

## Call for proposals for access to SIOS research infrastructure

Proposal Deadline: 30th September 2019

Funds available: at least 2,4 million NOK

**SIOS seeks proposals from scientists wishing to access SIOS infrastructure for the purposes of conducting Earth System Science research and monitoring.**

### Background for this call

The Svalbard Integrated Arctic Earth Observing System (SIOS) is a regional observational system for long-term measurements in and around Svalbard, addressing Earth System Science (ESS) questions related to Global Change. The observing system builds on the extensive observation capacity and diverse world class research infrastructure provided by institutions from many nations already established in Svalbard. This includes a substantial capability for utilising remote sensing resources to complement ground-based observations. From this foundation, SIOS works towards a systematic development of new methods and experimental design for the implementation of observational networks in Arctic environments.

In order to promote more efficient use and better integration of the observing system, SIOS offers funded access to the research infrastructure (RI) owned by SIOS members. Users may also access data, expertise and logistical support from members of the SIOS consortium.

### Who can apply?

Researchers from any institution may apply, provided they meet the criteria outlined below.

### Eligibility criteria

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria in order to be considered:

- Proposals must be in line with the core scientific priorities of SIOS, as described in the SIOS Infrastructure Optimisation report (<https://sios-svalbard.org/Documents>) and State of Environmental Science in Svalbard (SESS) report (<https://sios-svalbard.org/SESSreport>).
- Applicants must be able to adhere to SIOS data policy and SIOS access policy ([www.sios-svalbard.org/Documents](http://www.sios-svalbard.org/Documents)), meaning data resulting from the access activity must be made public through the SIOS data portal.
- At least one representative for the access project should be prepared to attend and deliver a short presentation at the SIOS Polar Night Week 2020 (<https://sios-svalbard.org/PolarNightWeek>). Travel support will be available.

### Evaluation criteria

Submitted proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Projects must be of superior scientific quality and technically and logistically feasible. High risk proposals can be supported if scientifically interesting.
- Projects must be consistent with the goals of SIOS to optimise the observing system and promote advancement in Arctic Earth System Science (ESS).

- Projects should contribute towards one or more of the highlighted topics for this call:
  - Expanding existing measurement networks into new locations;
  - Integration of different disciplines and observations in existing locations;
  - New monitoring techniques, methodologies, and data harmonisation;
  - Linking existing datasets or using data in new ways (e.g. modelling);
  - Specifically addressing one or more of the scientific recommendations in the 2018 SESS report ([https://sios-svalbard.org/AccessCall2019\\_SESS\\_recommendations](https://sios-svalbard.org/AccessCall2019_SESS_recommendations)).
- Priority will be given to applications for physical and remote access.

In addition SIOS wishes to encourage:

- Teams that include early career scientists and have a gender balance;
- Activities that strengthen international cooperation;
- Proposals from employees or students of SIOS member institutions.

This means that all other things being equal, access will be prioritised towards proposals from diverse teams, proposals with a PI from a SIOS member institution and/or proposals to visit an infrastructure other than that owned by the team's own country of employment.

### Details of the call

SIOS aims to optimise the use of existing RI and is therefore offering funded access to facilities owned by SIOS members across Svalbard. The SIOS member facilities that are offering access in this call are described online at [https://sios-svalbard.org/Call2019\\_availableRI](https://sios-svalbard.org/Call2019_availableRI).

Access may be physical (access to a field station, lab or equipment in person), remote (non-physical access to a facility, e.g. remote access to sensors or calibration facilities, access to machine time, distribution of reference samples) or virtual (access to data, digital tools or staff time / expertise).

A minimum of 500 access days are available in this call. Funding is available to cover travel, room and board and access to the facility for physical access projects, or costs associated with remote or virtual access projects. The number of access days that SIOS can support will normally not exceed 50 per proposal. Applications for virtual access cannot exceed 200 KNOK.

The fieldwork period must be between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020.

Full details of eligible and non-eligible costs and guidance on writing your proposal and budget may be found in the document 'Guidelines for applicants to the SIOS Access Programme'.

### Application procedure

Proposals must be submitted electronically at [https://sios-svalbard.org/AccessCall2019\\_ApplicationForm](https://sios-svalbard.org/AccessCall2019_ApplicationForm).

All project proposals have to submit an application form, which includes an itemised budget (using the budget template) and a risk assessment. A project description (not exceeding 5 pages) and CVs of all partners must be attached.

More information on the procedures for the access programme may be found in the document 'Guidelines for applicants to the SIOS Access Programme'.

The deadline for this call is 30th September 2019. A decision will be expected by mid-October 2018.

**Attachments:**

- Guidelines for access call ([https://sios-svalbard.org/sites/sios-svalbard.org/files/common/Guidelines\\_SIOS\\_Call\\_2019\\_final.pdf](https://sios-svalbard.org/sites/sios-svalbard.org/files/common/Guidelines_SIOS_Call_2019_final.pdf))
- Description of available infrastructure ([https://sios-svalbard.org/Call2019\\_availableRI](https://sios-svalbard.org/Call2019_availableRI))

**Contact details**

SIOS access and logistics officer <https://sios-svalbard.org/Staff#LogisticsOfficer>