

Strategic Projects within Future Mobility – Call Text

Background

Future Mobility aims to contribute to new or strengthened innovation collaborations between Sweden and the United States within sustainable mobility. This is achieved through several parallel activities, whereof the generation and funding of strategic projects is one.

This document describes the process leading to a granted strategic project.

Formal conditions

Strategic projects must:

- contribute to creating disruptive sustainable mobility solutions and
- boost research and innovation collaboration between the United States and Sweden.

Three focus areas have been selected and the project must contribute to at least one of them:

- Shared – both in terms of public and private mobility solutions to move people and goods
- Electric – electrified transport using electricity and/or hydrogen as energy carrier
- Connected and automated – safer and more efficient transport solutions.

Moreover, a strategic project must:

1. Include actors in both the United States and Sweden
2. Include at least one commercial actor or an actor representing a potential user
3. Be co-funded by at least 50% of the total budget by the applicants.
4. Request maximum SEK 500,000 in grant from Vinnova
5. Be carried out within one year from the date of approval.
6. All project participants must be legal entities and the coordinator must be based in Sweden.

To facilitate the review, the application must be submitted in English in Vinnova’s application portal. It must use the templates provided for the project description as well as the CV’s for key persons. Each document must be maximum 5 pages long.

Evaluation criteria

The complete application will be assessed in relation to the criteria below.

Potential	<p>The project's potential to contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthened innovation cooperation between Sweden and the USA.¹ • knowledge development and innovation within sustainable mobility. • increased equality and equity.² • long-term sustainable innovation collaborations.
Actors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project constellation's prerequisites for realizing the potential. Is there relevant competence, are the networks well connected, is the involvement in the project mutual and balanced? • How is the project team composed with respect to gender distribution, including the distribution of power and influence between women and men?
Feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the project plan elaborated with realistic and clear objectives and activities. • Does the project have efficient and environmentally adapted forms of cooperation? • Is the budget realistic and what is the added value of funds from Vinnova?

1. Strengthened innovation collaboration means that the project should represent a new collaboration with good development potential. If there is previous collaboration, the project must constitute a significant further development of the collaboration. Mutual benefit in Sweden and the USA as well as balanced efforts of resources are important preconditions for long-term sustainable collaborations.
2. The concept of equality includes gender equality as an important aspect. Furthermore, equity is an aspect that is receiving increasing attention.

The project generation process

Actors considering a proposal in line with the requirements above are invited to participate in an iterative process potentially leading to a project co-funded by Future Mobility.

1. Contact Future Mobility, see contact details below. The team can assist with matchmaking and other types of support. When critical ingredients for a collaborative project are in place, you will be invited to prepare a project pitch, using a Future Mobility template.
2. Project pitch to the Future Mobility management team (Vinnova and Lindholmen Science Park). Ten minutes presentation plus questions and answers. Depending on the outcome of the pitch, you will be asked to either (1) continue with the preparation of a complete application, or (2) revise the proposal for a second pitch, or (3) look for other types of funding for the proposed activities.
3. Complete application using a standard Vinnova format. Five pages project description using the provided template plus some tables with budget data to complete. Please carefully address the evaluation criteria when you prepare the application. When you consider the application complete, you share it with the Future Mobility management team for review and feedback. When no more revisions are needed, you will be asked to submit the application in Vinnova's system.
4. Evaluation of the application. Vinnova organizes the final assessment of the application in relation to the evaluation criteria.
5. Project start.

This process is designed to efficiently generate successful projects. Even if there are some steps to make, the time from first contact until an application can be submitted does not have to be long.

Contact Future Mobility

You are always welcome to contact us to discuss innovation collaboration between Sweden and the United States.

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United States: Jan Hellåker jan.hellaker@lindholmen.se.