

Swedish NCPs work to encourage synergies between H2020 and ESIF

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NCP actions to encourage synergies

- Regional National Dialogue-network (with representatives from the regions, Vinnova and the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth) regularly meet to discuss common priorities, similarities, differences between programs, smart specialisation strategies etc. and how the programs work in relation to universities and research institutes
- There is an NCP for SMEs at the Agency for Economic and Regional growth who gives information about H2020
- The Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is the coordinator in Sweden for Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), which provides guidance on both structural funds and H2020



National Contact Point (NCP) for H2020 in Sweden

Mission : support and stimulate
Swedish participation in Horizon 2020
-
National level only , no regional NCPs!



Centralised vs decentralised NCP models

An expert group analysis in 2013, performed on the request by the Ministry of Education and Research within a study on the national organization for the EU research programs, concluded that :

- the model with a cohesive NCP-organisation increases quality, continuity and coordination of competences in giving advice to stakeholders
- a centralised model facilitates guidance on broad societal challenges and cross-cutting themes in Horizon 2020 since a combination of expertise is needed



How to ensure a balance between NCP's various types of target groups, in particular the SME target group?

- At Vinnova there is a National Contact Point with specific responsibilities for SMEs.
- EU/SME support office (<http://eusme.se/>), financed by Vinnova and The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth with the aim to increase participation in H2020 and Eurostars, provides specific and adapted information and guidance for SMEs
- NCPs also organise specific activities/events for different target groups, for example SMEs



How to ensure good synergies within a NCP network, as well as between NCPS and other support organisations, in particular university R&D liaison offices?

- It is vital to develop cooperation with intermediaries since the NCP-resources are limited
- Network established at the universities for the people working with internal support functions for EU research applications and programs
 - Vinnova has developed a close cooperation and interaction with this network for example in the form of organising joint information meetings, trainings, specific sub-meetings regarding different thematic areas in H2020 or other specific issues



Swedish MSCA European Fellowship Seal of Excellence

- The research funding agencies' "Group for EU-Coordination" provides the national funding
- Benefits from high quality evaluation on EU level
 - Enables more highly qualified researchers to execute Fellowships in Sweden
 - Saves time - the researchers will be able to start working sooner on their projects
- Requirements, pro's and con's
 - It is not automatic and not for all SoE, valid only to those listed on the Reserv List
 - You have to show your Seal of Excellence Certificate
 - European Fellowship with a Swedish host
 - The national funding is more generous than the European: Mobility and Family Allowance added on top of the base salary
 - Project identical as the original MSCA IF proposal
 - SoE Fellows are however not allowed to call themselves MSCA Fellows



SME-instrument – Seal of excellence (runner-up), phase 1

- The NCP contacts SMEs with scores above the threshold but below available budget
- Conditions:
 - must fulfil the SME definition, have a stable and good financial situation, have no similar project financed by Vinnova
 - Receives funding 500 000 SEK for their projects.
 - No additional evaluation



Gracias!

