### BalticWaters2030 launches a program to fund small research projects and pre-studies

*There is a great need to continuously develop knowledge that can contribute to better and more effective measures for healthy and prosperous running waters, archipelagos, and marine environments. For that purpose, BalticWaters2030 launches a long-term program to support research and pre-studies, aiming at a better understanding of our local environments and contributing to knowledge development about measures that can restore and preserve them.*

A precondition is that the research focuses on the Baltic Sea and aims to increase the knowledge about measures that can improve the environment, both from a short and long-term perspective. Projects within the framework of the foundation's focus areas, that have the potential to lead to measures to reduce eutrophication and a better functioning of ecosystems can be funded. The foundation will award projects that contribute to concrete measures for a healthier Baltic Sea, having an innovative approach and that can contribute to new, or further develop existing knowledge. The projects can, for example, be case studies on a smaller scale where a new method or an equipment is tested. Financial support can also be awarded to interdisciplinary projects within environmental communication where researchers and practitioners work together to bridge the gap between knowledge and practical measures in new and innovative ways. Communication projects based on the foundation's focus areas will also be considered. For all projects, it applies that they must, in a concrete way show that the research has the potential to contribute to a healthier Baltic Sea and knowledge-based decisions for a better management of our inland sea.

#### The scope of the call and who can apply

The research grant can cover expenses for equipment, field studies, consumables, and travel that are necessary to carry out the project. Funds for salary can be given to an external party in the project, not to the applying researcher. The foundation finances costs, up to 1 million SEK for projects and pre-studies that run for one to two years. An applicant can, maximum twice, be awarded a grant from this call. The foundation intends to distribute 5 million SEK per year to 5 - 8 projects. The applicant should be a researcher that holds a Ph.D. and is currently employed at a university or a research institute in Sweden.

#### The reason why BalticWaters2030 establishes the program

This type of program is important from several perspectives. It means that the foundation continuously can allocate funds in knowledge-building projects in areas where new knowledge, development of existing knowledge or attempts at new and innovative measures are needed. It also gives the foundation the opportunity to search for initiatives or projects that have the potential to make a difference for the Baltic Sea environment and in the long run could be scaled up to larger demonstration projects.

Another important aspect is that the projects continuously collaborate with authorities and decision-makers. This means that the foundation will work to ensure that the knowledge produced contributes to decision-making processes and the implementation of measures.

#### Program to fund small research projects and pre-studies

*Are you conducting research that can result in concrete measures for a healthier Baltic Sea? It is now possible to apply for research grants that contribute to knowledge-building about measures to reduce eutrophication and restore ecosystems.*

#### What funding can be applied for

BalticWaters2030 can award research projects and pre-studies that are within the framework of the foundation's focus areas. The foundation will award projects that contribute to concrete measures for a healthier Baltic Sea, having an innovative approach and that can contribute to new, or further develop existing knowledge. The projects can, for example, be case studies on a smaller scale where a new method or equipment is tested. A research grant can also be awarded to interdisciplinary projects in environmental communication where researchers and practitioners work together to bridge the gap between knowledge and concrete measures in new and innovative ways. To get funded, projects must show in a clear and concrete way that the research has potential to contribute to a healthier Baltic Sea and knowledge-based decisions for better management of our inland sea.

Funding can be applied for smaller research projects and pre-studies in natural sciences and technology as well as social sciences (with emphasis on economy, law, and political science). Applications from other social science disciplines will also be considered.

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The applicant should be a researcher that holds a Ph.D. and is currently employed at a university or a research institute in Sweden.

#### Criteria and selection

The applications will be handled by the foundation's board and, if necessary, with the support of external experts. Criteria that will be used in the selection are:

* Relevance to the foundation's focus areas
* The project's potential to contribute to effective measures for the Baltic Sea
* The project's potential to be scaled up
* Scientific rigor in method and implementation
* The applicant's qualifications

#### Application

The application can be written in Swedish or English, but the popular science summary must always be written in Swedish. Fill in all the information in the application template below and attach your CV. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Send your application and CV to: projektutlysning@balticwaters2030.org

#### Schedule for the 2022 call

* The call opens on March 16th, and closes on September 1st, 2022
* Decisions on granted projects will be published on the foundation's website in January 2023
* The projects start no earlier than February 1st, 2023

#### Reporting

A report on the project's implementation, results, and published work as well as how the results have been disseminated to the general public, and stakeholders is expected within one year after the end of the project period.

#### Payment of research funds

Research funds are paid to the department to cover project costs at two to four occasions a year. In addition, the foundation can pay a small advance (maximum 20% of the amount applied for to facilitate the start-up of the project).

#### About BalticWaters2030

BalticWaters2030 is an independent foundation that carries out projects with the aim of identifying and demonstrating measures that can contribute to a healthier Baltic Sea. The foundation conducts projects on land, along the coast and in the sea, mainly focusing on challenges related to fishing and eutrophication. The foundation also works with advocacy and communication, to spread knowledge.

### Application template

***Text instructions****: The specified number of characters includes spaces. The text must be written in font Calibri, 10p, with line spacing 1.5.*

#### Name of main applicant:

#### Discipline:

#### Institutional affiliation:

#### Project name:

Popular science summary (NOTE in Swedish): Describe the aim of the project and what concrete measures you expect your research contributing to.

*maximum 700 characters*

Background: Describe the background to the project/research.

*about 1000 characters*

Aim: Describe the aim of the research and how it can contribute to concrete measures for a healthier Baltic Sea.

*about 1000 characters*

Link to the foundation's work: Describe how your research relates to the foundation's work.

*about 1000 characters*

Implementation: Describe the work that will be implemented and how the money will be used.

*maximum 10 000 characters*

Resources and estimated costs: Specify the costs for the research grant (can be the purchase of equipment or consumables, costs for field studies, travel costs, salary to an external party, etc.).

*about 1000-2000 characters*

Time schedule: Describe when the work is to be started, implemented, and completed.

*about 500 characters*

**NOTE!** Be concrete and concise. Note that BalticWaters2030 reimburses a maximum of 30% over head (OH).

**Send your application to:** projektutlysning@balticwaters2030.org