Environmental Research Grant – clinical therapy research

The aim of the grant is to lend support to large clinical studies that are justified by the needs of the healthcare sector, and thereby offer important benefits to patients and society within a relatively short time frame. The environmental research grant creates an added value through collaborative research in a larger research collaboration group, working towards a common long-term research objective. The Swedish Research Council supports research of the highest quality in national competition.

Summary

Type of grant:	Environmental Research Grant
Area:	Clinical Therapy Research
Applicant:	Individual researcher
Participating researchers:	Maximum 10 researchers may be invited to join the application.
Grant period:	3 years
Grant amount:	Maximum 10 million SEK per year
Budgetary framework:	In total, 166 million SEK have been set aside for this call over a three-year period.
Call deadline:	13 September 2016 (at 2 PM)
Publication of grant award decisions:	Beginning of December 2016
Grant period start date:	January 2017

Read more about previously awarded grants

Full application

The application procedure for environmental research grants in clinical therapy treatment contains two steps. The following instructions apply to applicants, who have submitted an accepted project outline and who have subsequently received an invitation to provide a full application.

The full application (compared to the project outline) must contain the following information:

- A more comprehensive project plan, which includes the specific intermediate goals to be reported and evaluated on a regular basis.
- More detailed descriptions under the call specific sections.
- A complete specification of the budget.
- A complete publications list.
- Names of any participating researchers, together with their CVs and publications.

The full application also differs from the project outline in that it must be signed by the official representative of the administrating organisation. See further instructions below. There may not be any major discrepancies between the preliminary and the full application in regard to the research plan or the budget unless such has been raised by the review panel and communicated in the written statement to the applicant.

Here you can find the call for project outline

Eligibility criteria for grant applications

You must fulfil the requirements set out below to be eligible to apply for the grant. We will carry out controls in order to ensure that applications that do not adhere to the eligibility criteria are rejected from further processing.

Focus

The research must be justified in view of the healthcare needs, and offer patient and societal benefits. The research may include areas such as prevention, diagnostics, treatment, follow-up, implementation, care and rehabilitation. Projects relevant to this call are patient-oriented clinical studies with the delivery of reliable and implementable results that can offer large benefits to patients and society in a relatively short time period of approximately five years after the project ends.

Applicant

You are the project leader and scientific supervisor of the project and your active participation in the project must equal at least 20 percent of a full-time employment. You must hold a Swedish doctoral degree or an equivalent foreign degree. The doctoral degree must have been awarded at the deadline of this call. The date of issue will be considered to be the point in time when all the requirements of the degree were fulfilled (for example mandatory courses, the oral public defence of the doctoral thesis and the approved doctoral thesis).

You must be employed as a clinical practitioner in Sweden when you submit the application, e.g. as a physician, nurse, dentist or physiotherapist, and the employment must at least equal 20 percent of a full-time employment.

The grant will be administered by a Swedish Higher Education Institution (HEI), or another public organisation in Sweden that fulfils the Swedish Research Council's requirements for administrating organisations. Please note that you will not be able to apply unless your organisation is an approved administrating organisation

If you are awarded funding, you must be employed by the administrating organisation when the grant period begins unless the Swedish Research Council, the administrating organisation or another employer (where applicable) agree otherwise. The employment must equal at least 20 % of a full-time employment. You do not have to be employed by the administrating organisation when the application is submitted.

The major part of the research in the application must be conducted in Sweden.

Participating researchers

You may include up to ten participating researchers in your application, i.e. researchers with a doctoral degree whose scientific merits and competence will be crucial for the implementation of the proposed research activities. The participating researchers do not have to be employed by a Swedish HEI.

Participating researchers will themselves have to enter the required information into the application system, and link it to the application. Other collaboration partners (where applicable) and their roles shall be presented in the research plan (see instructions under Research plan below).

Costs and grant funding

The applied grant may be used to cover all kinds of project-related costs, e.g. salaries (including your own salary, which must correspond to your participation rate in the project), rental and property costs, operating costs (such as consumables, travel costs including visits to research centres, publishing costs and minor equipment) and depreciation costs. The grant may however not be used for scholarships. If a doctoral student takes part in the project, the grant may not be used to pay for his/her teaching hours.

You may apply for maximum 10 million SEK per year, including indirect costs.

The Swedish Research Council expects the administrating organisation to cover any cost exceeding the awarded amount.

Grant period

The grant is awarded for a period of three years, starting from January 2017. First payment is made in December 2016, at the earliest.

National collaboration

National cooperation is a requirement from 2016. National cooperation involves cooperation between e.g. several county councils/regions and universities and the innovative companies in the medical sector which operates in Sweden with regard to making the studies and its results effective. The collaboration should proceed from a specific need of interaction. The need could be to ensure a sufficient patient material. Other needs for collaboration may relate to access of high quality data material, equipment or specific skills in several subjects.

How do I apply?

You apply electronically through Prisma, which is the application system used by the Swedish Research Council. You create an application in the Prisma system by filling out the text fields, retrieving information from your personal account, and by enclosing the required appendices.

In order for you to be able to apply, your organisation must have become an approved administrating organisation and created an organisation account in Prisma.

Most of the required steps in the Prisma system are described in the User Manual and the FAQ answers. We advise you to have a look at these documents when you write your application.

Creating a personal account in Prisma

Before you can apply, you must create a personal account in Prisma, where you will store your personal data and your CV. The information only has to be entered once, and may subsequently be supplemented or amended whenever necessary. Since foreign experts are involved in most of the Swedish Research Council calls, we ask you to enter text in English in your CV data. The account will also enable you to register your publications for future use. Please note that publications stored in your account cannot be transferred to the application form. This is due to the fact that the publications function is still under development and has not yet been implemented in the Swedish Research Council's calls. The publications list must therefore be presented in the form of an attached PDF file (see instructions under Publications below).

Please remember to create your personal account well in advance. The applications that you register in Prisma will be linked to your personal account.

All other participants, who will be involved in the preparation of the application must also create an individual Prisma account, and agree to their participation. Once that has been done, they will be able to link their account data to the application.

Text

Some text fields are formattable, which means that in those fields you can change the font and size and insert certain tables, formulas and symbols. If you have written the text in advance using Microsoft Word, you will also be able to copy paste the text and keep the initial formatting. Pictures can however not be inserted into the text fields.

All text fields have limitations as to the number of characters and this will be illustrated by means of a character counter. If you use too many characters you will not be able to register the application.

Signing

Both you, as applicant, and the official representative of the administrating organisation, must sign the application electronically in the Prisma system. More information can be found under the tab Registering the application below.

What must the application contain?

We ask you to familiarize yourself with the application form in Prisma at the same time as you read through the instructions below.

Language

Foreign peer reviewers participate in the scientific assessment of the applications. To guarantee a well-functioning procedure and a level playing field in the review process, we therefore ask you to submit your application in English.

Application subsections

The application form contains the following tabs:

- Descriptive data
- Research description
- Call specific information
- Budget and research resources
- Publications (pdf)
- Administrating organisation
- Review panels
- Participants
- CV

Below you will find an outline of the information required under each tab. Mandatory information is marked with an asterisk* in the Prisma system.

Descriptive data

Under this tab, you are requested to enter the project title in Swedish and English, the project period (number of years), and to select keywords and SCB classification codes. In this section, you are also requested to provide an abstract and a popular science description (cf. instructions below).

Abstract

The research plan abstract should contain a short description of:

- The research activities to be undertaken.
- The specific objectives of the research project in an overall project design, including patient selection, variable selection, data collection and analysis, and time table. Please use the PICO format (population/intervention/control/outcome) for controlled studies.
- The direct patient benefits of the planned research.

The abstract should include a brief outline of the aim and the implementation of the research activities. Please use a language that can also be understood by somebody with a different scientific background.

The outline may contain a maximum of 1,500 characters, including blank spaces (approximately half an A4 page in Times New Roman, size 12, single spacing).

Popular scientific description

Describe the project in a way that makes it possible to understand for a person not familiar with the subject. Describe why and how the research will be conducted, and explain in what way the new knowledge might be important.

The popular scientific description is an important tool for us when we provide information about research financed by the Swedish Research Council. If your application is approved, we therefore reserve the right to use the description for information purposes.

N.B.: Unlike the rest of the application, the popular scientific description must be written in Swedish.

The description may contain a maximum of 4,500 characters, including blank spaces (approximately one A4 page in Times New Roman, size 12, single spacing).

Research description

Under this tab, you are requested to enclose you research plan in a PDF format and describe ethical considerations.

Ethical considerations

Present the ethical issues raised by the research, and explain how they will be addressed in the research activities. We also ask you to indicate whether the research includes animal experiments, experiments involving human subjects, or the handling of personal data. You should ensure in the full application that the project has an ethical approval; or that you has applied for an ethical approval. In a text box, please enter the registration number of the ethical approval or the application for the ethical approval. The registration number for an application of the ethical approval can be obtained from the Etikprövningsnämnden.

Research plan

In this section you are requested to attach your research plan in a PDF format. Please observe that the appendix may only contain one file, with a maximum size of 10 MB.

The research plan should consist of a complete but short and focused description of the research task. The maximum length is ten A4 pages in Times New Roman, font size 12, single spacing, including references. The research plan should be given a forward-looking focus.

We ask you to write the research plan, like the other parts of the application, in **English**.

The following information must be included under separate headings in the research plan, and be listed in the given order:

- **Purpose and aims:** What is to be studied and why? Present the research problem and the main purpose as well as a short scientific background that justifies the project. Describe the main research question(s) and the primary endpoints.
- **Survey of the field:** Outline briefly (maximum one A4 page) the background for the research field of evidence-based knowledge and current clinical practice. Mention systematic reviews, national and international guidelines and/or identify knowledge gaps (from SBU knowledge gaps, DUETS or other sources), which justifies that more research is needed. Please exclude overview of preclinical and technical data and the burden of disease.
- **Study design:** Summarize the specific objectives of the research project in a well specified project design, including patient selection, variable selection, data collection and analysis, and time table according to the information given below. You should also outline the project organisation and the roles of the participating researchers/hospital. Please limit the references to maximum half an A4 page. Please read the suggested literature:
  • Svensson E. Guidelines to statistical evaluation of data from ratings scales and questionnaires. Journal of Rehabilitation Medicine 2001;33: 47-8
  • Svensson E. Val och konsekvens, datamaterialets egenskaper bestämmer den statistiska verktygslådan. Läkartidningen 2005; 102(17):1331-7

• CONSORT: checklist and flow diagram for randomised trials. <www.consort-statement.org/
• STARD: checklist and flow diagram for diagnostic accuracy studies. This page also contains links to guidelines for main study types. www.stard-statement.org/
• Altman DG. Practical statistics for medical research. London, Chapman&Hall, 1991
• Altman DG. Statistical reviewing for medical journals. Statistics in Medicine 1998;17: 2661-2674

The following information must be included under separate headings in the project design, and be listed in the given order:

- **Research questions**
  Structure the purpose in terms of research questions. What is to be studied, and on whom? Please specify the primary variable (primary outcome) of each research question and of any secondary variables as well. In treatment effect studies, the effect variable (e.g. difference, percentage change) should also be specified. Justify any use of surrogate variable (surrogate endpoint).
- **Variables and measurements/assessments**
  Describe how each variable will be measured/recorded, in particular, how the measured values will be used in the description and analysis? What is the role of the variable: is it a primary, secondary, background or explanatory variable? Variables such as quality of life, pain, etc. are commonly assessed on questionnaires/rating scales of various kinds. Specify the dimensions/sub-variables of multi-dimensional questionnaires, as well as the type of scale-categories (e.g. numeric, verbal, VAS), and also how the data will be used in the study. Please include appropriate reference to the questionnaires/rating scales.

- **Study sample size and power calculations**
  Explain and justify the smallest difference in treatment effect/primary outcome variable between control and treatment (or equivalent) that is clinically relevant to detect and estimate the sample size of the study/sub-studies. Specify the estimated drop-outs based on references from previous studies or registries. Calculate the power of the study for the planned sample size taking account of the estimated drop-out. The distribution of patients at the participating clinics should also be considered in the estimation of sample size.
  Also describe where applicable, how patient compliance to treatment can be monitored.

- **Material: Patient selection - population, sample**
  Briefly describe the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the patient selection. Also describe how the participating clinics contribute to the patient selection. How the differences in routine treatments are handled, that could affect the study results? In the selection of patients from the register, indicate the chosen register and consider the risk of systematic under or over registration of patient groups for the inclusion and exclusion criteria.

  Randomization: Describe the randomization method and specify who is responsible for the randomization. Also indicate for whom (patients, physicians, assessors) the randomization is blinded and justify any exceptions.

- **Choice of study design**
  How should the research question be studied? Specify in detail the design of each sub-study/research question and justify why the proposed design is the most appropriate for the research question.
  — For intervention studies, all treatments should be described in detail regarding for example type (s) of treatment, dose, monitoring periods, evaluation etc.
  — For controlled trials (RCTs), PICO (Population / Intervention / Control / Outcome) can be used.
  — In controlled cross-sectional studies describe the treatment for the control group. It is not enough to only indicate the standard treatment. Any differences between the routine treatments of the participating clinics should be clearly described.
  — For cohort/observational studies, possible confounders should be identified. Describe how these confounders should be managed.
  — For crossover studies, where the patient is his/her own control, describe the planning of the different treatment periods and how the risk of "carryover" effect etc. should be taking into account.
  — For longitudinal studies, motivate the choice of repeated follow-up sessions. It should be clear which follow-up session that is related to the main outcome of the study.
  — Describe in detail the data collection for register-based studies where patient data is retrieved

from the register. It is important to take into account that the registry data of the same variable could have been registered using different types of measuring instruments/assessment forms, which results in non-comparable data.

- **Statistical analysis plan**
  Describe statistical methods for all research questions (how the data will be used for describing and solving the research question). Each research question should be linked to a statistical analysis design that is based on the specified variable selection, the methods for data collection and planned management of data for statistical description. The choice of statistical analysis (hypothesis testing) and/or modelling, quality assurance or similar shall be clearly stated. It is not enough to set general concepts such as parametric, non-parametric method or descriptive statistics. Note that the normal distribution can be a possible probability distribution for symmetric quantitative data but never for data from assessments of the questionnaire.
  How will dependent data be handled, for example within the group and/or between groups? Which statistical methods are planned for complex data from questionnaires and other subjective assessments, which generates superior category data? How will longitudinal data and drop-out be handled?
  Specify who is responsible for the statistical analysis plan!

Provide information on the following points under a separate heading if you consider them relevant to your application:

- **Equipment:** Describe the basic equipment that you, and the team, will have at your disposal for the project.
- **Need for infrastructure:** Specify the need for international and national infrastructure within the project. Also specify the need for local infrastructure if such equipment depreciation costs are included in the application. Read more about research infrastructure supported by the Swedish Research Council.
- **Other grants:** If you intend to apply for several research grants, or if you have an ongoing grant awarded by the Swedish Research Council, you need to clarify how the projects relate to each other. You should also justify why you submit several applications.

Justification of changes in the application

Describe the changes that have been made in the full application based on the feedback the project outline received from the review panel. If the change/changes could not be made, explain why!

The outline may contain a maximum of 4,000 characters, including blank spaces (approximately one A4 page in Times New Roman, size 12, single spacing).

Call specific information

Clinical significance and health economic aspects

Describe how the project findings - in terms of patient benefits - are expected to be of practical clinical use in the relatively near future (approximately five years after the end of the project). Specify and explain in what ways the expected findings are being requested by patients and other stakeholders. Factors such as prevalence, the severity of the disease and the social costs should be weighed in the description of clinical relevance.

Health economic aspects must be included in the project. Describe how the project findings may contribute to a better use of the resources in the healthcare sector and to general societal benefits. Give a clear outline of the expected financial implications of the project results.

The outline may contain a maximum of 4,000 characters, including blank spaces (approximately one A4 page in Times New Roman, size 12, single spacing).

User involvement

Describe in what ways users have been consulted in the planning of the study and the choice of endpoints. Users are the patient groups, patient organizations, family members and others who may benefit from the research findings. User involvement may for example consist in basing the choice of endpoints on the wishes and needs expressed by the patients. If you (or somebody else) have made a prioritization list of the existing knowledge gaps in the field, together with the users, you should provide an account thereof. For more information on prioritization processes involving users, we refer to the James Lind Alliance). Although the scientific question are prioritized by, for example, James Lind Alliance, it is good to have national user involvement to get comments on outcome variables of the study.

The outline may contain a maximum of 4,000 characters, including blank spaces (approximately one A4 page in Times New Roman, size 12, single spacing).

Implementation

Describe how the expected results of the envisaged research could be put to use and be implemented in the healthcare sector. Include a clear level structure and a timetable for the implementation. Propose clinical endpoints that could be used to measure the implementation.

The outline may contain a maximum of 4,000 characters, including blank spaces (approximately one A4 page in Times New Roman, size 12, single spacing).

National and international collaboration

Present the Swedish county councils/regions, other researchers and companies that will take part in the project. Collaboration with any potential foreign counterparts should also be described. Present the positive impact of the collaboration e.g. to ensure a sufficient patient material, access of high quality data set, equipment or special skills in several subjects.

State the number of Swedish county councils that will contribute to the recruitment of patients (or equivalent) in the appropriate box.

The outline may contain a maximum of 4,000 characters, including blank spaces (approximately one A4 page in Times New Roman, size 12, single spacing).

Clinical employment

To be entitled to apply for the research environmental grant in clinical therapy research, you must be employed as a clinical practitioner in Sweden, for example as a physician, nurse, dentist or physiotherapist. The

employment must at least equal 20 percent of a full-time employment. Describe how you fulfil these requirements.

The outline may contain a maximum of 4,000 characters, including blank spaces (approximately one A4 page in Times New Roman, size 12, single spacing).

Budget and research resources

Under this tab, you are requested to include staffing costs, other costs and other project funding sources (where applicable).

Project staffing

Specify the dedicated time in the project (as a percentage of full-time employment) for all project staff members, i.e., for yourself, any participating researchers and other personnel. Your dedicated time as project leader must at least equal 20 % of a full-time employment.

You must also include salaries for which you request funding, for yourself and/or other project staff members. Quote the amounts both in proportion to the full-time monthly salary and as actual annual earnings (including social security contributions). A person that you include in your salary request can, but does not have to, be one of the invited participating researchers. Quote the rounded amounts in SEK.

Other costs

Describe other project-related costs (e.g. rental and property charges, operating costs and depreciation costs). Quote the rounded amounts on an annual basis.

You may evoke depreciation costs relating to equipment that will be used in the project, provided that:

- The equipment has an economic life span of at least three years.
- The acquisition value of the equipment exceeds a certain threshold (please turn to your administrating organisation for information on the amount used by your department).
- The equipment need for the proposed project cannot be met by means of freely available national or international infrastructure.

Read more about research infrastructure supported by the Swedish Research Council

You may only evoke the part of the depreciation costs that corresponds to the use of the equipment in the project for which you request funding. You may not evoke depreciation costs relating to equipment that is fully financed by means of other grants. If you have questions about what qualifies as local research infrastructure, acquisition values, or about how to calculate the depreciation costs, please contact your administrating organisation.

Total project cost

The application system will automatically add up the budget items that you enter in a table. The total amount requested shall also include indirect costs. You will have to add the indirect costs yourself to the table. In this

section, you are also requested to add any other additional project costs (for which you do not request funding within the framework of this call).

For questions as to what qualifies as a direct or indirect cost, please contact your HEI.

Explanation of the proposed budget

Write a brief justification statement for each item in the proposed budget.

The outline may contain a maximum of 4,000 characters including blank spaces (equivalent to approximately one A4 page in Times New Roman, font size 12, single line spacing).

Other funding

List any other funding (either subject to an application or awarded) besides the funding requested under this call. Quote the rounded amounts in SEK.

Publications (pdf)

Under this tab, we ask you to attach your and any participating researchers' (where applicable) publications lists in a PDF format. Please observe that the appendix may only contain one file, with a maximum size of 10 MB. If the attachment contains several files, you will therefore have to join them into a single file.

Include publications made in the last eight years and mark the five publications on each researcher's list that are the most relevant to the project with an asterisk (*).Highlight the current researcher's name in bold. Sort the publications in each list under the following numbered headings in the given order:

1. **Peer-reviewed original articles**
2. **Peer-reviewed conference contributions** (the findings presented may not have been reported in other publications).
3. **Monographs**
4. **Research review articles**
5. **Books and book chapters**
6. **Popular science publications including. books/presentations**

N.B.: You shall only include articles (or equivalent) that have been published or accepted for publication. The application cannot be complemented with publications after the call has closed.

Administrating organisation

Under this tab, you are requested to list the administrating organisation and the project site. The administrating organisation is the organisation that administers and accounts for the funds of the awarded project under the terms and conditions laid down. The project site is the organisational unit where the project will be based. The administrating organisation and the project site generally correspond to the HEI and the department where the project leader will be employed.

An application can only be linked to an administrating organisation with an approved Prisma account. Unless your administrating organisation already has such an account, you will have to ask it to apply for an organisation account with the Swedish Research Council.

Please contact your administrating organisation if your project site does not appear on the list. You have to provide the project site information to be able to finalize the registration of the application.

Review panels

Under this tab, you are requested to enter the review panel, or the review panels (in order of priority), that you would want to scientifically assess your application. The final decision on the distribution of applications between the review panels will be made by the Swedish Research Council.

Review panels

Participants

In this section, you may invite participating researchers and administrators to join the application. By participating researcher we refer to a person with a doctoral degree involved in the project and whose scientific merits and competence will be crucial for the implementation of the proposed research activities and will have a key role in the realization of the proposed research. A participating administrator is a person, who does not take part in the project itself but can help you register and edit information in the application.

You may invite participants, who do not yet hold a Prisma account. Each one of them must however open a personal Prisma account to be able to contribute to your application.

All participants must accept the invitation and participating researchers must retrieve and enter their CV data into the application before you can finalize the application registration. Remember to make sure that you use the right email addresses when you send invitations to participants, and that each address is linked to invited person's Prisma account.

CV

Under this tab, you are requested to retrieve and enter relevant CV data stored in your personal Prisma account. Participating researchers (where applicable) have to enter their respective CV data into the application.

The following information must always (where available) be provided in each CV and limited to the number specified:

- **Education**: Graduate studies, specialist degree, as well as basic and advanced education.
- **Professional history**: Current employment (including information if it is a permanent position or not) and longer relevant positions you have held, postdoctoral visits and research exchanges that are relevant for the described research and any longer interruption in the research that has affected your ability to qualify as a researcher.
- **Merits and awards**: Fellowship, supervised persons (postdocs and postgraduate students; indicate the total number for each category and indicate up to 10 persons that are most relevant), up to 10 of your most relevant awarded competitive grants, up to 10 of your most

relevant awards and distinctions, as well as up to 20 potential other merits of relevance to the application.
- **Intellectual property:** E.g., patents and freely available computer programs that you have developed, please indicate up to 10 of your most relevant.

Registering the application

When you open the Registering the application tab, the system will perform a check to verify if any mandatory information is missing and inform you of any need for supplements. The application will not be registered unless you click the Register button.

Remember to use the preview function in order to double-check your application before submitting it!

N.B.: Please note that all invited participants must accept your invitation before you can proceed to register the application. Invitations that have not been accepted have to be removed. Before registering, all participating researchers (if applicable) must also retrieve data from their personal Prisma account to the application.

The registered application can then be viewed in your personal Prisma account, under Applications and Applications and grants in the menu. If necessary, a registered application may be de-registered, edited and re-registered up to the call deadline.

You are responsible for ensuring that the application is complete, that is to say that the application form is filled out correctly, the required appendices are submitted, and that the requested information is provided in accordance with the instructions. We ask you to only submit specifically requested information. After the closing date, application addenda will only be accepted in cases where we have asked for supplements.

Signing the application

When you register the application, it will automatically be signed by you in your capacity of project leader. The application must also be signed by the official representative of the administrating organisation in order for it to be considered complete and be processed further in the review process. This representative is normally the head of the department where the research will be conducted, but that will depend on the organisational structure of your administrating organisation.

The signature *of the applicant* confirms that:

- The information contained in the application is correct and in line with the instructions from the Swedish Research Council.
- Any side-line occupation and/or commercial ties have been reported to the administrating organisation, and that no conflict with the principles of good research practice has been established.
- The necessary permits and approvals are in place at the start of the project, e.g. concerning the ethical review.

The signature *of the administrating organisation* confirms that:

- The organisation will accommodate the research and the equipment, and employ the applicant during the time period and to the extent presented in the application.

- The organisation approves the cost estimate presented in the application.
- The project will be conducted in accordance with Swedish law.

The parties must have discussed the above-mentioned points before the representative of the administrating organisation approves and signs the application.

N.B.: The official representative of the administrating organisation must have signed the application in Prisma within a week (seven calendar days) of the application deadline for it to be considered further in the review process.

What happens next?

When the call closes (at 2:00 PM on the final day for submission of applications), the registered application will automatically become final and given a registration number.

Your registered application will automatically be forwarded to the official representative of the administrating organisation, who shall sign the application within a week (seven calendar days) of the application deadline. You will receive an auto-generated email when the application has been signed.

You will find information about the status of the application, the registration number and the application signature under the tab Applications and grants in your account.

Scientific evaluation

The scientific assessment of the application will be made by active researchers. These peer reviewers evaluate each application (in competition with the other applications) on the basis of the assessment criteria established by the Swedish Research Council.

If an application does not comply with the instructions, this will be taken into account in the application review.

How your application is evaluated

The Swedish Research Council's conflict of interest policy

The Swedish Research Council's gender equality strategy

Decisions

Shortly after the grant funding decisions have been taken, information on the awarded grants will be published on the web page of the Swedish Research Council. After that, a notification of decision and a final statement for your application can be found in your personal account under the tab Applications and grants. The final statement contains the application grading and, in some cases, written comments.

N.B.: As from 12 October 2015, anyone who uses genetic resources (genetic material of actual or potential value) and traditional knowledge pertaining to genetic resources, which were accessed after 12 October 2014,

shall follow the EU ABS declaration and declare that the resource and the knowledge used have been obtained in line with the applicable legislation, and distribute any benefit deriving from the use thereof in a fair and reasonable way. This only applies for granted applications.

Exceptions apply to human genetic resources, material covered by the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, material included in the WHO´s Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework and genetic material obtained from the Deep Seas.

For questions about the EU ABS declaration, please contact the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (information in Swedish).

Contact

For questions relating to the application content:

For questions relating to the application content, please email or call the contact persons listed below. The phone numbers are staffed weekdays from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM during the opening period of the call.

Anh Thu Nguyen Hoang, email: Anhthu.Nguyenhoang@vr.se, telephone: 08546 44 018

AnneSophie Fröjmark, email: Anne-Sophie.Frojmark@vr.se, telephone: 08546 44 275

Elisabeth Tehler, email: Elisabeth.Tehler@vr.se, telephone: 08546 44 229

Technical questions

We kindly ask you to first consult the help menu in the Prisma system, where you will find instructions and FAQs as well as a detailed user manual, which describe most of the required steps in Prisma.

If you cannot find the answer to your technical question in the above-mentioned information material, please contact our technical support team. Please note that depending on the workload, it may take up to 1-2 working days before you get a reply.