極域陸上生物研究の現状と未来

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Status and future of the research on Polar terrestrial biology

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Standing Scientific Group on Life Science (SSG-LS) in SCAR has been managing an international multidisciplinary science program in Antarctica. The ongoing program is EBA (Evolution and Biodiversity in the Antarctic) from 2006, and which will terminate in 2013. In this stage, two successor programs, AntETR and AntEco, are discussed and will be launched in 2013. AntETR (Antarctic ecosystem: adaptations, thresholds and resilience) is focusing on the "The current biological process in Antarctic Ecosystems", and AntEco (State of the Antarctic ecosystems) on the patterns of biodiversity in Antarctica. These process and patter studies will lead the life science in Antarctica in the next generation.

On the other hand, Arctic climate change research in GRENE, the first Japanese national Arctic research project will be launched in this year. Under this big umbrella, terrestrial biology group will be able to contribute on the carbon dynamics in Arctic tundra ecosystems.

In such national and international research scene, we have to look for the gateway to the next breakthrough on Japanese polar terrestrial biology. The answer will be found in the active discussion in the session room.