

THE GENDER INEQUALITY PROBLEM IN THE SWEDISH FOREST SECTOR



METHODS

“... rather than evaluate policies for their ability to ‘solve’ problems, we need to study the way policies *construct* problems”

WPR approach (Bacchi, 2009)

DATA

Swedish Forest Agency

Measures for an Equal Forest Sector (2019)

Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

Sweden's National Forest Program (2018)

Action plan for Sweden's National Forest Program (2018)

Assignment to propose Measures for an equal forest sector (2018)

A cohesive policy for Sweden's rural areas (2017)

Swedish Board of Agriculture

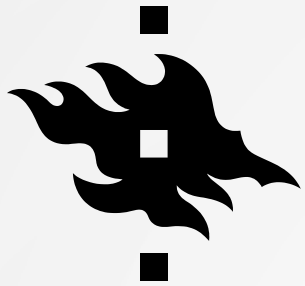
Rural Development program (2014-2020)

Policy actor

Policy document

RESEARCH AIMS

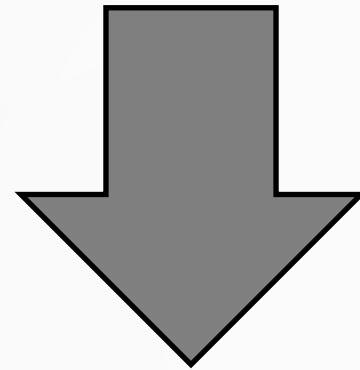
- (a) How is the problem of gender inequality **represented** in Swedish policy?
- (b) What effects does this representation have on the expectations of women's **roles and behaviors**?
- (c) In what **spaces** does gender inequality exist in the forest sector, who does this **benefit**, and what opportunities does it have to evolve?



RESULTS: COUNTING BODIES LIKE COUNTING TREES

Women are not attracted by the forest sector, because:

- **discrimination**, including sexual harassment, are widespread and
- women “behave in ways that **differ from the majority.**” (SFA, 2019, p.27)



Women are not attracted to the forest sector

Women are expected to improve industry performance and attractiveness



Women are necessary to the forest sector, because:

- They “create more dynamic, pleasant, creative and thus profitable workplaces [...] which also leads to more **profitable companies**” (SFA, 2019, p.47)
- “Without increased equality, **the countryside is dying out.**” (Swedish Ministry of Agriculture, 2004, p.65).



SEQUAL PROJECT

Our project

Investigates gender differences in participation and leadership in climate change related processes, with a focus on natural resource management, through examining discourses (politics and power) and processes (translations and retranslations of discourses to measures) operating in social-ecological systems.

Partners

SRC (Sweden), Nordland Research Institute (Norway), University of Vic-Central University of Catalunya (Spain), University of Helsinki (Finland)

Funder: EU GENDER-NET Plus ERA-NET Cofund

Websites : <https://mon.uvic.cat/sequal/>

<https://www.stockholmresilience.org/research/research-themes/stewardship-transformation/social-ecological-relations-and-gender-equality.html>

Social-ecological relations and gender equality



Female shepherd in Spanish Pyrenees. Photo: D. Tarrasón

Social-ecological relations and gender equality: Dynamics and processes for transformational change across scales (SEQUAL)

SEQUAL is a multi-country collaborative project of research organizations in Norway, Spain and Sweden, funded through the [EU GENDER-NET Plus ERA-NET Cofund](#).

GENDER-NET Plus is a consortium of 16 organizations from 13 EU countries, which aims at strengthening transnational collaborations and supporting gender equality through institutional change. The funding programme supports research that integrates a gender dimension to addressing urgent societal challenges, particularly in interactions and

Related info

Funding details

Project timeframe: 2

Project members:

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