**Public Engagement with Antarctic Research:**

**Global mapping survey**

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET**

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## Invitation

You are invited to participate in a research study examining public engagement with Antarctic research.

## What is the purpose of this study?

This study aims to develop a baseline understanding of the type and extent of current public engagement activities within the Antarctic sector. The University of Tasmania has developed this survey in collaboration with the Standing Committee on Humanities and Social Sciences (SC-HASS) within the Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research (SCAR). We will use the results of this survey to identify future research priorities for SC-HASS’s Public Engagement with Antarctic Research Action Group, also known as PEAR.

## How is the study being funded?

PEAR receives funding for its activities through the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research, which is available to support aspects of the study if required. This study has not attracted any additional external funding.

## Why have I been invited to participate?

You are eligible to take part in this study because of your professional involvement in the Antarctic sector.

Your participation is voluntary, and your choice to take part or not take part will not affect your relationship with the PEAR Action Group.

## What will I be asked to do?

In this survey you will be asked to share your knowledge and opinions about current public engagement activities in the Antarctic sector. The survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete, and all responses will be anonymous.

## Are there any possible benefits from participation in this study?

There is no financial reimbursement for completing this survey, but your participation will help us to identity future research priorities for the PEAR Action Group. The outcomes of this survey may also provide the Antarctic sector with information to support the development of future public engagement strategies.

## Are there any possible risks from participation in this study?

The main risk associated with this study is mild inconvenience, as the survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. All responses will be anonymous and the survey itself does not cover any personal or sensitive topics.

## What if I change my mind during or after the study?

You are free to withdraw at any time while completing the survey. If you do withdraw before completing the survey, your data will not be included in the study. Because this survey is anonymous it will not be possible for you to withdraw from the study once you complete the survey.

## What will happen to the data when this study is over?

Data will be non-identifiable. It will be stored on a University of Tasmania server for five years from the date of the study’s completion. This server is password-protected and only accessible to the researchers of this study. At the end of those five years, the data may be uploaded onto the University of Tasmania’s Research Data Portal so that it can be accessed for relevant research in the future.

## How will the results of the study be published?

All data in this study will be anonymous. Data from this study will be discussed within the PEAR Action Group and may be published via presentations at conferences within the Antarctic sector as well in journals relating to Antarctic research and/or public engagement. If you wish to be notified on the results of this study, please feel free to contact us.

## What if I have questions about this study?

If you have any queries, concerns or issues with this study, please feel free to contact us:

* Katie Marx at katie.marx@utas.edu.au
* Elizabeth Leane at elizabeth.leane@utas.edu.au

This study has been approved by the University of Tasmania Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study, you can contact the Executive Officer of the HREC (Tasmania) Network on (03) 6226 6254 or email human.ethics@utas.edu. The Executive Officer is the person nominated to receive complaints from research participants. You will need to quote H0028128.

1. **How can I agree to be involved?**

By participating in this survey you consent to be involved in this study.

**Thank you for your time**