

Swedish Mining Innovation Internationalization grant 2024

1 Summary

The Strategic Innovation Program for the mining and metal producing industry, Swedish Mining Innovation (formerly called SIP STRIM) is part of a joint venture by Vinnova, the Swedish Energy Agency and Formas. The overall goal of the program is to improve Sweden's sustainability and competitiveness in the mining and metals industry. More information about Swedish Mining Innovation is found at www.swedishmininginnovation.se.

The Strategic Innovation Program Swedish Mining Innovation and Vinnova invite stakeholders who are developing international contacts in areas of importance for the Swedish mining and metals-producing industry. The call covers all areas of the Strategic Research and Innovation Roadmap¹. The purpose of the grant is to enable international travel to events and meetings with a goal to develop collaboration, joint projects and facilitate technology transfer. Internationalization projects have the character of a pre-study (genomförbarhetsstudie²).

The organizations eligible for the grant are SMEs, research organizations (institutes, universities), NGOs and public sector organizations.

The call is aimed at, but not limited to, giving organizations opportunities to participate in Innovation Days organized by Business Sweden. See information on events at Swedish Mining Innovation website³.

Applications for participation in other similar trips are also eligible, with priority given to events organized by Business Sweden.

The submission of applications is made to Swedish Mining Innovation (Lawrence.hooy@swedishmininginnovation.se).

¹ <https://www.swedishmininginnovation.se/roadmap/>

² Link to description <https://www.vinnova.se/globalassets/huvudsajt/sok-finansiering/regler-och-villkor/dokument/svenska/stodgrunder-och-stodnivaer----230929.pdf>

³ See <https://www.swedishmininginnovation.se/calls/> for updates on the event. A program for participants is being developed.



Key Deadlines for submission of applications to the call:

Round 1 for trips ending before 30th September: March 21th, 2024 at 14:00.

Round 2 for trips ending on or after 30th September: June 10th, 2024 at 14:00.

Dates of decision: 4 weeks after call closes.

The maximum funding for the internationalization grant is 50 000 SEK per organization for travel outside of Europe; and 30 000 SEK within Europe or in Turkey. The maximum aid intensity (level of funding) is 50% of eligible costs for SMEs, research organizations, public sector organizations and NGOs. Large companies are not eligible for the grant. Review the guide to eligible costs carefully⁴.

An organization may apply for only one grant at each application deadline.

An organization may apply for a maximum of two grants (one in the first round and one in the second round). However, in the second round priority will be given to organizations that have not received a grant in the first round. It is anticipated that a maximum of 14 travel grants will be available.

Person to contact concerning the call: Lawrence Hooey, Technology and Innovation Manager, Swedish Mining Innovation Tel: 0920-49 36 65 E-mail: Lawrence.hooey@swedishmininginnovation.se

Contact for questions about the online application service: Vinnovas IT-support Tel: 08-473 32 99 Email: helpdesk@vinnova.se

Updated information on the call, templates and prioritized activities are found at <https://www.swedishmininginnovation.se/calls/>

⁴ <https://www.vinnova.se/globalassets/huvudsajt/sok-finansiering/regler-och-villkor/dokument/svenska/anvisning-till-villkor-om-stodberattigande-kostnader-20232.pdf>

2 Who may apply?

The call is addressed to organizations that have an interest in developing international collaboration for development of technologies and services that supports the goals of Swedish Mining Innovation to be world-leading in sustainable mining technology. Applicants must be legal entities registered in Sweden.

The following types of organizations are eligible for funding: SMEs, research organizations, public sector organizations and NGOs. Large companies are not eligible.

3 Description of the call

3.1 Objectives of the call

The objective of the call is to catalyze cooperation with international organizations leading to joint projects, technology transfer and also promote Sweden as a leading innovation partner. The goal is to strengthen Swedish competitiveness and sustainability in the mining and metal production sector.

3.2 Content and implementation

Each Internationalization grant proposal should identify the need for international cooperation, motivate the relevance of the international organizations and people to be met and demonstrate the value in having a physical meeting. There must be a demonstrated background work with a meeting plan or organized activity for the specific grant. Prioritized is participation in the events organized in conjunction with Business Sweden. For a list and description, see the call website⁵.

3.3 Expected results and effects

The internationalization grant will result in continued dialogue, with the goal of initiating cooperation in the form of joint projects or other collaborations and knowledge exchange. The grant is intended in particular to promote collaboration between Swedish SME and foreign mining companies to improve Sweden's competitiveness, innovation capacity and promote rapid development and adoption of innovations that support sustainability globally in the mining and metal production sector.

4 What do we fund?

4.1 Activities that are funded

The types of project activities that can be funded in this call should be of the nature of pre-studies (Genomförbarhetsstudie⁶). The grant supports the following activities:

⁵ <https://www.swedishmininginnovation.se/calls/>

⁶ <https://www.vinnova.se/globalassets/huvudsajt/sok-finansiering/regler-och-villkor/dokument/svenska/stodgrunder->



- Personnel costs for preparation, travel time and time at event
- Indirect costs,
- Direct travel costs

What is not funded in this call are, for example:

- Applications based on ideas that are not consistent with Swedish Mining Innovation's goals,
- Commercial activities,
- Technical development costs,
- Grants for attendance at conferences, trade-shows and similar that are not connected with a dedicated activity (matchmaking, pitch session, field trips or other well motivated meeting plan).

4.2 Aid intensity and budget

The aid intensity⁷ for an internationalization grant is 50% for all eligible organization types.

The project budget per application including co-financing is to be based on:

- Maximum 2 people/application
- Eligible personnel costs of maximum 60 hours/per person [i.e. 40 hours travel and meetings + 20 hours preparation & follow-up & reporting].
- Eligible indirect costs,
- Eligible travel (övriga) costs.

Note that participation fees paid to Business Sweden or other organizations receiving Swedish government funding to organize events are NOT eligible costs and therefore not included in the budget. Fees for attendance at events not supported by Swedish government are eligible.

4.3 Eligible costs and state aid rules

The funding basis for the internationalization grant is for pre-studies (genomförbarhetsstudie). Information regarding eligible costs⁸, state support to companies⁹, and terms and conditions of funding can be found on Vinnova's website¹⁰.

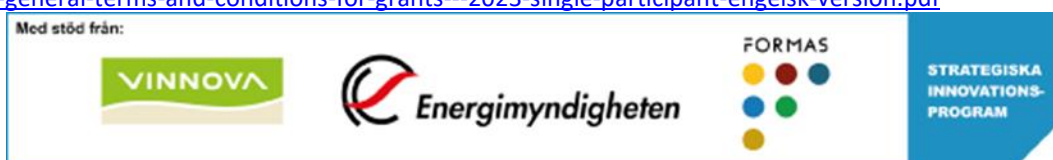
[och-stodnivaer----230929.pdf](#)

⁷ Aid intensity = Funding/total budget *100

⁸ See: <https://www.vinnova.se/globalassets/huvudsajt/sok-finansiering/regler-och-villkor/dokument/svenska/anvisning-till-villkor-om-stodberattigande-kostnader-20232.pdf> ; <https://www.vinnova.se/globalassets/huvudsajt/sok-finansiering/regler-och-villkor/dokument/engelska/2023-instruction-to-eligible-costs-eng.pdf>

⁹ <https://www.vinnova.se/sok-finansiering/regler-for-finansiering/statligt-stod/>

¹⁰ [vinnovas-general-terms-and-conditions-for-grants---2023-single-participant-engelsk-version.pdf](#)



5 Timetable

The following dates apply for the call:

Deadlines to apply:

Round 1 for trips ending before 30th September: March 21th, 2024 at 14:00

Round 2 for trips ending on or after 30th September: June 10th, 2024 at 14:00

Decision date: approximately 4 weeks after each call closing date.

Expected project start dates: Round 1: April 17, 2024

Round 2: July 8, 2024

Project end date (both rounds): four weeks after completion of the trip, or *at the latest* 15 November, 2024.

6 Formal requirements

For a proposal to be eligible for assessment the following requirements must be met:

- Internationalization grant applicants must be Swedish legal entities. The type of organizations eligible for funding are SMEs, research organizations (institutes, universities), NGOs and public sector organizations.
- Purpose and activities must be consistent with Swedish Mining Innovation's objectives for this call.
- Only one application per organization may be submitted at each call closing.
- A maximum of two participants for each organization can be funded.
- The proposal must fit the eligibility criteria for a pre-study (genomförbarhetsstudie¹¹.)
- The maximum aid intensity is 50%.
- The project description must be submitted using the template provided. The project application excluding CVs must not exceed 5 pages¹².
- The CVs of participants must be submitted (maximum 1-page per person).
- Project end date must be at the latest 15 November, 2024.
- Maximum funding per organization is 50 kSEK (event is outside Europe) or 30 kSEK (event in Europe or in Turkey).
- The applicants that are not public sector organizations may not receive funding from another Swedish government agency for the same activity (e.g. may not provide co-financing from other Vinnova projects).

¹¹ <https://www.vinnova.se/globalassets/huvudsajt/sok-finansiering/regler-och-villkor/dokument/svenska/stodgrunder-och-stodnivaer----230929.pdf>

¹² The project description template is available here: <https://www.swedishmininginnovation.se/calls/>

7 Submission and Assessment

7.1 Application and Assessment process

The assessment process is designed to determine if the application is well motivated with respect to the assessment criteria and call objectives.

The application, evaluation and decision-making process is as follows:

1. The application will be made to Swedish Mining Innovation. Send the completed project application form and the CVs to lawrence.hooy@swedishmininginnovation.se by the deadlines.
2. Representatives from Swedish Mining Innovation Program Office, Business Sweden and Vinnova will evaluate and rank the applications.
3. Applicants will be notified of the decision by Swedish Mining Innovation. Applicants with approved project applications will receive a link to input their project into Vinnova's portal.
4. Vinnova makes a formal decision.
5. The applicant is informed of formal approval and receives the formal decision letter from Vinnova.

7.2 Assessment criteria

Internationalization project applications are assessed according to the following criteria:

1. The potential of the organization and its technological or social focus to improve the sustainability and competitiveness of the Swedish mining sector, in particular with respect to development and export of technologies and services supporting sustainability.
2. The quality of preparation plans: clear target partners or partner types being sought and clarity of project ideas. Suitability of the budget.
3. The organization and individual delegate's experience and suitability to conduct the project. Gender balance in the participants will be considered favourably but is not mandatory.

8 Terms and conditions

For the call, Vinnova's general terms and conditions applicable at the date of decision apply for contributions. The terms contain rules on reporting, project agreements, follow-up, audits and conditions for payment, etc. The terms are

found under "Terms and Conditions" on Vinnova's website¹³. Additional special conditions may apply to individual projects.

Special conditions:

- 1) A short report (maximum ½ page) suitable for dissemination via e.g. LinkedIn and the SMI Newsletter, will be sent to Swedish Mining Innovation within one week of the Innovation Day or other meeting.
- 2) A short (maximum 1 page) report to SMI Program office describing outcome and future collaboration plans and potential at the end of the project.
- 3) For all communications about the grant, including social media such as LinkedIn posts, it **must** be stated that the work has been carried out within the Strategic Innovation Program Swedish Mining Innovation, a joint program from Vinnova, the Swedish Energy Agency and the Swedish Research Council Formas. The use logos from the financiers and Swedish Mining Innovation are encouraged where appropriate¹⁴.

9 Who can read the application?

Applications received by Vinnova become public documents, but Vinnova does not release data of individual business or operating conditions, inventions and research results in cases where it can be assumed that the individual could suffer damage if the information were to be made public. See Vinnova's website for rules regarding confidentiality and access to information¹⁵.

Documents sent to the organization responsible for the strategic innovation program (Swedish Mining Innovation Program Office) are not covered by Vinnova privacy policy. Documents sent to the Swedish Mining Innovation Program office should not contain confidential or sensitive information.

10 Contacts

Person to contact concerning the call: Lawrence Hooey, Technology and Innovation Manager, Swedish Mining Innovation Tel: 0920-49 36 65 E-mail: Lawrence.hooey@swedishmininginnovation.se

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Updated information on the call is on Swedish Mining Innovation website <https://www.swedishmininginnovation.se/calls/>

¹³ <https://www.vinnova.se/en/apply-for-funding/rules-for-our-funding/terms-and-conditions-for-our-funding/>

¹⁴ Logos that may be used are found [HERE](#), lower right side of the page.

¹⁵ [Vinnova - Official documents and confidentiality](#)

