



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Project period 2020-2022

STERF (Scandinavian Turfgrass and Environment Research Foundation) is an independent research foundation that supports existing and future R&D efforts and delivers applied 'ready-to-use' research results that benefit the golf and turfgrass sector. STERF was set up in 2006 by the golf federations in Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Iceland and the Nordic Greenkeepers' Associations. STERF's vision and strategic objectives can be found in 'Guide for applicants' at www.sterf.org.

Sector specific and global challenges

Over the next decade, the golf and turfgrass industry face a number of major business challenges, including providing a high quality arena for golf and other sports, and at the same time responding to increased environmental regulation, rising pressure on natural resources (notably water, energy and land), and rising operating costs for key inputs including labour, energy, water and fertilizers. The challenges also include the potential added value of turf management in supporting ecosystem services and enhancing biodiversity, the continued need to promote integrated pest management, and the risks posed by an increasingly uncertain and variable climate.

STERF's projects and activities should directly support fulfilment of eight of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set out in Agenda 2030. STERF's activities have relevance to six of these SDG categories:

1. Sustainable use of natural resources and chemicals (SDGs 6, 12, 14, 15).
2. Ecosystem services and enhanced biodiversity (SDGs 14,15).

3. Adapting to a changing climate and minimising factors affecting climate change (SDG 13).
4. Sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11).
5. Healthy lives and well-being for people of all ages (SDG 3).
6. Partnership for sustainable development and for new regulations (SDG 17).

These categories are also closely aligned to the golf and turfgrass industry's daily challenges and to STERF's programmes, ongoing projects and dissemination efforts.

Programmes

We recognize that sector specific and global challenges need concerted action and collective solutions, underpinned by robust, applied science. To meet the challenges our sector has to face, and the global risks relating to the eight SDGs, STERF has created four international and trans-disciplinary R&D programs, including:

- ***Integrated pest management (SDGs 12, 13, 15);***
- ***Sustainable water management (SDGs 6, 12, 13, 14);***
- ***Turfgrass winter stress management (SDGs 12 13) and;***
- ***Multifunctional use of golf facilities and ecosystem services (SDGs 3, 11, 15, 17)***

In this current present call for proposals, STERF has decided to prioritize research and development within these four R&D programmes. STERF R&D programmes can be found at www.sterf.org

Further details on the scope and intended outcomes from these STERF R&D programmes can be found on www.sterf.org



Guidelines for applicants

STERF has reserved about 2 million SEK per year for 2020, 2021 and 2022 for new “ordinary” research projects, and about 100.000 SEK for new “large scale trials / demonstrations” on golf courses. We also recognise that industrial engagement and support is a critical component of research. Applicants are therefore encouraged to secure either additional cash and/or in-kind support for their planned research to deliver additional impact and outreach. Collaboration and joint projects between STERF and Nordic and international golf and research organisations are also desirable.

Instructions for those wishing to apply for funding for research –projects from STERF can be found in the “Guide for applicants” at www.sterf.org The “Guide for applicants” provides details on the template for proposal submissions and describes how applications for funding are assessed by STERF.

Deadline

Deadline for application: **September 30th 2019.**

Agreement for approved projects will be written for one to three years; however continuation of the project will be determined annually based progress and status reports delivered to STERF.

Decisions regarding funding should be made by December 15th 2019.

The proposal should be sent as a PDF-file to:

Scandinavian Turfgrass and Environment Research Foundation
Att: Maria Strandberg
maria.strandberg@golf.se



If more information or clarification is required, please contact:

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