Title
Biodiversity of Icelandic waters

SI Acronym (Article type)
IceAGE

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SI Scope and objectives
The North Atlantic and the subarctic region has been in focus of several projects. Especially the subarctic region around Iceland has been of interest and still is due its specialties in hydrography and geology of the seafloor separating the North Atlantic from the Arctic Ocean. Studies suggest that due to the complex hydrography of the region the biotic communities are highly merican to climate change. An inventory of the fauna (Benthic Invertebrates of ICElandic waters: BIOICE; 1992 - 2004), including its genetics and ecology (Icelandic marine Animals: Genetics and Ecology: IceAGE; since 2011), has set a baseline for later reference and is of major importance for a better understanding of how marine environments respond to climate change. Thus, molecular studies (i.e. phylogeography, phylogeny) of Icelandic marine invertebrates were impossible on the basis of most material obtained before IceAGE, but now are. Such studies, however, are crucial for understanding cryptic or unrecognized biodiversity and the evolutionary history of the region. This special issue puts the focus on Icelandic and adjacent waters beyond the Icelandic economic zone. Any contribution fitting into the journals scope and regarding subarctic invertebrates between Greenland and Norway along the Greenland-Iceland-Scotland Ridge is welcome.
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