

Administrator:
Kajsa Ljung

Ref.nr: 2020-00007

Formas Conflict of Interest Policy

Established by the Director General on 14 January 2020 and takes effect on 15 January 2020.

This conflict of interest policy is for anyone who is involved in Formas' operations, including Formas employees, members of Formas' Research Council and the Council for Evidence-Based Environmental Analysis, review panel members, and outside experts and consultants engaged by Formas.

According to the principle of objectivity prescribed by constitutional law, Formas must ensure objectivity and impartiality as well as the equality of everyone before the law. The Swedish Administrative Procedure Act (SFS 2017:900) contains provisions aimed at ensuring the application of this principle. This conflict of interest policy has been developed to ensure that Formas complies with legal requirements and to prevent Formas' representatives from getting into conflicts of interest that risk compromising their objectivity.

Formas applies the following rules:

- Any form of involvement in handling a matter at Formas must be characterised by objectivity and impartiality.
- Formas must actively and continuously strive to avoid conflicts of interest on the part of Formas' representatives that could call into question the objectivity of Formas' representatives or confidence in the authority.
- Formas must manage situations involving conflicts of interest in accordance with applicable laws.
- Formas must decide on guidelines for managing conflicts of interest. The guidelines must be followed up and evaluated regularly.
- Formas must work to ensure that all individuals who represent the authority have a good understanding of conflict of interest issues and have read and understood the policy and guidelines for managing conflicts of interest.
- Questions about conflicts of interest must be regularly communicated and discussed in Formas' operations.
- Responsibility for ensuring compliance with the conflict of interest policy and guidelines for managing conflicts of interest lies with Formas and anyone involved in handling Formas' matters. This means that Formas' employees, review panel members and board members of Formas' Research Council and Council for Evidence-Based Environmental Analysis must be familiar with and comply with the policy and guidelines.