



Networking in Latin-America: Introducing the ecological use of phytoplankton pigments in the NANO community.

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PROJECT WEBPAGE :

<http://www.nf-pogo-alumni.org/latin+American+Regional+Project>



WHAT IS ANTARES?



ANTARES is a network of eleven time series stations dedicated to study long-term changes in coastal areas around Latin America, in which several NF-POGO alumni and instructors are involved.

The stations have an in situ and satellite component, and the network results in a more fluid exchange of knowledge and information favoring all participants and the generation of high quality data.

During the last four years (2012 to 2015) the network was funded by Nippon Foundation & POGO with the general objective of strengthening the interaction between NANO and "ChloroGIN-ANTARES" networks focusing specially on pigment analysis using HPLC (Nano Latin America Regional Project: Variability in phytoplankton pigments at the ANTARES-ChloroGIN time-series).

<http://www.antes.ws>

OBJECTIVES

- Monitoring the temporal variations of phytoplankton communities through the detection of phytoplankton pigments by HPLC (High Pressure Liquid Chromatography) at all ANTARES stations.
- Using common sampling procedure.
- Give access to satellite images from dates matching the cruises at each site.
- Assure the generation of high quality data for the community working on biogeochemical models and climate change.



HPLC ANALYSIS

Number of Samples sent to NASA on each phase of LA-NANO project.



OUTREACH

NANO is an association that encourages its alumni to take an initiative distributing general oceanographic knowledge to the public. We seek to promote:

- The importance of the oceans to the weather on the planet and society
- Training of students through participation in specialized courses and high quality workshops.

The Outreach project can be divided into two main items:

- Educational Material Catalogue
- Support for Active Engaging

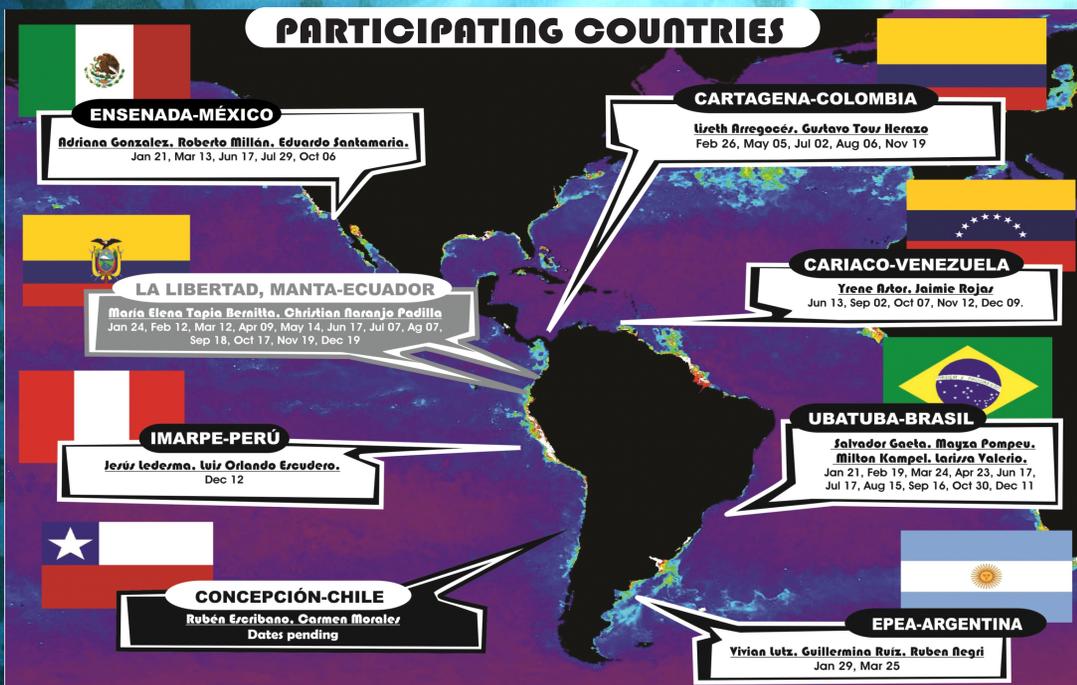
For further interest visit:

<http://www.nf-pogo-alumni.org/NANO+Outreach>

Below: Examples of outreach activities dedicated to high school and undergraduate programs in the 2014-2015 (Phase 3) LA-NANO project.



PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES



CAPACITY BUILDING :

Two meetings were carried out, one in Venezuela in 2013 (bottom) and the other in Mexico in 2015 (right). This last one linked to a 'Regional Training promoted by the NF/POGO - CofE', to gather the young researchers involved. During these meetings, participants received some lectures by experts in the subject of pigment analysis and their ecological use, and started to discuss the results obtained.

Another valuable result of this project has been the strengthening of the interaction among Antares and NANO alumni, which facilitates the exchange of expertise and effective possibility of working together in the region.

LA-NANO WORKSHOP



FUTURE PLANS

- Expanding outreach program to all countries (common outreach material).
- Publication of results.
- Continue with collaboration efforts among Antares members.
- Maintaining phytoplankton pigment concentration measurements with the high standards required by the international scientific community.

