



**VINNOVA**

*Sweden's Innovation Agency*

# VINNOVA in brief

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As Sweden's Innovation Agency, VINNOVA finances research and innovation projects and provides support in the form of networks, meetings and analyses. We also serve as the contact agency for the EU's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

## What we offer

## Target groups we work with

Our focus is on Swedish actors who are important to the country's innovative capacity, such as knowledge-intensive companies, universities, research institutes and the public sector.

The focus of our programmes vary and they cover many areas of society and many industries. Most often, VINNOVA requires that projects include co-operation between different organisations and co-financing. All our programmes are open for international collaboration. Projects should contribute to sustainable growth and benefit society.

## What we invest in

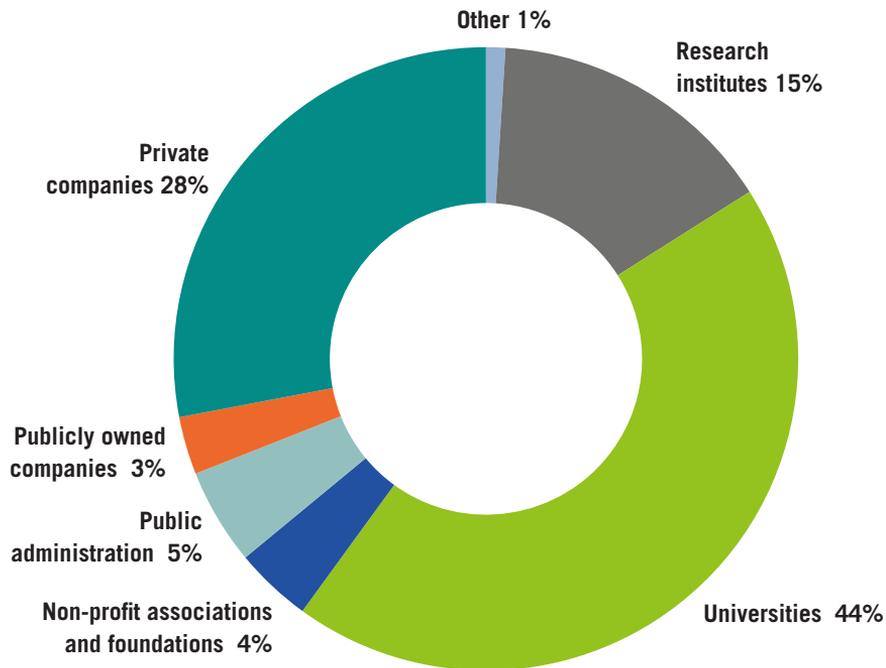


# How funds are allocated

We invest  
**2,7**  
BILLION SEK

each year in around  
**2400**  
RESEARCH AND  
INNOVATION PROJECTS

Our requirement that project participants provide co-financing more than doubles the amount of funds invested.



\* Source: VINNOVA's Annual Report 2013

**Innovation nourishes  
Sweden's prosperity**



**”Innovation means new or better ways of creating value for the community, businesses and individuals. By being innovative, we can achieve more using the same resources. This strengthens long-term growth. What’s more, innovations are also needed to solve national and global societal challenges.”**

**Charlotte Brogren,  
Director General**

# New knowledge and competence

*New knowledge and competence are necessary to create the innovations of the future. Therefore, we conduct knowledge and competence programmes that benefit our community. At present, VINNOVA focuses on the following fields:*



**Health and healthcare**



**Transportation**



**Environment**



**Services**



**ICT**



**Manufacturing and  
Innovation Management**



**Research led to fewer emergency-room visits**



A research project conducted at Skaraborg Hospital has dramatically reduced the number of emergency-room patients received by developing mobile nursing teams to care for senior citizens with multiple health problems.

**Major demand for environmentally-friendly solutions**

**New pathways through open innovation**

With VINNOVA'S support, the Exeger company has produced a new technology for manufacturing solar cells. A pilot factory for mass production has now been established in Sweden.



By investing in open data and supporting innovation competitions, customers and users can contribute when businesses and other organisations develop new innovations.



Simple and more secure log-in

Yubico is a company that has developed a next-generation log-in service. The service is now used by some of the world's biggest Internet companies, including Google and Facebook, and is sold in 120 countries.

Glove improves quality of life

Robotdalen is a research and innovation milieu that has put Swedish robotics on the map. One of the companies involved, Bioservo Technologies, has developed an aid for people with weak hand strength or impaired hand function.



# Inter-disciplinary co-operation

*The solutions of tomorrow evolve in the junction where different perspectives and competences meet. They are developed in the meeting between different people, industries and sectors. Understanding this, VINNOVA works to connect innovative actors in different sectors and fields of knowledge with one another.*

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### **Societal and business benefits in one.**

Through the Challenge-driven Innovation programme, we support innovative solutions to global challenges facing society that can also generate economic growth.



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### **Investment in Sweden's future.**

Under the Strategic Innovation Areas initiative, the business sector, public sector and academia, collaborate on common priorities for investing in research and innovation.



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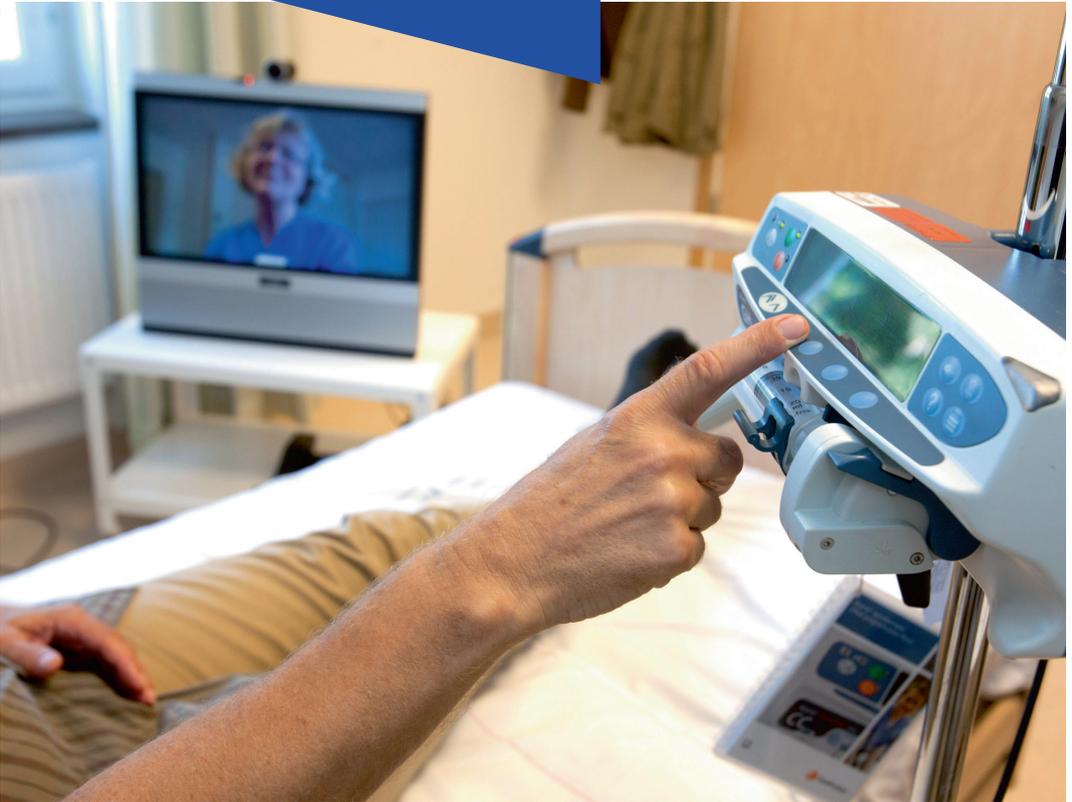
### **Major opportunities in the EU**

VINNOVA has been commissioned by the Swedish government to promote Sweden's participation in Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.



A successful project run by Sweden's Lund University and Skåne Regional Council (Region Skåne) develops IT support for advanced cancer treatment in the home. The results are used in healthcare and are greatly appreciated by both caregivers and patients.

Better cancer care  
in the home



# EU and international co-operation

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*In this age of globalisation, innovation is increasingly occurring via international networks. Ensuring Sweden's access to international research and innovation networks is crucial for maintaining our future competitiveness. VINNOVA views international competitiveness and international co-operation as integral parts of its objectives and strategies.*

*All VINNOVA programmes are therefore open for co-operation between Swedish actors and their international counterparts. VINNOVA is also responsible for various specific, bilateral research and innovation agreements between Sweden and non-European countries as India, China and Brazil.*





Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation is the world's largest research and innovation programme and an important instrument for transnational co-operation between industry, research institutes, small and medium-sized enterprises, research institutions and the public sector. VINNOVA is Sweden's national contact agency for Horizon 2020. As part of this assignment, we promote the programme, give advice to applicants and follow up and report on Swedish participation in the European research and innovation programmes.



VINNOVA is also the national point of contact for the EUREKA programme and the agency provides additional funding for Swedish participants. Besides supporting clusters and networks within EUREKA, we are also responsible for the Eurostars programme, which is dedicated to supporting transnational co-operation between SMEs working with RDI. COST, an intergovernmental framework for European Cooperation in Science and Technology, is co-ordinated by VINNOVA.

To support Sweden's participation in European RDTI activities and further strengthen VINNOVA's agenda internationally, we also have an office in Brussels. This office monitors and analyses policy developments within -European research and innovation and proactively supports and promotes Swedish interests.

**Brussels**





## Sustainable growth

Our objective is that at least 80 per cent of our investments should contribute to a green and/or socially sustainable society.

# How we work



## Calls for proposals and assessment

Applicants compete for financing through VINNOVA's calls for proposals. Decisions to award funding are made with the help of national and international experts.

## Follow-up

All investments are followed up and evaluated. The period of time between investments in research and innovation and the resulting societal benefit is often lengthy. To benefit from an understanding of the long-term effects of our investments, VINNOVA conducts regular impact analyses.

## Review

We regularly review and modify our efforts to ensure they will meet the challenges of today and tomorrow in an ever-changing world.

## Co-operation

We enjoy close co-operation with other research financiers and innovation-promoting organisations, including the Swedish Research Council, the Swedish Energy Agency, Almi and the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth.

*VINNOVA is a government agency operating under the Swedish Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications.*

**Director General:** Charlotte Brogren

**No. of employees:** Just over 200

**Offices:** Stockholm and Brussels

# Vision



**Our vision is for Sweden to be  
a world leader in research and  
innovation and an attractive place  
to invest and do business in.**



**VINNOVA strengthens Sweden's innovative capacity**

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