

## French-Swedish summer school: Abisko

### Climate change and environment in the Subantarctic and Subarctic regions

14 – 18 June 2009

#### General overview:

This summer school takes place in the context of the French-Swedish collaboration that was initiated during the seminar between the two countries in Stockholm on the 22-23 October 2008. It was agreed to extend collaboration and look for practical steps to achieve cooperative research in polar regions involving Swedish and French scientists, but also with a wider European participation in view. The Swedish subarctic and the subantarctic French territories provide important opportunities for comparisons and joint scientific investigations.

The French Polar Institute (IPEV) and the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat, in partnership with the CNRS (French national center for scientific research), the French Embassy in Sweden and the French-Swedish Association for Research, organize this initiative jointly.

This meeting will offer the opportunity for scientists, young researchers and students to share their views and experiences on the climate change and impacts on sub-polar ecosystems, laying down the basis for future joint research.

Abisko has been chosen, because of its geographical location, offering the opportunity to combine both in-depth lecture, field work and excursions in the sub-arctic alpine environment. It is the ideal place for this first meeting that will take on a pilot role for upcoming joint research in these areas.

Three key topics are proposed to the participants and will be further developed in line with the participation:

- 1) The use of subpolar regions as sentinels of global changes and their key role, as stepping-stones, in the changes of Arctic and Antarctic regions. This issue would cover both life and earth sciences.
- 2) Impact of current climate changes on living organisms and ecosystems in subpolar regions. This topic may cover a range of studies, including adaptation, behaviour, competition with non-native species etc., and their consequences on the ecosystems structure and functioning.
- 3) Changes in human activities in subpolar regions: this topic will cover both changes resulting from climate change and/or new emerging activities such as tourism in subantarctic islands and land use in the sub-arctic.



Qualified participants are young scientists at the beginning of their careers, such as PhD students, early post-docs or similar. The number of participants will be limited for practical and pedagogical reasons. Each applicant should submit:

- Statement of interest
- CV of relevant academic background
- Letter of recommendation from a supervisor or other relevant person

Lodging at the research station and food will be covered for all participants. Travel cost will be partly covered by the organisers (practical information will be issued later).

Decisions on admission to the summer school will be announced on May 15, 2009, for submissions made prior to the deadline on April 30 (contact: [sciences@ambafrance-se.org](mailto:sciences@ambafrance-se.org)). Late submissions will be considered at a later time to the extent that the limitation of the course has not been reached.

#### **Scientific committee:**

Yves Frenot, deputy director of the French Polar Institute (IPEV)

Françoise Gaill, CNRS, director of the National institute for ecology and environment (INEE)

Anders Karlqvist, director of the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat

Christer Jonasson, deputy director of the Abisko Scientific Research Station

#### **Research stations websites:**

Swedish Polar Research Secretariat : [www.polar.se](http://www.polar.se)

Institut Paul-Emile Victor: [www.ipev.fr](http://www.ipev.fr)

Abisko: [www.linnea.com/~ans](http://www.linnea.com/~ans)

Tarfala: [www.ink.su.se/pub/jsp/polopoly.jsp?d=404](http://www.ink.su.se/pub/jsp/polopoly.jsp?d=404)

Contact and information: [sciences@ambafrance-se.org](mailto:sciences@ambafrance-se.org)



**Technical information:**

*Participants :*

- 6 French students
- 6 Swedish students
- researchers / lecturers (France) : 3-5
- researchers / lecturers (Sweden) : 3-5

*Level of studies (for students):*

PhD and post-doctoral students (Master / 2<sup>nd</sup> year candidatures might be accepted also)

*Budget and finance:*

Most of the costs on the station will be covered by a grant of the French Embassy. When necessary, AFSR will be the operator/interface between the Embassy and the participants.

For lecturers: travel expenses and local costs (food + lodging) would be fully covered

For students: local costs (food + lodging) would be fully covered and travel grants will be allocated, covering partly or completely the costs

*Tentative programme:*

Sun. 14	Mon. 15	Tue. 16	Wed. 17	Thu. 18	Fri. 19
	LECTURES	LECTURES	LECTURES	LECTURES	Departure
Lunch + get-together	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
START  LECTURES	FIELD WORK	FIELD WORK Excursion de the valley Kärkevage (Christer Jonasson)	FIELD WORK	FIELD WORK	

