

Meeting at the Greenland Institute for Natural Resources, Nuuk, Greenland

(14.06.2016)

The Extended Directorate of AWI has discussed the outcome of the meeting in Nuuk (as listed below) and has agreed that there are a number of very promising joint activities that could be addressed. AWI agrees that collaboration would be very beneficial for all involved and would like to continue the discussion with the Arctic Science Partnership ASP.

Notes:

Aim of the meeting was to discuss a possible associate membership of the Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI) in the Arctic Science Partnership (ASP). The ASP is presently made up of University of Manitoba, University of Aarhus and Greenland Institute for Natural Resources (GINR). The University of Tromsø, University of Southern Denmark and University of Lund are associated members.

The following aspects were discussed as potential linkages of AWI to ASP:

1) Baffin Bay Observing System -> potential link to the FRAM project of AWI, initiate joint observations strategies, inter-calibration of measurements, data accessibility, joint assessment of results.

2) 79°N Glacier project -> some links already exist and may be extended; especially help in logistics may be possible; scientific collaboration is of interest.

3) Long-term ecological data -> GINR maintains terrestrial and marine observations (Greenland Ecosystem Monitoring Programme) at 3 locations across Greenland for the last 20 years. Data comparison with AWI LTO would be interesting. They also developed community based monitoring.

4) MOSAiK -> Cooperation would be highly welcome; some partners of ASP are already involved.

5) Benthic Mapping -> there is a high interest in developing a benthic map of Arctic regions; a project of the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources in Nuuk already addresses mapping of benthos around Greenland, it would be very useful to join with similar activities in AWI (Tom Brey) and further partners from Norway and Canada.

6) Support for logistics -> ASP has a webpage where expeditions/field campaigns are posted. It indicates open spaces and also requests for support (e.g. retrieval of moorings...).

7) Students -> there is interest to open up possibilities in Europe for Greenlandic students, e.g. participation in Summer Schools or on ship practical's.

8) Bridge Professorship -> one suggestion was to develop a "bridge professorship", i.e. a person that is employed at AWI but has a professorship in Nuuk or Manitoba and links both institutions. This would intensify the collaboration through a dedicated professor and his/her working group. It could be a good chance for a young aspiring scientist from AWI. Potential useful subjects would need to be defined.