



Competence Centre 2020

A call for proposals from the Competence Centre Programme



About Vinnova

- **Agency under Department of Enterprise and Innovation**
- **Stockholm, Brussels and Silicon Valley**
- **200 employees**

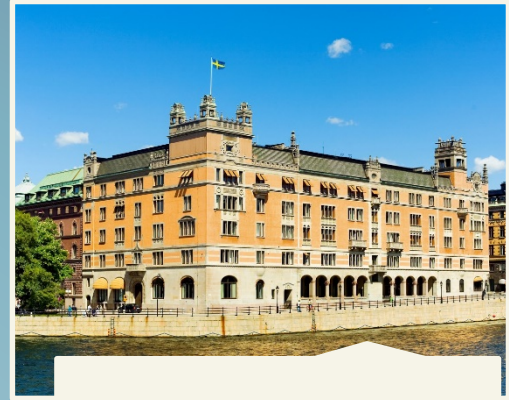
Three roles



Investment in
research and
innovation



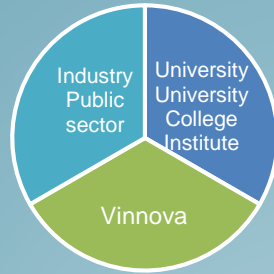
National EU-
Coordinator



Expert Agency

What is a centre?

- Collaboration with partners within a research area in order to develop new knowledge that will benefit society
- Three-part funding



- Long-term, up to 10 years



Results



Short-term effects



Long-term effects

Publications and patents

Needs-driven research is conducted in **active collaboration** with partners**Innovative ways** of managing and organising collaboration within the centre and with the outsideActive **SME** participationSMEs get better access to **knowledge** and **competence**Stakeholders **trust** each other, ensuring a continuous flow of knowledgeIncreased **national and international** exchange between academia and society and industry (in both directions)**Innovation and development** projects and **spin-offs** with excellence and relevant international linkages**Excellent research environments** of strategic importanceContinuous analysis which leads to improved access to **strategic contacts** through extended networksKnowledge intensive SMEs with increased **competitiveness**Individuals with **strategic competencies** that meet the needs of industry and society**Relevant education** in academia through interaction between education, research and innovationNeeds-driven **sustainable innovations** in an international context**Excellent research** is utilized commercially and by society**Adding value** to other investments in the innovation system**Attract and retain** R&D investments in SwedenIndustry with access to relevant **competences**

Focus shift



Centre



Collaboration environment

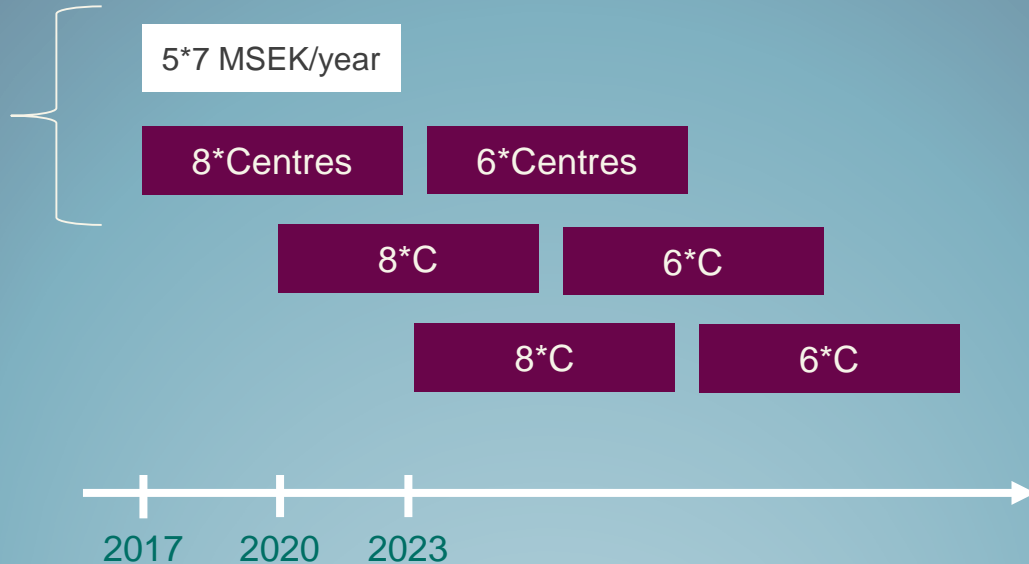
Other significant changes

- Call for proposals every three years
- Effort to stimulate the participation of SMEs, through support for research projects within the centre
- Only the best six out of eight centres will get additional funding after an international evaluation



Recurring call

13 Centres
from the last
call



Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (1)

- 1 MSEK/year and centre for supporting SMEs from 2021
- The funds can be applied for after an approved centre application though a separate process
- SMEs has to be a formal member of the centre to apply
- In order to receive the funding, the SME require the Centre Boards approval

Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (2)

- The projects within this SME support should not be put in the Centre budget
- In the Centre budget, only put cash, time costs or research activities that the SMEs do not plan to apply for additional funding for

International evaluation at year 5

- The evaluation is conducted to rank the eight centres of every cohort, only the six best the 5 years of additional funding
- The two centres who do not get additional funding will be given a lump sum for restructuring or liquidation



Who can apply?



- The call is directed towards a group of organisations (partners), within all research areas, with a common vision and strategy for an excellent research environment based on collaboration with society
- There is no minimum or maximum amount of partners, but collaboration is vital
- Lead applicant (koordinator) is a university, university college or institute, who apply together with industry and/or public sector organisations as partners

For what can you apply?

- Development of internationally complete centres with the mission to conduct needs-driven excellent research in collaboration with industry and/or society



Important criteria

Potential

- The partners' current scientific excellence from an international perspective
- How the scientific excellence can be strengthened through the planned activities in the competence centre
- The competence centre's potential to create new networks and structures to collaborate with the surrounding environment

Important criteria

Feasibility

- Potential to contribute to excellent research being utilised in business and society
- Content and credibility of the proposed competence centre's vision and strategic idea
- Credibility of approach, organisation, collaboration between project partners to realise the competence centre's vision and strategic idea, including budget and gender equality aspects
- Strategy to strengthen national and international links

Important criteria

Participants

- The partners' composition, expertise, ability, and ambition to strengthen the research area and achieve the centre's objectives and vision, including the centre's relation to the partners' long-term research and innovation strategies
- The centre leader and management's expertise, ability and commitment to leading and organising the centre
- The competence centre's composition from a gender perspective and plan for integrating gender into the competence centre

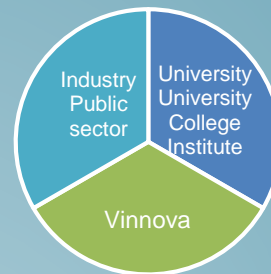
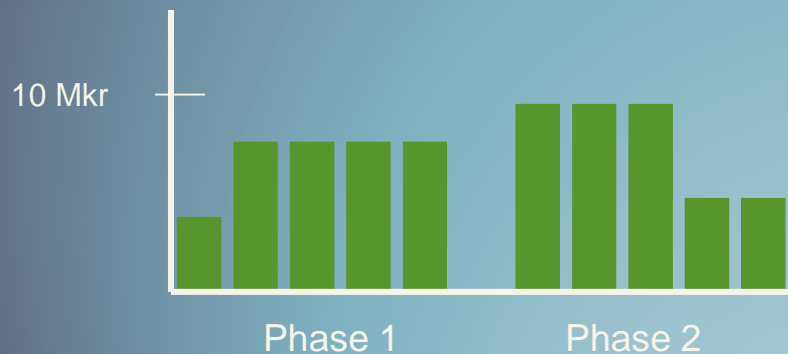
Gender Equality

- Vinnova and all universities and university colleges have received a gender integration mission that aims to help achieve the gender equality policy objective that women and men should have the same power to shape society and their own lives
- Thus Vinnova will see to that the research is conducted so that gender perspectives are taken into account, where relevant
- The Centre Board should be 40/60



Funding

Year 1	Year 2-5	Year 6-8	Year 9-10
max 4 MSEK	max 8 MSEK	max 10 MSEK	max 5 MSEK



Formal requirements

- The project description shall use the template that is sent out. It may not exceed 25 pages in 12 point font. The main headings must be strictly adhered to
- The coordinator must be a university, university college or research institute
- Declarations of intent must be included by all participating partners and must use the template that is sent out
- The coordinating partner shall have a declaration of intent signed by the leader of the organisation (using the specific template). This shall clearly state how the application fits with the organisation's overall strategy
- The application must include a budget in which the university/research institute and business/public sector each co-finance at least the corresponding amount applied from Vinnova
- The centre's partners must be legal persons

Received applications

Formal requirements check

Dismissals

Experts+
generalists (chair)

Experts+
generalists (chair)

Experts+
generalists (chair)

Experts+
generalists (chair)

Experts+
generalists (chair)

The groups are divided
based on Vinnova's priority
areas.

Collection of evaluations

Decision by the generalists whom to call for interview

Interviews

Comprehensive assesment of interview + application

Selection by Vinnova

8 new Competence Centres

VINNOVA

Important to keep in mind!



Read the call text and the other documents to make sure you pass the formal requirements



Start early on the application through our portal



Make an competitive analysis of the reseach area



Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions!

Q2 2018	Q3 2018	Q4 2018	Q1 2019	Q2 2019	Q3 2019	Q4 2019	Q1 2020
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Questions?