



2021-06-01

## Call for proposals for research funding in BECC for the years 2021-2022

BECC (Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in a Changing Climate) welcomes proposals for research funding within the vision and aims of BECC. This is a joint call between Lund university (LU) (up to 7 million SEK) and University of Gothenburg (UGOT) (up to 2 million SEK) and aims at a continued consolidation of the collaboration between research groups within and between Lund and Gothenburg universities and to an increased impact on research and society in relation to BECC's three Grand Challenges.

Consequently, as point of departure, applications should be in line with the BECC Research Strategy 2020-2025 and the updated Theme strategies 2021-2025. These documents stress interdisciplinary research, innovative research, emerging research topics, and stakeholder collaboration.

The main applicant must be a BECC PI. There can be up to two co-applicants and their roles should be clearly described. An applicant may only apply for one proposal as main applicant and one other as co-applicant.

Main applicants who were successful in BECC's "Call for proposals for research funding in BECC for the years 2020-2021" cannot receive funding.

### Links

[BECC Research Strategy 2020-2025](#)

[Strategic Plans of BECC Research Themes 2021-2025](#)

[List of BECC-PIs](#)

[List of BECC-researchers LU](#)

List of BECC researchers UGOT (ask for pdf)

### General information

BECC is a strategic research area (SRA), which brings together research on climate-ecosystem-biodiversity relationships from natural and social sciences at LU and UGOT. BECC strives to assess the combined consequences of anthropogenic emissions, land-use and climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services and provide a basis for informed societal responses, with a focus on critical changes in forest, agricultural, urban and subarctic ecosystems, including interactions between terrestrial and aquatic systems. The focus is on Swedish conditions, taking into account relevant aspects of the regional (e.g. European) and global context. Studies of other climatic, societal or regional contexts may also be relevant, if they generate knowledge of well-motivated relevance to the evidence-based management of Swedish ecosystems, or to the fulfilment of Sweden's international commitments in related policy areas.

The ability of societies to tackle such complex social-ecological questions depends on excellent research and the integration of it into management practices and policy development, which in turn demands collaboration between different disciplines, research methods, and involvement with stakeholders. To assist in solving these questions, BECC has chosen the path of a challenge-driven research environment,



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where a Grand Challenge refers to an issue where gaps in scientific understanding seriously constrains the ability to make informed decisions on matters of pressing concern for the well-being of people and the environment, today and in a future world affected by continued global change.

BECC revolves around three Grand Challenges:

- Grand Challenge - develop a scientific basis for effective and biologically meaningful conservation strategies under on-going and future global change in socio-ecological land-use systems
- Grand Challenge - reduce wide uncertainty in the components of the carbon cycle, its responses to anthropogenic and biophysical drivers, and the legacy effects of slow responding processes of vegetation and soils
- Grand Challenge - integrate the private and public value of ecosystem services into management and policy while accounting for the projected impacts of climate, land-use and other drivers of change

Under this umbrella, BECC is organized in three Research Themes, each focusing on an overarching issue of scientific importance, in need of scientific coordination, with high relevance to decision making and with potentially high impact on international research, today and in coming years. Themes cut across disciplines, departments as well as Lund and Gothenburg universities, allowing for an understanding of the Grand Challenges from different viewpoints, which may be critical for finding solutions to them. Researchers are not constrained to one Theme, but, on the contrary, are encouraged to take part in all.

## **Instructions**

1. First page: project title, names of main applicant and co applicant/s and a project summary (max 200 words).
2. A scientific description of the research project (max 2500 words, 12 point text) including a clear aim and description of how the project will be carried out, a clear description of the roles of the applicants and how collaboration will be fostered and a project budget. A section of the scientific description (500 words) is to be devoted to the relevance to BECC Grand Challenges (see BECC Research Strategy 2020-20205 and Strategic Plans of BECC Research Themes 2021-2025).
3. Minimum sum for each application is 400 000 SEK and maximum 1 000 000 SEK. Examples of eligible costs are salary funding/co-funding for researchers/postdocs/PhD-students, running costs, infrastructure, and other costs related to the specific research project.
4. Applied and obtained ongoing relevant grants should be presented and the added value and potential synergies with the proposal explained.
5. CV should be attached for main and co-applicants.

Application template at the end of this document.



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## Assessment

Eligible applications by BECC PIs will be evaluated by the BECC board on the basis of:

- Scientific quality. Only applications of highest scientific quality and with a degree of novelty will be supported. The application shall describe a project that can be achieved within the frame of two years of funding.
- Relevance in relation to BECC's Research Strategy 2020-2025 and BECC Research Themes' Strategic Plans 2021-2025.
- Degree of synergy between different research areas of BECC, i.e. collaboration spanning more than one research group, department, faculty and/or university, with a clearly described added value. Applications with synergistic effects across disciplines will be favoured over those of closely related disciplines.
- The applicant's/s' scientific merits.
- Adequate resources to carry out the project (e.g. external funds sufficient to support project operation).
- A credible plan for dissemination of results, adapted to the research conducted.

## Application

Announcement of call: 1 June 2021

Final day of application: 15 September 2021

Decisions are expected to be taken during November/December 2021.

Proposals should be sent to BECC research coordinator, Josefin Madjidian, [Josefin.madjidian@cec.lu.se](mailto:Josefin.madjidian@cec.lu.se), who also provides information on the application procedure.

*This call is also available on BECCs web page: [www.becc.lu.se](http://www.becc.lu.se)*

Henrik Smith

Coordinator of BECC



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## APPLICATION

First page

Project title

Names of main applicant, co-applicant/s and other collaborators

Project summary (max 200 words)

Scientific description

(max 2500 words of which 500 describes the relevance to BECC Grand Challenge/s).

Aim

Project description

BECC relevance ([BECC Research Strategy 2020-2025, Strategic Plans of BECC Research Themes 2021-2025](#))

Roles of applicants and how collaboration will be fostered

Project budget

Applied and obtained ongoing relevant grants

Added value and potential synergies with the proposal explained



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CV

**(main and co-applicants)**

PERSONAL DATA

EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC DEGREE

MAJOR EMPLOYMENTS AND PARENTAL LEAVE (current and previous)

SCIENTIFIC MERITS (fill in where applicable)

PhD supervision and postdoctoral mentorship

Awards

Honorary assignments and commissions of trust (in selection)

Examiner and examination board for PhD thesis

Academic administration

Expert assignments

Professional service: Editor and referee

International conferences (organisation, chair, invited speaker, talk) (in selection)

Teaching

Grants (in selection)

Peer reviewed original articles (10 most relevant and a link to your LU-portal page or GUP-page)

Popular science

EXPERIENCE IN COMMUNICATING WITH SOCIETAL ACTORS