

Global Cryosphere Watch



Providing Institution(s)

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)



Topic(s)

Science



Geographical reach

Regional, Arctic



Target level of capacity building

Institutional



Resource Type

Project



Resource Language(s)

English (EN)



Resource Date

RESOURCE LINK

[Access](#)

DESCRIPTION

The cryosphere – frozen precipitation, snow cover, sea ice, lake and river ice, glaciers, ice caps, ice sheets, permafrost and seasonally frozen ground – is a critically important component of the Arctic Climate System.

Global climate, water and weather as well as other environmental areas are also highly influenced by the cryosphere.

It is a major indicator of global climate change and plays a fundamental role in Earth's climate system.

The WMO Global Cryosphere Watch (GCW), initiated in 2011, provides authoritative information on present, future and past states of the world's snow and ice resources.