

# Inside View from IPPOG - Sweden



- Despite being in the “middle” categories for IPPOG support, Sweden feels like a rather small particle physics community.
  - Four groups involved in experimental particle physics: Lund, Uppsala, KTH Stockholm and Stockholm University.
- Over the last decades we have also seen a shift in funding from group-level grants which included some money for interaction with society to individual grants with little long-term security.
  - Overall, the funding situation is ok compared to other countries, but no funding for outreach and time has to come out of the research time for the physicists.
  - Money for Swedish CERN summer students was recently cut, unclear to me if there are also effects for the teachers program.
  - We pay the IPPOG fees with our LHC research grants.
- All this means that it is hard to plan and execute large-scale outreach projects, many things are done on best-effort basis.

- One of the most important values of IPPOG to Sweden is to raise the value put on outreach, and to show to the funding agencies and our colleagues that outreach matters!
  - Sessions in meetings and international conferences are very important and can gradually change the culture for the better.
- The transition to a formal collaboration will hopefully also raise the perception of outreach.



- The Masterclasses in physics is where Sweden benefits the most from direct IPPOG involvement, like all countries this is really successful and reaches many high school students yearly.
  - Masterclasses are also conducted in Gothenburg, even though there is no experimental particle physics group there.
- In Stockholm, the sessions are organised by Vetenskapens Hus (The House of Science). Jointly funded by KTH and Stockholm University, with support from the City of Stockholm.



- IPPOG provides an invaluable network of contacts and acts as inspiration for outreach activities in Sweden.
  - Buying a spark chamber from LIP, via Pedro.
  - Exhibitions coming to the big museums in Sweden.
  - Inspiration for the use of open data from the LHC experiments.
  - ...
- The IPPOG web page can evolve into a very important and unique resource for people in our field when doing outreach.
  - Finding material for public presentations.
  - How to explain what we do (the field of particle physics), introductions to the experiments, how to explain various phenomena like the Higgs boson, dark matter etc.
  - Inspiration and material for exhibitions.
- Finally, for me personally, all the friends and great colleagues in the IPPOG collaboration!