

Green transition and working life 2021

Information about the call

Forte and Formas announce a joint call aimed at increasing knowledge and research on green transition and working life. Forte administers the call with support from Formas.

SEK 60 million has been allocated for the call for the period 2021–2023, where Forte and Formas set aside SEK 30 million each.

The specified budget level applies provided that the Swedish parliament decides to allocate funds to Forte and Formas in accordance with the parliament's decision concerning the Research and Innovation Bill *Research, freedom, future – knowledge and innovation for Sweden* (Govt. Bill 2021/21:60).

The deadline for applications is 15 June 2021 at 14:00.

Background

The Government has established several national research programmes. The programmes are wide-ranging ten-year initiatives that will contribute to solving prioritised social challenges and strengthen collaboration between researchers, financiers and social actors.

The national programme on work life research has identified climate change and the green transition as important factors that will impact the future of working life. The green transition will influence the work to be conducted in the national research programmes for climate, sustainable spatial planning, food, and marine and water. The labour market and working life in all these areas are expected to change once sectors such as energy, transport, construction and manufacturing, agriculture and forestry, food and water have transitioned.

Forte and Formas are actively working to contribute to 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This call is part of that work. The resulting research is expected to be relevant to several of the Global Goals of Agenda 2030.

Focus area

By signing the Paris Climate Agreement and the European Green Deal, countries have committed to radically reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare and adapt society to the climate change we cannot escape. The green transition also involves using resources effectively, protecting and promoting biodiversity and reducing pollution. Industries are creating roadmaps towards becoming fossil free and resource efficient, companies are reviewing their operations and markets for new products and services are being created. Public authorities and municipalities are working together to prevent the negative impact climate change is having on their citizens, whilst at the same time seizing the

opportunities being created. Digital development goes hand in hand with the green transition. At the same time, the transition needs to speed up.

The green transition is expected to significantly impact the working life being labour market, work organisation and work environment (see Forte's strategic research agenda for the national programme on work life research for a description of the concepts). The changes bring both opportunities and challenges. Some jobs will disappear and new ones will be created. To be able to succeed with the green transition, society needs to provide the education and skills in the sectors significant to the transition. There needs to be room for professional exchanges and skills matched within and between industries where the transition is expected to take place. Projections are needed that look at the professions and work that are expected to increase and decrease in significance, preparations for relevant education efforts in line with the latest research, initiatives to support individuals and societies undergoing transition processes and research on how a good working environment can be guaranteed as society shifts. It is also important to determine the impact the transition will have on people with low levels of education and weak links to the labour market and who may be in a vulnerable socio-economic situation. Another question is which groups may find it difficult to meet new skills requirements and consequently risk falling out of the labour market. It is also important to find out more about the impact and consequences to gender equality, and how different parts of the country will be affected – for example urban versus rural areas – when work life changes as a result of the transition.

Potential research areas within green transition and working life include:

- Methods and models for calculating the effects on areas such as the labour market, education needs and regional development.
- How the green transition is likely to affect the working life in terms of socioeconomic factors and gender equality.
- How the green transition can impact working life and labour market for various professions and different regions, such as rural and urban areas.
- How the green transition and sustainable working life can be linked to digitalisation and changing social norms and values.
- Solutions for how good work environment and labour conditions and maintaining labour laws can be guaranteed as society shifts and when the effects of climate change become pronounced.
- How the working life can use and meet with the green transition to achieve the desired changes, for example sustainable work life for all.
- How can skills development and skills provision, as well as education, be organised to facilitate the transition and meet the effects of climate change
- Which professions and industries that will increase or decrease in importance
- How will a changed labour market and working culture brought about by the green transition affect society and the way it is built

The application can relate to both basic research and applied research.

In connection with the opening of the call, the report *Grön omställning och arbetsliv* is released. The report provides a basis for the call. The report is only available in Swedish.

[Download the report “Grön omställning och arbetsliv – Kunskapsläge och fortsatta forskningsbehov” »](#)

Grant types

One types of grant is available within this call – project grant. The terms and conditions, grant limits, and eligibility requirements for each type of grant can be found under the respective headings below.

Limitations

The same person can submit only one application as main applicant.

Grant length

In this call, project grants are sought for two or three years.

Grant amount

Maximum SEK 5 million for three-year projects and maximum SEK 3 million for two-year projects (both including indirect costs).

Eligibility

To apply, you must have obtained a doctoral degree no later than the date of the call closing.

The application process

All applications are to be submitted via the [Prisma application and review system](#). Before writing your application, make sure the following conditions are met:

- You have created a personal account in Prisma
- All participating researchers have created personal accounts in Prisma
- Each participating researcher has stored personal data, CV and publications on their accounts
- Your administrating organisation has an organisational account in Prisma and has been approved as an administrating organisation at Forte.
[Forte's criteria for approving administrating organisations »](#)

In order for your application to be considered, the final reporting for any previously approved projects must have been submitted. This only applies to grants where the deadline for final reporting has passed. Any previously granted extensions of project duration, and consequently of reporting deadlines, will be taken into account.

For more information on how till fill out the application, see instructions on the call's website.

The review process

The applications are assessed by a review panel composed of international researchers and Swedish society representatives. Funding decisions are made by Forte's board, in consultation with Formas.

Since applications are reviewed by international experts, your application should be written in English (except for fields where Swedish is specifically requested). If the application is written in Swedish, the quality of the assessment may be compromised. Forte and Formas are not responsible for the quality of any translations.

Forte's assessment criteria

Scientific quality:

- Purpose, research questions, theoretical framework, background and originality
- Study design, methods for data collection and analysis
- Interdisciplinary and/or multidisciplinary approach
- Sex and gender perspectives in the content of the research

Relevance:

- Relevance in relation to societal needs, Forte's areas of responsibility and the focus area of the call
- Engagement with end users
- Utilisation and communication of research results

Feasibility:

- Work plan quality
- Research competence of project leader and research group
- Account of any previous own research in the area
- Staffing and budget, assessed on reasonableness

Call-specific assessment criteria

The following criteria are important for fulfilling the purpose of the call and for developing the research field. To the extent applicable to the research, they are therefore to be taken into account in the application. Some of the criteria are also included in Forte's set assessment criteria, but since they are particularly important in this call, they are emphasised here.

- Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches. Competence within the project regarding both working life research and research on green transition.
- Engagement with end users during the project and regarding research results
- Dissemination and practical application of the research. The project is designed with relevant consideration for the needs of different stakeholders and users. It is clear how and for which groups the results of the project can be useful.
- The project contributes to the Global Goals and the 2030 Agenda. It is clear which Global Goals the project contributes to and in what way.

Guidelines on how Forte handles applications where part of the research is to be carried out abroad

- Forte and Formas are positive towards international research collaborations. Our areas of responsibility cover complex societal challenges in which international research collaborations can provide important contributions.
- The grants can be used to finance research where certain parts are carried out in other countries. However, the research shall be initiated and led from Sweden or be a clear part of the collaborative research.
- Applications involving international collaborations are assessed against the same criteria as other research applications and by the same review panels.
- In assessing research applications, the reviewers in the review panels shall assess if any foreign section of a project brings added value to a project or is a prerequisite for a project with, for example, a global or comparative approach.
- It is the main applicant's responsibility to: find out how his or her administrating organisation stands on financing research where certain parts are carried out in other countries; and, find suitable collaboration procedures in each specific case.
- It is the grant's administrating organisation, i.e. the main applicant's home institution in Sweden, that determines and is responsible for, if necessary, appointing foreign personnel or paying for activities or services carried out in other countries.

Open access

Results from research funded by Forte and Formas shall be published with open access.

[Forte's guidelines for publication with Open Access »](#)

[Formas and open science »](#)

SweCRIS

Forte and Formas transfers information of issued grants to SweCRIS, a national database on grant-funded research set up at the request of the government.

[Read more about SweCRIS »](#)

Time plan

The call opens: 29 March, 2021 at 10:00

The call closes: 15 June, 2021 at 14:00

Forte's board decides on funding: 30 September, 2021

Decisions are published: By 8 October, 2021

Project start: 1 November, 2021

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