

Formas Grand Communication Call

Application Deadline: 4 September 2018

Date of Decision: 14 November 2018

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Description of the call

Formas has earmarked 17 million euros to fund communication projects about sustainability research. The project must be related to one of Formas' areas of responsibility: Environment, Agricultural Sciences (such as agriculture, aquaculture or forestry) and Spatial Planning. You can apply for a maximum of 3 million kronor.

Within the scope of this communication call, Formas will fund projects that communicate and popularise research and research results within Formas' areas of responsibility. The grant funding aims to enable innovative solutions for spreading knowledge about sustainability research.

Who can apply

Companies, organisations, universities, colleges and research institutes can apply for a grant under Formas' major communication call.

Companies and other organisations engaged in an economic activity that wish to apply for grants from Formas are subject to [specific rules on de minimis aid](#). NOTE: If your business is a sole proprietorship, you cannot be granted funding under this call.

All communication projects for which a Formas grant is sought must have the following participants on the project team:

- A project manager
- A communicator or a person with similar qualifications
- A minimum of one researcher with a doctoral degree or a scientific committee associated with the project

The project must be carried out by the individuals stated in the application.

Your application

Projects that qualify for funding

Your communication project can be a popular science seminar, publication, game, exhibition, video production, digital production, or other popular science activity that communicates sustainability research.

Your project must relate to one of Formas' areas of responsibility: Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning. For example, a project might communicate information about climate issues, the circular economy, food, agriculture, forestry or urban planning.

Formas does not grant funding for the operating costs of an organisation's regular communication efforts, or for internal courses or projects that mainly relate to an organisation's own educational activities.

Grant amount and project duration

In Formas' major communication call, you can apply for between 500,000 and 1 million kronor per year, for a maximum of three years. You can apply for grant funding for projects that take place from 2018 through 2021, and the project duration must be a minimum of six months and a maximum of three years. Applications with a budget that exceeds the maximum allowed amount will be rejected.

Companies and other organisations engaged in economic activities that wish to apply for a grant from Formas are subject to rules on de minimis aid and can apply for a maximum amount corresponding to 200,000 euros (roughly 1.9 million kronor) over a period of three fiscal years. [Information about which costs might qualify for companies and organisations can be found here](#) (in Swedish). NOTE: These rules do not apply to universities, colleges and research institutes.

All companies and organisations that participate in this communication call must submit [a statement about whether they received de minimis aid](#) during the previous two fiscal years and the current fiscal year.

Formas has earmarked 17 million euros to fund communication projects over a period of three years (7 million 2018, 5 million 2019 and 5 million 2020).

How to apply

Applying in Prisma

To apply for a grant from Formas, the project manager should submit a digital application in the Prisma application system. To do this, the project manager must have a [personal account with Prisma](#).

Before the application can be submitted, the project manager's organisation must also submit a request to create an organisation account. Make sure you do this on [Prisma's website](#) in good time before the call closes, as it can take a few weeks to have your application approved. If your organisation already has an organisation account in Prisma, that account can be used.

NOTE: The organisation account and personal accounts may not be registered using the same email address.

When you apply for an organisation account, you should also send an email to [the responsible research administrator at Formas](#).

Information your application must contain

The application you submit in the Prisma application system must include a clear description of the project under the following sections:

Abstract (maximum 4,000 characters each in Swedish and English)

A brief and clear description of the project's content and objectives. The abstract must include information about both the communication channel and the research to be communicated.

Project description – Purpose and objectives of the project (maximum 10,000 characters)

Describe the research topic and theme of the communication effort. Describe why the project is important (its purpose and objectives). It is also important to describe how the research in focus is related to one or more of [Formas' areas of responsibility: Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning](#).

Project description – Target groups and communication channel (maximum 10,000 characters)

Clearly define the target group or groups and choice of communication channel. Describe how the channel suits the target groups, why is it important for the target groups to be made aware of the information you want to convey, and why you think that this communication channel reaches out to the

target groups in the best possible way. Reflect on gender, equality and diversity when choosing the individuals for your production. Also describe the impact you wish the project to have. Innovative solutions will be given preference, such as new modes of communication, or new ideas about how to use old communication channels that can reach out to your target groups.

Project description – Communication plan (maximum 10,000 characters)

Describe how you will organise the project. Create a timetable and describe how the project results can be followed up.

Project description – Expertise (maximum 10,000 characters)

Describe the type of communication expertise available within the project. Explain the scientific basis for your project and state which researchers or scientific committees are part of the project. Give a brief summary of the researchers' scientific expertise (provide a list of publications separately; see below). Reflect on equality and diversity when you put together the project group.

Budget

Applicants must fill in the following budget sections in Prisma:

- Salaries, including social security contributions and non-wage labour costs for each project participant. Researchers who are full-time pensioners are not eligible to receive grant funding towards salaries.
- Degree of activity in the project. This indicates whether the project participant contributes in-kind services or other funding for completing the project.
- Operating costs (travel, consultancy costs, etc.).
- Premises (project costs for premises)
- Indirect costs (enter directly in the project budget after other amounts have been entered). Indirect costs relate to overhead costs. If there are other costs besides overhead, specify this in the project description.
- Budget specification.

Companies and organisations engaged in economic activities must also fill in [a special budget template](#) (In Swedish). When the template is completed, upload it as an appendix to the application as a PDF-file.

Ethics

Fill in only if relevant for completing the project.

Classifications

Select the project's subject area and add a sub-heading. Next, select at least one SCB code with two sub-levels that together form the entire code. Select at least one and a maximum of three key words describing the project.

Finally, select a minimum of one and a maximum of three [global goals for sustainable development](#) that best fits your project.

Appendices

Upload any appendices as a PDF file.

Grant administrating organisation

The grant administrating organisation is the organisation that receives the grant money from Formas when a grant is awarded.

Applicants under the communication call must be grant administrating organisations that are approved by Formas. In this call, organisations engaged in economic activities may also become approved administrating organisations, in contrast to what is stated under the general information on Formas' website.

Applying for an organisation account in Prisma means that you are applying to become an grant administrating organisation. If your organisation is already an administrating organisation, you do not need to submit this application. If you are not sure whether your organisation is already approved as an grant administrating organisation, contact the [responsible research administrator at Formas](#).

A registered application is automatically sent to the administrating organisation after the call is closed. The administrating organisation then has seven business days to digitally sign the application.

Project manager CV

Add the following information to the application from the project manager's profile in Prisma:

- Education – Add basic education. Include the postgraduate education if the project manager is a researcher.
- Employment – Add a maximum of three job positions.
- Other relevant qualifications

Participants CVs

Add the CVs of participating communicators and researchers to the application as appendices.

List of publications for participating communicators and researchers

The project manager can add up to 10 publications to the publication list, (scientific or popular science publications). Other participants can add publications as appendices under "Attachment".

How applications are evaluated

Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Relevance in relation to the specified target groups – Are the target groups clearly defined? Is what the project wants to convey important to the target groups?
- Scientific quality – How qualified are the participating researchers, or how strong is the scientific committee associated with the project? Is the field of research solid and credible?
- Degree of social relevance – How significant is the research for today's society?
- Communicative effectiveness – Is the communication channel suitable for the target group? Is there an innovative aspect to the mode of communication?
- Project feasibility – Do the project members have the necessary expertise? Are there sufficient resources and time to complete what is planned? Can the project objectives be achieved?
- Gender, equality and diversity perspectives – How does the project take into account gender, equality and diversity?

Any applications containing technical errors, such as a budget that exceeds 1,000,000 kronor per year, will be rejected.

How does the evaluation process work?

Applications under the communication call are evaluated by a review panel composed of experienced communicators and subject matter experts in Formas' areas of responsibility.

Grant award decisions

Formas Research Council is expected to reach a decision on 14 November 2018 concerning which projects will be granted funding. Decisions will be announced the following day at the latest on Formas' website and sent via email from Prisma. Grant award decisions 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 fulfillment must be described and documented. Read more about the [reporting requirements on Formas' website](#).

Support and shortcuts

- [Prisma](#)
- [Prisma support](#)
- [Specific rules on de minimis aid](#)
- [Ethics policy](#)

Contact information

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