

Polish Activity in Arctic marine research in 2009

Polish activity in Arctic marine research in 2009 was related to studies coordinated by Institute of Oceanology Polish Academy of Sciences (IOPAS). The Institute continued summer research onboard r/v "Oceania" in the Norwegian, Barents and Greenland Seas. The twenty third cruise (since 1987) contained the long term program of CTD, ADCP, aerosol, optical, acoustical and suspended matter measurements as well as zooplankton and phytoplankton sampling. The main purpose of "Oceania" cruise was to estimate Atlantic fluxes carried by the Norwegian Atlantic Current and the West Spitsbergen Current, and variability of exchanges with surrounding waters. Biological sampling was related to projects on long term variability in zooplankton and ocean climate, and interactions between climate/anthropogenic forcing and ocean biogeochemistry. The bulk of hydrological data will be delivered to DAMOCLES data base and CLIC programs. The second task of „Oceania” voyage included ecological and biological studies in Spitsbergen fjords with emphasis on long term observations in Kongsfjorden and sampling for "All taxa biodiversity inventory" in Hornsund (project ArcEco-MARBEF EU 6th FP and Census of Marine Life ArcOD program). The land based marine research was carried out in cooperation with researchers from University of Gdansk and was based in Polish Polar Station (Institute of Geophysics PAS) in Hornsund. A suit of marine ecosystem studies was conducted in Hornsund as a part of Polish National Polar Program (<http://www.iopan.gda.pl/projects/biosphere/>). IOPAS continued collaboration in projects such as international ALKEKONGE (seabirds and changing marine climate), ATP (Arctic tipping Points) and others.