

## Instructions for the current situation analysis of the subject areas by the departments

As a part of the subject area review at the LTV faculty, the departments are to perform an analysis of the current situation regarding their subject areas. This document provides instructions from the faculty management for the analysis, with the aim to enhance the coherence of the analyses between departments in order to increase their utilisation in the further review process. The next step is a third workshop in the beginning of 2023 where the current situation analyses, complemented with selected key figures (provided by the faculty), will aid the discussions about future subject areas.

Besides the subject area review at the faculty, there is a parallel process regarding [quality assurance in SLU's research and environmental monitoring and assessment](#). These are not explicitly linked together, but you can reuse material and text if you find similarities in the two processes. NB! The two processes have the same deadline.

### Regarding subjects at SLU

At SLU there is a distinction made between *subject areas* and *subjects*. The former is an organisational level introduced 2013 through a decision by the board of SLU, and is defined as a research field relevant in regards to SLU's area of responsibility. A subject area can also be defined based on aspects needed to ensure high quality in the courses and study programmes given by SLU. It is the faculty board that is responsible for deciding and defining the subject areas at the faculty, and the subject areas are thus the primary instrument that the board can use to shape the research conducted at the departments. Furthermore, the subject areas are in particular relevant in regards to two key processes at the faculty: the strategic competence supply plan process and the internal funding allocation process. All academic personnel at the faculty belongs to one subject area. A list of all the subject areas at the faculty can be found here (in Swedish only):

<https://internt.slu.se/riktat/interna-fakultetssidor/ltv/kontakt/amnesansvariga/>

Subjects, on the other hand, are used to describe the orientation of the professors and senior lecturers (including associate senior lecturers) employed at SLU. The subjects are decided on by the faculty board.

### Instructions for the current situation analysis

Below are the aspects that we want you to include in the analysis of each subject area, as well as some aspects that you should analyse at the department management level. Please consider one aspect at a time when writing the analysis. NB! Remember in your analysis to take into account the current strategy and mission of SLU, the LTV faculty and your department.

Subject area analysis (max 3 pages per subject area, deadline January 31)

The four aspects to be included in the subject area analysis are listed below. The emphasis of the analysis should be on the development opportunities forward rather than history/background. The page limit for aspects 1 and 2 is maximum one page.

#### **1. Present focus of the subject area**

Describe the present focus of the subject area and its principal activities within research, education, environmental monitoring and assessment, and external collaboration.

#### **2. Development since Q&I 2018**

Describe the development of the subject area since the [Q&I 2018 evaluation](#). Include any measures that have been taken based on the results and review comments of Q&I 2018 (please take into consideration that the Units of Assessment, UoA, from Q&I 2018 do not necessarily map the subject areas, i.e. not all comments regarding a specific UoA are valid for all subject areas within the UoA).

**3. Development opportunities based on previous workshops**

Based on the results of the first and second workshop regarding the subject area review, what development opportunities (within research, education and environmental monitoring and assessment) would you like to implement in your subject area? Please describe how such a development could increase the contribution to excellent, international research of the subject area and enhance its possibility to attract more external funding as well as key competences, while ensuring high quality in education and environmental monitoring and assessment.

**4. Present and future competence needs**

What competences at the subject area are essential for the development of its research, education, environmental monitoring and assessment, and external collaboration? Identify if these competences are currently present, lacking or believed to be lacking in the coming ten years (could be illustrated in a table).

Department management analysis (max 2 pages per department, deadline November 21)

According to the LTV faculty Board decision, the analysis must include the department management's view of the current and future situation in relation to the current area of responsibility and the strategy of SLU and LTV. The emphasis of the analysis should be on the development opportunities forward rather than history/background.

**1. Current and future development needs and opportunities**

Analyse and synthesise current and future development needs and opportunities for the department related to the area of responsibility, the strategy of SLU and LTV, and the overall results from the Q&I 2018 evaluation, including possible impact of research, education and environmental assessment within the subject areas on societal challenges, in particular regarding Agenda 2030.

**2. Possible synergies and overlaps**

Analyse and synthesise possible synergies and overlaps within and across subject areas and competences at the department and across departments at the faculty.

**3. Opening for new development**

Identify current activities that should be discontinued in order to further strengthen research, education, and environmental monitoring and assessment at the department.

**4. Suggestions for the way forward**

Suggest new future constellations, assignments and roles of subject areas and subject area leaders within and across departments.