

## CEC support to write research applications

---

### Summary

*CEC supports the writing of application for external grants by associated researchers to carry out environmental and climate research. This support ranges from help with practicalities when writing individual research applications to financial support to arrange meetings and coordinating the application procedure for larger, strategically important projects.*

CEC supports applications for external grants that contribute to the development of integrated environmental and climate science at Lund University in order to strengthen the scientific foundation for sustainable development. Support is provided subject to the availability of resources and when other priorities so allows.

### What kind of applications are supported?

- For all kinds of applications, CEC provides “in kind” support with practicalities including advising on contacts with stakeholders (*in the document referred to as type c, see table 1*).
- For “prestigious” individual research grants it is possible to apply for funding to have the application reviewed by an external consultant (*type b*).
- For larger research applications contributing to the strategic research goals of CEC, it is possible to apply for resources for planning, meetings, writing and coordination (*type a*).

### Who can get support?

- In kind support can be given to applications by any researcher/postdoc/PhD-student associated with CEC/BECC/MERGE including CEC fellows, as well as applications for postdocs and other positions connected to CEC/BECC/MERGE (as long as a CEC fellow is involved e.g. as host).
- Additional support can be applied for by CEC Fellows as well as CEC employees and Guest researchers.

For strategic research applications, more than one group from the CEC environment shall participate as applicants and/or the project should be coordinated from CEC.

CEC can also decide to support larger strategic applications, which then lies outside the scope of this document.

See full document for details.

### Welcome with your ideas and applications!

**Erik Swietlicki, Responsible for research development and initiation at CEC**

**Carin Nilsson, Research Coordinator, CEC**

**Henrik Smith, Director CEC**

## CEC support to write research applications

### 1. Purpose

CEC contributes to the development of integrated environmental and climate science at Lund University to strengthen the scientific foundation for sustainable development. CEC promotes natural science to tackle environmental and climate issues, but realizes that major environmental and climate-related challenges of our time can only be addressed by also developing cross-disciplinary research involving social sciences and humanities, as well as when relevant involving actors in society. To this end CEC offers support for initiating research that falls within the CEC framework and vision.

### 2. General description of the research initiation work process

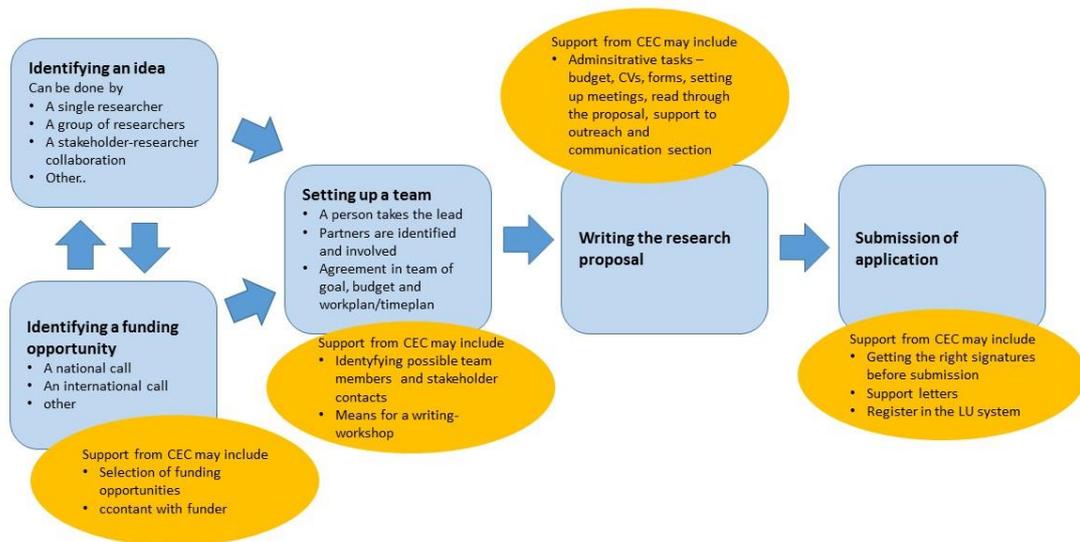
CEC may support associated researchers (see below) when they apply for external grants to environmental and climate research. New projects may be initiated by individual researchers/research groups, or initiated as a response to major calls/challenges requiring a high degree of coordination. CEC offers relevant support to both types of applications. Although CEC supports the writing of smaller applications in several ways, CEC in particular supports proposals involving multiple research groups that consequently requests larger amounts of funding and/or require support with coordination and contacts with stakeholders. The criteria for receiving support, and the extent of such support, are outlined below.

CEC may provide three types of support (table 1, Fig. 1 & 2):

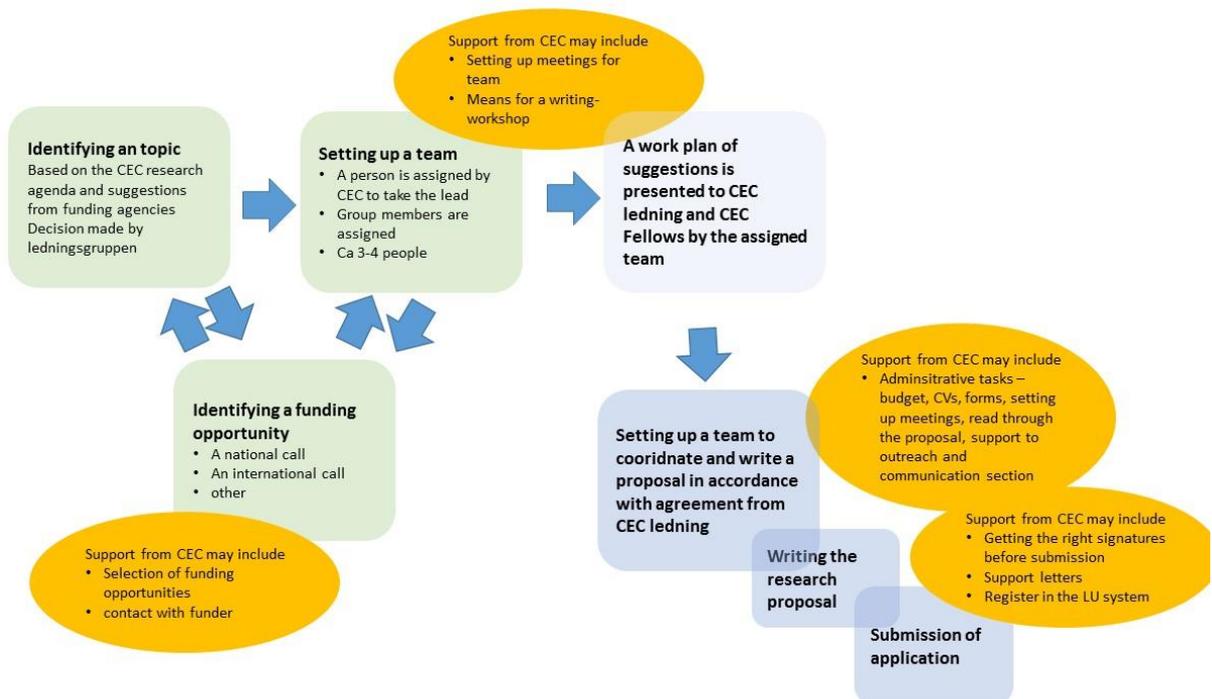
- **All grants.** For any application, CEC may provide “in kind” support with practicalities. (*type c*)
- **For “prestigious” individual research grants** it is possible to also apply for funding to have an external consultant comment the proposal (max 10 000 SKr). (*type b*)
- **Larger grants of strategic importance.** For research applications of particular strategic value to CEC, i.e. contributing to the strategic research goals of CEC (see below) and being larger than normal individual research grants thus requiring coordination, it is possible to apply for resources for planning, meetings, writing and coordination (max 20 000 SEK expenditures, 10 000 SEK consultant, 1 month salary).(*type a*)

**Table 1. Support provided to apply for external grants. I=provided “in kind”, A=can be applied for. The three different types of support (type a, b and c) corresponds to how large the project may be, and who is involved. This is explained in section 3, and more specifically in figure 3 and 4.**

CEC Support	Any application (type c)	For prestigious individual grants (type b)	Larger research applications (type a)
Selection of funding opportunities	I	I	I
Contacts with funder	I	I	I
Advise on stakeholder contacts	I	I	I
Funding support for arranging proposal planning/writing meetings for the project group (max 20 kSEK)			A
Logistic support for arranging proposal planning/writing meetings			I
Salary for one or more individuals for writing the proposal (max 2-4 weeks)			A
Hiring a consultant to comment on the proposal (max 10 kSEK)		A	A
Administrative tasks – budget, CVs, forms, setting up meetings, read/comment the proposal, support to outreach, communication and impact sections	I	I	I
Support letters (drafting and correcting)	I	I	I
Getting the correct signatures before submission	I	I	I



**Figure 1.** Schematic outline of CEC support to individual research applications. Blue squares symbolize work/decisions by researchers, orange ovals potential support from CEC.



**Figure 2.** Schematic outline of CEC support to strategic research initiatives. A strategic research initiative is explicitly based on the CEC research agenda. Green squares symbolize steps and decisions taken by the CEC Steering group, blue squares symbolize work/decisions done by researchers, and orange ovals are potential support from CEC.

## 3. Specific information on support to initiate new projects

### 3.1 Who is eligible for support from CEC for research initiation of new research?

In kind support as well as support use a consultant (for “prestigious” grants and subject to application) can be given to any researcher/postdoc/PhD-student associated with CEC/BECC/MERGE including CEC Fellows<sup>1</sup>. Support may also be given for applications for postdocs and other positions to be connected to CEC/BECC/MERGE and associated departments (typically repatriation support).

Support to lead larger (strategically important) applications can be applied for by CEC Fellows as well as CEC employees and CEC Guest researchers.

In all cases above, a CEC Fellow must be actively involved in the process. For Post Docs positions, a CEC fellow will act as host.

### 3.2 General criteria for all projects that seek support from CEC

- The proposed research topic should fall within the CEC areas of interest<sup>2</sup>

### 3.3 Additional criteria for larger projects

Such projects involve several applicants affiliated to more than one research group and department/division within CEC. Examples of such larger projects are EU H2020 research projects, Nordic research projects (e.g. NordForsk, Nordic Council of Ministers), KAW Advanced Research Grants, FORMAS Strong Research Environments, MISTRA etc.

To be eligible for support from CEC:

- More than one group from the CEC environment shall participate as applicants.

If this criterion is not fulfilled, then

- The project shall be placed at CEC.

This means that CEC assumes the coordinating role, and the external funding is handled by CEC<sup>3</sup>. Note that in most cases a large part of the research will be performed at involved partner departments, to which resources will then be directly allocated. Indirect costs (overhead) will be that of each partner organization. In some cases (EU, NordForsk), the rules for indirect costs is restricted by the external funder. Compensation for the discrepancy between actual indirect costs and those that can be claimed is the responsibility of the partner organization and not CEC. Before the start of the project, contracts will be set up between CEC and each individual partner organization regarding how and when the funding should be distributed, as well as work responsibilities.

In the case when more than one group from the CEC environment participates, then one of these groups shall assume the coordinating role.

---

<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.cec.lu.se/research/cec-fellows>

<sup>2</sup> See the latest versions of the documents “CEC Work Plan” at [http://cec.lu.se/sites/cec.prodwebb.lu.se/files/verksamhetsplan\\_cec\\_2014\\_eng.pdf](http://cec.lu.se/sites/cec.prodwebb.lu.se/files/verksamhetsplan_cec_2014_eng.pdf) and “CEC Strategic Plan”. The CEC Steering group makes the decision on what ideas to support.

<sup>3</sup> The Director of CEC agrees that the proposal is submitted (signature).

### 3.4 Small or individual research projects

Such projects are typically either “standard” VR/FORMAS 3-5 years research projects or similar.

Individual research proposals include proposals for an individual with a PhD exam from another university to join the CEC environment as a Post Doc. Individual research proposals can also be more prestigious grants such as the EU ERC grants (3 levels), VR Distinguished Young Scientist’s grants, Wallenberg Academy Fellows grants, or similar.

Guest researcher’s grants for professors from outside LU to join the CEC environment include the VR Tage Erlander visiting professor, Royal Guest Professor in Environmental Sciences, KAW Guest Professor and similar. The applicants are then often part of CEC.

### 3.5 Obligations to researchers who have received support from CEC

For both large and small projects:

- CEC web shall be allowed to present project information
- CEC shall be acknowledged where applicable

Acknowledgements to CEC will typically appear in journal papers, oral and poster presentations and project information material.

Large projects receiving support from CEC will also be asked to arrange seminars and/or workshops at CEC.

### 3.6 Overview of which projects get what type of support from CEC

Below are two suggested paths for large research projects (fig. 3) and smaller research projects (fig. 4) respectively.

### 3.7 Boundaries and limitations

The CEC Steering Group will decide the extent of the support given in each individual case. The extent of support will depend on available resources, the strategic value of the research to CEC, the expectations of success, and other considerations. An early dialogue between the CEC Steering Group and the applicant(s) is encouraged. A short motivation will accompany each decision.

## 4. How to request CEC support

Always, when you find an interesting call, please contact Carin Nilsson and Monika Bengtsson early, to receive help with plans and budget. In order to request support, the tentative main applicant needs to submit information on the intended research, its scope, and project partners and management to CEC (CEC research coordinator Carin Nilsson, [carin.nilsson@cec.lu.se](mailto:carin.nilsson@cec.lu.se)). (A form will be provided for this)

Based on this information, the CEC Steering Group will decide whether to provide support to the applicant, and the extent of the support. The decision will typically be communicated within 2-4 weeks. Any additional information or matters relating to the project can be continuously discussed with Carin Nilsson (e-mail [carin.nilsson@cec.lu.se](mailto:carin.nilsson@cec.lu.se) or tel: 046-2229814) during the process.

**CEC strives to make this procedure as simple, fast and transparent as possible.** In summary: All applications can receive the general CEC support (type c) i.e. working hours for the CEC staff. The direct funding support provided by CEC can be for (indicated with A in the table 1):

- Arranging proposal planning/writing meetings for the project group (ca 20 kSEK)
- Salary for one or more individuals for writing the proposal (2-4 weeks per project)
- Hiring a consultant to comment on the proposal (10 kSEK)

### Large Research Projects

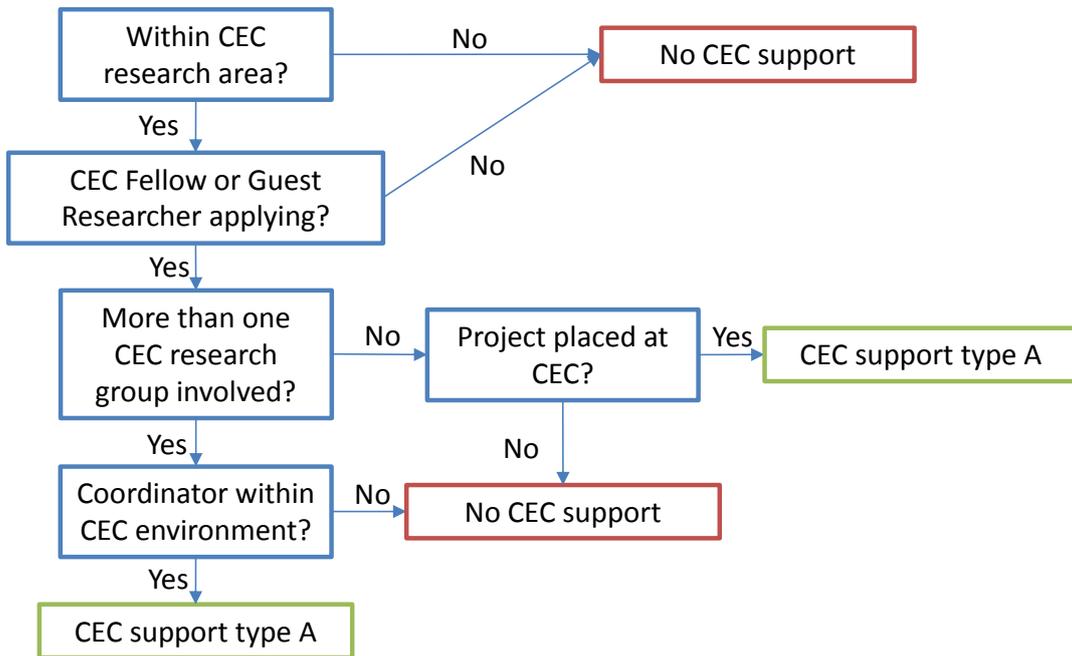


Figure 3. Suggested scheme for work flow regarding large projects.

### Small or Individual Research Projects

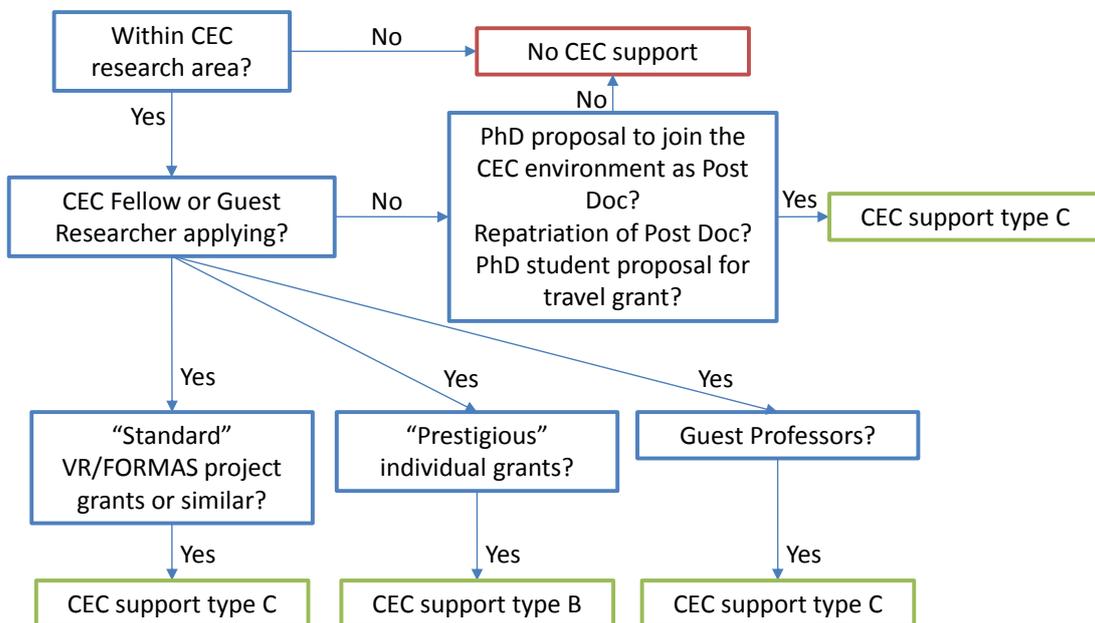


Figure 4. Suggested scheme for work flow regarding small or individual projects.