

Chemical Pollution and Biodiversity

BECC · FRAM · GGBC

Wallenberg Conference Centre, Gothenburg

23 – 24 November 2026

Overall programme logic

The workshop will combine plenary framing, interactive networking and parallel group discussions.

Day 1 will focus on creating common ground across disciplines. Participants will work in interdisciplinary groups to explore knowledge gaps, identify promising research avenues, connections and opportunities for collaboration across fields. Day 2 will focus on developing ideas further. Participants will work in thematic groups shaped by registration input and insights from Day 1. These groups will also reflect on possible follow-up activities and funding opportunities.

Day 1 – Monday 23 November

11:30 | Arrival and registration

12:00 – 13:00 | Lunch

Lunch at Lyktan.

13:00 – 14:00 | Plenary: Welcome and setting the scene

Purpose: establish why the workshop is taking place and introduce the chemical pollution – biodiversity interface.

Welcome

Introduction: Chemical pollution and biodiversity – why this interface matters now.

Panel discussion: “*Chemical pollution as a driver of biodiversity change*”.

Reflections from 3 – 4 panellists with different disciplinary backgrounds and perspectives.

14:00 – 14:45 | Research speed dating

Participants meet people outside their usual network.

- What do you work on?
- What expertise, data, sites or methods do you bring?
- What question or challenge are you currently interested in?
- What kind of dialogue or collaboration would you like to explore?

14:45 – 15:15 | Coffee and matchmaking wall

Participants add short notes on expertise, interests, methods/data and possible collaboration ideas.

15:15 – 16:45 | Parallel session 1: Common ground and promising research avenues

Participants work in mixed groups. All groups discuss the same questions, building on insights from the speed dating exercise:

- What interesting questions, knowledge gaps or collaboration ideas came up during the speed dating exercise?
- Which of these seem especially promising for work at the interface between chemical pollution and biodiversity?
- What methods, data, sites, cases or expertise would be needed to address them?
- What makes these questions difficult to address within one discipline or research environment?
- Where do BECC, FRAM and GGBC perspectives connect most clearly?

16:45 – 17:30 | Harvest and gallery walk

Groups post key points. Participants circulate, add comments and mark ideas they find promising.

Before leaving, each participant adds two reflections:

- Most surprising insight from Day 1.
- Most promising opportunity for further discussion.

18:00 Dinner

Dinner at [insert location here].

Day 2 – Tuesday 24 November

08:30 – 09:00 | Morning coffee and reflection wall

Participants revisit the Day 1 outputs and add any further reflections.

09:00 – 10:40 | Parallel session 2: From ideas to possible next steps

Participants work in thematic groups based on input from registrations and insights from Day 1.

Suggested questions:

- Which questions or ideas from Day 1 are most promising and feasible to develop further?
- What would be a useful first follow-up activity: seminar, synthesis note, pilot study, stakeholder dialogue, student activity or funding proposal?
- What expertise, data, sites, methods or partners would be needed?
- Are there relevant funding opportunities, such as BECC Action, seed funding, Formas, Mistra, Horizon Europe or other calls?
- What can realistically be developed after the workshop?

Each group prepares 3 – 4 key messages for the final plenary.

10:40 – 11:00 | Break

11:00 – 12:00 | Final plenary: What have we learned and how could this continue?

Each group reports briefly followed by plenary discussion.

- What themes generated most energy?
- What possible follow-up activities should be explored?
- Are there ideas suitable for small-scale funding or proposal development?
- Should a small coordination group continue after the workshop?

Final reflections.

12:00 – 13:00 | Lunch

Lunch at Lyktan.