

Q&A for Designed living environment – architecture, form, design, art and cultural heritage in public spaces

Questions and answers from the information meeting

The call “Designed living environment – architecture, form, design, art and cultural heritage in public spaces” is a joint venture with Formas and the Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning, ArkDes, the Swedish National Heritage Board, and Public Arts Agency Sweden.

During the information meeting about the call on 24 March 2020, a lot of questions was sent in through the chat and answered live by Formas and Public Art Agency Sweden. We’ve collected them here.

Questions	Answers
About the members in the project	
If artist are also researchers, and they want to reflect and research on their own projects, would you encourage that?	As long as one member of the project team has a PhD, weather being an artist or not this could be relevant if relating to the rest of the call focus.
Does all projects need to have planning and/or architecture expertise in the research group?	No, there should be two different disciplines/professions/perspectives represented in the project group. It can also be artistic fine art, art theory, cultural heritage, etc. as stated in the call text.
Does all projects need to have planning and/or architecture expertise in the research group?	No
The international members are not part of those 5 max partners, right?	No, but they can belong to one of the partners' team. You can have many subconsultants in the team if the funding suffices
Can someone be a named member of a project team on two different Research Proposals?	Yes, but the same person can't be the main project leader of two or more projects. They could be part of different teams that apply though.

How do you define a researcher? An artist must thus have a PhD?	En forskare definieras vi som en disputerad person. Men en konstnärlig forskare behöver inte vara en disputerad person. Men i projektgruppen behöver det finnas en disputerad person även om det finns en konstnärlig forskare som inte har disputerat.
What does artistic expertise include? Could you give more information about what it contains?	To be a practicing professional artist
Can a researcher from UK/Scotland be contracted for the research?	Yes, from one of the Swedish partners in the project group. The international researcher will be included by subcontracting by one of the partners.
A broad definition of artist would then include performance and performing artists...?	Yes
Can an architect be counted as artist?	Yes, if the architect has artistic merits. They should then be included in the CV.
Can the researcher be in a process of doing her PHD or only people with PHD are allowed?	As a PhD student you could be part of a team, but one member must have had the dissertation approved beforehand the application is submitted.
Att det finns konstskunniga i projektgruppen med fri konstbakgrund är det att likställa med att vara praktiserande konstnär i gruppen?	Ja, det kan det vara
Reading the application, I understand artistic competence in the group is important but not that the one(s) with artistic competence has to be in the role of being an artist in the project but hearing you know I understand the artist being central as practicing artist in the project can you elaborate on this please?	All the participants in the project team are important when they are relevant for the performance of the research project.
Går det att göra ett konto med skyddade personuppgifter? Hur gör jag OM det inte går?	Ja. Alla personuppgifter är skyddade i Prisma
Is the term "artistic publications" synonymous with artistic works (e.g. sculptures exhibitions performances etc.)?	If this is your artistic material and form of expression, then yes but it shouldn't be as catalogues of exhibitions for e.g. If you use publications as part of your expression and practice and they add to public spaces they can count. It depends on the project.

Do the project leader needs to work in the grant administrator?	No
Can the project leader be a freelance at the time of doing the application?	Yes
Can a designer with design education but not practitioner currently be understood as an artist?	It depends on the artistic competence of the designer
what does artistic expertise include? could you give more information about what it contains?	Please, contact Kristina Laurell or Annika Enqvist direct for contacts with academia
I utlysningen står att många olika professioner kan vara i projektgruppen, men är någon av dessa viktigare än andra? I så fall vilka? I de nationella målen för Gestaltad livsmiljö tycker jag mig se att det är många olika professioner som behövs för att åstadkomma hållbara gestaltade livsmiljöer.	Nej, det är inte fördefinierat utan specificeras av projektgruppen i ansökan. Det vill säga det är upp till er i projektet att bestämma.
About the Partners and the Team	
What is the difference between Project Team and Partners?	The team are the persons/competencies involved in the project group. The partners are the organizations managing the funds of the involved persons, one of the partners is also the grant administrator of the research project. Stakeholders are people or organizations that learn or benefit from and is affected by the project and that can use the result from the project.
Do the principle researchers in a team need to be from different project partners?	Yes, at least two persons from two different organisations.
Can anyone of the partners be grant administrator/project leader?	Yes in theory but the grant admin has to be reviewed by Formas to be approved along certain criteria.
Can a region be a an eligible project partner (or only municipality)?	Yes
The requirement of at least 2 co-working partners, does that include "medelsförvaltaren" (e.g. a university)?	You need to have to disciplines represented as active members of the team. It is not enough to be 1 person working in the project team along the grant admin/medelsförvaltaren. However, the

	other member can be employed by and connected to the grant admin organization.
When you refer to partners do you mean an organization or the partners can be individual researcher?	Partners are organizations with individuals participating in the project.
Do we need a minimum of two partners?	Yes. But "we" can be one of the partners so you need at least one more organization in your application.
Is the call for Swedish partners only? So my question is not about the Team, but about PARTNERS	They can be sub-contracted to a Swedish partner and be part of the Team but not a partner
Does the artistic practitioner/practitioners have to be a project partners or can the project tie several artists to the project over the duration of the project period?	Yes, if budget allows.
Are two persons and a university enough for be counted as partners?	There must be at least two different persons from two different partners/organizations in the application.
Can an NGO and an institution entitled to apply?	Yes
Can an economic association (ekonomisk förening) be a grant administrator?	Yes
Is Konstfrämjandet elegibile?	Yes
Can an institution/organisation be a partner (as a group working with the project) or does the application has to be connected to a specific person within that organisation?	Project leader and grant administrator organization goes into Prisma and fill in the budget. Within each partner there must be a person that works in the project.
It is not entirely clear if an aktiebolag can apply to a (the) grant We are an AB that are attempting to work with a mixed economy i.e. an artistic organization that has a limited company status and have received grants from the region and the city while we have tried to complement our practice by mediating artwork to different actors including private clients and public institutions.	You can apply if you are a AB. Please, contact johan.hansson@formas.se for further information.

Hur görs definitionen på Grundforskning, eftersom det är enda sätt för små företag att få 100 stödfinansiering? Vi är ett litet företag som siktar på att i samarbetet med en konstnär utveckla ny kunskap om stadsrummets gestaltning genom framtidsstudier Kan det räknas som grundforskning eller vem kan jag prata med det om?	kontakta johan.hansson@formas.se.
Does the practising artist who is contracted with one of the project partners be added as a participant in the application? so to fulfil the criteria of interdisciplinary work	Yes
I ansökan krävs konstskunniga i gruppen, är det att likställa med bakgrund/ utbildning och/ eller en praktiserande konstnär ?	Vi hänvisar till utlysningstexten gällande denna fråga.
Jag tolkar svaret som gavs att det enbart är minst 1 konstnär och minst 1 med PhD som krävs i projektgruppen. Inga krav i övrigt ställs eller värderas baserat på att en specifik profession ska finnas i projektgruppen	Precis
About the project	
Understanding Cross-Sectorial working methods	Please, contact Kristina Laurell or Annika Enqvist direct for contacts with academia
What is understood as research - Can it be performative research as art practice?	It can be as part of the research project but you still need a PhD in the project
Talking about the aesthetic perspectives does that exclude working with the importance of programming to obtain quality of public space? Public spaces- as in urban open spaces or built enclosed spaces.	Please, contact Kristina Laurell or Annika Enqvist direct for contacts with academia
Public spaces- as in urban open spaces or built enclosed spaces.	Public spaces =where people are and public spaces as in shared spaces and living environments so both open spaces and built environments and it could also include social aspects in between.
Talking about the aesthetic perspectives does that exclude working with the importance of programming to obtain quality of public space?	No, to include aesthetic perspectives does not mean one have to exclude other perspectives as such.

Can the project be on finding new methods and processes outside or alternative to the existing planning processes that are implemented and norm today?	Yes
As the application is in English and goals are international is the focus of research on Sweden or on international environments?	The grant admin and the project leader of the team needs to be based in Sweden. However, the research can have a national or international focus.
IDEAS about the constructed environment and not only actual constructed environments also count. Can you please expand on this?	It can also include other values like social aspects, for e g the role of art in shared spaces how citizens use existing public art in shared spaces etc. Or new methods to develop processes for the design of living environments, it could also focus on new knowledge around how the experience of places/art etc. impact us.
Can you describe a project that would not qualify, i.e. What are the outer borders of the scope?	Please, read the call text and follow the requirements in your application.
What is understood as research - Can it be performative research as art practice?	Yes, but the group should have at least one PhD in the project. This could of course also be the artist/-s as well.
Could the project be an actual intervention, something built and investigated through following the effects, rather than pure research?	Both
Just to understand a bit more about your view (borders) of public spaces in this research project: Can for example a river floating trough a municipality be a public space?	Yes, if its accessible to the public.
According to this text and formulations in the call what is asked for is research about public art (in public space) rather than research about architecture or the design of public spaces. To what extent could architectural research be included?	Depending on your research question, architectural research can be included.
How do you see the result of the projects being delivered? You mentioned that new knowledge is desired as result for whom should this be presented and in what ways? can it also be that the processes as	This will depend on your research project. Please, read more in the call text.

such is delivering results along the way or do you see it more as classical research with a report in the end?	
How interested are you in the concrete 'realisation' of a proposal? This relates to the earlier question about ideas and concepts and propositions that may or may be realised after the four years.	Regarding this question, we refer to the call text.
Syftar "implementation" på HUR undersökningen ska göras eller på vart/hur resultat ska implementeras?	Det syftar på resultaten
Är fokuset helt på utveckling av STÄDER? Gestaltade livsmiljöer finns även utanför städerna.	Det gäller hela samhället och en hållbar samhällsutveckling dvs även utanför de urbana områdena.
Eftersom både tvärvetenskaplighet OCH intersektionalitet är viktigt för forskningen undrar jag över tvärvetenskapliga delen Hur tänker ni kring att involvera andra discipliner med förankring inom forskningsvärlden dvs utöver de konstnärliga dimensionerna (kulturanthropologi psykologi osv) Är det just mötet MELLAN olika discipliner i en unik forskningsgrupp som är viktigt att lyfta för att finna ny kunskap för hållbar utveckling och gestaltad livsmiljö snarare än att lyfta främst den konstnärliga delen för sig?	Vi hänvisa till utlysningstexten gällande denna fråga.
Kan projektet handla om planering av konst inom offentliga sjukhusmiljöer?	Det beror på hur ni formulerar projektet. Vi hänvisar till utlysningstexten gällande denna fråga.
About the review process	
What is a review panel?	Read more about the review process and review panel on www.formas.se
Who will participate in the evaluation panel?	The panel members have the expertise required to assess research applications within architecture, art, the humanities, natural sciences, social sciences and engineering sciences, and can also review multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research. The review panel is appointed by Formas.

Funding questions	
Projects to be funded	At least three projects but hopefully more, depending on the quality of the projects and the available funds due to Covid-19 situation.
Is the maximum 1 million SEK/year? Or 4 million per project? Can a 2-year project apply for 4 million for example?	Max 4 million Swedish Cronas per project when the project runs over 4 years
There is a great discrepancy between the ambitions of the call (multidisciplinary teams etc) and the allocated funds (10M kr.). Research projects involving 2 people working at 30-40% for 3-4 years usually cost 4-6, 5 M. In that respect	This is a different call and should not be compared with the funding of multidisciplinary research groups.
Does this mean one should apply mostly for research costs rather than salaries of the researchers?	Mainly for salaries material and instruments are limited to 500K SEK, but other costs can be included
You mentioned that this is the first call in this area – are there any concrete plans for future calls	We have no decisions about new calls within this area. However, Formas, Statens Konstråd, ArkDes and Riksantikvarieämbetet have other calls on-going that could be of interest for you!
Can the project end before 2024 or does it have to last until then?	The project can be shorter than four years and can thus end before 2024.
Is it possible to finance the art itself too or only the research?	The art needs to be a part of the research project and a maximum 500 000 SEK for material, research instruments can be granted.
You mentioned the rules for financing are different for companies and institutions. Institutions may have full financing but what are the rules for companies?	Formas mandate and the regulation for financing differs between research institutions, non-profit organisations and profit driven companies. Profit driven companies can't have full financing, but they can be eligible for funding and reviewed as grant administration. The rules for each company are specific and will be evaluated by Formas after the proposal has been submitted. Please contact johan.hansson@formas.se

	for details rules for further questions regarding profit driven companies participating as partners in the projects.
So how much is a company required to contribute?	Contact Johan Hansson at Formas for further questions regarding profit driven companies participating as partners in the projects.
Do you value projects with in kind financing higher than projects with no in-kind financing?	No
Are there any requirements for co-financing by the partners, in terms of time or money?	No
Are there any requirements of co-financing from partners? Through added money or time?	No. But you can describe it in your application if you have any co-funds for the project.
In the call text is mentioned that salary can be paid for a doctoral student. Does this mean that a non-named doctoral student (who cannot thereby not submit a CV) can be included in the budget - a doctoral student who joins soon after the project has started?	Yes
Is it possible to finance the art itself too or only the research?	It is the research that will be funded.
Kan man addera andra personer på timmar, dagar, under vägen om det visar sig att projektet behöver inspel från andra discipliner? Hur låst blir ansökan?	Nej. Budgeten som man söker för är den som gäller för projektet. OM ändringar måste göras måste Formas godkänna dessa ändringar för att fortsatt finansiering ska kunna ske.
Open Access and Public Research	
Does the research need to be made public during or after the project?	The research and the results need to be made Public after the project has been finalized. Read more about the conditions for receiving funds at Formas web-site.
Call administration	



Participating organizations and contact person	Formas: Kristina Laurell, kristina.laurell@formas.se Statens Konstråd: Annika Enqvist, annika.enqvist@statenskonstrad.se ArkDes: Linda Kummel Boverket: Suzanne Pluntke Riksantikvarieämbetet: Cathrine Mellande, Eva Dahlström Rittsél
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