

## PRESENTATION

This special volume is a result from a joint effort between the Census of Marine Life Projects 'Continental Margins Ecosystems on a Worldwide Scale (COMARGE)', 'Census of Antarctic Marine Life (CAML)', 'Census of Marine Life – South America (CoML-SA)', Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the SCAR programme Evolution and Biodiversity in Antarctica (EBA), the Brazilian International Polar Year (IPY) project 'Marine Antarctic Biodiversity in Relation to Environmental Heterogeneity at Admiralty Bay, King George Island, and adjacent areas at the Bransfield Strait (MABIREH)', the Brazilian National Science and Technology Institute on Antarctic Environmental Research (INCT-APA), several other South American projects undertaken during IPY, and particularly the South American Antarctic Programmes from Argentina (DAA), Brazil (PROANTAR), Chile (INACH), Ecuador (INAE), Peru (INANP), Uruguay (IAU), and more recently Venezuela.

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