

# Points of Consideration: Session 2 – Polar Systems and Polar Water Cycle Overview

- What is the science question(s) to be addressed:
  - Is precipitation in the High Latitudes Changing?
  - What is the precipitation (amount, variability, occurrence, type...) over the polar/cold climate regions of the globe?
  - What is the freshwater flow to the polar oceans and surrounding seas and how is it changing?
- What are the scientific strategic issues related to the science question? Different for hydrology, climate, weather.
- What are the scientific and user needs 5-10 years in the future? Or what are the needs of the world a decade in the future?
- Is this a science or “operational” mission? Stand alone or part of a constellation? Has different mission requirements.
- What are the time and space scales that would meet the requirements of the planned mission? Hour to year, sub-basin to continent.
- What will be the geographic focus (regional to global)? Affects orbit, sensor, partners.....
- What is realistically achievable?