

Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources

CCAMLR

Contribution on the topic of “Capacity building and the transfer of marine technology: New developments, approaches and challenges” pursuant to General Assembly resolution 79/144 of 12 December 2024, entitled “Oceans and the law of the sea” available as document A/79/L.37.

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The Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources is an international agreement established to conserve Antarctic marine living resources and is an integral part of the Antarctic Treaty system. The Convention applies to all marine living resources within the Antarctic marine ecosystem. The objective of the Convention, set out in Article II, is the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources, where the term ‘conservation’ includes rational use. The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) gives effect to the Convention’s objective and its principles of conservation. Information on the Commission’s activities is available on www.ccamlr.org.

CCAMLR has put special focus on capacity-building initiatives through two Funds.

In 2009 the Commission established the General Science Capacity Fund to secure wider participation, not least from young scientists, in the work of the Scientific Committee, to promote burden sharing among Members and build capacity within the Scientific Committee, assisting with the collection, study and exchange of information relating to the marine living resources to which the Convention applies.

The Fund has supported 21 [scholarships](#) to early career scientists to support their engagement with established CCAMLR scientists and the Scientific Committee’s working groups. The fund also supports Conveners of scientific working groups and specific projects focussed on knowledge transfer.

In 2019, CCAMLR established the [General Capacity Building Fund](#) (GCBF), which has supported 17 travel grants and 3 specific project grants focused on knowledge transfer and technical development. The overall [objectives](#) of the Fund are to:

- (i) support all Contracting Parties, with priority given to all those Contracting Parties that are least effective in the implementation of their obligations under the Convention. This priority shall be afforded on the basis of evidence-based need in accordance with these guidelines
- (ii) create confidence and ability for Members to achieve the objectives of the Convention
- (iii) improve Members’ ability to contribute to the work of the Commission, and the Scientific Committee, their subsidiary bodies and the Secretariat
- (iv) improve the overall system of operation of CCAMLR
- (v) support the needs of individual Members
- (vi) increase knowledge sharing and expertise between CCAMLR Members emphasising the value of cooperation.

CCAMLR has used these funds as well as direct collaborations among Members to support the development of Member capacity in ecosystem monitoring programs, analytical capacity for stock assessments, training in the use of new technologies for taxonomic identification, and for the development of electronic technologies for monitoring fisheries operations and marine ecosystems.