





introduction

Antarctica is a continent of superlatives; the highest, the driest, the coldest, the most remote. It is a land of unending beauty and unrelenting extremes.

Antarctica is harsh and unforgiving yet tender and fragile. By an odd twist of the fate, the most dangerous land in our world is also the most endangered. The Antarctic is the least inhabited place on earth but it is also may be the continent that is most affected by human activity. The reality of climate change is everywhere.

Over the last 50 years scientists from over 30 countries have studied the continent and its' eco system. This has been a period of warming and melting, of stress on the flora and fauna and of unprecedented depletion of the ozone. Antarctica is getting warming, species are under threat, the ice shelf is melting faster than most scientists could predict, and the sea level is rising. What happens in Antarctica matters to us all.

Our world is interconnected. The changes documented in Antarctica's simple ecosystem foreshadow the effects of climate change on the more complex and complicated global bionetwork. Antarctica is our early warning system and the message is loud and clear. If climate change is affecting the ends of the earth then there will be a pronounced impact at its' core. And that's where the nearly 7 billion people who inhabit planet earth call home. But it's not too late.

The White Continent: Climate Change in Antarctica is a stunning high definition portrayal of the beauty and bounty, conflict and challenges facing the world's most remote region.



Filmed in Stunning HD over 10 days in December 2010

The White Continent: Climate Change and Antarctica was produced with unprecedented access to renowned scientists and researchers, intrepid Antarctic explorers and veteran expedition leaders. Shot on land and sea, the program includes rare access to the United States Antarctic Programs' Palmer Station, a year-round scientific research center.



Our world is interconnected. Pollution in the North equals climate change in the South and population shifts in the East affect the environment of the West. And throughout it all, the White Continent evolves. Greenhouse gases are choking the planet and it's getting worse. Pollution and the impact of humanity is taking a toll in the more

On a crisp summer's morning the beauty of Antarctica, the White Continent is on show for all to see. The pure white snow which tops the jagged rocks of the continent's harsh exterior adds a layer of calm and comfort while the magical shapes and colors of the myriad ice burgs and ice flows complete a scene of tranquility. Sparkling waters dance under an azure blue sky and the region is alive and welcoming. This is Antarctica as it should be, but unfortunately beneath this idyllic exterior a more ominous reality exists. This is Antarctica as it is now but it may not be the Antarctica we will all share tomorrow.

Confronting the problem of climate change will require a real and genuine global effort. It will need cooperation and trust, goodwill and money. But it is critical if we are to save our most precious resource, our planet. And we need to start now, to preserve these very special places.



