

## Strategic Grants for Internationalisation

In a rapidly developing world with global and local challenges, academic actors play an important role. Academic freedom, openness and international collaboration are ingredients supporting a sustainable development. Internationalisation brings opportunities to enhance education, strengthen research and support innovation and services. Ambitious and creative strategic internationalisation initiatives are demanding but often also rewarding. With Strategic Grants for Internationalisation, STINT contributes to the such initiatives at university level. The programme is aimed at the university leadership. Applications should incorporate strategically important internationalisation initiatives which also utilise the experience and dedication of individual leaders in their field at each university.

### Call date

Applications should be submitted by the president of a Swedish university no later than 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Completed applications should be submitted using STINT's application system. Applications should be written in English and include the following sections:

- Grants manager and partners (CV, max. two pages in PDF-format is required for each key person)
- Project title, abstract (200 words), classification and keywords
- Project description, max seven pages in PDF-format (minimum font size 10), clearly describing, as a minimum:
  - How the project relates to review criteria A – D (see below)
  - Objectives in relation to research and higher education
  - Contribution to and from each project partner
  - Project plan with work packages, indicators, milestones, budget and goals
  - Risk analysis
  - Available resources.
- Participating persons, stays, events and budget data
- Funds requested or received from other financiers.

### Formal terms

Applications should meet the following requirements in order to be considered:

1. Applications to the programme should be submitted by the president of a Swedish university.
2. Each university can participate in up to two applications per call. It may submit one individual application and participate in or lead one joint application (together with other Swedish universities). It can also choose to participate in or lead two joint applications.
3. The activities covered by the proposed project must be completed before the end of 2021, i.e. the maximum allowed project duration with STINT funding is approximately 3 years.



4. Funds applied for in a project may not exceed SEK 2 million per participating Swedish university and SEK 5 million in total (for joint applications with several Swedish universities). The application should clearly state how the project will be co-funded by the university/universities (and any other partners) in a sum at least as great as that being applied for.
5. If the project has a geographic focus, it should be outside the EU/EFTA.

#### Assessment process and criteria

The applications will be assessed by an international expert panel. The following criteria will apply in the assessment:

**Table 1: Criteria for Strategic Grants**

<p>A. Contribution to strategic internationalisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Anticipated short, medium, and long-term impact on the university's internationalisation activities</li><li>• Comprehensiveness of the proposal – how the proposal addresses research, education, and/or services and how large part of the university that is affected</li><li>• How the proposal links to the university's internationalisation strategy</li></ul>
<p>B. Renewal and potential:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creativity and innovativeness of the proposal</li><li>• Is the proposed concept new to the university, Sweden, and/or the world</li><li>• Balance between potential and risk of the project</li></ul>
<p>C. Project management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appropriate project management organisation, including the university leadership's commitment and involvement in the project implementation</li><li>• Clarity and quality of the project plan (goals, indicators, work packages, milestones, budget)</li><li>• Cost-efficiency and value of STINT's contribution</li></ul>
<p>D. Optional criterion (assessed only if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Integration and internationalisation - involvement and integration of new arrivals with an academic background (researchers, lecturers, and/or doctoral students) and a recent background as refugees</li></ul>

“New arrivals with an academic background” are persons with a PhD or PhD students who arrived to Sweden in 2013 or later (exceptions from this definition can be accepted if the argumentation is convincing).

Please note that STINT may ask for clarifications during the review.

#### Project implementation and reports

Results of the review will be notified no later than mid-June. Funds are normally paid out in the form of grants. A mid-term report should be submitted to STINT approximately 1.5 years after STINT's notification (for three-year projects) and a final report should be submitted to STINT no later than three months after the end of the project.

Requests for extensions will be viewed restrictively. However, parental leave or long-term sick leave on the part of key persons will constitute grounds for extending the period for which a STINT grant is made available.