**Instructions for evaluating research proposals**

**Research Council Faroe Islands**

**Evaluation of research quality**

When writing your evaluation, please use the assessment form sent to you.

There are two main criteria in the assessment:

1) the scientific quality of the project,

2) skills of the applicant, research group and the feasibility of the project.

The main criteria are divided into sub-criteria. You are asked to make assessments of each sub-criterion with ratings from *poor* to *excellent*, according to the following scale:

* *an excellent* proposal: one which is extremely good by international standards, with no elements to be improved
* *a very good* proposal: one which only contains minor elements that could be improved
* *a good* proposal: one which contains some elements that could be improved
* *a satisfactory* proposal: one which needs substantial modification or improvement
* *a poor* proposal: one which has severe weaknesses that are intrinsic to the proposed project
* *NR* indicates that the criterion is not relevant

Please write comments for each main criterion. These comments are particularly valuable, both to the board in its decision-making and to the applicants.

You are asked to make an overall assessment on the scientific quality of this proposal with grades from A (highest) to E (lowest).

You are asked to make concluding remarks together with an overall assessment of the research project. You are also asked to state your recommended corrections to the project, if any.

**The peer reviews will be made available to the applicants and can thus provide useful guidance for drafting future proposals.**

##### Consultative procedure, impartiality and confidentiality

The applicants will receive a copy of the peer reviews and comments concerning their own application. The applicants will therefore also be informed about the identity of the peer reviewers. We will, however, ask them not to contact you.

It is highly important that reviewers are not in any way biased in relation to an application. We therefore ask you to inform us if you at any time realise that you have:

* Specific personal or financial interest in the outcome of the matter
* Recently worked closely with the applicant or a member of the research group
* A close friendship with or animosity towards the applicant or a member of the research group
* Or if other circumstances can give rise to doubt concerning your impartiality.

See also our Guidelines on Impartiality.

**According to Faroese law, you are bound to observe professional secrecy concerning confidential information contained in the applications reviewed. We therefore ask you to treat the applications with confidentiality and destroy them after the evaluation.**

**Relevant links and online sources**

The application form, guidelines and other relevant documents are available on the website [www.gransking.fo](http://www.gransking.fo) or upon request from Research Council Faroe Islands, e-mail: gransking@gransking.fo and phone: +298 567800.

**The application process**

Submission of application

Secretariat checks application

Secretariat finds peer reviewers, asks for review

Not selected for evaluation – Not funded

Secretariat and Board decide whether application proceeds to evaluation.

Research Board evaluates appli-cation based on the peer review and the call criteria.

**2 x Peer reviews of application regarding scientific quality**

Funding decision is made by the Research Board.

Not funded

Funded