Formas Communication Call 2019

Application Deadline: 25 April 2019 (Preliminary)
Date of Decision: 25 September 2019 (Preliminary)

Contents

Formas – Forskningsrådet för miljö, areella näringar och samhällsbyggande

Organisationsnummer:	Drottninggatan 89	registrator@formas.se	Tel: 08 775 40 00
202100-5232	Box 1206 111 82 Stockholm	formas.se	Fax: 08 775 40 10

Description of the call

Formas has earmarked a total of 15 million kronor to fund communication projects about sustainability research. The projects must be related to one of Formas' areas of responsibility: Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning. You can apply for funding for projects that last up to three years, and the maximum funding for a three-year project is 1.9 million kronor.

The purpose of the communication call is to support projects that communicate and popularise research and research results on sustainable development, within our areas of responsibility. The grant funding aims to enable robust, innovative solutions for spreading knowledge about sustainability research to relevant target groups.

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 communication projects for which a Formas grant is sought must have a responsible project manager. One of the project participants must have a degree or training in communication or equivalent experience. At least one researcher with a doctoral degree must be part of the project team, or a scientific committee associated with the project. The project must be carried out by the individuals stated in the application.

What projects qualify for funding?

Different types of communication projects may qualify for funding, including popular science seminars, publications, games, exhibitions, video productions, digital productions, or other popular science activities that communicate sustainability research.

The theme of the 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, environmental concerns, the circular economy, food, agriculture, water use, forestry or sustainable 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.

Formas – Forskningsrådet för miljö, areella näringar och samhällsbyggande

| Organisationsnummer: | Drottninggatan 89 | registrator@formas.se | Tel: 08 775 40 00 |
| 202100-5232 | Box 1206 111 82 Stockholm | formas.se | Fax: 08 775 40 10 |

Grant amount and project duration

In Formas' communication call, a project can apply for a maximum of 630,000 kronor per year, for a maximum of three years. Grants can be sought for projects that take place from 2019 through 2022. Applications in which the total amount applied for exceeds the maximum allowable amount for the call will be rejected.

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 here. **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 observe 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 communication call, Formas is granting selected projects a total of up to 15 million kronor for three years (5 million in 2019, 5 million in 2020 and 5 million in 2021).

The application process

Formas has developed its application process and associated system support for this call. Please read the instructions carefully, even if you have previously applied for a grant from Formas.

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' communication call 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 Anna Kuznetcova.

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:

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 communication channel and the research to be communicated. Also include the result you expect the project to have.

Project description – Relevance and quality of research in the project (maximum 3,000 characters)
Describe the research that underpins the project and the theme of the communication activity. Describe why it is important to conduct the project. 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.

Project description – Communication activities, target groups and communication channel (maximum 3,000 characters)
Identify and justify your choice of target group (or groups) and communication channel. Why is it important for the target groups to be made aware of the information you want to convey, and why and how can this communication channel reach out to the target groups in the best possible way? Reflect on gender equality and diversity when choosing the individuals for your project. Also describe the result you expect the project to achieve. Innovative solutions will be given funding 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 and qualifications (maximum 3,000 characters)
Describe how you will organise the project. Create a timetable and describe how the project results can be followed up. Describe the type of communication expertise available within the project, and state which researchers or scientific committees are part of the project. Reflect on gender equality and diversity when you put together the project team.

Formas – Forskningsrådet för miljö, areella näringar och samhällsbyggande

| Organisationsnummer: | Drottninggatan 89 | registrator@formas.se | Tel: 08 775 40 00 |
| 202100-5232 | Box 1206 111 82 Stockholm | formas.se | Fax: 08 775 40 10 |

Budget

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 the communication call.

Costs:[1]
- Staff expenses: Eligible staff expenses for companies and other organisations conducting economic activity may be estimated at a maximum of 800 kronor per hour. Universities, colleges or research institutes are not subject to this limitation.
- Equipment, land and buildings
- Consultancy and licensing costs, etc.
- Other direct costs including travel
- 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.

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 communication call
- Other aid (state): Normally not used in the communication call
- Other aid (private): Normally not used in the communication call
- 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

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 keywords 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 PDF files.

---

[1] Eligible costs for companies and other organisations conducting economic activity are described in
https://www.formas.se/download/18.166aa05167c62dff5d72258/1549968835089/Stödberättigade%20kostnader%20Formas.pdf

Formas – Forskningsrådet för miljö, areella näringar och samhällsbyggande

| Organisationsnummer: | Drottninggatan 89 | registrator@formas.se | Tel: 08 775 40 00 |
| 202100-5232 | Box 1206 111 82 Stockholm | formas.se | Fax: 08 775 40 10 |

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 Formas' research administrator, Anna Kuznetcova.

Administrating organisations can be either generally approved or approved for a call. 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 administrating organisation, contact Formas' research administrator Anna Kuznetcova.

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.

CVs of project participants

Add the CVs of participating project managers, communicators and researchers to the application as appendices in PDF format. A maximum of 6 are allowed. (Max 4 MB and max 2 A4-pages each.)

Publications of participating communicators and researchers

The project manager and other participants can add their publications (scientific or popular science) as a PDF under "Other appendices". (Max 4 MB and max 2 A4-pages.)

Formas – Forskningsrådet för miljö, areella näringar och samhällsbyggande

Organisationsnummer:	Drottninggatan 89	registrator@formas.se	Tel: 08 775 40 00
202100-5232	Box 1206 111 82 Stockholm	formas.se	Fax: 08 775 40 10

How applications are evaluated

Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Project relevance
- The challenge that the project addresses is an important one to solve. It is important that the target groups are made aware of the research results.

Project research quality
- The research in focus is solid and relates to one or more of Formas' areas of responsibility: Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning.

Communication activities
- Identified target groups and channels are relevant for the desired result
- The project addresses gender equality and diversity perspectives in a relevant way
- The proposed communication initiative is original or innovative

Communication plan and expertise
- The application has a plan that is appropriate for achieving the project's objectives and purpose
- The timetable and budget are reasonable in relation to the project's objectives
- The application describes the resources, skills and experience required to complete the project

Important: Any applications containing technical errors, such as a budget that exceeds 630,000 kronor per year, will be rejected.

How does the assessment process work?

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

Grant award decisions

Formas' scientific council is expected to reach a decision on 25 September 2019 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 fulfilment must be described and documented. Read more about the reporting requirements on the Formas website.

Formas – Forskningsrådet för miljö, areella näringar och samhällsbyggande

| Organisationsnummer: | Drottninggatan 89 | registrator@formas.se | Tel: 08 775 40 00 |
| 202100-5232 | Box 1206 111 82 Stockholm | formas.se | Fax: 08 775 40 10 |

Who can read the application?

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

- Prisma
- Prisma support
- Rules on de minimis aid (for companies and organisations)
- Ethical policy

Contact information

Administrators:

Anna Volckerts
Phone +46 (0)8 775 40 09
E-mail: anna.volckerts@formas.se

Alexander Fälldin
Telephone: +46 (0)8 775 40 65
E-mail: alexander.falldin@formas.se

Administrative Support:

Anna Kuznetcova
Telephone: +46 (0)76 000 24 95
E-mail: anna.kuznetcova@formas.se

Budget and de minimis aid:

Johan Hansson, Research Secretary
Phone: +46 (0)8 775 40 54
E-mail: johan.hansson@formas.se

Formas – Forskningsrådet för miljö, areella näringar och samhällsbyggande

| Organisationsnummer: | Drottninggatan 89 | registrator@formas.se | Tel: 08 775 40 00 |
| 202100-5232 | Box 1206 111 82 Stockholm | formas.se | Fax: 08 775 40 10 |