

KoN2018 Self-Assessment: Template Instructions to Units of Assessment (UoA)

This Self-Assessment document is intended to provide an overview of the quality of research and of the impact of research for each UoA. The third section of the self-assessment is related to the UoA's collaboration with society.

The self- assessment has the following sections:

1. Quality of Research, criteria:
 - 1.1. Scientific Quality
 - 1.2. Scientific Environment and Leadership
 - 1.3. Strategy for Scientific Development

2. Societal Impact of Research, criteria:
 - 2.1 Activities and Outputs
 - 2.2 Outcomes
Case Studies
 - 2.3 Impact Strategy

3. Capacity for collaboration with Society
Case studies

4. Facts and Figures about the UoA

Each UoA is asked to fill in all sections. It is the responsibility of the UoA Coordinator to lead and document the strategic discussion needed to fill in sections 1 - 4 of this document and to submit the entire Self-Assessment to the KoN2018 Digital Platform that will be open for submission between 3 January and 23 February 2018. Access to the platform will be posted on the website https://internt.slu.se/Organisation-och-styrning/KoN2018_sv/ in January 2018.

Panel/Research field	
Name of the UoA	
UoA Coordinator	
Coordinator's e-mail	
Phone; Mobile phone	
Department	
Faculty	
UoA-Code (see attached file for a list of UoA codes)	

Brief description of the UoA's research profile

Maximum 300 words

Brief description of the UoA's organizational context

Maximum 200 words

Section 1. Quality of Research

Introduction

This section provides an opportunity for the UoA to reflect on the present status of the research conducted in the unit.

1.1 Scientific Quality

1.1a What are the most important scientific achievements/breakthroughs of the UoA in the most recent 5 years (2013-2017)?

Maximum 400 words

1.1b With which research groups, national or international, does the UoA compare itself? How does the UoA perceive their own ranking during this period as compared to these? What distinguishes the UoA's research from other groups in this scientific field?

Maximum 400 words

1.1c What are the weak points of the UoA?

Maximum 200 words

1.2 Scientific Environment and Leadership

1.2a Describe the most important measures taken by the UoA during recent years to promote an attractive, diverse, intellectually stimulating and creative research environment.

Maximum 200 words

1.2b What measures have been taken to encourage the development of younger members of the faculty as independent researchers and to help them qualify for higher academic positions?

Maximum 200 words

1.2c Describe the role and importance of PhD education for the unit's research.

Maximum 200 words

1.2d If relevant, describe the UoA's interdisciplinary scientific endeavors and/or collaborations with other UoAs, platforms, centers, etc. at SLU.

Maximum 300 words

1.3 Strategy for Scientific Development

1.3a Describe the UoA's goals and strategy for the next five years (2018 – 2022) for promoting scientific quality and renewal.

Maximum 400 words

1.3b Describe the most promising future directions in the research field, and how the UoA could contribute to advancements therein.

Maximum 300 words

1.3c What conditions are required for successful implementation of the UoA's strategy? What obstacles must be overcome?

Maximum 200 words

Section 2. Impact of Research

Impact of research on society, is here defined as ‘an effect on, change or benefit to the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia’. <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/rsrch/REFimpact/>

2.1 Activities and Outputs

This section focuses on actual activities and outputs intended for use outside of academia (e.g. commissioned research, commissions of inquiry, external consultancies, web-based services, PhD education financed by industry, outreach activities, etc.).

2.1a What are the most important activities and outputs of the UoA during the last five years (2013 – 2017)?

Maximum 500 words

2.1b Which are the most important stakeholders for the UoA, and why?

Maximum 300 words

2.2 Outcomes

This section focuses on how activities and outputs from the unit have resulted in outcomes, i.e. the actual use and effects of the activities and outputs outside of academia. The outcome of the unit’s research should be exemplified through three impact case studies (section 2.4).

2.2a What are the UoA’s key outcomes during the past five years (apart from examples given in the impact case studies – section 2.4).

Maximum 300 words

2.3 Impact strategy

This section focuses on the unit’s approach and strategy for engaging in research with the aim of achieving societal impact.

2.3a Describe the potential of the unit’s research to contribute to societal needs and challenges. Which specific goals in terms of societal impact does the UoA have?

Maximum 500 words

2.3b Based on the present situation, briefly describe strengths and weaknesses, respectively, regarding the UoA’s potential for societal impact.

Maximum 300 words

2.3c What measures are taken that could enable the UoA's research results to be more readily adopted by society? Which internal incentives are in place or are planned?

Maximum 300 words

2.4 Impact Case Studies

The UoA is asked to submit a maximum of three impact case studies that describe how research within the unit has led to societal impact. The research results that the impact is based upon must not have been published before 2008.

2.4a Impact case study one

Title of impact case study:
1. Summary of the impact (maximum 100 words)
2. Research that underpins the impact case study (maximum 300 words)
3. References to the research (maximum of six references)
4. Details of the impact (maximum 300 words)
5. Sources to corroborate the impact (maximum of 5 references)

2.4b Impact case study two

Title of impact case study:
1. Summary of the impact (maximum 100 words)
2. Research that underpins the impact case study (maximum 300 words)
3. References to the research (maximum of six references)
4. Details of the impact (maximum 300 words)
5. Sources to corroborate the impact (maximum of 5 references)

2.4c Impact case study three

Title of impact case study:
1. Summary of the impact (maximum 100 words)
2. Research that underpins the impact case study (maximum 300 words)
3. References to the research (maximum of six references)
4. Details of the impact (maximum 300 words)
5. Sources to corroborate the impact (maximum of 5 references)

Section 3. Capacity for Collaboration with Society

Justification

To assess the UoA's capacity for collaboration is well in line with SLU's mission:

*SLU develops the understanding and sustainable use and management of biological natural resources. This is achieved by research, education and environmental monitoring and assessment, **in collaboration with the surrounding community.***

Collaboration with society is one of the five core areas of focus in SLU's Strategy for 2017 -2020. One important reason for this is that the collaborative process in itself contributes to scientific development – meetings and dialogue with individuals outside one's own field of expertise can challenge established conceptions and result in novel perspectives on the questions at hand. Ideally the collaborations can result in new research questions, mutual learning, and assure that the relevant questions are asked. Almost by definition, successful collaboration that is, will in different ways be characterized by benefit from the interaction, to all involved stakeholders.

A capacity to collaborate with society includes ability to work with groups of people of differing competences or perspectives, to achieve a common goal that would be unattainable if attempted alone. Therefore, the assessment of Capacity for Collaboration with Society focuses on the relational process, the dialogue, and the mutual learning, as opposed to the outcome. The latter is covered in the evaluation of Impact of Research.

Another important reason for doing this assessment is that the government as well as funding agencies are increasingly expressing the need for collaboration between academia and society, and are allocating funding based on this. To assess our capacity for collaboration is a means for the university to be "one step ahead".

Purpose

On a University-wide level, the purpose of assessing Capacity for Collaboration is to identify our strengths and challenges as a foundation for future strategic initiatives to develop this capacity, ultimately with the aim of enhancing scientific development and societal impact.

On the level of the UoA, the self-assessment process is in itself an opportunity to reflect and learn, and not least to promote awareness on how the collaborative process can contribute to the scientific development.

Implementation

The assessment will be based on the UoA's self-reflection on past and on-going external collaborations regarding how it has developed one's own and the partner's activities. This descriptive reflection will be supplemented with case-studies to give examples of actual external collaborations. One case-study should describe examples where collaboration has worked well, and one case-study should describe an example of a collaboration that did not go as planned – including reflections about what affected the collaborative processes.

Evaluation

The assessment of Capacity for Collaboration with Society will not result in an evaluation score. The evaluation panels will instead perform a context dependent qualitative assessment for each UoA, and give constructive feedback about the described approach to external collaboration.

3.1 Capacity for collaboration with society

3.1a Describe the UoA's approach to collaboration with society. What are the benefits for research? In your view, what characterizes a successful collaboration process?

Maximum 300 words

3.2 Collaboration Case Studies.

The UoA is asked to submit two collaboration case studies, one which describes a successful external collaboration and one that exemplifies a less successful collaboration. The latter is included with the purpose of stimulating reflection on factors important for the collaboration process.

3.2a Case study one illustrates a successful collaboration between the UoA and external actors. (Maximum two pages in total)

Collaboration case title
Participants, including their role and contribution in the collaboration (organizations)
Briefly describe the underlying question/challenge, and how the collaborative activity was initiated.
Did the participants define a mutual goal with the activity? Describe!
What were the other organizations' objectives for participating in the collaboration (apart from the mutual interest in the questions/challenges at hand)?
Briefly describe the results/outcomes of the collaborative activity, and to what extent the collaborative activity fulfilled the participant's expectations.
Describe how the collaborative activity has developed the research within the UoA?
Which were the essential factors for success and/or pitfalls in the collaborative process?

3.2b Case study two illustrates a collaboration between the UoA and external actors that was less successful. (Maximum two pages in total)

Collaboration case title
Participants, including their role and contribution in the collaboration (organizations)
Briefly describe the underlying question/challenge, and how the collaborative activity was initiated.
Did the participants define a mutual goal with the activity? Describe!
What were the other organizations' objectives for participating in the collaboration (apart from the mutual interest in the questions/challenges at hand)?
Briefly describe the results/outcomes of the collaborative activity, and to what extent the collaborative activity fulfilled the participant's expectations.
Describe how the collaborative activity has developed the research within the UoA?
Which were the essential factors for success and/or pitfalls in the collaborative process?

Section 4. Facts and Figures

4.1 Research Activities and Outputs

4.1a Major scientific publications during 2013-2017

Select the most important, maximum 10.

Authors (UoA members in bold)	Title of article	Journal, volume, issue, pages	Citations in Web of Science

4.1b PhD and Licentiate degrees awarded during 2013-2017

(main supervisor at the UoA)

Degree	Total	Female	Male
PhD			
Licentiate			

4.1c Major competitive, ongoing research grants. (maximum of 8 contracts).

Funding Source	Project title	Project duration	Total volume (MSEK)	Lead by UoA?

4.1d Major national and international scientific collaborations during 2013-2017

Select the 8 most important

Partner organization	Nature of collaboration (center of excellence, network, project, exchange program, etc.)	Role of UoA (coordinator, partner)	Duration of collaboration

4.1e Invitations to Scientific conferences during 2013-2017 (maximum 8)

Name of UoA member	Gender	Conference	Session chair/ Invited speaker

4.1f National and/or international commissions during 2013-2017.

Select the most important, maximum 8.

Name of UoA member	Gender	Name and type of organisation	Nature of assignment, award	Duration

4.1g Major awards and prizes during 2013-2017

Select the most important, (maximum 8)

Name of UoA member	Gender	Awarding organisation	Nature of award

4.2 Research environment and infrastructure

4.2a Recruitment during 2013-2017. Number of persons and university where PhD degree was awarded.

Type of recruitment	University where their PhD was awarded					
	SLU		Other Swedish Univ.		Foreign Univ.	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Number of Professors						
Number of Senior Lecturers						
Number of Associate Senior Lecturers						
Number of Researchers						
Number of Post-doctoral students						

4.2b Exchange of researchers during 2013-2017

Exchange type	Number of visits
Visiting researchers (at least 1 months' duration)	
UoA member research visits abroad (at least 1 months' duration)	

4.2c Available resources

Here the UoA should describe available resources in terms of access to specialized equipment and other important research facilities (at the Department, Faculty, University or National). If applicable, describe the unit of assessment’s research synergies with environmental monitoring and assessment.

Max 300 words

4.3 Interactions with society

4.3a Major ongoing funded contracts with public authorities, industry or other organisations (Swedish or international). Select the most important (maximum 8).

Funding source	Project title	Duration (20xx - 20xx)	Total sum MSEK

4.3g Intellectual property and innovation activities developed through the UoA’s research during 2013 – 2017

Intellectual property /innovation activities	Number
Patents awarded	
Patents submitted	
Licenses	
Spin-offs or other companies	
Software	
Other (please specify)	

4.4 Other factors the UoA would like the expert panel to consider

4.4a Briefly describe internal and/or external circumstances that may affect the UoA’s performance.

Maximum 300 words