



SIOS

Newsletter June 2017

Job opportunity: SIOS director

At the beginning of next year, SIOS will enter its operational phase. In this context we are seeking an experienced, creative and executive person to lead the continued development of SIOS as the director. The position is located at the Knowledge Centre in Longyearbyen, Svalbard.

Deadline for application: 1 September 2017.

Apply online at:

<https://www.jobbnorge.no/ledige-stillinger/stilling/139563/director-sios>



The scientific case for SIOS

SIOS-KC, in cooperation with the Interim Steering Board (ISB), is developing a framework for an annual report on the State of Environmental Science in Svalbard (SESS). The report will summarise the present knowledge, state and development of the Svalbard environment in an earth science perspective. The SESS report will be based on the work that has been done in the previous year within the SIOS cooperation. It will further be basis for the development of the observing system and for research priorities in the following year.

Read more about the SESS report here: <https://sios-svalbard.org/SESSreport>

A call for contributions to the SESS report and for access to the SIOS member facilities in Svalbard will be announced the first week of August. Watch out for a pre-announcement, on our website, in early July.

Workshop on Copernicus satellite data for snow and ice research

The SIOS Knowledge Centre is offering a workshop on how to use Copernicus Sentinel-2 data to monitor snow and ice.

Place and time: Longyearbyen, 11 - 13 September 2017

Application deadline: 21 July 2017.

The workshop is being designed by Dr. Anna Maria Trofaier (SIOS remote sensing officer) and Dr. Gareth Rees (University of Cambridge), who will also be delivering the training sessions. It is intended to be an introduction course to remote sensing, and we would like to encourage all those interested in the applications of satellite data to scientific research to apply (no prior knowledge needed).

The workshop is divided into both theory and practical sessions, and will start with the basics such as: What is a digital image and how can it be classified? This will give a thorough grounding in digital image analysis.

The workshop will be held within the framework of SIOS's duties as a Copernicus Relay and will hence be free of charge.

Find the application form here: <https://sios-svalbard.org/RemoteSensing#CopernicusTraining2017>



Austfonna ice cap – Sentinel-1B's first data captured at 05:37 GMT on 28 April 2016.
Photo: ESA-EC Copernicus.

The SIOS Remote Sensing Service is now a Copernicus Relay

To help increase the user uptake of satellite information from the European Commission's Copernicus programme, the SIOS Remote Sensing Service (RSS), together with the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA) and the Nansen Center (NERSC), has taken on the responsibilities of a Copernicus Relay for Norway.

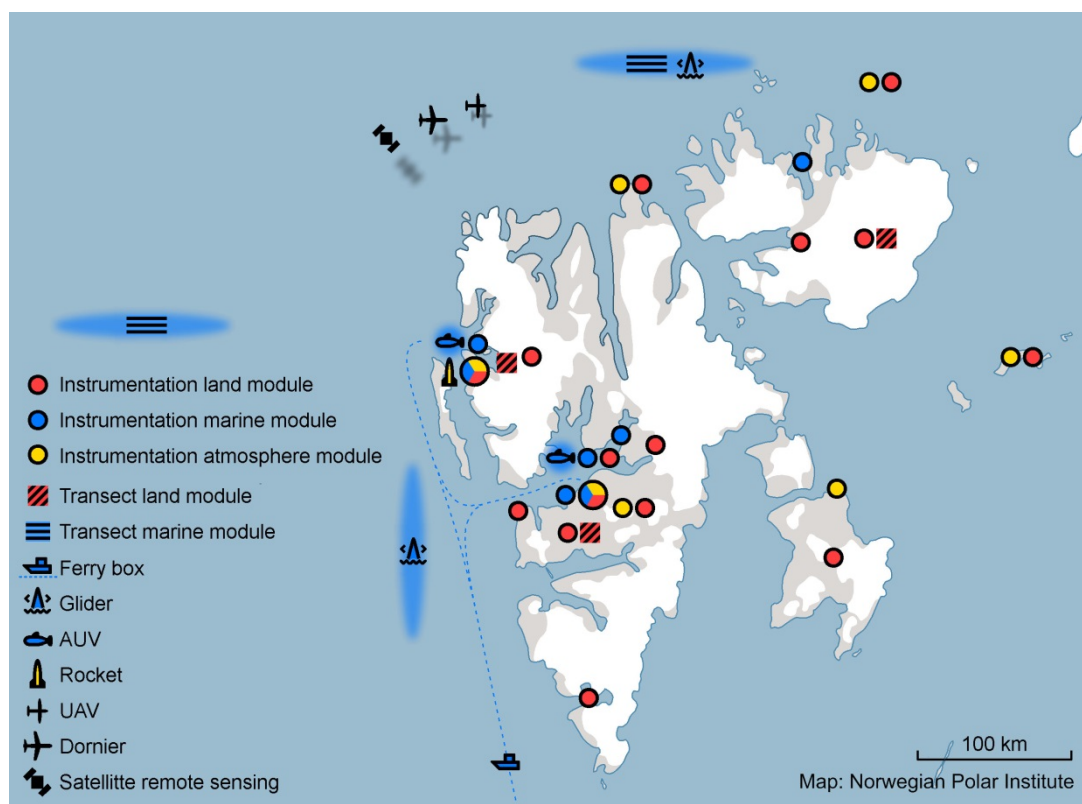


The role involves the promotion of the Copernicus programme and training activities. If you would like more information on the Copernicus programme, please get in touch with our [Remote Sensing Officer](#).

A SIOS interim project proposal is one of 19 Norwegian projects to get funded from the Norwegian Research Councils (RCN) infrastructure programme

SIOS will be invited to negotiations with the RCN based on the application, "Infrastructure development of the Norwegian node" (InfraNor). A part of another application, "Climate-Ecological Observatory for Arctic Tundra (COAT) Infrastructure", will be included in the negotiations as an addition to the SIOS application. Partners in the application are IMR, MET, NERSC, NGU, NILU, NIVA, NINA, NORUT, NPI, NTNU, UiO, UiB, UiT and NVE.

A total of 1 billion Norwegian kroner will be shared between 19 successful proposals. The InfraNor project will represent a substantial Norwegian contribution to strengthening the SIOS observing system development. The application covers all spheres included in the observing system as can be seen in the figure.



The proposed distributed installations within the atmosphere, terrestrial, ocean and common modules. Map by Anders Skoglund (NPI).

Workshop on data management as tool for scientists

SIOS offers a one-day training session focusing on scientific data management. The workshop will include an introduction to the following topics:

- How to create a data management plan;
- how to document data for data sharing/publication and long term preservation; the necessity and benefits of standardised data documentation;
- perspectives of scientific transparency and quality control in light of structured data management;
- scientists as data providers and consumers, adapt or perish;
- data management frameworks, status and perspectives.

The training session is practically oriented, focusing on existing and emerging, internal and external, forcing mechanisms on science.

The workshop will be held three times during 2017 as a module to be added to three workshops funded through the Svalbard Strategic Grant by Svalbard Science Forum/Research Council of Norway.

If you are interested in such a workshop to be held with your institution or project team, please contact our [Information Officer](#).

SIOS visual profile

During last autumn, SIOS-KC, together with a design company, developed a new visual profile for SIOS in order to mark the transition from planning into the active phase of SIOS. The profile includes a new logo, a colour scheme, font types and many other templates.

Contact the SIOS-KC if you would like to use a template or download the logo here:

<https://sios-svalbard.org/Documents#logo>



The Knowledge Centre staff

Currently, 6 people are working for SIOS in the Knowledge Centre. The Interim Director Ole Jørgen Lønne, the data manager Øystein Godøy and the Information Officer Christiane Hübner were joined by the Remote Sensing officer Anna Maria Trofaier and the Access and Logistics Officer Inger Jennings.

In addition, Lilith Kuckero is employed part time to work with ENVRIplus related topics.

Contact details: <https://sios-svalbard.org/Staff>



From left to right: Remote Sensing Officer Anna Maria Trofaier, Information Officer Christiane Hübner, Interim Director Ole Jørgen Lønne, Access and Logistics Officer Inger Jennings. Upper right corner: Data Manager Øystein Godøy and Advisor Lilith Kuckero.

SIOS working groups

The General Assembly 2016 approved the mandate of six working groups to be established by the SIOS-KC: the Science Optimisation Advisory Group (SOAG), the Information Advisory Group (IAG), the Research Infrastructure Coordination Committee (RICC), the Training Programme Committee (TPC) and two working groups on data management system (SDMSWG) and remote sensing (RSWG).

The new bodies will be the backbone of SIOS, which will link the distributed research infrastructure to the SIOS-KC science hub, fully establishing the SIOS network. An invitation to join these groups was issued by the SIOS-KC in spring and currently three of the working groups have commenced their work (SDMS, RICC and SOAG).

Read more about the working groups here: <https://sios-svalbard.org/WorkingGroups>

What else happened recently?

The Norwegian Ministry for Education and Research has committed to provide **funding for the SIOS- KC** for the coming five years.

Grand Challenge Initiative – CUSP is a scientific collaboration that will leverage existing sounding rocket projects from Norway, Japan, and the United States, along with other international partners. The present partners are the University in Oslo (UiO), Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and SIOS. In April a joint statement of scientific coordination was signed (<https://www.sios-svalbard.org/node/41>).

SIOS has been on the **ESFRI roadmap** since 2008 and is currently evaluated to become a landmark. In this context, SIOS-KC has completed an extensive self-assessment that was submitted in April 2017. An updated roadmap is expected to be released in the autumn of 2018.

Documents produced during the interim phase are now available on the SIOS website. Some have yet to be approved by the GA and as such may be subject to change. You may find the documents here: <https://www.sios-svalbard.org/Documents>

Would you like to know which institutions are **SIOS members** in the interim phase? Check here: <https://sios-svalbard.org/Consortium>