

Animal protection - and animal welfare promoting measures

Open for applying: 2019-05-02

Apply before: 2019-06-11

Day of decision: 2019-11-20

		
What can you apply for?	Who can apply?	How much can you apply for?
Projects that contributes to an increased development of measures that can actively increase the welfare and /or increase the animal protection for those animals that are kept permanently, or for a limited period of time, by humans.	Researchers with a doctoral degree, active at a Swedish company (not sole proprietorships), organisations, universities, colleges and research institutes, which are a, by Formas approved, administrating organisation.	Project length may be up to one year and the maximum grant for a one-year project is one million SEK.

Revisions

Changes in the call text after the date of publication will be specified here.

Date	Change

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Description of the call

Introduction

Sweden is one of the leading countries regarding animal protection and animal welfare and it is the ambition of the Swedish government that Sweden shall remain in that position. The Swedish Research Council Formas, in consultation with the Swedish Board of Agriculture, announces a funding call for animal protection- and animal welfare promoting measures for those animals that are kept permanently, or for a limited period of time, by humans. In this call companies and other organisations are also welcome to apply for funding. Project length may be up to one year and the maximum grant for a one-year project is one million SEK. According to the letter of regulation from the government, Formas has committed totally six million SEK for 2019.

Background

How we keep our animals is regulated by the animal welfare legislation. All animals cared for by humans, for example farm animals, sporting and companion animals, are thus affected by the animal welfare legislation. Good animal protection means a clear legislation that are complied with and good animal protection is the foundation for good animal welfare. Animal welfare can, in turn, be defined by the five freedoms: freedom from hunger or thirst, freedom from discomfort, freedom from pain, injury or disease, freedom to express normal behaviour and freedom from fear and distress.

Sweden is one of the leading countries regarding animal protection and animal welfare and it is the ambition of the Swedish government that Sweden shall remain in that position. Furthermore, the Swedish government raises in the bill 2016/17:104 -A long term food strategy for Sweden that the demand for animal products will increase globally as the result of an increased population and an improved economy. This will in turn increase the demands in knowledge of and the requisites for a sustainable animal husbandry in which preventive measures for animal health and welfare are important.

Research need to be developed together with business practitioners, and we encourage contact between researchers and the surrounding community to help ensure that the research is rooted in society's needs. Formas therefore organised a workshop with invited representatives from society and academia in May 2018 with the aim to identify areas in need of research and development within animal welfare and animal protection.

According to the letter of regulation from the government, Formas has committed totally six million SEK per year for animal protecting- and animal welfare measures. Furthermore, Formas shall announce the call in consultation with the Swedish board of Agriculture which in turn is assigned by the government to ensure a high level of animal protection and to work for a sustainable development and a competitive food industry.

Purpose and focus

The purpose with the call is to promote an increased development of measures that can actively improve the welfare and/or increase the animal protection for those animals that are kept permanently, or for a limited period of time, by humans. The projects may address, for example, a process, a product or a concept. The projects must have an explicit and clear relevance for the welfare of the particular animal species the application concerns because in addition to development, this call focus on utilisation.

Formas encourage inter- and transdisciplinary approaches when applicable. In this call, companies and other organisations, which are by Formas approved administrating organisations, are also welcome to apply for funding. Please observe that for participating companies apply state aid regulations.

If the project concerns farm animals, horses or insects it is eligible that the project is associated to one of the identified areas in need of research stated in the document “Demanded research”, which was compiled after the seminar in May 2018.

Project length may be up to one year and the maximum grant for a one-year project is one million SEK. Formas believes that an average budget is 200 000 – 800 000 SEK. Formas has committed totally six million SEK for 2019.

Before you apply

Who can apply?

Universities, colleges, research institutes, companies and other organisations can apply for funding under the Formas communication call. Note: Sole proprietorship businesses cannot be granted funding under this call.

Private companies and other organisations engaged in economic activity that want to apply for grants from Formas are subject to [state aid regulations for companies and other organizations engaged in economic activity](#). See the section on so-called de minimis aid (provisions on).

All projects regarding animal protection- or animal welfare promoting measures for which a Formas grant is sought must have a responsible project manager. Main applicant must have a doctoral degree. The project must be carried out by the individuals stated in the application.

Main applicant must have a minimum degree of activity in the project equal to 20% of full-time employment.

Projects that qualify for funding

Funding can be sought for projects that actively improve the welfare and/or increase the animal protection for those animals that are kept permanently, or for a limited period of time, by humans. The projects may address, for example, a process, a product or a concept. The projects must have

an explicit and clear relevance for the welfare for the animal species the application concerns because, in addition to development, this call focus on utilisation.

Applications may be submitted for funding linked with project implementation, e.g. salary for project manager, other researchers, doctoral students, technical personnel or subcontractors, premises, operating costs (e.g. consumables, travel, prototype development and manufacture) and cooperation activities

The funding cannot be used for scholarships or educational grants for research students.

The total salary amount for a single researcher, PhD student or other staff must not exceed 100 percent of full-time employment. This means that additional salary funding cannot be granted to researchers, PhD students or other staff who already receive grants or contributions with full salary funding. Formas does not grant funding for annual salary increases.

Subcontractors are permitted if they participate in defined parts of the project. Subcontractors may, for example, be innovation offices or patent and business consultants (to be procured in accordance with the rules applicable at the university, institute or authority managing the grant). Regarding innovation offices, the costs must involve activities beyond those already conducted by the innovation offices for the university's researchers. IP companies owned by researchers may also be used as subcontractors.

Formas' funding for animal protection- or animal welfare promoting measures cannot be paid to companies that intend to commercialise the research idea themselves. If such a company is involved, they must contribute in-kind funding for their part of the project, and it is desirable for a cooperation agreement to be drawn up between main applicant and the company.

Formas will not provide funding for pure commercialisation or marketing.

In this call, Formas will not provide funding for continued research, writing articles or reports, communication initiatives or general product development.

Main applicants may submit no more than one project application to this call. However, main applicants can submit one project application in the thematic call for research projects regarding animal protection and animal welfare.

Grant amount and project duration

In Formas' call for animal protection -or animal welfare promoting measures, a project can apply for a maximum of one million SEK for one year. Applicants may not apply for one million SEK in total for a period shorter than 12 months. Applications in which the total amount applied for exceeds the maximum allowable amount for the call will be rejected. Project funding will be paid in December 2019. The funding may be spent throughout 2020.

Information about de minimis [aid rules as well as the costs that might qualify for aid to companies and other organisations](#) engaged in economic activity can be found mon.formas.se **Note:** These rules do not apply to universities, colleges and research institutes.

At a later stage of the application process, companies and organisations engaged in economic activity that are applying for funding must [submit proof of de minimis aid](#) (please note that the form is in Swedish)

Formas will notify the organisations of when this proof is due. The statement of proof indicates whether you have received de minimis aid during the previous two fiscal years and the current fiscal year. If so, the organisation must submit proof that any de minimis aid received during this period does not exceed a total of the equivalent of 200,000 euros. In this call for animal protection- and animal welfare promoting measures, Formas is granting selected projects a total of up to 1 million SEK for one year.

Final reports, including a financial and a scientific report, as well as a short summary of the project results are requested three months after the end of the project period.

No co-funding is required for this call, but it is welcomed and encouraged. For example, co-funding may, in the form of time contributions (in-kind).

Language

Language Applications may be written in Swedish or English, but Formas recommends writing applications in English. Evaluation panel will include international experts. Applications that are written entirely in Swedish will be translated into English before being submitted to the Evaluation panel for review. It will not be possible to make changes to the application when it has been translated. The project summaries must be available in both Swedish and English. Please note that the budget specification should always be written in English: a Swedish budget specification will not be submitted for translation but will be reviewed by the international experts as it is.

A recommendation is to choose the Arial font in font size 12 for the information you enter in all text boxes.

How to apply

Applying in Prisma

Applications for grants under Formas' communication call should be submitted online in the [Prisma application system](#). The organisation behind the project must have an organisation account in Prisma.

Applicants from generally approved administrating organisations in Prisma (universities, colleges, research institutes)

In most cases, universities, colleges and research institutes already have an organisation account in Prisma and can then use those existing accounts. Project managers at these organisations apply for funding through their personal account in Prisma.

Applicants from non-generally approved administrating organisations (companies and other organisations)

If an organisation does not already have an account in Prisma, an appropriate representative should apply for an organisation account on the Prisma website in good time before the application is submitted. It may take a few weeks to get the application for an account approved. Indicate in the justification for the application that you are applying under Formas' call for animal protection- and animal welfare promoting measures and state whether the applying organisation is a higher education institution, research institute, non-profit association, private company, etc. If the manager of the organisation account should be the project manager, then no separate personal account needs to be connected to the application. If another person should be the project manager, that person must have a personal account in Prisma.

If the organisation has an account in Prisma but is not a generally approved administrating organisation with Formas, it must notify research administrator [Kenneth Nilsson](#).

To be able to submit the application, the organisation must specify its domicile. To choose a domicile, such a structure must be created in the organisation account. [Read more about organisation structure](#).

Information your application must contain

The application registered in the Prisma application system must include a clear description of the project under the following sections. Please note, that in Prisma, write out the total amount you are applying for in kronor using digits. For example, SEK 1 million should be written as: 1 000 000 kronor.

Basic information

- Project manager
- Number of months applied for (maximum 12 months)
- Project title in Swedish
- Project title in English
- Project goal

Note that the project's start date is preselected in Prisma and cannot be edited, as funding for the entire project will be paid in 2019. However, funding for may be spent throughout 2020.

Abstract (maximum 2,000 characters each in Swedish and English)

A brief and clear description of the project's content and objectives. The abstract must include a justification of and information about both the project. Also include the result you expect the project to have.

Project description – Specific aims and objectives of the proposed project and a background description containing an overview of the research area (max 4 000 characters including spaces)*

describe the research that underpins the project. Describe why it is important to conduct the project. Describe the originality and expected outcome. Describe the project's national and international potential. It is also important to describe how the focus of your research is related to one or more of Formas' areas of responsibility: Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning. Describe the sustainability in the project in relation to Agenda 2030

Description of the project including a summary of the structure, theory, methods, competence, performance and a plan for scientific deliverables (max 3 000 characters including spaces) *

Describe how you will organise the project. Project plan, including activity and time table. Describe how the project results can be followed up. Describe the type of expertise available within the project, and state which researchers that are part of the project. Describe the project organisation, management and roles of participants. Reflect on gender equality and diversity when you put together the project team.

Description of the potential societal value of the research question and planned communication with stakeholders/end users (max 3000 characters including spaces) *

Describe the need/problem to be resolved, including benefit to society. Describe how stakeholders/end-users and experts in utilisation will be involved in the project. Describe the plan for communication with stakeholders/end-users.

Budget

[Eligible costs for companies and other organisations conducting economic activity](#)

The project's budget for administrating organisations must be specified in Prisma, where the following budgetary information is requested. Note that the feature for adding project parties is not normally used in this call.

- Salaries including social fees. For any current employment positions, the salary in effect at the time of the application (including social fees) must be used for all subsequent years. For new employment positions, the starting salary at the administrating organisation must be used for all subsequent years. Note that Formas does not grant funding for annual salary increases. Eligible staff expenses for companies and other organisations conducting economic activity may be estimated at a maximum of 800 SEK per hour. Universities, colleges or research institutes are not subject to this limitation.
- Dedicated time for this project. State the degree of activity in the project. This indicates whether the applicant contributes in-kind services or other funding for completing the project. Please note that the main applicant must have a minimum degree of activity in the project equal to 20% of full-time employment.
- Running costs. Specify running costs in accordance with practices at the administrating organisation.
- Premises. Specify the costs for premises (if not part of overhead/indirect costs) in accordance with practices at the administrating organisation.

- Indirect costs: Overhead costs. Universities, colleges and research institutes may charge a mark-up for indirect costs according to the applicable full-cost pricing method. Other project parties may charge a mark-up for indirect costs of up to 30 percent of their eligible staff expenses.
- Budget specification. Provide a brief justification for all salaries and other expenses. A description of the total project budget, including funding from other sources, should also be included. All other costs must be clearly justified. The budget specification is part of the evaluation.

Note that you should always write the budget and budget specification in English; any Swedish budget specification will not be translated but will instead be reviewed as it is by the international review panel.

Funding:

There are four types of funding an applicant can specify in the application:

- Requested grant from Formas: Indicates the amount requested from Formas under the call for animal protection- and animal welfare promoting measures
- Other aid (state): Normally not used in the call for animal protection- and animal welfare promoting measures
- Other aid (private): Normally not used in the call for animal protection- and animal welfare promoting measures
- Self-funding: If the project contributes its own funding, this is calculated and displayed in the field for self-funding. Self-funding is optional.

Ethical considerations

You should specify whether there are specific ethical concerns in your project. If so, you must describe the relevant ethical considerations and how they will be managed. Examples include research that uses personal data, or experiments on humans or animals. [Read more about ethical considerations.](#)

Classifications

- **Subject areas**

Select a minimum of one and a maximum of three subject areas

- **SCB-code**

Select a minimum of one and a maximum of three SCB codes

- **Global goals for sustainable development**

Select a minimum of one and a maximum of three of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals that best apply to your project. When selecting more than one goal, specify the goals in priority order. The goal that is most relevant to the project should be stated in the first box. Read an explanation of these goals on the UN Development Programme website. As the meaning of the goals is

sometimes narrower than what the title indicates, we encourage you to follow the link and read in more detail about the goals you intend to specify to ensure that the intended research contributes towards achieving that particular goal.

Select a minimum of one and a maximum of five key words that describe the project.

Administrating organisations

An administrating organisation is the organisation that receives the grant money from Formas when a grant is awarded. Formas distinguishes between generally approved administrating organisations (mainly universities, colleges and research institutes) that can apply under all calls, and administrating organisations that are approved under an individual call. In this call, Formas welcomes applicants from both groups.

Decisions on approving new administrating organisations will be taken soon after decisions on the call to ensure that the decisions are based on recent data. Prior to taking a decision, Formas performs checks on all parties that apply for funding and engage in economic activity in order to assess their financial stability and ability to complete the project. Applying for an organisation account in Prisma means that you are applying to become an administrating organisation. In connection with the application, please also contact responsible research administrator.

A registered application is automatically sent to the administrating organisation after the call is closed, if it concerns an individual application. The administrating organisation then has **one week** to digitally sign the application. If an organisation is applying, the organisational representative must sign the application immediately when it is registered.

The administrating organisation is responsible for transferring part of the funding to co-applicating project partners.

Participants

The main applicant invites participating researchers (i.e. researchers with a doctoral degree that are considered as co-applicant) and participating administrators (people **not** involved in the project but who help you fill in the application form).

Each participant must have created a user account in Prisma.

The main applicant invites people to participate in the application process by searching for their given name, surname and email address in Prisma (note that exact spelling of names and email addresses is required).

CVs of project participants

Applicants retrieve the data from their personal profile that are relevant for the current application. Participating researchers add their CV-information from their personal account in Prisma and should ensure that their CV in Prisma is complete and up to date. The CV information should include:

- **Education:** postgraduate (doctoral), undergraduate and graduate level.
- **Professional history:** Current position and relevant previous longer-term positions, postdoctoral residencies, research exchange visits relevant to the described research project, and any significant period of interruption in the research (such as parental leave, illness, military service or political duties).
- **Merits and awards:**
 - **Associate professorships**
 - **Supervision:** doctoral students, postdoctoral students, and exam project students; state the total number in each respective category and provide the names of the most relevant supervisions (max 10).
 - **Grants awarded in competition:** Specify the most relevant grants (max. 10).
 - **Prizes and awards:** Specify the most relevant ones (max. 10).
 - **Additional merits, including bibliometric summary:** Here the applicant researcher's entire bibliometric indicators should be summarised (max. 800 characters including spaces). This bibliometric summary should include: (i) the number of publications of various types, such as articles in peer-reviewed journals, book chapters, books and other monographs, conference papers and popular science contributions, and (ii) any other publication or citation specifications relevant to the applicant's field of research. Under "Additional merits," you can list other qualifications that are relevant to the application, such as any popular science publications or proven experience of collaboration and research communication (max. 10).
- **Intellectual property:** For example, patents and open source software that you have developed (max. 10).

Publications of participating researchers

The main applicant and participating researchers should list up to ten of their most relevant publications. Note that the publications should be linked from the applicants' personal profiles in Prisma.

Appendices

The following appendix can be uploaded if relevant for the application:

- **Appendix J.** Illustrations. If you need figures, tables or images to describe the project, you can upload them as attachments here. A maximum of one PDF attachment of 4 MB can be uploaded.

How applications are evaluated

The evaluation will be based on the information found in the applications. All criteria must be addressed in applications, and applicants are encouraged to relate their applications to these criteria in clear and transparent ways.

Please note that the evaluation criteria described below have been specifically designed for this targeted initiative and hence are not the same as those specified on the Formas website

Potential, relevance and quality

- How well the project is aligned with the purpose and aims of the call
- The extent of the potential in the project to develop an animal promoting measure
- The extent of the potential of the solution in Sweden and internationally
- The extent to which the project demonstrates innovation, originality and quality,
- The significance of the results if the project is successful

Gender equality and sustainability

- How well thought out the gender equality aspect is (in the composition of the project group, the involvement of stakeholders/users and in the development of ideas and solutions).
- How well thought out the sustainability aspect is, and whether the project can contribute to the Agenda 2030 sustainability goals in the short or long term.

Feasibility

- The extent to which the planned activities are realistic to achieve the expected results during the project period
- The extent to which the time schedule is realistic
- The plausibility of the budget in relation to the project layout and expected results
- The extent to which the plan for communication with potential stakeholders/users is realistic

Actors

- The ability and competence of the project manager to implement the project
- The extent to which the project organisation and overall expertise is sufficient and relevant for implementation of the project
- How well stakeholders/users are involved in the project
- How well utilisation/commercialisation/innovation experts are involved in the project

Assessment of applications

The applications will be evaluated by a panel of active researchers as well as experts in the field of farm animals, sporting and companion animals. Each application will be evaluated by four panel members. The panel's evaluations and prioritisation of applications will constitute information for Formas' Scientific Council. Formas will have the opportunity to revise the ranking based on a portfolio perspective to facilitate high-quality projects. Formas will also ask the panel to consider the distribution of project regarding species and field of research.

Grant award decisions

The Formas' Scientific Council plans to make its decision on November 20, 2019. These decisions will be published on the Formas website shortly afterwards. These decisions are final and cannot be appealed.

Reporting for granted projects

Each project that is awarded funding must submit a report to Formas containing a financial and a popular scientific summary in accordance with the decision. In the popular scientific summary, the project's goal fulfilment must be described and documented. [Read more about how to report expenses and results.](#)

Formas may impose requirements on how projects must be reported in terms of content and results to enable distribution and practical application. In such cases, the award decision will contain more information about this. Formas may also require you to participate in conferences and similar events in order to create synergies and platforms for learning and knowledge sharing.

Applications submitted to Formas become publicly available documents after the decision is announced. However, Formas does not disclose information about an individual's business relationships or operating conditions, inventions or research results if the disclosure would be assumed to cause the individual suffering. If applications are requested, Formas conducts a confidentiality assessment.

Support and shortcuts

- [How it works](#)
- [Ethics policy](#)
- [Criteria for administrating organisations](#)
- [Formas' review process](#)
- [Support for addressing the communication criterion](#)
- [Global goals](#)
- [Prisma](#)
- [Prisma online user support](#)

Contact information

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