

VOLVO RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS (VREF)

STUDY VISIT GRANTS

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR GRANTS 2019

SUMMARY

- VREF invites PhD students and researchers at early stages of their careers (max 5 years after PhD exam) to apply for a VREF Study Visit Grant (SVG) to support a study visit with up to SEK 30 000.
- The invitation is open to: (i) Research teams which are supported by the VREF Future Urban Transport (FUT) Program, (ii) PhD students and early stage researchers from a Swedish University, University College or Research Institute to visit a research team supported by the VREF FUT Program, and (iii) Recipients of the Lee Schipper Memorial Scholarship, if recommended by the Lee Schipper Scholarship Board, to visit a research team supported by the VREF FUT Program.
- The invitation to apply for grants 2019 will be open until October 31, 2019. The VREF Secretariat will handle applications on an on-going basis, and the applicant will be informed of the VREF decision within 4 weeks after the application has been registered at VREF.
- The invitation includes guidelines for the application and information on VREF and the FUT Program.

VREF AND THE FUTURE URBAN TRANSPORT (FUT) PROGRAM

The Volvo Research and Educational Foundations, VREF, inspires, initiates and supports research and educational activities promoting sustainable transport for equitable access in urban areas. Through the Program *Future Urban Transport - How to deal with the complexity of urban transport* (FUT), VREF invests in the development of new knowledge as well as educational activities and communication.

VREF invests in programs and projects with the following mission:

- To support the development of new knowledge on ideas and solutions that can contribute to equitable access and sustainable urban transport;
- To support the development of educational and outreach programs in the area of equitable access and sustainable urban transport;
- To contribute to the dissemination and implementation of research findings among both university researchers, practitioners, decision makers and other relevant stakeholders;
- To support demonstration projects/examples and change processes.

The overarching aim of the program is to nurture change processes in cities and businesses by disseminating and implementing research findings. Relevant target groups are university researchers, practitioners, decision makers and other relevant urban transport stakeholders.

The FUT Program started in 2001 and has to date created ten Centres of Excellence (CoE) globally, as well as a number of projects and events. In recent years, VREF has developed a stronger thematic focus, with CoEs and projects clustering under thematic areas such as *Urban Freight for Liveable Cities*, *Mobility and Access in Cities*, and *Change Processes for Sustainable Urban Transport*. As of 2018, the FUT Program supports around 10 CoEs and research projects (see annex 1).

For further information on VREF and the FUT program, see www.vref.se.

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR VREF STUDY VISIT GRANTS (SVG)

The VREF invites PhD students and researchers in early stages of their career (max 5 years after PhD exam) to apply for grants for short-term study visits. The invitation is open until October 31, 2019, and the study visit should be carried out before December 31, 2019. The VREF wishes to have a broad distribution of grants between universities, thus in the first half of 2019 (up to June 30, 2019) a maximum of one grant will be awarded to the same home university.

The overall objectives of the SVG are:

- to strengthen interaction within the VREF FUT Program Network;
- to strengthen interaction between the VREF network and Swedish universities; and
- to provide an opportunity for PhD students and early stage researchers to get an added value of being part of the VREF FUT Program Network

The invitation is open to:

- PhD students and early stage researchers working at a CoE which is supported by the VREF Future Urban Transport (FUT) Program;
- PhD students and early stage researchers working in a research project which is supported by the VREF Future Urban Transport (FUT) Program;
- PhD students and early stage researchers at a Swedish university, university college or research institute, and
- Recipients of the Lee Schipper Memorial Scholarship, <http://leeschipper.embarq.org/>, if recommended by the Lee Schipper Scholarship Board

The SVG should be used for a study visit to:

- a CoE which is supported by the VREF FUT Program, or
- a research project team which is supported by the VREF FUT Program, or
- a Swedish university (with the exception of PhD students and early stage researchers at Swedish university, university college or research institute).

The study visit should be related to the work program for the VREF supported CoE/project or Lee Schipper Scholarship. Both the home university and the host university for the visit should confirm the arrangement. Within four weeks after the study visit, a summarizing Study Visit Report should be submitted to VREF. VREF strongly recommends the parties involved in a study visit (i.e. the home institution, the host institution and the applicant) to produce a tangible output of the study visit, e.g. a jointly written conference paper.

Each individual grant is limited to maximum of 30 000 SEK. The grant should be used to cover costs in direct relation to the study visit, i.e. travel costs, accommodation costs and other direct costs, e.g. material supply costs. Salary cost, meals and/or per diem will not be covered by the grant. Each applicant can only be awarded one SVG in the same year, and priority will be given to applicants who have not previously received a VREF SVG.

GUIDELINES FOR THE APPLICATION

The application should be undersigned and submitted by the leader of the home CoE/research project/university, as well as confirmed by the project leader of the host CoE/project/university for the visit. The submission of the application shall be done in form of one (1) pdf-file attached in an e-mail sent to the VREF Secretary, Ms. Fabienne Niklasson (email: secretariat@vref.se) who will confirm the reception by giving a registration number. The secretary will inform each applicant and the involved CoEs/projects/universities of the VREF decision within four weeks after the submission of the application.

The application will be structured as follows:

Section A: Basic Information (incl. contact details under item A1-A3)

- A1. Name of the visiting PhD student/early stage researcher, home affiliation, CoE/research project /university
- A2. Name of the regular supervisor/project leader (at home institution)
- A3. Host CoE/project/university, which will be visited by the PhD student/early stage researcher) and name of the supervisor / contact person at the host CoE/project/university
- A4. Confirmation from the host CoE/project/university, which can be copied from e.g. an e-mail stating that the host accepts the arrangement.
- A5. Dates of the study visit
- A6. Budget: estimated expenses (maximum grant is 30 000 SEK¹)
 - a) Travel cost
 - b) Accommodation cost
 - c) Other costs (e.g. extra material supply costs directly related to the study visit)

Section B: The Study Visit Program (items B1 – B5 max. 600 words)

- B1. Purpose(s) and goal(s) of the study visit (max. 100 words)
- B2. Overview of the planned activities during the study visit (max. 200 words, no details required))
- B3. Expected output (deliverable(s)) of the study visit (max. 50 words)
- B4. Expected outcome(s) of the study visit in terms of (max. 200 words)
 - a) for the PhD student/early stage researcher personally,
 - b) for the home institution and the contribution to the CoE/research project, and
 - c) for the host institution.
- B5. Other relevant information

GUIDELINES FOR THE POST-VISIT REPORTING TO THE VREF

Each PhD student/early stage researcher receiving a grant for a study visit should prepare a summarizing report to VREF. The report should typically be 2-3 pages and include the following items:

- **Basic data:** Name and affiliation of the PhD Student/early stage researcher, host of the visit (CoE/project/university and responsible person), dates and place(s) of the visit
- **Activity report:** activities, people and organizations met during your visit, attended seminars or other conferences. We recommend that you also give dates here of the main events during your stay.
- **Deliverables and outcomes** of the study visit, e.g. field studies conducted, analysis, papers, etc. We recommend that you give details on submitted conference papers (conference, approved abstract, etc.) and attach the abstract to your report.
- **Feed-back in relation to the objectives** in terms of value for the PhD student/early stage researcher, value for the CoE/project and value for the interaction and collaboration within VREF Network or between Swedish universities and the VREF Network.

¹The grant can be matched by other funding, e.g. to facilitate a longer study visit. If this is the case, please estimate the total cost, and give information on other sources of funding, external to the VREF.

ANNEX 1**LIST OF CURRENT CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE (COE) AND RESEARCH PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE FUT PROGRAM**

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE COES AND MANY OF THE RESEARCH PROJECTS HAVE SEVERAL PARTNERS AT DIFFERENT UNIVERSITIES. MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE PARTNERS CAN BE FOUND AT THEIR RESPECTIVE WEB SITES

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE AND RESEARCH PROJECTS	HOST ORGANIZATION WEB SITE	CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE AND RESEARCH PROJECT LEADERS CONTACT MAIL
CoE BUS RAPID TRANSIT + (BRT+) STARTED 2010, EXTENDED 2017	Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC), Santiago, Chile www.uc.cl	Ricardo GIESEN giesen@ing.puc.cl
CoE METROFREIGHT STARTED 2012	METRANS Transportation Center University of Southern California, USA www.metrans.org	Genevieve GIULIANO giuliano@price.usc.edu
CoE SUFS, SUSTAINABLE URBAN FREIGHT SYSTEMS STARTED 2012	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, USA www.rpi.edu	José HOLGUIN-VERAS jhv@rpi.edu
TRANSFORMING URBAN TRANSPORTATION – THE ROLE OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP STARTED 2012	Harvard University, USA www.harvard.edu	Diane DAVIS ddavis@gsd.harvard.edu
PEDESTRIAN SAFE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEMS, PART II STARTED 2014, EXTENDED 2017	TRIPP, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, India www.iitd.ac.in	Geetam TIWARI geetamt@civil.iitd.ac.in
INTEGRATING PARATRANSIT AND BRT IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD STARTED 2014	Transportation Center University of California, USA www.its.berkeley.edu/volvocenter	Daniel CHATMAN dgc@berkeley.edu
PUBLIC TRANSPORT ADVOCACY IN AFRICAN CITIES: CASE STUDIES IN POLICY CHANGE STARTED 2017	CSUD, Columbia University, New York, USA www.csud.ei.columbia.edu	Jacqueline KLOPP jk2002@columbia.edu
MAPPING AND ANALYSIS OF SMART URBAN TRANSPORT INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS IN KENYA STARTED 2017	University of Nairobi Nairobi, Kenya ids.uonbi.ac.ke	Winnie V. MITULLAH mitulla@uonbi.ac.ke
EMBEDDED DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS IN THE CITY OF CAPE TOWN'S TRANSPORT AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY STARTED 2017	University of Cape Town Cape Town, South Africa www.acet-uct.org	Roger BEHRENS roger.behrens@uct.ac.za
SCOPING STUDIES: TRANSPORT AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION IN AFRICAN CITIES STARTED 2017	Institute for Transport Studies, University of Leeds, UK www.its.leeds.ac.uk/	Karen LUCAS K.Lucas@leeds.ac.uk
Gothenburg Urban Freight Platform STARTED 2014	Chalmers University of Technology Gothenburg, Sweden www.chalmers.se/en/centres/UFP	Michael Browne michael.browne@handels.gu.se