

# Swedish Polar Research Secretariat

Country presentation

FARO meeting, Prague  
1 April 2017

# Changes in science governance

- » Science advisory group for SPRS established 2016
- » Advisory group for Abisko scientific research station will be established 2017
- » New application processes (Sweden – two-way funding)
  - *Programs – within long-term planning*
  - *Projects – yearly*
  - *Abisko (as before)*

# National and international networks' status

- » SITES (9 ecological/limnological stations) – application for a continuation as from 2018
- » ICOS – may leave ICOS-Sweden (radical changes in financing situation), but aims to continue measuring
- » LTER – will apply for EU funding (Horizon 2020)
- » INTERACT – very positive that we got the continuation

# New infrastructure

- » Ice-breaker Oden – two alternatives
  - *New ship in 10 years' time, use Oden as today*
  - *Dedicate Oden today to science only, will prolong life-span by 5 years (app. 2030), then new ship is needed*
- » Abisko station modernization
  - *Done: Labs upgraded, new work boat, geothermal heating phase 1*
  - *Next: Expanded monitoring – what “context data” will the researchers thank us for in 20 years' time?*

# Science projects and programs

## » Ice-breaker Oden

- *No expedition 2017*
- *Sweden-US collaboration & Sweden-Germany collaboration 2018*
- *Post-2018 – ongoing discussion with Ministry*

## » Terrestrial

- *“Arctic Islands” – Russia & Canada*
- *Abisko station – “Expedition ANS” & Early career scientists (Canada + ?)*

# Last field season

- » Ice-breaker Oden – Canadian-Swedish expedition
  - *Canadian territorial claims/UNCLOS*
  - *Swedish early career scientists (microplastics!)*
- » Terrestrial
  - *Paleontology, Greenland (spectacular finds from earliest Triassic (~250 MY) when vertebrates returned to the sea!)*
  - *Industrial history, Svalbard*
  - *“Arctic Islands” – Baseline & students, Abisko*

# Future collaboration opportunities

## » Ice-breaker Oden

- *If Oden dedicated to science only, then even richer opportunities for collaboration*

## » ARICE (Leader WP1: Harmonise European Arctic research fleet & Towards international research icebreaker consortium)

## » Terrestrial

- *Arctic Islands” – Russia & Canada*
- *Abisko station*
  - “Expedition ANS”
  - Early career scientists
  - Exchange of information on “what will the researchers thank us for in 20 years’ time”