



# ***STINT GRANT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA:***

***One reviewer's thoughts based  
on several years experience  
reviewing STINT grant  
proposals***

***STINT Strategic Grants  
Programme, Stockholm  
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**CRITERIA A. Contribution to strategic internationalisation: anticipated short, medium, and long-term impact on the university's internationalisation activities; Comprehensiveness of the proposal – how the proposal addresses research, education, and/or services and how large a part of the university that is affected; how the proposal links to the university's internationalisation strategy**

- ✦ How does the proposal connect to and benefit core institutional missions through international activity?
  - ✦ Does the proposal have to impact all three core missions: No, but.....
- ✦ Is there evidence of an institutional commitment and strategy to expanded/enhanced international engagement?
- ✦ Is this an individual's idiosyncratic pet project only, or one connected to institutional strategic priorities?
- ✦ How much of the institution will be involved/affected in the short run and the longer run?
- ✦ What will be the expansion and positive impacts (short, medium or longer term) on the institution's international engagement and reputation?



**Criteria B. Renewal and potential: Creativity and innovativeness of the proposal; is the proposed concept new to the university, Sweden, and/or the world; balance between potential and risk of the project**

- ✦ New to the university is perhaps the key issue.
  - ✦ New for the sake of “new” is not enough; how will this creatively and positively impact the institution’s strategic internationalization?
- ✦ It is OK to propose building on what has been a “pilot” program but is now aimed to expand/enhance impact substantially.
  - ✦ Not just sustaining the status quo with new grant funds because original money has run out.
- ✦ Risk free innovations are rare; consideration given to how risks are recognized and/or could be ameliorated.
  - ✦ Balance of risk, innovation, likelihood of success and payoffs.
- ✦ Sustainability: Beyond the life of the grant; long term payoffs; and/or a catalyst for further innovation and internationalization.



**Criteria C. Project management: appropriate project management organisation, including the university leadership's commitment and involvement in the project implementation; clarity and quality of the project plan (goals, indicators, work packages, milestones, budget); cost-efficiency and value of STINT's contribution.**

- ⊕ Substantive leadership signoff, not merely perfunctory (also leadership at mid-institutional ranks and faculty as appropriate).
- ⊕ Key project individuals identified and evidence of commitments obtained.
- ⊕ Here and/or elsewhere, explication of a work plan in sufficient detail:
  - ⊕ Key/critical events and tasks to happen by when (timeline);
  - ⊕ Products/deliverables by when, at key stages.
  - ⊕ Realistic and cost/effective expenditure of resources/budget.
- ⊕ **Red flags:** Short on detail (e.g., proposal conveys, “we will figure out the work plan, products, details during the first part of the grant”).
  - ⊕ Rather, presentation of a solid and clear action plan, recognizing that some details will be worked out along the way.



## GENERAL COMMENTS

- ✦ Distinguish between outputs and outcomes as appropriate under Criteria A, B, and/or C).
  - ✦ **Outputs:** (Examples) amount and type of activity or products (e.g., faculty/student mobility; publications, further grant applications; conferences. etc. Numbers and type of students, faculty, and staff involved/affected.
  - ✦ **Outcomes:** (Examples) Impacts on institutional reputation, improvements in student learning; research and scholarship outcomes/results; community problem solving or improvements;
- ✦ Clarity that the project builds on an institutional commitment to internationalization and how the proposal connects to and helps sustain and enhance institutional internationalization.