

Ian Allison is a research scientist with the Australian Government's Antarctic Division, where he is leader of the Ice, Ocean, Atmosphere and Climate Programme. He has studied the Antarctic for over 35 years, participated in more than 25 research expeditions to the Antarctic, and published over 100 papers on Antarctic science. His current research interests include the interaction of sea ice with the atmosphere and ocean; the dynamics and mass budget of the East Antarctic ice sheet; melt, freezing and ocean circulation beneath floating ice shelves; and Antarctic weather and climate. Ian was active in the planning and co-ordination of a number of international programmes within the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) before his present involvement in the International Polar Year 2007-2008.