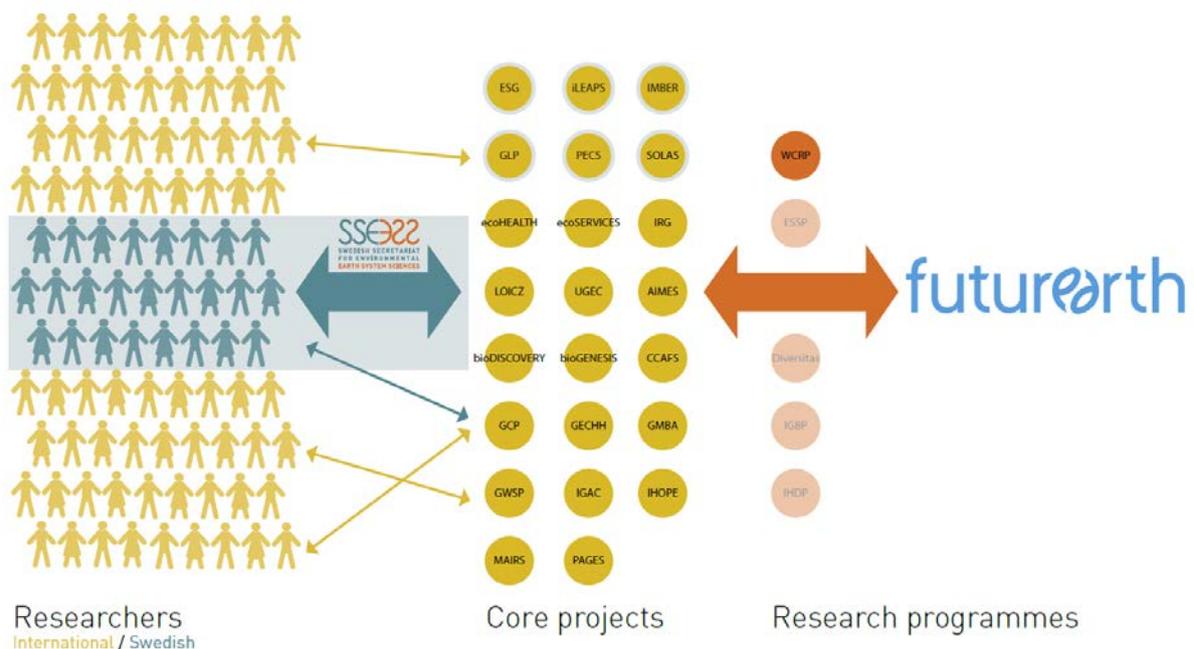


The respective roles of Future Earth and SSEESS

Future Earth and SSEESS (the Swedish Secretariat for Environmental Earth System Sciences) both work to expand and support international Global Environmental Change (GEC) research – but from two different points of entry. SSEESS will not be doing work that overlaps with the Swedish Hub of the Future Earth Secretariat, or vice versa. This paper clarifies the different roles of SSEESS and the Swedish Hub of the Global Secretariat of Future Earth.



Future Earth operates through a Global Secretariat (with hubs in Canada, France, Japan, Sweden and USA). The work of the Future Earth Secretariat will be strategic at the global level and less focused on individual researchers. The Global Secretariat liaises with Core Projects via International Project Offices (IPO) and Scientific Steering Committees (SSC) - who in turn liaise with research groups and individual researchers.

SSEESS links Swedish researchers to Global Environmental Change (GEC) research programmes through its relationships with research networks, research groups/core projects, and international organisations such as Future Earth.

At a glance: Future Earth, the Swedish Hub of the Global Secretariat, and SSEESS

Future Earth builds on five main international research programmes – IGBP, DIVERSITAS, IHDP, ESSP and WCRP. Each programme has been served by a secretariat. The IGBP Secretariat is based in Sweden. Four of the international research programmes - IGBP, DIVERSITAS, ESSP, and IHDP - are now combining into one global research initiative: Future Earth. **The Future Earth Secretariat** is distributed across five countries (Sweden, France, Japan, Canada and the USA).

The abovementioned programmes have gathered communities of researchers into what are currently called “**Core Projects**”, each with a science plan covering particular research questions. Core Projects that have been associated with IGBP, DIVERSITAS, ESSP, and IHDP are now transitioning to be part of Future Earth – and are thus being supported by the Secretariat of Future Earth. Future Earth also co-ordinates a number of Fast-Track Initiatives and Cluster activities to encourage collaboration across disciplines.

The Future Earth Secretariat – including the hub in Stockholm – links to the research community via the International Project Offices (IPO) of the Core Projects and their Scientific Steering Committees, not primarily with individual scientists or research groups.

Researchers across the world contribute to these Core Projects, working within research groups that are based at universities and institutions funded by national research agencies and a variety of other financiers. Individual researchers, working in research groups that are associated with Future Earth, will continue to be linked into the IPO of the Core Projects.

The Swedish Hub of the Global Secretariat for Future Earth will operate to support the global strategy and vision of Future Earth by working closely with the Science and Engagement Committees of Future Earth, the Core Projects, new networks and platforms. The Swedish Hub will also run international workshops and bring Future Earth events to Sweden. The Global Secretariat will provide research syntheses, communications, capacity building and stakeholder engagement. Future Earth is driving the evolution of research across the world towards a Global Framework with a defined strategy and vision – integrating natural sciences, social sciences and humanities in Global Environmental Change research in a solution-oriented way, bringing research closer to society.

SSEESS, the Swedish Secretariat for Environmental Earth System Sciences, is a meeting point for Swedish scientists and stakeholders working with Global Environmental Change (GEC) research. It is a direct link between individual researchers in Sweden and Core Projects and other research bodies/networks associated with international research programmes. Through its work, SSEESS aims to facilitate researchers in Sweden to get involved in relevant international programmes, including Future Earth, thereby improving both Swedish and international GEC research.

SSEESS is a collaborative partnership between the research councils Vetenskapsrådet, Formas and Forte, the development aid agency Sida, and the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. SSEESS aims to:

- i) **improve opportunities** for GEC researchers in Sweden to work with international GEC programmes, for example, via grant opportunities, events, and the Swedish GEC Science Gateway
- ii) **raise awareness** of international GEC organisations and research programmes
- iii) **facilitate collaboration** between international GEC research programmes and Swedish key-players such, as funders, politicians, and science managers.