

Dedicated to Arctic and Antarctic expeditions, Explorapoles.org uses polar adventures as a means to raise awareness, especially within younger generations, of the Earth's current situation and future fate, and the evolution of our understanding of the Polar Regions.

The website follows polar expeditions in the Arctic (from mid-February until the end of June) and the Antarctic (from mid-November until the end of February), and has already covered hundreds of expeditions and featured many accomplished polar explorers.

In 2012, ExploraPoles.org delivered 70,768 pages to 24,789 unique visitors, mainly from the United Kingdom, United States, Australia, France, Canada, Germany, Belgium, Norway, Italy and Spain.

MEDIA RELATIONS

Raising the international media profile of the International Polar Foundation Princess Elisabeth Antarctica and Arctic Futures was a major goal for the communications team in 2012. This project was set in train during spring and summer 2012, and came to fruition during the 2012-2013 BELARE season, with high levels of coverage in national and international media, not only in Belgium, but also in EU media in Brussels, the Netherlands, Brazil, Germany, Russia, China, France, Italy, the USA, Canada, Australia, China, Taiwan, New Zealand, Monaco, Ireland and the UK, and others.

This enlarged global awareness of the Foundation and Princess Elisabeth Antarctica has led to new relationships with media worldwide, and has led to the Foundation become a "go to" source for journalists on polar issues.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The International Polar Foundation took a bold step forward into the world of social media in 2012, quickly establishing strong presences on Twitter, Facebook and Google+, with the Foundation, Princess Elisabeth Antarctica, SciencePoles, EducaPoles and ExploraPoles all being represented on Twitter.

As a result of the social media development, the work of the International Polar Foundation, including its operations at Princess Elisabeth Antarctica, are reaching many thousands of people who were previously unaware of the Foundation's work. This includes the media and the general public, while the Twitter accounts in particular are seeing strong connections developing with peers, such as polar scientists, the energy sector, academic institutions, NGOs and polar explorers, who have been enthusiastically "retweeting" the Foundation's message to their followers, all over the world.

www.twitter.com/polarfoundation
www.facebook.com/intpolarfoundation
www.twitter.com/antarcticbase
www.twitter.com/sciencepoles
www.twitter.com/educapoles
www.twitter.com/explorapoles

VISITS PER COUNTRY

Polarfoundation.org

Country / Territory	Visits	% of Total (34,615)
Belgium	10,240	 29.58%
United States	3,686	 10.65%
United Kingdom	3,178	 9.18%
France	2,742	 7.92%
Germany	1,325	 3.83%
Canada	1,277	 3.69%
India	867	 2.50%
Australia	740	 2.14%
Switzerland	668	 1.93%
Spain	638	 1.84%

Antarcticstation.org

Country / Territory	Visits	% of Total (77,354)
Belgium	25 333	 32,75 %
United States	10 721	 13,86 %
United Kingdom	4 540	 5,87 %
Germany	4 284	 5,54 %
France	3 741	 4,84 %
Canada	3 225	 4,17 %
Netherlands	1 690	 2,18 %
Australia	1 667	 2,16 %
Spain	1 506	 1,95 %
India	1 353	 1,75 %

Educapoles.org

Country / Territory	Visits	% of Total (130,804)
France	53,427	 40.85%
Belgium	17,842	 13.64%
United States	13,212	 10.10%
Canada	7,286	 5.57%
United Kingdom	5,223	 3.99%
Netherlands	4,098	 3.13%
Switzerland	3,154	 2.41%
Australia	2,666	 2.04%
India	2,381	 1.82%
Morocco	1,728	 1.32%

Sciencepoles.org

Country / Territory	Visits	% of Total (57,909)
United States	19,827	 34,24%
United Kingdom	5,173	 8,93%
Canada	4,594	 7,93%
Australia	2,864	 4,95%
Belgium	2,607	 4,50%
France	2,326	 4,02%
Italy	2,006	 3,46%
Germany	1,875	 3,24%
India	1,783	 3,08%
Spain	690	 1,19%

Explorapoles.org

Country / Territory	Visits	% of Total (28,138)
United Kingdom	5,293	 18.81%
United States	4,741	 16.85%
Australia	2,359	 8.38%
France	1,783	 6.34%
Canada	1,421	 5.05%
Germany	1,357	 4.82%
Belgium	1,103	 3.92%
Norway	818	 2.91%
Italy	763	 2.71%
Spain	616	 2.19%

PUBLICATIONS

SCIENCEPOLES

InBev-Baillet Latour Antarctica Fellowship:
Promoting Research of Young Polar Scientists
[01.02.2012](#)

Björn-Martin Sinnhuber:
Explaining Arctic Ozone Depletion
[02.03.2012](#)

Alexander Robinson:
Improving predictions of future
Greenland Ice Sheet melt
[18.04.2012](#)

Alexander Robinson:
Consequences of a warming Arctic on the
Greenland Ice Sheet and beyond
[27.04.2012](#)

Jiping Liu:
Linking Arctic sea ice decline to cold and snowy winters
[26.06.2012](#)

Robert Bingham on the newly discovered
Ferrigno Rift Valley in West Antarctica
[30.07.2012](#)

Nerilie Abram:
detailing 15,000 years of Antarctic
Peninsula climate history
[10.10.2012](#)

Katherine Leonard:
How warming oceans might be affecting
ice shelves in East Antarctica
[08.11.2012](#)

China spreads its polar wings:
research programmes at Kunlun Station
[27.11.2012](#)

China spreads its polar wings:
investing in infrastructure
[05.12.2012](#)

EDUCAPOLES

Designed for 3rd grade students, this book, in French and Dutch helps students and teachers to work in an active way on climate change and the role of the polar regions.

Class Zero Emission:
Expériences sur les changements climatiques

Class Zero Emission:
Experimenten Rond Klimaatverandering

FINANCIALS 2012

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT	2010	2011	2012
	EUROS	EUROS	EUROS
Revenue	5 401 759	4 439 126	5 070 612
Expenses	-5 513 023	-4 890 984	5 859 322
Result from activities	-111 265	-451 858	-788 710
Excess from Continuing Operations	-54 799	-485 749	-508 777
Excess (Deficit) Before Income Tax	-50 841	-310 486	-412 437
Excess (Deficit) of the Period	-50 841	-310 621	-412 437
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET			
Non-Current Assets	11 945	12 676	275 330
Current Assets	6 456 036	7 509 167	5 559 895
Total Assets	6 467 981	7 521 843	5 835 225
Equity	25 000	25 000	25 000
Retained Earnings	887 414	573 219	60 786
Accounts Payable	5 555 567	6 923 624	5 749 439
Total Liabilities	6 467 981	7 521 843	5 835 225

