

Innovation milieus within the area of Precision Health 2021

Utilize and enhance individuals capabilities for improved health and well-being
A call within the area of Sustainable Precision Health

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Datum	Ändring

1 The offer in short

Vinnova strives to utilize and improve the individual's for increased health and well-being in an equal and sustainable way. A key for increased precision and accuracy, in both health promotion and disease prevention, as well as in new treatments and care, is that all parts of society need to contribute. We call this precision health (see §11 Definitions).

The call aims to support the development and establishment of pioneering methods in precision health, for example in health promotion and prevention of disease, diagnostics, treatments, and rehabilitation. The call also aims to develop facilitators for precision health, such as appropriate management and analysis of health data, development and implementation of welfare technology, biotechnological tools, incentive and business models, behavioural incentives, and policy development.

We offer 5 to 8 million SEK per year for a period of either 2.5 or 5 years to initiate, establish or further develop ambitious cross-sectoral innovation milieus (see §11) that will contribute to the further development of precision health.




The innovation milieu must relate to existing resources (§3.1 External environment) and consist of at least three actors from at least three of the following sectors (see §11): large companies, small and medium-sized companies, academia, public sector and care providers, institutes as well as idea-driven organizations.

The actors must have prepared the proposal jointly and prepared a structured and active leadership.

The call has an estimated budget of:

- a total of approximately SEK 120 million for 2.5-year milieus
- a total of approximately 160 million for 5-year milieus

The applicant can send in two separate applications for 2.5 and 5 years respectively ^(se §7.2).

		
To initiate, establish or further develop ambitious cross-sectoral innovation milieus, that will contribute to the further development of precision health	Constellations with at least three actors where at least three of the following sectors are represented: large companies, small and medium-sized enterprises, academia, the public sector and care providers, institutes, and idea-driven organizations.	Between 5 and 8 million SEK per year for either 2,5 or 5 years. The applicant can send in two separate applications for 2.5 and 5 years respectively

The following dates apply to the call

Please note that the dates are preliminary. For current information, see www.vinnova.se.

Opening date 10 March 2021
Last application date 8 June 2021 at 14:00
Possible interviews 30 August to 10 September 2021
Date of decision 23 September 2021
Project start no earlier than 24 September 2021
Project start no later than 15 October 2021

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Current information about the announcement and a link to Vinnovas Intressentportal that can be found at www.vinnova.se.

We also offer support for writing a formally correct proposal, so-called question drop-in. There we mainly explain our formal terms, and do not discuss the actual content of your proposal. It is also possible to ask other questions. Upcoming opportunities for question drop-in, see [Innovationsmiljöer inom precisionshälsa](#).

2 What do we want to achieve with the financing/this offer?

2.1 Expected effects/impact of the call

The expected overall effects of the call are to contribute to:

- stronger **collaborative structures** to develop and implement precision health, from research to its implementation
- more effective **medical treatments and technologies**, including **welfare technologies**, tailored to the individual
- increased knowledge of the **health, business, and socio-economic aspects** of precision health
- increased precision in **promotion and prevention** efforts
- a national and European **health data ecosystem** that enables data-driven precision health
- increased use of research infrastructures
- increased **internationalization** and international leadership within the Swedish research and innovation system
- increased preparedness and resilience in the health area
- more equal and sustainable health and welfare in Sweden with responsible, safe, and ethical policy development.

2.2 Portfolio perspective

To meet the government's priorities in the latest research and innovation bill and the Swedish Life Science strategy, Vinnova intends to finance a diversified portfolio with a balance of actors, areas, and orientations.

The offer therefore aims to create a portfolio of milieus that will strengthen:

- **exploratory medical research and innovation** in cross-sectoral collaborations for more refined diagnostics, new welfare technologies, more effective treatments and increased knowledge and practise of how disease occurs, can be prevented, and health promoted
- development and use of new **molecular diagnostics and treatments**, including the deployment of new technologies and precision medicine in healthcare, where national infrastructures, increased utilization of health data, biobanks and registers are of great importance
- research, method development and more efficient and competitive production of **biological medicinal products**
- the health economic, ethical, and regulatory conditions for precision health
- development of innovations for increased precision in **promotion and preventive health measures**
- the conditions for attracting leading global companies to participate in **testing and demonstrating solutions** to complex health challenges in a real setting, in pilot form and on a limited scale, so-called system demonstrators

2.3 Other important aspects

Vinnovas task is to promote sustainable growth by improving the conditions for innovation and thereby strengthen the ability to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development¹.

Gender equality is a prerequisite for sustainable growth and is included in Agenda 2030, as an objective in itself but also as a perspective that should be part of all objectives. The call must therefore contribute to two main perspectives:

- that both women and men receive the grant on an equal basis as well as participate in and have an influence on the innovation milieus in the call,
- to analyse and consider whether there are gender equality aspects (gender and / or gender) that are relevant within the area and when utilizing the solutions.

Results from research and innovation that are made freely available provide an increased opportunity to provide solutions to societal challenges. The call aims to contribute to more results being made freely available and that scientific publications of results will be made available with open access.

The milieu is expected to contribute to a national health data ecosystem by contributing and using national and internationally accepted health data standards for technical, semantic, and legal interoperability.

3 Who is this offer aimed at?

The call is addressed to a group of actors, a so-called actor constellation, with a common vision and strategy linked to the development and implementation of precision health. The constellation of actors must show how the knowledge and experience they develop is to be utilized in healthcare, business, and society at large.

The actor constellation must at least consist of three actively participating organizations, so-called “project partners”. The actors need to represent at least three of the following sectors:

- large companies
- SMEs
- Academy
- public sector and healthcare providers
- institute
- idea-driven organizations

¹ Läs mer om vårt arbete för att bidra till målen i Agenda 2030: <https://www.vinnova.se/m/agenda-2030/>

3.1 Milieu

Special attention will be given to how the milieu relates to, for example, the strategic innovation partnership programmes and the life science strategy², infrastructures and other national and international initiatives.

Vinnova thus views positively on actor constellations consisting of parties with activities in Sweden and internationally. Foreign organizations with a branch or place of business in Sweden can be beneficiary. Eligible costs must in that case be attributable to the Swedish place of business. Foreign organizations contributing with their own funding without a branch or place of business in Sweden can advantageously constitute a participating organization, so called “project partner”.

From an international perspective, the Nordic and European countries, including the United Kingdom and Switzerland, as well as the United States, Canada, Brazil, India, China, Japan, South Korea, and Israel, are of particular interest.

3.2 Leadership

Vinnova believes that a well-functioning milieu requires active leadership, with an appointed leader, an appropriately designed steering group and active participation and collaboration between relevant parties in all sectors involved. It is therefore important when planning the milieu to identify the challenges and opportunities that are linked to the leadership and organisation of the work. It is important for the leader to be able and have a mandate to:

- efficiently manage different stakeholders interests and basis for collaborating
- understand the driving forces of the individual actors and at the same time get specialists to work for the overall vision and goals
- create a dynamic environment where the actors work together across sectors building on each other’s strengths and mandate, both nationally and internationally
- create a community of values and culture that stimulate collaboration and learning
- seize new opportunities and bridge difficulties within and across organizational boundaries.

4 What can be financed?

4.1 Activities that can be funded

Vinnova's funding will primarily finance research and innovation. A small part can be used to coordinate the milieu if the basis for support so allows. ^{Fel!} Bokmärket är inte definierat. Coordination can include costs for all types of meetings, for

dissemination of results or participation in relevant international fora as well as activities to form and participate in international consortia and calls.

Activities for which it is not possible to apply for funding are basic research, business development, product development, commercialization, and marketing of products / services as well as consulting services for writing international applications.

4.2 Eligible costs

Our support is through funding. Funding for organizations that conduct financial activities covered by the state aid rules². The rules govern, among other things, the types of costs and the proportion that may be covered by funding.

The guide to Vinnova's term on eligible costs describes the costs that are eligible for each basis for support³.

Costs for routine or recurring product development, commercialization and marketing of products / services are not supported within the call.

4.3 Basis of support

Funding will be granted with the support of European Commission Regulation no. 651/2014 for experimental development, industrial research (art. 25), investment support for research infrastructure (art. 26), or innovation clusters (art. 27).

Funding can also be granted with the support of European Commission Regulation no. 1407/2013 on support, also called de minimis support.

It is the activities in the milieu that determine according to which basis for support funding will be granted. Actors should indicate on what basis for support they are seeking funding.

5 How much funding can we provide?

In this call for proposals, Vinnova can fund between SEK 5 to 8 million per year for either 2.5 or 5 years. With this approach, the offer addresses potential constellations in varying degrees of maturity.

Maximum founding⁴ per actor can be granted as follows:

² Läs mer om statligt stöd på vår webbplats: <https://www.vinnova.se/sok-finansiering/regler-for-finansiering/statligt-stod/>. Där hittar du även våra allmänna villkor för bidrag och en guide till villkoren om stödberättigande kostnader: <https://www.vinnova.se/sok-finansiering/regler-for-finansiering/allmanna-villkor/>

³ https://vinatet.vinnova.se/globalassets/dokument/guide/villkor_om_stodberattigande_kostnader_-_guide.pdf?ntstamp=1517488580747

⁴ Stödnivå är detsamma som Vinnovas bidrag uttryckt i procent av bidragsmottagarens stödberättigande kostnader.

- non-economic activities⁵ - up to 100 percent
- SMEs⁶ - up to 80% of their total costs
- large companies with 250 or more employees - up to 65 of their total costs

Organizations with financial activities can apply for up to 100 percent in funding provided that they can receive so-called support of minor importance, according to EU Commission Regulation 1407/2013⁷. A form f, also called de minimis support, should be attached to proposal.⁸

6 Prerequisites to assess the proposal

Vinnova will only assess applications that meet the following formal eligibility requirements:

- all actors are legal entities⁹
- at least three actors from three different sectors participate (see section 3)
- the proposal must be written in Swedish or English
- the project description must be written using the template available on the call's website and according to its instructions
- proposals must contain a budget that is written using the template available on the call's website
- proposal must contain a CV for the leaders of the milieu and representatives from all parties
- certificate of support (de minimis) is attached according to the instructions in section 5 if such funding is applied for
- proposal does not contain any appendices other than the mandatory appendices

The proposal has been received no later than 14:00 the date stated on the announcement page on Vinnova's website.

⁵ Med ekonomisk verksamhet, avses att erbjuda varor eller tjänster på en marknad. Om forskningsorganisationen eller vårdgivaren bedriver både ekonomisk och icke-ekonomisk verksamhet krävs att kostnader och finansiering i respektive verksamhet klart kan skiljas från varandra. Om det inte finns någon separerad redovisning betraktas organisationen som företag. Att en organisation inte är vinstdrivande är inte avgörande för om organisationen bedriver ekonomisk eller icke-ekonomisk verksamhet. Det som är av betydelse är om man erbjuder en vara eller tjänst på en marknad.

⁶ <https://www.vinnova.se/globalassets/dokument/eu-definition-smf.pdf>

⁷ http://ec.europa.eu/competition/state_aid/legislation/de_minimis_regulation_sv.pdf

⁸ Blanketten för intyget finns på vår webbplats: <https://www.vinnova.se/sok-finansiering/regler-for-finansiering/statligt-stod/>

⁹ Notera att enskild firma eller enskild näringsidkare inte är juridiska personer.

7 Assessment of proposals

7.1 What do we assess?

The applications are assessed on the basis of how well they meet the call's aims (see §1 and §2) through the criteria potential, actors and implementation.

Potential

- Relevance in relation to the aim and objectives of the call (se §1 and §2)
- Contribution to increased precision of health interventions
- Complement existing resources and organizations
- Stimulate collaboration and increased innovative capacity in and between sectors
- Increase Sweden's global competitiveness and attractiveness in life science
- Contribute to increased gender equality and sustainability

Actors

- The composition, ability, and commitment of the actors to achieve the set goals
- Leadership's competence, ability, and commitment to lead and organize the innovation milieu
- Ability to gather and engage relevant decision makers, financiers, and other actors in the short and the long term
- How well the team (key people) is composed in terms of gender distribution, as well as the distribution of power and influence between women and men

Feasibility

- Implementation plan with well-defined results, objective, sub-goals, and follow-up plan
- National and international strategic analysis
- Strategy to strengthen national and international connectivity
- Risk analysis, both inside and outside the milieu, and an action plan
- Communication plan

7.2 How is the application assessed?

The assessment takes place in competition between received applications according to the above criteria.

The applications that meet the formal requirements under section 6 are assessed by Vinnova and by the Agency's appointed experts. They are assessed and ranked in two groups: 2.5-year and 5-year applications. The highest-ranked proposals within each group may be called for an interview according to an assessment plan.

The leader for the milieu and representatives from all key players, of which at least one person from each sector, are expected to participate. The interviews aim to clarify any ambiguities in the applications and clarify the collaboration between the participants in the milieu.

Vinnova then decides on funding. If two separate applications were sent in for 2.5 and 5 years, describing the same proposal only one of the two applications can be granted. That is, if the 5-year scheme is granted, the 2.5-year-old will be rejected.

To meet the government's priorities in the research and innovation bill and the Swedish life science strategy, Vinnova intends to finance a diversified portfolio with a balance of actors, areas, and orientations.

Our decision to grant or reject a proposal will be sent to those who have applied for funding. Vinnova will also publish information on granted innovation milieus on www.vinnova.se.

8 Decision and terms of condition

8.1 About our decisions

How much funding each project partner within the milieu is granted will be stated in the decision. The basis for support is stated in the decision and also governs which costs that are eligible.

Our decision to grant or reject a proposal is not subject to appeal.

8.2 Terms for granted funding

For funding, our general terms and conditions for funding apply¹⁰. The terms include rules on project agreements, conditions for payment, follow-up, reporting and utilization of results. Scientific publication of results must take place with open access in accordance with Vinnova's instructions¹¹.

For everyone who is granted funding in this call, the following special instructions also apply:

- The milieu must be represented at the seminars or program conferences that Vinnova organizes during the project period. Costs for participation in such a seminar / program conference are an eligible cost.
- If necessary, the milieu shall provide Vinnova with image and text material for project catalogues, annual reports, and the like for which the actors hold rights of use.

¹⁰ Aktuella villkor hittar du på vår webbplats, tillsammans med hjälp för att förstå och uppfylla villkoren: <https://www.vinnova.se/sok-finansiering/regler-for-finansiering/allmanna-villkor/>

¹¹ <https://vinatet.vinnova.se/contentassets/19d7ce8a36d243d499e2d7bd9840b80d/forslag-201109-vinnovas-anvisning-for-oppen-tillgang-till-vetenskapliga-publikationer.pdf>

Additional special conditions can be determined for individual project.

If you do not follow our terms, you may be liable for a refund. This also applies if you have been granted funding incorrectly or with too high amount of funding.

9 How to apply

To apply for funding, fill in the web-based form on Vinnova Intressentportal, which can be accessed via www.vinnova.se. There you can also upload the following attachments:

- Project description - follow the instructions in the template.
- Curriculum vitae for the key people taking part in the proposal, max 1 page per person.
- Budget template.
- For organizations seeking support (de minimis), the certificate for this must be attached to the proposal¹².

Keep in mind that it takes time to write a proposal. You can start to fill in information, save and continue later. When the proposal is ready, mark it as ready. You can change and update the proposal right up to the last application day.

Prepare the proposal in good time before the call closes. Do not wait until 13.55 on the closing day, not even to mark it as ready.

When the call is closed and the proposal is registered with Vinnova, a confirmation will be sent by e-mail to the person in charge of the user account, the leader for the milieu and the company signatory / head of department. It may take a few hours before you receive the email.

When the application period has expired, completion of the proposal can only take place at the request of Vinnova.

9.1 Check list



Check list for applicants, all answers should be marked with a Yes:

	Yes
Will the innovation milieu through research, innovation and collaboration contribute to utilizing and improving the individual's conditions for increased health and wellbeing?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do all actors adhere to the maximum percentage of their total eligible costs according to the basis for support they intend to receive funding for?	<input type="checkbox"/>

¹² Blanketten för intyget finns på vår webbplats: <https://www.vinnova.se/sok-finansiering/regler-for-finansiering/statligt-stod/>

Is the timeframe either 2.5 or 5 years in the application?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the milieu contribute to increased gender equality and sustainability?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the milieu contribute to structures and networks that disseminate knowledge and experiences outside its own organizations?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the milieu have active leadership?	<input type="checkbox"/>
The following questions are eligibility requirements for your proposal to be assessed:	
Are at least three actors from three different sectors involved in the milieu?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are all actors' legal entities?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the project description template, CV template and budget template correctly provided by Vinnova filled in?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the CVs for the leaders and representatives of all actors included?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is a certificate of support (de minimis) attached to the proposal, if such funding is sought?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the proposal written in Swedish and / or English?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the proposal contain only the mandatory appendices and no other appendix?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Please note that this call for proposals does not fund:	
Costs for basic research, product development, commercialization, and marketing of products / services	

10 Who can read the proposal?

Applications submitted to us become public documents, but we do not disclose information about an individual's business or operating conditions, inventions and research results if it can be assumed that an individual suffers damage if the information is disclosed.

11 Definitioner

Precisionshälsa – ett tillstånd där individens förutsättningar till ökad hälsa och

Definitions

Precision health - a situation where the individual's conditions for increased health and well-being are utilized and constantly improved in an equal and sustainable way. The concept of precision health includes the European definition of **Personalized Medicine**¹³ and the definition of **Precision Medicine** in the Swedish life science strategy¹⁴. The concept of **Patient Centred Care**¹⁵ is also of relevance to the area.

Innovation milieu - a collaborative structure with established governance mechanisms that brings together actors around a common roadmap, vision, goals, and activities.

Sustainability - sustainable precision health refers to economic sustainability: aspects such as that everyone should be able to afford healthcare; social sustainability: aspects such as health care being equally adapted to the individual without discrimination according to the seven grounds of discrimination in the Discrimination Act § 5; environmental sustainability: aspects such as minimizing environmental emissions in the production of precision health.

Gender equality - see §2

Ecosystem - all actors in the chosen area that are relevant and important to be able to reach, and that are influenced by, the vision and goals

Sectors – the categorization of actor types in this call for proposals is in six sectors; *large companies, small and medium-sized enterprises* (according to the [EU definition](#)), *academia* (universities), *public sector and care providers* (eg authorities, regions, municipalities and public and private care providers),

¹³ Med personalized medicine avses medicinska metoder som karakteriserar individers fenotyp - och genotyp (t.ex. genom molekylär profilering, medicinsk bildbehandling, livsstilsdata) för att skraddarsy rätt terapeutisk strategi för rätt person vid rätt tidpunkt eller för att bestämma predispositionen för sjukdom eller målinriktat kunna förebygga sjukdom (https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/research-area/health-research-and-innovation/personalised-medicine_en)

¹⁴ Med precisionsmedicin avses diagnostiska metoder och terapi för individanpassad utredning, prevention och behandling av sjukdom, applicerade på individnivå eller på delar av befolkningen. De nya möjligheter som precisionsmedicinen erbjuder baseras på senare års framsteg inom bland annat molekylära biovetenskaper (så kallade "omics"-teknologier) och bioinformatik, samt tillkomsten av nya högupplösande avbildningstekniker (<https://www.regeringen.se/4aac74/contentassets/cdda3e9fc7be4ea5b55afc99c5221fab/en-nationell-strategi-for-life-science.pdf>)

¹⁵ Personcentrerad vård innebär en övergång från en modell där patienten är den passiva mottagaren av en medicinsk åtgärd, och där fokus för många vårddyrken är på patientens behov i stället för på resurser, till en modell där en överenskommelse görs med patienten, och ofta i samarbete med anhöriga, som aktivt deltagande i planering och genomförande av den egna vården (både i slutenvård och öppenvård samt akut och palliativ vård) och rehabiliteringen. (<https://www.vardehandboken.se/arbetsatt-och-ansvar/bemotande-i-varde-och-omsorg/bemotande-i-varde-och-omsorg-vardegrund/personcentrerad-varde>)

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institutes (non-government or university-based research institutes), *idea-driven organizations* (eg interest groups and industry associations).

System demonstrators – an effort to mobilize and gather partnerships for large-scale testing and demonstration of complete system solutions in a real environment.

Biological medicinal products- preparations whose active substance is of biological origin. This effort uses a broad definition, which includes recombinant proteins and other macromolecules, antibodies, vaccines, blood and plasma products, non-recombinant proteins from cell cultures, and cultured cells and tissues.