



15 October 2019

SWEDISH FOUNDATION *for*
STRATEGIC RESEARCH

FAQ for Calls for Proposal (CFP) ARC19

Q 1: Is there any additional specification of scope of the separate areas outlined in the CFP?

SSF Answer: In answer to questions regarding the scope of the separate areas, SSF points out that the granted centers should perform innovative challenging research contributing to a substantial difference for humankind, with the Agenda 2030 in focus. Note that the present program concerns sense-of-urgency research to efficiently reach the Agenda's Sustainable Development Goals and that the applicants should relate the projects to one or more of the Agenda's 17 goals, and the pending 169 targets.

In the area *Next Generation of Antibiotics and/or Actions to Prevent Pandemics* the research should cover serious diseases affecting a considerable amount of people, with impact on developing countries.

Q 2: Given an otherwise high-quality application, would an application be competitive if, in addition to Swedish parties, it also included international companies and research institutes (no R&D / manufacturing in Sweden) with its own financing?

SSF answer: The main criteria contained in the call ARC19 apply for assessment. Overall for SSF, scientific quality and significance for the development of Sweden's future competitiveness will be assessed. Given this, foreign parties can participate in the project with their own financing (no SSF funds can be paid to foreign parties).

Q 3: The second area in the call is “Plant Biotechnology, including GMO and CRISPR/Cas9”. Should the text be interpreted as that GMOs and CRISPR/Cas9 technology must be included in the proposed research project?

SSF answer: No. The text should be interpreted as that the use of GMOs and CRISPR/Cas9 technology can be included in the proposed research project.

Q4: Should the grant be interpreted as a big framework grant or as a centre? The grant sum indicates either or.

SSF answer: The call text express the grant as “...Research Centers”. You can also interpret it as a large frame-work grant.

Q5: What does the evaluation process look like?

SSF answer: SSF recruits external reviewers who are organized into 4 panels - one panel in each area. The panels give suggestions to the SSF Board, which ultimately makes decisions on approval and rejection.

More FAQ may be added over time until 21 January 2020.