

## Supplemental Material S1: Full Acknowledgement List

The MEOP (Marine Mammals Exploring the Oceans Pole to Pole) international consortium aims to coordinate cooperation among several national programs to provide a comprehensive, quality-controlled database of oceanographic data obtained with animal telemetered devices. Fabien Roquet (Stockholm University, Sweden) leads the development of the MEOP-CTD database, with the invaluable help of Baptiste Picard (University of La Rochelle, France), and he is currently acting as chairman of the MEOP consortium.

Here we provide a list of institutions that have made critical contributions to the funding of CTD-SRDLs and to the logistics of seal deployments in the Southern Ocean, as part of the MEOP consortium.

**South Africa:** Nico de Bruyn and Marthán Bester (University of Pretoria) are leading the Marion Island Marine Mammal Program. The South African Department of Science and Technology provided financial support through the South African National Research Foundation (NRF), within the South African National Antarctic Program (SANAP), and the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) provided logistical support at Marion Island. Anne M. Treasure is currently supported by the Claude Leon Foundation and previously the NRF.

**France:** The French Polar Institute (IPEV) provided financial and logistical support for fieldwork in Kerguelen and Adélie Land. The Centre National d'Étude Spatiales (CNES-TOSCA) provided financial support from the very beginning of the project. The oceanographic data collected by Antarctic seals (mainly Southern Elephant and Weddell seals) are collected as part of SO-MEMO (Observing System—Mammals as samplers of the Ocean Environment, PI C. Guinet, CEBC-CNRS-ULR), which is supported by CNRS, CNES, IPEV, and the Total Foundation. Logistic and funding support was also provided by CORIOLIS, SHOM, and the program BOUSSOLE to calibrate the CTD tags prior to deployments on seals. Further oceanographic data are collected from sea turtles equipped in French Guiana by D. Chevallier of the CNRS-UDS of the Département Ecologie, Physiologie et Ethologie of the Pluridisciplinaire Institut Hubert Curien (IPHC). Funding comes from Shell and CNES Guyane, with additional support from the ANTIDOT project (Pépinière Interdisciplinaire Guyane, Mission pour l'Interdisciplinarité, CNRS), French Guiana Regional Council, the EDF Foundation, and Fondation de France.

**Germany:** The Alfred-Wegener-Institut Helmholtz-Zentrum für Polar- und Meeresforschung provided financial and logistical support for the field campaigns to deploy satellite tags in the Weddell Sea, at Marion Island, and at King George Island/Isla 25 de Mayo. The resulting research campaigns were carried out in collaboration with and with support of the Mammal Research Institute, Department of Zoology and Entomology, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa, and the Instituto Antártico Argentino, Departamento Biología de Predadores Tope, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

**Brazil:** MEOP-BR (Marine Mammals Exploring the Oceans Pole to Pole - BR) was funded by the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation through the Brazilian National Research Council (Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico – CNPq, Grant № 520196/2006-6 to Mônica M.C. Muelbert); Mônica M.C. Muelbert is supported by a CAPES/PNPD Postdoctoral Fellowship.

**Australia:** The Australian Antarctic Division through the Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions (ANARE) supported this research. The study was carried out under ethics approval from the Australian Antarctic Animal Ethics Committee (AAS 2265, AAS 279, and AAS 43294) and the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service. The seal tracking data are collected by the Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS). IMOS is a national collaborative research infrastructure, supported by the Australian Government. It is operated by a consortium of institutions as an unincorporated joint venture, with the University of Tasmania as Lead Agent.

**Norway:** Main funding for tagging activities by Kit Kovacs, Christian Lydersen, and Andrew Lowther (Norwegian Polar Institute) and Martin Biuw and Ole Anders Nøst (Akvaplan-Niva) comes from the Norwegian Polar Institute and the Research Council of Norway. Fieldwork takes place at Svalbard, Lofoten, and Bouvet Island.

**United States:** Tagging activities, led by Dan Costa (University of California, Santa Cruz), Barbara Block (Hopkins Marine Station, Stanford University), and Jeremy Sterling and Josh London (NOAA Marine Mammal Laboratory), are mainly funded by the National Oceanographic Partnership Program, National Science Foundation Office of Polar Programs, and NOAA Antarctic Marine Living Resources Program. The developing US national animal telemetry (ATN) network aims at coordinating ocean observing capabilities based on the use of animal telemetry.

**United Kingdom:** The contribution of the UK to MEOP ranges from the development and production of oceanographic tags to the deployment of tags at several sites including South Georgia Island, the Weddell Antarctic coast, and Amundsen Bay. The main contributors to the MEOP consortium are currently Mike Fedak, Lars Boehme, and Phil Lovell (SMRU, University of St Andrews), Mike Meredith and Keith Nicholls (British Antarctic Survey), and Karen Heywood (University of East Anglia). The National Environment Research Council (UK) has provided extensive funding for the development and deployment of animal loggers, as part of programs such as the SEaOS, SAVEX or iSTAR projects.

**China:** In collaboration with Christophe Guinet, Gao Guoping (Shanghai Ocean University) is tagging seals in the Kerguelen Islands, with support from the Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration (China).

**Canada:** Financial support is provided by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.