

Austria: Wolfgang Schöner, Austrian Polar Research Institute, informed about the Austrian activities in the Arctic.

Austria has no infrastructure besides some automatic meteorological stations and other instruments at field sites. Milestones were: Establishing Austrian Polar Research Institute (APRI) in 2013 and participation in several Arctic organisations, e.g. IASC. Current research focus in the Arctic activities are in Greenland (Zackenbergl in cooperation with Denmark), Svalbard (Ny Ålesund) and Siberia Russian Arctic. Thematic fields are glaciology, ecology, social sciences (see the website: www.polarresearch.at). Our interest in FARO is in the cooperation for logistics with other countries in order to enable Austrian scientist's access to e.g. research stations, however because of the current financial constraints Austria will step back to observer status in FARO.