# Activities and focus

2021–2024

THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

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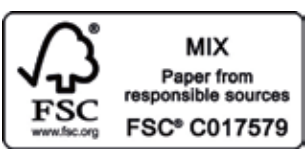

The Royal Swedish Academy
of Agriculture and Forestry

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## *Ceres*

## *The goddess of vegetation and agriculture*

The seal of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry depicts Ceres, the Roman goddess of vegetation and agriculture, known to the ancient Greeks as Demeter.

# Content

# Foreword

When looking back on 2020, it is easy to paint a dark picture of the state of the world and to overlook positive happenings and developments.

The past year has been characterised by geopolitical shifts in power, tensions within both the UN system and the EU, a rapidly growing climate threat as identified by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and, to top it all, a coronavirus pandemic with far-reaching and, in all likelihood, long-lasting consequences for global health and the world economy. Conflicts stemming from poverty, the struggle over natural resources and religious disputes are forcing many people to flee for safety and the hope of a better life. The world community is facing major challenges in the years ahead.

The insecurities and weaknesses that already characterised the global systems have been accentuated by the ongoing pandemic. There is now a major risk of setbacks in relation to a number of the many earlier positive effects of globalisation, with the possibility of a general trend of declining globalisation, increasing national protectionism and reduced international trade, primarily with the aim of safeguarding domestic preparedness and supply.

The EU has been rocked by Brexit and internal disputes but has previously shown the ability to emerge stronger from crises, and may succeed in doing so once again. However, even in this context there are risks of increased protectionism and intensified lines of conflict within urban-rural relations. The coronavirus pandemic has revealed weaknesses in the EU's common supply chains, and differences of opinion remain with regard to a unified refugee policy.

The conditions that impact our Swedish staple industries are largely determined by worldwide trade and the EU. Just like other countries, Sweden can expect to experience a long period of recovery in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. It is a situation that requires forceful, well-conceived and forward-looking measures for society, trade and industry and the Swedish economy, where sustainability in a broad sense is a key factor for success.

Sweden's green sector* can and should be one of the main actors in relation to such measures, with a capacity to contribute to solutions aimed at addressing a number of global challenges. Collaboration, research, technological development, and knowledge-based communication are all fundamental cornerstones of the work that lies ahead.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals in the UN 2030 Agenda are all fundamentally dependent on ecosystem services from forests, arable land and water, which means that the activities undertaken by the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry (hereinafter also referred to as KSLA) are of the utmost relevance from both a national and global perspective.

One of our Academy's most important tasks is to provide an arena where various representatives for the green industries can meet for discussion and the exchange of opinions. Supported by the broad and in-depth knowledge base of the Academy's fellows, we shall use the exchange of ideas and advocacy, influence, and knowledge dissemination to identify and strengthen our sector's ability to contribute to well-being, good health and a sound environment. KSLA should be seen and heard and should make a difference!

Ever since they were established, the Royal Swedish Academies have had important functions to fulfil, both jointly and individually within their respective fields. These days, the tasks undertaken by the scientific academies are more important than ever. In a world of ultra-fast media where beliefs, opinions and fake news have developed into instruments of power, our Academy must safeguard and stand up for the principles of objectivity, fact-based science, and practical experience. This is perhaps KSLA's most fundamental task in the years ahead.

As we attempt to look to the future, it is easy to be overly influenced by today's situation. Aware of this risk, we have still tried to identify and base our focus on the most important happenings and developments, at a global, regional, and local level, which we feel may be of relevance to conditions relating to the green industries, and thus also to KSLA and its activities, during the period 2021–2024.

The aim of this document is to provide a framework for the concrete content of the Academy's activities, which are formulated annually based on the initiatives taken in our sections and their committees.

In performing our assignment, KSLA shall use the resources at our disposal to help achieve a world that can be painted in brighter colours in 2024.

Stockholm in December 2020

Jan Fryk
*President of the Academy*

Lena Ingvarsson
*Vice President of the Academy*

**) In this document, the terms green industries and green sector refer to the industries that use biological or physical natural resources on land and in water.*

# The world around us

**There are currently 7.8 billion people** in the world, and even though the rate of population growth has halved since the 1970s, UN forecasts indicate that the world's population will reach around 10 billion by the year 2050. The rate of growth is expected to be highest in India and Africa, while a population decrease is anticipated in other regions. Since 1990, poverty has decreased dramatically due to strong economic growth and increasing prosperity. More than 90 per cent of children in the world are now able to attend primary school, including almost as many girls as boys. These days, newborn infants have a greater chance of survival than ever before, regardless of where they are born. More than four-fifths of the planet's inhabitants have access to clean water. However, despite these positive developments, there are still around 700 million people suffering from hunger and malnutrition in the world, a figure that has been on the rise in recent years. The coronavirus pandemic threatens to undermine all of the positive developments and results that have been achieved previously.

The number of deaths related to organised violence in the world has decreased significantly during the past decade, although an increasing number of ongoing armed conflicts are internationalised, which makes them more complex and difficult to predict. As of December 2020, the UN estimates that there are more than 80 million refugees in the world. The combined effects of continued geopolitical unrest, economic conflicts, increasing poverty and global ill-health, as well as climate change, could lead to even greater flows of refugees in the near future, with many likely to head for richer regions of the world such as Europe, where the conditions for a safer and better life are believed to be more favourable.

**Climate-related and environmental** developments are crucial for the living conditions of future generations. According to IPCC, human activities have thus far increased the Earth's temperature by 1°C compared with pre-industrial levels. A continued global temperature increase is predicted to entail con-

sequences such as elevated sea levels, heavy rainfall in certain areas and high temperatures with drought conditions in others, as well as a general increase in the frequency of extreme weather situations. This creates increasingly difficult challenges for the global supply of food and drinking water, while also placing a greater strain on terrestrial and marine ecosystems. Continued climate change also entails risks for the spread of pests, pathogens and invasive species.

Consequently, a warmer climate and changes in precipitation patterns impact the conditions for the growing of crops and animal husbandry in large parts of the world, which in turn entails consequences for international trade and competition. Although there is great demand for food that is produced with as little negative environmental impact as possible, the trade flows for food products may change as many import-dependent countries strive to achieve a higher degree of self-sufficiency in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

According to the Paris Agreement from 2016, the global temperature increase shall be kept below 2°C, and efforts should be made to limit the increase to 1.5°C. The EU Commission's "Green Deal" sets the goal of making the whole of the EU climate neutral by 2050. On the path to achieving this goal, net emissions of greenhouse gases within the EU are to be reduced by at least 55 per cent compared with 1990 levels. This represents a challenge of colossal proportions. At the same time, positive examples such as the Montreal Protocol from 1987, which has succeeded in stopping the depletion of the ozone layer, provide evidence that major environmental successes can be achieved through the pooling of positive forces and international agreements.

According to the Swedish Climate Policy Framework, Sweden shall be climate neutral by 2045. Thanks to the country's natural resources such as forest and hydropower, there are good conditions for the achievement of this Swedish goal. It is a matter of reducing emissions as well as capturing the greenhouse gases that, after all, escapes. Forests absorb large quantities of carbon dioxide, and trees can be converted into raw materials that can replace fossil fuels and other fossil-based products. Furthermore, according to researchers, the already significant positive climate impact of our growing forests can be increased still further through the implementation of production-enhancing measures.

At the same time, however, such measures may contribute to a decrease in biological diversity and thus reduce the experience-related value of forests. According to the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, around 10 per cent of Sweden's animal and plant species are endangered species, of which half are said to be associated with the forest landscape. Recent studies performed by SLU (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences) indicate that the level of interest in the forest's cultural history, natural beauty and experience-related values has increased among forest owners as well as members of the general public who visit and spend time in Sweden's forests. It is possible that the coronavirus crisis could entail a strengthening of the trend towards growing interest in outdoor leisure activities, which may lead to a further sharpening of requirements for a forestry industry that is able to meet economic as well as eco-logical and socio-cultural objectives.

**Sweden has one of the world's most efficient** commercial forestry industries, with the use of technology that is at the absolute forefront of the latest technological developments. The high-tech efficiency of the country's forestry operations has been, and continues to be, a condition for the profitability of forest owners and the international competitiveness of Sweden's forestry industry. Calculations have shown that the level of productivity in Swedish forestry operations needs to increase by an average of 2–4 per cent annually if the industry's competitive capacity is to be maintained over time.

The 2019 Swedish Forest Inquiry ("Skogsutredningen") must take the above aspects into consideration when proposing measures for enhanced right of ownership, new flexible forms of protection and compensation aimed at protecting forest land, and how international commitments regarding biological diversity can be reconciled with a growing circular bioeconomy. The latter is also of relevance with regard to agriculture and aquaculture.

One of the main conditions for welfare and positive economic development is ensuring that society has secure access to energy at competitive prices. Swedish electricity consumption can be expected to rise, due in part to the fact that the electrification of vehicles is currently in a phase of rapid expansion. The Swedish government's energy policy aims to reconcile security of supply, competitiveness and ecological sustainability.

The political goals are that Sweden shall have 50 per cent more efficient energy use by 2030 compared with 2005, and that all electricity production shall be renewable by 2040. The green industries have great potential to make a significant contribution to developments in this direction, not least through the production of biofuels.

**More than half of the Earth's population** resides in urban areas, and the process of urbanisation is expected to continue. In Sweden, where the number of inhabitants has risen by 1.4 million (16 per cent) in two decades, mostly due to significantly increased immigration, no less than 85 per cent of the population resides in urban centres with more than 10,000 inhabitants. But this process of urbanisation means that many people end up living far-removed from nature and farming, thus enhancing the risk of an increasing lack of understanding among ever-larger groups of people when it comes to rural conditions and the production of raw materials from agriculture, forestry and aquaculture. A lack of understanding of the value of agricultural land leads, for example, to the use of such land for urban development and infrastructural investment, thus blocking its potential use for food production. As something of a countertrend, however, the level of interest in "urban food production" has grown strongly. With production techniques that are adapted to cultivation conditions in urban areas, this could become an important complement to the food supply in urban environments in the long term.

A mutual lack of insight and understanding can easily lead to societal tensions within urban-rural relations, and in such a context there is a strong degree of reciprocity between urban and rural areas, with the cultural landscape's historical dimension able to contribute to the city-dweller's interest in rural life in the form of outdoor activities and access to nature, to the benefit of economic and social welfare.

Urbanisation is probably an important factor in explaining why young people's interest in career opportunities within the green industries has long been on the decline at both a practical and academic level. However, in the wake of the coronavirus crisis, there are signs of a change in a positive direction. Considering all of the impending challenges and opportunities facing the green sector, the ability to secure the future supply of qualified competence within this sector is a key issue.

Continual efficiency improvements and larger units, benefitting from economy of scale have been conditions for the survival of Sweden's forestry and agriculture, a situation that is not likely to change in the future. The coronavirus pandemic has, however, revealed shortcomings in Sweden's emergency preparedness, and this has highlighted the need to rebuild emergency stocks of staple foods and other strategically important products, as well as the need to strengthen the country's domestic food supply capacity. This, in combination with an increasing level of climate and environ-mental awareness among the general public, may encourage developments towards more small-scale and local food production. An overall consequence of such developments could be that the international perspective is played down in favour of increased national focus and the repatriation of production resources currently located overseas.

**The overall goal of Sweden's food strategy** between now and 2030 is "a competitive food supply chain that facilitates an increase in total food production while also achieving relevant national environmental goals, with the aim of creating growth and employment for sustainable development in the entire country". Through increased from conventional as well as organic agriculture, Sweden's degree of food-related self-sufficiency is expected to increase, with a simultaneous decrease in the level of vulnerability in the food supply chain. In this context, our high level of knowledge, new technology and digitalisation of the entire chain are factors that provide major development potential.

Efficiency in crop production can be improved still further and can be made more climate-friendly through the use of high-yielding varieties of perennial or autumn-sown cereals and oilseeds. The rapid developments within plant breeding can create crops that are more resistant to pests and other external stress factors than today's varieties. In this context, the Nobel Prize-winning CRISPR-Cas9 genetic scissors, which have revolutionised genetic engineering, could open new paths to development, while processes have also been initiated within the EU which could lead to a relaxation of regulations regarding genetic modification.

Competitive animal production is needed to meet environmental goals regarding preservation of biodiversity and a varied agricultural landscape with deep historical roots, that can also be used for outdoor leisure activities. Sweden has good con-

ditions for the sustainable production of animal source foods, and Swedish animal husbandry generally ensures a high level of animal welfare and health. At the same time, the consumption of animal products is exhibiting a declining trend, which is probably a consequence of growing climate-related and health-related scepticism regarding consumption of beef. On the other hand, there appears to be increasing interest in meat from game animals, which could entail significant potential given the current growth in the populations of hoofed game, especially wild boar and deer – species of game that also cause significant local damage to land, crops and forest.

Systems for large-scale, rational animal production must be designed in a manner that minimises the risks of spread of infection between animals and from animals to human beings (and vice versa) while also ensuring compliance with requirements regarding ethical treatment of animals. The COVID-19 outbreak is just the latest example of the importance of interdisciplinary knowledge aimed at preventing and managing zoonoses. In the shadow of the global threat of increasing antimicrobial resistance, it is of the utmost importance that systems for animal production are designed in such a way that the need for antibiotics is reduced to an absolute minimum.

**A broader spectrum** of large and small production units distributed throughout the country could be a possible solution for an economically viable and circular system of food production with less climate and environmental impact. We are already seeing increased demand for domestically produced food, but there is a need for innovative solutions with regard to animal breeding and new crops in order to be able to meet the global environmental goals and achieve a climate-neutral and sustainable production process as well as increased supply capacity.

According to FAO, aquaculture is the sector of food production that is growing fastest globally. Almost half of the aquatic animals that are consumed in the world come from aquaculture, which is accounts for more than 95 per cent of the production and harvesting of aquatic plants. FAO and other relevant experts believe that two-thirds of all fish eaten by human beings in 2030 will come from fish farms, and that pisciculture will be the totally dominant source of fish for the Earth's population by the year 2050. At present, the EU aquaculture only contributes 2.5 per cent of the global production. With more than 2,000

kilometres of coastline and almost 100,000 lakes, there are excellent conditions for a significantly expanded aquaculture sector in Sweden. In this context, it is important that the development of this industry takes place in forms and with technologies that are viable from both an ecological and economic as well as ethical and aesthetic perspective. Land-based aquaculture is also undergoing a process of dynamic development.

**The 17 Sustainable Development Goals** in the UN 2030 Agenda are all fundamentally dependent on ecosystem services from forests, arable land and water, which means that KSLA's activities are of the utmost relevance from both a national and global perspective.

Our Academy therefore has unique opportunities to contribute to the development of economically, ecologically and socially sustainable production systems within our sector. We are well equipped to perform risk and impact assessments that capture complex events in the short or long term. We can be a valuable partner in connection with the design of national strategies relating to emergency preparedness, supply and other relevant issues, and we can assist with knowledge and documentation in conjunction with negotiations concerning international conventions. Through these and other measures we can also promote interest and confidence in the potential of the green industries.

# KSLA's purpose and mission

## The Academy's Portal Paragraph:

*The task of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry is to promote agriculture and forestry and associated activities with the support of science and practical experience and in the interest of society.*

Based on the above purpose, the Academy has clarified and supplemented the focus of its activities by formulating a mission statement:

*For the positive development of society, the Academy will promote the sustainable use and management of land, water and air, as well as plants and animals for our sustainable livelihood and habitat. We do this by being an active meeting place for science and practical experience, and where, through the exchange of ideas and advocacy, influence, and knowledge dissemination, we identify and strengthen the ability of the green industries to meet current and future challenges.*

# Values

The activities of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry shall be characterised by **respect**, **integrity**, and **selflessness**.

As a meeting place for science and practical experience, the Academy highlights complex issues where a unified approach is lacking and where various solutions must be weighed up against one another. In the work aimed at strengthening the ability of industries to meet current and future challenges, and in order to be able to form a holistic approach to various issues, **respect** for differing opinions and varying skills and knowledge is of crucial importance.

The Academy's fellows are elected on the basis of their various personal experiences, expertise and approaches. As fellows of the Academy, the elected fellows represent themselves. In their work within the Academy, the Academy's fellows and working groups shall strive to contribute to activities that are of benefit to society. The fellows determine which issues the Academy should work with, and the Academy's credibility rests on the **integrity** and **selflessness** of their work and activities. No aspect may be left unexamined if it is possible to perform a comprehensive analysis for the benefit of society. This is assured through the broad experience of the fellows in combination with the Academy's values.

The Academy's values shall be subject to ongoing and open discussion within the Academy.

# KSLA's characteristics

In an ever-changing society with many actors and many opinions, it is important to clarify the Academy's characteristics, which must be visible in all activities. Spreading knowledge of and nurturing and developing these characteristics are part of an ongoing process in which the Academy's fellows and staff play a central role.

The Academy shall be perceived as:

- Independent and analytical. KSLA provides an independent platform that enables complex and controversial issues to be freely analysed and discussed.

- Competent and credible. Together, KSLA's fellows provide expertise of comprehensive scope and depth. This forms a unique knowledge bank that can be utilised in various networks in order to plan and implement activities, thereby assuming responsibility for important current and long-term issues within the green sector.

- Based on science and proven experience. KSLA's activities are undertaken on scientific grounds, and it is also crucial for the Academy to affirm and develop the interdependence between theory and practice. By contributing solution-oriented analyses and syntheses, the Academy shall strive to ensure that science and proven experience are available for use in relevant contexts.

- Contemporary. KSLA is a modern academy that captures new trends at an early stage in order to highlight and analyse their importance for the green industries. The Academy facilitates meetings between established science, practical experience and new ideas, and works to ensure that different understandings and opinions can be discussed and analysed in a respectful manner.

- Forward-looking and innovative. The Academy's activities are characterised by a future-oriented approach and openness to innovative opportunities, as well as continuity and stability. The historical perspective must be included and developed in order to explain and highlight the present and the future.

# Target groups

The Academy and its fellows shall be seen as actors and ambassadors for the activities as well as an internal target group. External target groups for the Academy's activities vary depending on the issue, but some important ones include (in no particular order):

- Politicians, other decision-makers and actors at municipal, regional, national, European and global level.
- Decision-makers and actors in industry, research, development and education.
- Practitioners and other representatives of primary production and processing with particular focus on young people.
- Opinion-makers, such as the media, teachers and interest groups.
- Students at university level.

# Working methods and communication

In its capacity as an independent and analytical network organisation, the Academy shall provide an active and open meeting place for information and discussion regarding various future scenarios, the front lines of research, opportunities associated with technological developments and new patterns of values, and how these can be used to develop and improve society. The Academy's working methods shall contribute to the independent formation of ideas and opinions as well as knowledge dissemination.

The Academy shall nurture and develop the following working methods:

- Through regular Academy assemblies and by organising conferences, seminars, round table discussions and workshops, both physically and digitally, the Academy provides a forum for highlighting complex issues where various solutions must be weighed up against one another. The Academy's initiatives shall look to the future while also considering historical experience.

- Versatility and a holistic approach are guaranteed through the election of fellows that represent and contribute varying experiences, expertise, and approaches. It is important to ensure that the fellowship represent different ideas and perspectives.

- The free scientific and practical conversation and exchange of ideas, as well as trans-disciplinary discussions, are important. KSLA shall therefore represent a natural meeting place for researchers and practitioners, and opportunities for collaboration with sister academies and other organisations shall be identified and utilised.

Effective communication is of fundamental importance for the Academy's interaction with the outside world, and for its ability to work in line with its overarching purpose and values. The forms of communication must therefore be adapted to the character of different target groups and the urgency of content-related needs. This requires the use of a number of different communication channels ranging from the printed word and physical and digital events and activities to social media.

Communication shall be a natural part of all our activities, and responsibility for a particular area or issue also entails responsibility for the communication measures required in relation to that area or issue. Each committee, panel, working group, etc., shall ensure that communication with the outside world regarding their activities is achieved in an appropriate manner and to the necessary extent.

KSLA should be seen and heard and should make a difference!

# Activities

The content of the activities is determined by the Academy through its various bodies and active fellows. It is primarily the fellows who propose with which issues the Academy should work.

The fellows are organised into three sections: The General Section, the Agriculture Section and the Forestry Section, in addition to which the Academy also conducts historical activities through the unit Library, Archives and Historical Projects (BAHP).

All activities shall conform to the Academy's overarching purpose, mission, characteristics, and resources. It is important to achieve the right balance in the planning of current and long-term activities. The scope of the activities is limited by factors such as the availability of human and economic resources.

Within the framework for its activities, KSLA shall:

- Highlight and influence, in a versatile and relevant manner, societal development within the Academy's areas of expertise.

- Actively strive to ensure the achievement of sustainability, economic viability and competitiveness in a bio-economic management system that concerns the industries represented by KSLA.

- Be a creative meeting place for the exchange of facts and varying opinions on how the green industries can and should be developed based on theory and practice.

- Be a natural arena for independent conversation and the mediation of knowledge for decision-makers at a state and municipal level as well as within industry and research.

- Take initiatives to generate new knowledge and mediate innovations aimed at strengthening the green sector.

- Strive to ensure that natural and landscape resources are utilised, developed, nurtured, and preserved as an important contributor to increased quality of life and better public health.

- Promote historical studies so that knowledge and insights regarding past activities and experiences can be considered and utilised in conjunction with discussions concerning the present and the future.

## The Sections and BAHP

The practical work within KSLA is primarily undertaken within the sections and their committees, and within the unit Library, Archives and Historical Projects (BAHP). The various units' operational activity plans are revised annually. The sections work in a versatile manner to highlight the interaction between nature and human beings, and to emphasise the importance of this interaction in relation to societal development. The free scientific conversation and transdisciplinary discussions are important, as are the continual global and future analyses within the various areas of responsibility.

**The General Section** deals with overall issues concerning natural resources, nature conservation, the environment, the landscape, cultural and rural issues, knowledge dissemination, and town and country planning. This section also addresses issues within industries and sciences not specifically related to the work of the Agriculture Section or the Forestry Section, such as reindeer husbandry, fishing, aquaculture and other use of natural resources.

**The Agriculture Section** deals with issues concerning production, processing, consumption and marketing in theory and practice, including specific educational and advisory issues within agriculture, horticulture, and veterinary medicine as well

as environmental issues related to the responsibilities of these industries and sectors.

**The Forestry Section** primarily focuses on silviculture and the utilisation of forests as a natural resource, including industry, marketing, and areas of application in theory and practice. This section also deals with specific related educational and advisory issues, hunting and environmental issues related to the responsibilities of these industries and sectors.

**The unit Library, Archives and Historical Projects (BAHP)** fulfils an advisory function in relation to the Academy's historical activities and undertakes multi-year projects in collaboration with fellows from all sections of the Academy. This unit also has an expert council with specialist expertise within areas of historical activity. The unit's projects are often interdisciplinary in nature, involving interactions between professional researchers from various disciplines and individuals with practical experience of industry-related activities.

## The Board Committees

The Academy appoints Board Committees to deal with issues that fall within overall areas and have been identified by the Academy as being of particular importance. The Board Committees' work is conducted on an Academy-wide basis under the leadership of the Academy Collegium. The Board Committees are active for long periods of time but do not have permanent status. There are currently three active Board Committees as of the start of this new activity period:

**The Board Committee for Research Issues** shall contribute to the creation of conditions that enable decisions concerning the green industries to be made on sound, knowledge-based grounds. This will be achieved by identifying knowledge requirements, helping to increase and develop funding of relevant research, and being an arena for dialogue, collaboration, and the exchange of ideas, both within KSLA and with other organisations and stakeholders in society. The Research Board Committee's fundamental assignment is to contribute to the

development of KSLA as an arena for inspiration, challenging ideas and trends, where issues that have not yet become established are also discussed, or where research-related conflicts exist. The Board Committee's work is based on a research perspective regarding various subject-related and structural issues, as well as political initiatives and societal trends that impact the green industries.

**The Board Committee for International Issues** aims to enhance the international perspective and work approach within KSLA's activities. The International Board Committee shall contribute to increased awareness and knowledge within the Academy with regard to international developments in the world around us, as well as relevant decision-making processes within organisations such as the EU and the UN. KSLA's internationally oriented activities must become more visible, both internally and externally. For example, KSLA should be perceived as an active member of the Union of European Academies for Science Applied to Agriculture, Food and Nature (UEAA). The Board Committee wants to assist KSLA in providing input to prioritised international decision-making processes and ensuring that more of the Academy's international fellows become involved in the Academy's activities.

**The Board Committee for Youth Issues** is focused on highlighting young role models and providing them with opportunities to impart influence so that more young people become interested in the green industries. Many young people are concerned about climate change and environmental issues and want to fight for the achievement of a better world. KSLA wishes to harness their engagement, turn their concerns into positive action, and involve more young people in the work aimed at developing the green sector. The Youth Board Committee shall also actively contribute to the development of KSLA's activities by providing relevant insights and perspectives with regard to what it is like to be a young person in Sweden today. KSLA is a unique meeting place, and the Youth Board Committee enriches and vitalises KSLA as a forum by providing new thoughts and solutions in relation to the present and future challenges that arise when the interests of different generations meet.

## Other Academy-wide activites

The Academy's field of activity spans many different areas involving overall issues as well as subjects of a more specific nature. The latter are managed in committees and within delimited projects, while broader issues are addressed in a somewhat larger, Academy-wide structure, for example issues concerning climate change, biological diversity, and the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the green industries and thus on society as a whole.

KSLA has worked with climate-related issues within various constellations for many years, and this is an area that is expected to continue to be of the utmost relevance for a long time to come.

The coronavirus pandemic that has affected the world in so many ways and to such an extent during 2020 is expected to result in comprehensive, far-reaching and long-lasting consequences, and it is important that we deal with such consequences, not least those that impact the green industries in our country, in a timely and appropriate manner in order to (among other things) create improved preparedness for possible future crises of equivalent scope and/or nature.

An important ongoing activity for the Academy relates to the aim of achieving broadened external funding, and this activity is being undertaken with the support of two groups appointed for the purpose, with one group focused on project funding and the other focused on donations.

**The Royal Swedish Academy of Agricuture and Forestry**
P.O. Box 6806 (Drottninggatan 95 B)
SE-113 86 Stockholm, Sweden
Tel +46 8 5454 7700 • www.ksla.se • akademien@ksla.se