

Evalveerimine 2010 Application EV35 Stockholm Environment Institute - Tallinn, Biosciences and Environment

Expert's opinion: The volume and level of R&D activities in comparison to international criteria.

Subcriteria for evaluation	Evaluation	Comments
The research and development in the field being evaluated is characterized by a sufficient volume of financing taking into account the particularities of the field of research and the profile of the institution.	Positive	For social sciences, very good funding.
Research and development at the institution is characterized by contemporary and innovative range of topics for research.	Positive	A strong record in several fields of activity.
The institution has international cooperation projects in the field being evaluated and/or participates in various international cooperation networks.	Positive	An international institute with matching reputation.
Experts' summary assessment	Positive	Strong in a niche market of sustainable development.

Expert's opinion: R&D infrastructure (working premises and auxiliary facilities).

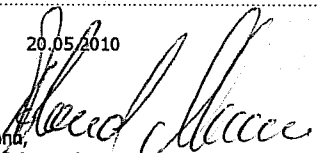
Subcriteria for evaluation	Evaluation	Comments
The institution's research groups in the field being evaluated have at their disposal the necessary working and auxiliary facilities (premises).	Positive	Has all it needs - computer and office based discipline.
The working facilities (premises) at the disposal of the institution's research groups in the field being evaluated are modern and fit for purpose.	Positive	Perfectly adequate for purpose.
The institution's research groups in the field being evaluated have at their disposal, in the case of experimental themes, the necessary equipment and instruments.	Positive	computer based analyses
The equipment and instruments at the disposal of the institution's research groups in the field being evaluated are, in the case of the experimental themes, modern and fit for purpose.	Positive	As above
The institution's research groups in the field being evaluated have access to databases, specialized literature and other research infrastructures.	Positive	Have access to all they need.
Experts' summary assessment	Positive	Well organised compact and coherent unit.

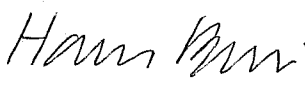
Expert's opinion: Qualification of researchers in comparison to international criteria.

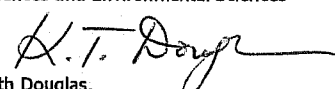
Subcriteria for evaluation	Evaluation	Comments
A sufficient number of research staff are employed at the institution taking into account the volume and particularities of the R&D activities of the institution and the field being evaluated.	Positive	Sufficient for purpose.
A sufficient number of the research staff have a recognized academic degree corresponding to Estonian legislative acts.	Negative	Too few higher degree holders.

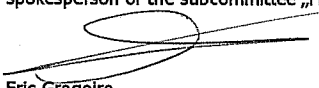
Doctoral dissertations have been successfully supervised in the last five years.	Negative	Too few potential supervisors in this small grouping.
Research staff in the field being evaluated have received sufficient national or international honours and/or awards.	Positive	Not particularly relevant in this area.
Research staff have published per researcher in the last 5 years a sufficient number of articles in international journals or peer-reviewed research monographs taking into account the particularities of the field of research being evaluated.	Negative	Publications are mainly in government documents, they are less suitable for international peer-reviewed publications.
Research staff have filed applications for patents or for plant variety rights certificates in the name of the institution in the last 5 years.	Positive	Not relevant
Experts' summary assessment	Positive	Quality staff from varying scientific backgrounds seem to make a good team whose outputs are aimed at a general and govt audience. Hence, positive contribution in their field, but not in its scientific aspects.
Subcriteria for evaluation	Evaluation	Comments
Final assessment	Negative	A strong unit making a significant contribution to the environment. However, their studies and outputs are not scientific in nature. We would like to see their work continue as it has a key role in environmental policy decision making. It may be useful to consider allying their work more strongly with an Estonian university department to get better integration and outputs. Hence, it is marked at negative under the assessment of international excellence because they do not compete with high grade research units under the terms of assessment. However, it is clearly an important unit in its own right, although not eligible to be assessed here.

Confirmed 20.05.2010


 Roland Axtmann,
 Chairperson of the evaluation committee;
 spokesperson of the subcommittee „Culture and Society“


 Hans Brix,
 Spokesperson of the subcommittee
 „Biosciences and Environmental Sciences“


 Kenneth Douglas,
 spokesperson of the subcommittee „Health“


 Eric Gregoire,
 spokesperson of the Subcommittee
 „Natural Sciences and Engineering“