| **SLU Forest Damage Centre** | **Application template** SLU ID: SLU.sfak.2025.1.1-293  30/06/2025 |
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Application template for project support, with focus on multiple interconnected forest damage agents

The SLU Forest Damage Centre announces a call focused on forest damage with the explicit purpose of strengthening research on the effects of multiple interconnected forest damage agents, i.e. interrelated complex relationships involving different forest damage agents. Research from a natural or social science perspective involving inter-related/multiple damage agents are welcome.

Applications may be cross-disciplinary and are for research projects. We will prioritize projects that are in collaboration and co-developed with representatives from the forest sector. The SLU Forest Damage Centre can assist applicants with contacts to representatives from the forest sector on request. Internal or external co-funding, whether financial or in kind, is strongly encouraged. Collaborative projects need to include a letter of intent from the external partner, outlining their commitment to co-finance the project (either financially or in kind).

Project duration: 2026-2028, with a maximum length of 36 months. Projects can span over one to three years. The main applicant needs to be employed at SLU. The total budget for this call is 8 million SEK. The maximum budget that can be applied for is 2 000 000 SEK. Funded projects are required to submit a yearly short status report and a final report upon project completion.

Applications will be evaluated according to below grounds of assessment. Projects for the research school as well long-term monitoring projects will be handled separately and should not be included here.

Please note that the project funds will be transferred to the main applicant’s department in 2025 and 2026, even if the project continues in 2027 or 2028.

Please read below how to apply.

## Grounds of assessment

### “Project” question

- Relevance of the project, in relation to scientific novelty, methodological advancement or other needs specified

- Possibility to reach for the project relevant results

- Quality of intended output

### Method and performance

- Feasibility and suitability of the methods

- Well-defined and realistic work plan

- Ethical considerations when relevant

- Reasonable budget in relation to the intentions

### Relevant competence

- Ability to carry out and coordinate the project and the research group

- Communication skills (dissemination of results to stakeholders/end users)

- Strength and competitiveness of the research group

### Societal relevance and communication

- Connection to social/sectoral issues

- Short- or long-term practical application

- Stakeholder/end user needs accounted for

- A concrete and realistic plan for communication and other output

## How to apply

Applications should be written in either English or Swedish with a popular summary in Swedish.

To apply, use **this application template and attach the main applicant’s CV**, along with a **letter of intent from the external collaborative partner** (if applicable). The CV should be no more than two pages and include the 10 most relevant publications.

Please adjust the box sizes below according to the length of your answer but ensure that the total text does not exceed the specified character limits for each box. Note that the **character count** includes spaces.

Applications need to be signed **electronically via EduSign** and shall be submitted digitally **as one pdf** to [applyFDC@slu.se](mailto:applyFDC@slu.se).

**The deadline for this call is October 9, 2025.**

## Timeline of this call

After the submission deadline (9October 2025), an evaluation committee that is independent from the SLU Forest Damage Centre staff and not part of its steering group, will assess all applications.

Based on the comments from the evaluation committee, a final decision will be made by the centres steering group in the end of November 2025.

## Questions

For questions, please contact the administrative coordinator of the SLU Forest Damage Centre, [katja.fedrowitz@slu.se](mailto:katja.fedrowitz@slu.se).

| **1. Project title:**  (max 100 characters) |  |
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| **2. Type of support** | Continuation of a project previously funded by the SLU Forest Damage Centre  New project |
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| **3. Project coordinator** |  |
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| Name |  |
| Email: |  |
| Department: |  |

| **4.** **Popular summary in Swedish:**  (max 1500 characters) |
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| **5.** **Description of the project sorted under the following headings** (max 5000 characters)  a) The purpose/background of the project and main problems/hypothesis addressed  b) For continuation explain why there is a need for this, e.g. preliminary results c) What will the benefits including the practical applicability be for:   * the SLU Forest Damage Centre and its development, * science (the scientific needs and achievements), * the society in general, and * the forest sector specifically.   d) Describe the cross-disciplinarity and the roles of all collaborative partners (internal and external) in the project e) Describe how gender equality is considered |
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| **6. Methodology and time plan (include start and ending date)** (max 1500 characters) |
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| **7. List the expected outputs, including communication outputs. A popular science summary is required as well as a dissemination plan to stakeholders.** (max 1000 characters) |
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| **8. Competence of the applicants and other relevant information** (max 1000 characters) |
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**9. Budget summary (find SLU’s project calculator [here](https://internt.slu.se/en/support-services/external-funding/regler-och-verktyg/project-calculator/))**

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| **in SEK** | **Applied for from the SLU Forest Damage Centre in this call** | **Co-financing (if applicable)**  **In money** | **In kind** | **Total** |
| Salary and OH |  |  |  |  |
| Meeting costs |  |  |  |  |
| Communication |  |  |  |  |
| Travel and accommodation |  |  |  |  |
| Other costs (specify e.g. equipment) |  |  |  |  |
| **Total SUM (SEK)** |  |  |  |  |

| **10. Explanations to the budget** (max 1500 characters) |
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| **Signature of the project coordinator via EduSign** |
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| **Signature of the head at the department for the project coordinator via EduSign** |
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