



# ANTARCTIC 2023-2024

Deep Sea Ecosystem Monitoring from Pole to Pole (Part II)

## LEAD INSTITUTION, PI

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## ABSTRACT

Ecosystems in the Southern Ocean are among the most productive on Earth, but also rapidly changing due to warming and acidification. Yet, little is known about deep-sea ecological communities, and their sensitivity to climate change. The goal of this project is to examine zooplankton and larger animals in the understudied deep ocean (>200m depth) of the Southern Ocean. Therefore, we will use special underwater camera systems across a large study transect along the Antarctic shelf and in the deep sea basins of the Southern Ocean. The goal is to initiate a 5-year PONANT-based monitoring program to collect baseline data on pelagic ecosystems in the rapidly changing polar oceans. The proposed work is the partner-project to our Ponant-supported research in Arctic.