STINT
Stiftelsen för internationalisering av
högre utbildning och forskning
The Swedish Foundation for International
Cooperation in Research and Higher Education

June 2019

Mobility Grants for Internationalisation

The aim of the Mobility Grants for Internationalisation programme is to strengthen Swedish research and higher education by developing and establishing international partnerships. The programme supports projects of high scientific quality which are clearly contributing to the activities of participating educational establishments.

Projects may last for up to three years. Applicants should be employed by and active at a university in Sweden and have obtained their PhD. The proposed project must encompass at least one Swedish and at least one foreign party. Foreign parties must be outside the EU/EFTA area. Applicants may have on-going projects in the Initiation Grants programme, but otherwise there must not be any on-going STINT projects.

The ideal partnership project will have activities encompassing research as well as higher education, although STINT is able to support pure research partnerships. It is of particular importance for young researchers and doctoral students to participate in the exchanges. In this programme, STINT wants to encourage new collaborative patterns and will not prioritise long-standing partnerships. The partnership must be balanced, i.e. the benefits and the personnel exchange should not be primarily in one direction.

Applications will be assessed by experts, focusing on how the proposed international partnership fulfils the following three criteria:

- Contribution to the educational establishments' internationalisation;
- Scientific quality and novelty;
- Planning and support.

Typical questions which clarify the criteria are given below under the 'Review' heading. The norm for ethical aspects shall be according to the country with the highest standard. Please note that only scientific results from the last five years are taken into consideration for the assessment. Scopus publication data will be used in the assessment of applications.

Budgetary requirements:

- The annual budget applied for can be a maximum of SEK 200,000. In other words, the maximum budget of a three-year project can be SEK 600,000. The foreign partner(s) must fund internationalisation activities in the joint project on a corresponding level.
- The budget for overheads must follow the rules and conditions of STINT (see conditions below).
- The budget may only include costs for internationalisation activities, such as short or longer stays abroad for those involved in the partnership and for organising workshops, conferences or similar activities to strengthen and further develop the partnership.
- The budget from STINT is intended for outbound mobility for the participants at the Swedish university, plus costs for organising workshops or similar.

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- Renumeration equivalent to salary may only be included for stays abroad up to six months per year for doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers. No other salary costs are allowed.

It is important that the collaborating parties agree as to the management of any intellectual property rights in connection to the project and its results. Furthermore, the project must be well established with the applicant parties. All applicant parties must have read and approved the final version of the application.

If you have questions about the programme, please contact Mattias Löwhagen at +46 8 671 19 96 or mattias.lowhagen(at)stint.se

Applications

Applications are submitted through STINT's electronic application system 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 five pages in PDF-format (minimum font size 10), describing, as a minimum:
  - Objectives in relation to research and higher education
  - Contribution to and from each project partner
  - Project plan
  - Available resources, including existing funding of the key persons in the project
- Participating persons, stays, events and budget data
- Funds requested or received from other financiers.

All applications are to be submitted to STINT **before 15:00 (CEST) on September 27th, 2019**.

Review

The selection of projects is guided by the criteria below.

Please note that given the focus on new collaborations and the participation of younger researchers, applications that do not meet these criteria are unlikely to be granted.

Criterion	Sample questions
Contribution to the higher education institutions' internation-alisation	Why is the partnership necessary? How do the planned activities strengthen on-going research and education? To what extent are the benefits of the project balanced mutually? How will the project lead to new and broader international partnerships whose success or failure is not dependent on a small number of dedicated people? How is the project linked to any internationalisation strategies on the part of the institutions? How will the partnership develop after the period of STINT's funding and what are the expected long-term outcomes?
Scientific quality and novelty	In what way does the international partnership help raise the project's scientific value? How do the competences and resources of the respective parties relate to each other? What is the level of the project's scientific quality and potential? How does the project contribute to new knowledge and new solutions/innovations respectively? What scientific results have the project leader and other key personnel had in the last five years?
Planning and support	Is the project plan clear, specific, cost-efficient and realistic (availability of resources)? Is the project funding balanced with similar investments from Swedish and foreign parties? Is the project design cost efficient with a minimized negative impact on the environment? Is the proposed project ethically sound? Are the proposed activities balanced with equal involvement on both sides? To what extent and in what way are key people involved in the project? To what extent does the project offer opportunities for Postdocs, PhD and/or Master students to carry out research abroad? What experiences are there of any previous STINT projects?

Conditions - checklist

- ☐ The applicant is employed by and active at a university or college in Sweden and has a PhD.
- ☐ The applicant has no on-going STINT-funded project with a longer duration than one year.
- ☐ The proposed project starts no later than November in the year after the call closes and has a planned duration of no more than three years.
- ☐ The budget relates only to costs for internationalisation activities, such as short or longer stays abroad for those involved in the partnership and for organising workshops, conferences or similar to strengthen and further develop the partnership.

- ☐ The budget does not incorporate salary costs (however remuneration equivalent to a salary is permitted for doctoral students and postdocs for up to six months' stay abroad).
- ☐ The budget does not include any other overhead costs than the maximum rate of SEK 100,000 per year and full-time equivalent for doctoral students' and postdocs' stays abroad (if covered by salary through the STINT grant, see previous item in the checklist). Shorter periods and part-time commitments decrease the cost accordingly. E.g. for a one-month overseas visit by a PhD. student where salary costs are fully reimbursed (100%) the maximum allowed overhead would be as follows: SEK 100,000 * 1,0 / 12 months = 8,333
- ☐ The final version of the application has been read and approved by all parties involved.
- ☐ The applicants agree to cooperate in accordance with the principles of academic freedom and good research practice. Methods, data and results will be openly accounted for. The proposed project has been approved by relevant entities at the participating organisations.

Timetable

2019	
July	Application system opens
Sep 27th 15:00 CEST	Deadline for applications
2020	
January	Decisions communicated by STINT (indicative month)
October 31st	Deadline for verifying co-funding (see below)

Reporting

Grants are normally paid in May-August every year, provided that contract/reports have been received and approved beforehand.

A signed document stating the co-funding from the foreign party/parties is required before STINT will issue a contract. Such a document must be submitted to STINT before November of 2020.

All project reports are submitted electronically through the STINT application portal (https://ansok.stint.se/). The final report detailing results and experiences from the entire project is to be received within three months of 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.