Questions for National SAON Board members on Goal 1 Objectives 1.1 and 1.3

National Board members have filled in the *capacity/capability matrix* where they indicate the national capacity/capabilityto contribute to SAON Goal Objectives.

As a follow up, National Board members are now asked to report on activities that need coordination and that are relevant to [Objectives 1.1 and 1.3 under SAON Goal 1](https://www.arcticobserving.org/images/pdf/Strategy_and_Implementation/SAON_Implementation_Plan_version_17JUL2018_Status_approved.pdf):

* *Conduct an inventory of national observational capacities (1.1*)
* *Provide recommendations for a roadmap for future Arctic observational capacities (1.3*)

Board members are asked to fill in the template below and prepare themselves for verbally reporting on this. The answers should be no more than 2 pages in total.

**Objective 1.1: Conduct an inventory of national observational capacities**

Each country will establish a national SAON organisation/office/contact point to gather information and report on capacity and monitoring efforts. SAON will facilitate the establishment of national organisations/offices/contact points by providing suggestions for ToR and relevant membership, and by providing examples on different organizational models

**Objective 1.3: Provide recommendations for a roadmap for future Arctic observational capacities**

Advocate and create awareness about the recommendations work on the national level (national observing entities, infrastructures, national funding bodies) and provide information back to the international SAON level.

1. What specifically did you mean here?

Objective 1.1:

The Swedish Polar Research Secretariat plans to arrange a meeting with the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) to discuss the follow up of the report ”Swedish Environmental Monitoring North of 60°N” (2009) in line with the new SAON objectives. In terms of Objective 1.1. this might include introducing the task as part of the new role of SPRS as a national Data access Unit under the Swedish National Data Service <https://snd.gu.se/en>. This is especially as data from the Swedish national monitoring programme is freely available via the Swedish EPA [www.swedishepa.se](http://www.swedishepa.se/). There is also a national portal for research data in the fields of environment and climate [www.ecds.se](http://www.ecds.se). Moreover, SPRS is active in Swedish Infrastructure for Ecosystem Science (SITES) and Integrated Carbon Observation System – Sweden.

Objective 1.3:

This work is connected to the follow-up of the 2009 document as well as the work SPRS does within EU-PolarNet and ARICE and their communication and integration into national research programmes etc.

2. Who is leading that activity?

Objective 1.1: SPRS

Objective 1.3: SPRS

3. Is this well coordinated?

Objective 1.1: Roles and responsibilities will be discussed in the meeting. The 2009 document provides a strong foundation for the work.

Objective 1.3: Roles and responsibilities will be discussed in the meeting between SPRS, SEPA and afterwards with third parties.

4. What specifically are you doing that could be coordinated?

Objective 1.1: Making sure the variables in the observational infrastructure are and stay up to date; facilitating easy access and searchability of databases; improving the status of observations; providing a platform for an overview of ongoing national and international activities

Objective 1.3: Integration of SAON suggestions into the national funding scheme, e.g. into a proposal for strategic infrastructure by the National Science Council (VR): https://www.vr.se/utlysningar-och-beslut/soka-bidrag/sa-finansieras-forskningsinfrastruktur.html

5. Are you currently engaged in CON?

SPRS will become a member in CON.

6. What would be a useful working definition of this Roadmap. What should the Roadmap include from the standpoint of your national funding body?

Every two years, the Swedish Research Council makes an inventory of needs of research infrastructure in Sweden. The purpose of the inventory is to capture proposals for new national needs for research infrastructure. The proposals they are looking for shall relate to:

* Needs for entirely new research infrastructure.
* Needs to gather together and significantly develop smaller resources that already exist today, so that they together can form a national research infrastructure.
* Needs for major upgrades of existing research infrastructure in operation. The aim shall be to create a significant change to the scientific production or the technical approach. Routine maintenance or gradual improvements shall not be included.
* Needs for new international research infrastructure – both needs for Swedish participation in the construction of new international research infrastructure and for Swedish membership of existing research infrastructure.