



# PICES POC Committee

## Action Plan 2006

### **Mission**

To promote and coordinate physical and geochemical oceanography, atmospheric science, and interdisciplinary research in the northern North Pacific. Impacts of climate variability and physical dynamics in coastal, shelf and open ocean areas will be considered with emphasis on processes that relate to living marine resources and environmental quality.

Broad scientific issues that POC wants to address in the next five years are

- coordination of carbon-related issues in the North Pacific;
- evaluation of climate change projections from the 4<sup>th</sup> assessment report of IPCC.

Key scientific questions, issues, or topics that POC plans to address in the next five years are

- What are the major circulation and physical/geochemical changes that the latest climate change models foresee for the North Pacific and its marginal seas?
- Providing a summary of these changes in a manner that will be useful to other PICES committees and groups.

### **Strategy of the POC Committee**

In executing its mission, POC will address each of the five central themes of PICES: (A) Advancing scientific knowledge; (B) Applying scientific knowledge; (C) Fostering partnerships; (D) Ensuring a modern organization in support of PICES activities; and (E) Distributing PICES scientific knowledge. Specific goals within each of these themes are as follows.

### **Theme A. Advancing scientific knowledge**

#### **Goal 1. Understand the physical, chemical, and biological functioning of marine ecosystems**

**Action 1.1** At upcoming PICES meetings, convene sessions and workshops that relate physical and geochemical oceanography and climate to marine ecosystems.

**Task 1.1.1** Convene session(s) at PICES XV related to the theme of Boundary Current Ecosystems.

**Task 1.1.2** Facilitate future workshops of POC subsidiary groups such as the CREAMS advisory panel and the Carbon & Climate Section.

- Task 1.1.3** Convene a POC paper session at all PICES annual meetings, even in years when it is also convening a special session.
- Task 1.1.4** Convene a workshop on IPCC climate changes projections at PICES XV and sessions at future PICES annual meetings.
- Task 1.1.5** Convene a workshop and summer school in summer 2006 “Model-model, Model-data intercomparison for the East/Japan Sea”.

**Goal 2. Understand and quantify the impacts of human activities and climate on marine ecosystems**

- Action 2.1** Study the climate projections described in the 4<sup>th</sup> assessment report of IPCC and, in collaboration with other committees or groups, their impact on marine ecosystems.
  - Task 2.1.1** Initiate a new working group, tentatively titled “Evaluation of Climate Change Projections”.
  - Task 2.1.2** Provide an ensemble of future climate forcing to CFAME.
  - Task 2.1.3** Co-convene interim workshop on scenario exploration in 2007 with CFAME.

**Goal 3. Provide advice on methods and tools to guide scientific activities**

- Action 3.1** Recommend standards for CO<sub>2</sub> measurements and reporting.
  - Task 3.1.1** Publish “Guide to best practices for oceanic CO<sub>2</sub> measurements and data reporting”.

**Theme B. Applying scientific knowledge**

**Goal 4. Provide scientific advice towards wise use of the North Pacific Ocean**

- Action 4.1** Publish reports and workshop proceedings from POC subsidiary groups.
  - Task 4.1.1** Publish “Guide to best practices for oceanic CO<sub>2</sub> measurements and data reporting”.
  - Task 4.1.2** Publish interim and final results from the new climate working group.
  - Task 4.1.3** Publish results from CREAMS advisory panel.

**Theme C. Fostering partnerships**

**Goal 5. Promote collaboration with organizations, scientific programs, and stakeholders that are relevant to the PICES goals**

- Action 5.1** Collaborate with organizations with goals related to POC committee and its subsidiary groups.
  - Task 5.1.1** Coordinate North Pacific CO<sub>2</sub> issues through the new CC-S section with international projects such as CLIVAR, IMBER, SOLAS, and GEOTRACES.

- Task 5.1.2** Continue support for the North Pacific Data Buoy Advisory Panel.
- Task 5.1.3** Continue support for PICES-CREAMS advisory panel.
- Task 5.1.4** Continue support for NEAR-GOOS and the GOOS Regional Alliances Networking Development (GRAND) project.
- Task 5.1.5** Convene a workshop and summer school in summer 2006 “Model-model, Model-data intercomparison for the East/Japan Sea”.
- Task 5.1.6** Collaborate with CLIVAR and other international programs on the new climate working group.
- Task 5.1.7** Continue working relationship with the Pacific Coastal Ocean Observing System ([www.pacoos.org](http://www.pacoos.org)). (PICES is an ex-officio board member, with Skip McKinnell presently acting as representative.)

#### **Goal 6. Promote collaboration among scientists within PICES**

- Action 6.1** Encourage active participation from all PICES countries in the POC committee and its subsidiary groups.
  - Task 6.1.1** Include participants from all PICES nations in new climate working group and Carbon & Climate section
  - Task 6.1.2** Provide logistical and minor travel support for a 3-day symposium to be held in 2006 in Canada to celebrate the 50th anniversary of sampling along Line-P and at Station Papa.

### **Theme D. Ensuring a modern organization in support of PICES activities**

#### **Goal 7. Provide an effective infrastructure to support PICES programs**

- Action 7.1** Provide universal access to data sets generated by individual investigators in course of evaluation of climate change projections.
  - Task 7.1.1** Find computer resources in member country laboratories where large data sets can be staged for access via PICES web page.
  - Task 7.1.2** Coordinate standards for data format with TCODE.

### **Theme E. Distributing PICES scientific information**

#### **Goal 8. Make the scientific products of PICES accessible**

- Action 8.1** Maintain an up-to-date web page, archive data products, and publish reports of POC subsidiary groups.
  - Task 8.1.1** Publish “Guide to best practices for oceanic CO<sub>2</sub> measurements and data reporting”.
  - Task 8.1.2** Publish interim and final results from the new climate working group.
  - Task 8.1.3** Where possible, include electronic manuscripts (or links) arising from PICES/POC collaborations on PICES web page.