



### **Associate Professor Sofia Mikko**

Sofia Mikko started her scientific career with an internship at the Animal Parasitology Institute, USDA. This guided her to biology studies at Uppsala University and a PhD thesis on genetic diversity in ruminant MHC at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala. Her focus is primarily on genetics and genomics of diseases and traits in domestic species. Her current research includes whole-genome sequencing and SNP-chip analyses to find genomic associations of performance traits and diseases in Swedish Warmblood horses, as well as whole-genome sequencing of cats.

Mikko has now served her first term and is standing for re-election as executive secretary of ISAG. In this role she has contributed her experience in running the parentage laboratory at SLU. She has been a member of the ISAG community ever since she was a PhD student. Previously, Mikko was a delegate of the Equine Genetics and Thoroughbred Parentage Testing Standardization Committee and the Applied Genetics of Companion Animals Committee, and has actively contributed to the operation of ISAG. Her mission is to integrate research and service assignments to facilitate laboratories around the world in conducting parentage analysis in an efficient, standardized, and secure way.