



International Permafrost Association

Opening note

In this month's newsletter you find interesting report from permafrost meeting in Germany. We kindly thank the organizers of the meeting for providing space and time for exchange and updates from permafrost science, engineering and outreach. In addition, we are proud

to start the two new IPA Action Groups on Frozen Facts and Stories and Spatial Representation of Permafrost.

During the next weeks, please keep an eye on the ACOP website, regarding news from the

session chairs and regarding registration procedures.

Best wishes,

Isabelle and Gonçalo

IPA Action Group: Frozen Facts and Stories - Permafrost Visuals for Impactful Communication

"Frozen Facts and Stories" aims to advance effective and coordinated communication of permafrost research. Recognizing that science reaches its full impact only when results are shared clearly, our Action Group focuses on translating complex permafrost-related issues and implications into accessible formats for non-specialist audiences and decision-makers.

Bringing together experts from the ILLUQ, Permafrost Discovery Gateway and PeTCaT

projects, our initiative will develop visually-appealing, impactful communication products - ranging from story maps and infographics to presentation toolkits and educational materials. These will help convey permafrost research outcomes, societal relevance and adaptation options through clear visuals and concise narratives. A storytelling approach ensures that scientific insights connect with societal contexts and local experiences.

Over its two-year period (2026-2027), "Frozen Facts and Stories" aligns with the IPA's

mission to foster permafrost and climate literacy, and informed decision-making. Through joint workshops and shared infrastructure, the Action Group will amplify the reach and impact of permafrost research across disciplines and audiences.

Contact: Josefine Lenz (Josefine.Lenz@awi.de) and Michael Fritz (Michael.Fritz@awi.de), - Alfred Wegener Institute, Potsdam/Germany

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Co-Presidents:

Dr. Isabelle Gärtner-Roer and Prof. Gonçalo Vieira

Past-President:

Prof. Christopher Burn

Members:

Dr. Lukas Arenson, Dr. Kjersti Gishnås,

Dr. Fujun Niu, Ed Yarmak and Joseph Young

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Executive Director:

Dr. Lin Chen

Northwest Institute of Eco-Environment
and Resources

Chinese Academy of Sciences

secretariat@permafrost.org

www.permafrost.org



16th DACH Permafrost Conference

The 16th DACH Permafrost Conference was held from 21-24 January 2026 at the HVHS am Seddiner See near Potsdam, Germany. This international meeting serves as the central forum of the DACH Permafrost Union, a permanent working group of the German Society for Polar Research, and brings together researchers working on polar and mountain permafrost from Germany (D), Austria (A), Switzerland (CH), and beyond. In 2026, participants also joined from Sweden, the Czech Republic, Belgium, France, and Finland, highlighting the conference's growing international reach. The meeting provides a key platform for

scientific exchange across disciplines and career stages, from students and early-career scientists to established researchers.

Over four days, 101 participants engaged in a diverse and lively scientific programme addressing key challenges in contemporary permafrost research. Topics included permafrost thaw and its implications for greenhouse gas emissions, geomorphological and infrastructure-related hazards, ecosystem and carbon-cycle feedbacks, as well as advances in monitoring, modelling, and observational networks. The programme featured keynote lectures, oral and

poster sessions, and ample opportunities for discussion and networking.

The conference was complemented by several pre-conference and side activities, including the PermaCOST workshop, a PYRN-DACH-organised Early Career Researcher (ECR) workshop, and a GTN-P workshop. These events provided focused forums for collaboration, methodological exchange, and capacity building, underlining the strong commitment of the DACH Permafrost community to fostering international collaboration and supporting the next generation of permafrost scientists.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Co-Presidents:

Dr. Isabelle Gärtner-Roer and Prof. Gonçalo Vieira

Past-President:

Prof. Christopher Burn

Members:

Dr. Lukas Arenson, Dr. Kjersti Gislås,
Dr. Fujun Niu, Ed Yarmak and Joseph Young

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Executive Director:

Dr. Lin Chen
Northwest Institute of Eco-Environment
and Resources
Chinese Academy of Sciences
secretariat@permafrost.org
www.permafrost.org



Beyond its scientific scope, the DACH Permafrost Conference continues to play an important role in strengthening European permafrost research networks and promoting inclusive participation across institutions, disciplines, and career stages. The Book of Abstracts is openly available ([link](#)).

The DACH Permafrost community looks forward to continuing this exchange at the next conference, planned for 2027 in northern Germany, and warmly welcomes continued engagement from the international permafrost community. To stay connected, interested colleagues are invited to subscribe to the moderated DACH Permafrost Union mailing list:

<http://mailinglist.dach-permafrost-union.org>

Provided by Jens Strauss on behalf of the Local Organising Committee and the DACH Permafrost Union Steering Committee.

VIII Iberian Congress on Permafrost (CIP 2025) held in Salardú, Spain

The VIII Iberian Congress on Permafrost (CIP 2025) took place from 26-28 June 2025 at the heart of the Pyrenees, in Salardú (Val d'Aran, Catalonia, Spain), bringing together around 40 researchers from the Iberian Peninsula and the international permafrost community. Organized by the ANTALP Research Group at the University of Barcelona, the meeting continued the tradition of Iberian permafrost conferences as a platform for scientific exchange, interdisciplinary dialogue, and collaboration across institutions and career stages.

The congress featured a diverse scientific programme including keynote lectures, oral and poster presentations, and thematic sessions addressing a broad range of contemporary cryospheric challenges. Topics covered frozen ground processes, periglacial and snow

dynamics, glacial-periglacial geomorphology, and the responses of polar and alpine cryospheres to ongoing climate warming. Over two days of sessions, participants shared research findings and explored emerging perspectives in high-mountain permafrost science within a dynamic research environment.

CIP 2025 also coincided with two important international milestones—the International Year of Glacier Preservation (2025) and the launch of the Decade of Action for Cryospheric Sciences (2025-2034)—providing a timely framework for reflection on future research priorities and the societal relevance of cryospheric science. The congress represented a meaningful in-person reconnection of the Iberian permafrost community following the pandemic period,



strengthening existing collaborations and fostering new partnerships among early-career and senior scientists alike. The Book of Abstracts is openly available ([link](#)).

Beyond the scientific sessions, the meeting included networking and social activities that encouraged informal exchange and community building. A guided field excursion (book available at [link](#)) through emblematic sites of the Aran Valley enabled participants to observe glacial and periglacial processes directly, enhancing

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Co-Presidents:

Dr. Isabelle Gärtner-Roer and Prof. Gonçalo Vieira

Past-President:

Prof. Christopher Burn

Members:

Dr. Lukas Arenson, Dr. Kjersti Gislås,
Dr. Fujun Niu, Ed Yarmak and Joseph Young

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Executive Director:

Dr. Lin Chen
Northwest Institute of Eco-Environment
and Resources
Chinese Academy of Sciences
secretariat@permafrost.org
www.permafrost.org



discussions on geomorphology and cryospheric dynamics through hands-on experience in the field.

The Local Organizing Committee expressed sincere appreciation to all contributors-including speakers,

conveners, collaborators, and sponsors-whose efforts made the event possible. CIP 2025 reinforced the importance of

regional conferences in advancing permafrost research and in strengthening scientific networks within the broader mission of the International Permafrost Association to promote collaboration and knowledge exchange worldwide.

- *Garcia-Oteyza Ciria J., Oliva M., Perez Ramos C., (eds.) 2026. VIII Iberian Congress on Permafrost - Book of Abstracts, 26-28 June 2025,*

Salardú (Val d'Aran, Catalonia, Spain). DOI: 10.52381/IPA.CIP2025AB.1

- *Garcia-Oteyza Ciria J., Fernandes M., Gavaldà J., Oliva M., (eds.) 2026. VIII Iberian Congress on Permafrost- Excursion Book. DOI: 10.52381/IPA.CIP2025EB.1*

Provided by: Julia Garcia-Oteyza Ciri

Announcements

- **Call for expressions of interest: Decade of Action for Cryospheric Sciences (2025-2034) governing structures:** The deadline is March 6, 2026. More information can be found at the website ([link](#)).
- **PermaCOST PhD Training School on "Tools for Tracking Periglacial Change":** The application deadline is March 15, 2026. The Notification of Acceptance is March 30, 2026. More information can be found at the website ([link](#)).
- **Global Glacier Modelling Workshop 2026 in Obergurgl, Austria:** The deadline is March 22, 2026. Further information about the workshop, along with the link to the registration form, is available on the workshop website ([link](#)).
- **12th SCAR Open Science Conference:** The conference will take place in Oslo, Norway, from 10-14 August 2026, under the theme: "Diving into Antarctic Science - Making Waves for the Future." A limited number of travel grants are available to support attendance. Applications are open until 16 March 2026 ([link](#)).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Co-Presidents:

Dr. Isabelle Gärtner-Roer and Prof. Gonçalo Vieira

Past-President:

Prof. Christopher Burn

Members:

Dr. Lukas Arenson, Dr. Kjersti Gislås,
Dr. Fujun Niu, Ed Yarmak and Joseph Young

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Executive Director:

Dr. Lin Chen
Northwest Institute of Eco-Environment
and Resources
Chinese Academy of Sciences
secretariat@permafrost.org
www.permafrost.org



Editorial Board

Co-Presidents: Isabelle Gärtner-Roer & Gonçalo Vieira
Past President: Christopher Burn
Vice Presidents: Lukas Arenson & Fujun Niu
Committee Members: Edward Yarmak & Kjersti Gisnås
PYRN Representative: Joseph Young
Secretariat – Executive Director: Lin Chen

For future newsletters, contributions or input are always welcome. Please feel free to contact the **IPA Secretariat at secretariat@permafrost.org (c/o Lin Chen).**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Co-Presidents:

Dr. Isabelle Gärtner-Roer and Prof. Gonçalo Vieira

Past-President:

Prof. Christopher Burn

Members:

Dr. Lukas Arenson, Dr. Kjersti Gisnås,
Dr. Fujun Niu, Ed Yarmak and Joseph Young

5

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Executive Director:

Dr. Lin Chen

Northwest Institute of Eco-Environment
and Resources
Chinese Academy of Sciences
secretariat@permafrost.org
www.permafrost.org