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## Belmont Forum

1 message

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**AJ Smit** <albertus.smit@gmail.com>  
To: Albertus Smit <ajsmit@uwc.ac.za>

18 February 2022 at 07:34

**From:** Magnus Tannerfeldt <[Magnus.Tannerfeldt@formas.se](mailto:Magnus.Tannerfeldt@formas.se)>  
**Subject:** Belmont Forum CRA Oceans result  
**Date:** 11 February 2020 at 14:33:28 SAST  
**To:** "[ajsmit@uwc.ac.za](mailto:ajsmit@uwc.ac.za)" <[ajsmit@uwc.ac.za](mailto:ajsmit@uwc.ac.za)>



Dear Consortium Coordinator

Professor/Dr. AJ Smit,

Thank you very much for your submission to the Belmont Forum call on *Transdisciplinary Research for Ocean Sustainability*. In the first step of the call we received 45 eligible pre-proposals that were reviewed by an international 18-member panel of experts. Of these, 26 teams were selected to submit full proposals. In the second step of the call we received 22 full proposals that were reviewed by the panel of experts with additional reviews from external experts, overseen by an independent Chair and with an observer from the Belmont Forum secretariat. Each proposal was carefully reviewed and discussed by the review panel and, based on the panel recommendations and the available funding, the Group of Program Coordinators (funding organizations) decided to approve funding for 13 projects.

We are pleased to inform you that your project 1503 EXEBUS has been **approved for funding**. For your information, see below the summary comments from the panel of experts. Please note that the funding is conditional upon the availability of the estimated budgetary resources for each funding agency. Decisions by the Group of Program Coordinators are final and cannot be appealed.

**The next steps** for you as Consortium Lead are to:

1. **Disseminate** this message to all participating partners and collaborators in your consortium.
2. **Contact** your concerned funding organizations to ensure that you are updated on and follow the necessary procedures.
3. **Initiate planning** for your participation in the kick-off meeting, see further below.

**The kick-off meeting and transdisciplinarity training opportunity** will be held in conjunction with the SRI2020 conference in Brisbane, Australia in June 2020 (<https://sri2020.org>). This very interesting conference will give good opportunities for added-value activities and back-to-back meetings. All consortia are expected to participate with 3 persons with different expertise: natural science, social science, and stakeholders. We will get back to you with more details, meanwhile please begin to consider the number and expertise of participants from your project that we should plan for at the kick-off meeting.

On behalf of the Group of Program Coordinators for this call, we welcome you to the group of Belmont Forum projects and look forward to working with you during the coming years!

Please let us know if you have any questions. For questions regarding national/regional processes please contact your respective funding organizations. Any technical questions about the BFGO system should be directed to [support@bfgo.org](mailto:support@bfgo.org).

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Magnus Tannerfeldt  
Call secretariat (TPO) Lead, Belmont Forum CRA Ocean sustainability

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Belmont Forum application portal: [www.bfgo.org](http://www.bfgo.org)

Belmont Forum web site: <http://www.belmontforum.org>

## Summary comments from the panel of experts on the full proposal 1503 EXEBUS

### 1. Quality/Intellectual Merit

An excellent proposal with a strong blend of fundamental research with commercial translation for local stakeholder communities in south western Africa. The presentation of the proposal was also excellent, making it easy to read and understand - thank you!

### 2. User Engagement and Societal/Broader Impacts

The proposal is highly relevant to Belmont Forum. Eastern Boundary Upwelling systems are fundamentally important in the world's ocean. How they may be impacted by climate change - and particularly extreme events - is poorly understood. The Benguela system is a model for understanding such impacts. The proposal will translate into regional ecological and economic impacts with stakeholders from a wide variety of backgrounds.

### 3. Interdisciplinarity and Personnel/Quality of the Consortium

Excellent mix of disciplines throughout. Excellent team with a strong track record

### 4. Resources and Management

Well thought out and presented

### 5. Overall Assessment

EXEBUS scored well throughout its evaluation. It was a 'very convincing proposal' addressing Belmont criteria 'very well'. A 'strong proposal with a very well defined focus on the study of natural and anthropogenic impacts in a very sensitive area off SW Africa'. A research team that is very strong that mixes academy, governmental and industry' so that 'the proposal attends to the requirements of Belmont Forum'. It was considered 'an exceptionally good proposal that fits the Call perfectly. It is well presented while being sufficiently detailed to be able to understand'.