



Strategic Indo-Swedish Cooperative Innovation Programme –

Call for proposals in the field of Embedded Systems 2015

**DST (Department of Science and Technology, Government of India)
and VINNOVA (The Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems)**

Last date for submitting proposals: 20th August 2015

I GENERAL DESCRIPTION

1. A programme for innovative embedded systems solutions through Indo-Swedish cooperation

The Department of Science and Technology, Government of India (DST) and the Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems (VINNOVA) has agreed to launch a joint call for proposals during 2015 to promote Indo-Swedish innovation cooperation in the field of embedded systems. DST and VINNOVA hereby invite Indian and Swedish industry and academia to submit joint project applications for cooperative projects. This document provides applicants with information on the bilateral cooperation programme and its procedures.

2. Programme goals, approach and research field

In 2010, DST and VINNOVA funded a joint research oriented call in the field of embedded systems. The goal of this call is to develop research results to create added value for Indian and Swedish industry partners. The call covers applied research, including industrial research and experimental development. The projects should be carried out in close collaboration between academic and industry partners and should be aimed at needs and economic benefits of both countries.

“Embedded systems” is broadly defined in this programme as computer systems being part of (“embedded” in) complete task-specific hardware-software systems, often having real-time computing requirements.

3. Applications

The project disposal period shall be 18 –36months in total. No request for extension of the projects (with or without additional costs) would be possible beyond a total period of 36 months duration of the project.

An important application criterion is that the proposed project should build on and develop already ongoing research or innovation activities. Based on these activities the project should aim at developing solutions that have the potential to come into commercial or societal use as well as contributing to sustainable growth and/or societal benefits.

The application shall clearly describe the project goals and how to achieve them (by deliverables and milestones) for each collaborating team, as well as the added value for Indian and Swedish society. A plan on how to exploit the project results in future products and/or services must be included.

4. Applicants and consortium

The call is open to Indian and Swedish universities, other research institutions, public funded organisations and enterprises. The project proposal should be based on already established collaborations (previous joint research/ innovation projects or business collaboration).

The projects should be carried out in close linkages between collaborating academic and research organisations partners (including industry) and should be aimed at needs and economic benefits of both countries.

All applicants must fulfill national eligibility criteria in order to be evaluated. Eligibility criteria may differ between the two countries. The participation/ involvement of private industry from both sides is highly encouraged. However, funding to private industry shall be governed by national regulations of respective side. There is no funding available to Indian private industry from DST (Govt of India).

II APPLICATION

The joint call opens on the 18th May 2015, and the call deadline is 20th August 2015. The programme aims at funding 3 – 4 projects.

III Financial support available:

VINNOVA and DST reserve a budget of 5 million SEK and 5 million INR per project over a period of maximum of 36 months.

The eligible funding is defined by the relevant national regulations for individual research projects of the respective NPC. The financial support can include personnel costs for project co-workers (PhD students, Post Docs etc.)¹, minor spare parts / accessories, material costs, and mobility / travel costs, etc. The travel costs for mobility of the researchers under the approved project, shall be co-financed according to the principle that the sending side bears the international travel related expenses (i.e. international air-fare from place of work in home country to the place of work in host country, visa fee, overseas medical insurance etc.) while the receiving side will provide the local hospitality as per the existing norms of the receiving side. All other project / research costs to be incurred by respective sides in the respective territory shall be borne by respective sides.

The local hospitality norms pertaining to exchange visits are as below:

a) Indian scientists visiting Sweden

The Swedish side shall cover the actual costs for Indian scientists visiting Sweden for accommodation, local transports and per diem (SEK 210) as per national regulations and norms. Any such costs for the Swedish side shall be paid by the host institution. The detailed arrangements for payments and reimbursements shall be regulated in the project agreement.

b) Swedish scientists visiting India

The Swedish project participants shall be paid Rs2500/- per day as per-diem allowance plus a well-furnished institutional guest house/ hotel accommodation subject to max of Rs. 4000/- per day if the accommodation is not available at the host Institute for their visit to India and shall be paid by DST through Indian host Institute. .

The two parts of the joint project are financed separately by the respective national funding agency. The respective costs thus have to be applied to DST and VINNOVA according to their individual administrative requirements.

Specific funding rules for funding, India

For applicants at DST the financial support is available basically for mobility of scientists/ researchers. Normally 2 visits (up-to 30 and 60 days each) per year from each side would be allowed. One visit is defined as one visit by a scientist/expert to partner country. Only one visit per year will be permitted for each participating scientist. Only one research proposal from one researcher shall be considered at a time.

Additional incremental funding on account of scientific manpower (one JRF/SRF/RA etc.); chemicals/consumables (max up to Rs. 5.0 Lac² per year); minor spare parts/ accessories (max of Rs. 5.0 lac) etc. is also available under the scheme from Indian side. However, support for capital equipment is NOT available under the scheme.

Specific funding rules for funding, Sweden

¹ For Swedish partners , personnel costs are covered according to VINNOVAs General terms and Conditions for grants: http://www.vinnova.se/PageFiles/30198/General_terms_and_conditions_for_grants_%202015.pdf

Funding rules are given through VINNOVA's general terms and conditions for grants – 2015³.

1. Common proposal

The Indian and Swedish partners shall write a common proposal that must be submitted to DST (by Indian applicants) and VINNOVA (by Swedish applicants). The proposal shall be jointly written, on the standard "Proposal form" provided to the applicants.

2. Submission of Applications

To be eligible for evaluation, the joint project proposal must be submitted to both DST and VINNOVA so as to reach each side not later than 20th August 2015 (see section 6 & 7 for details).

3. Project Agreement and use of results

The Participants shall enter into a Project Agreement, including a plan for use of results. The Project Agreement shall include the Participants' mutual commitments, conditions concerning rights to foreground and background information and other issues of significance to the cooperation. The Project Agreement shall be consistent with terms and conditions of the DST and VINNOVA respectively. The Participants shall use project results in accordance with a plan for use. Use means, for example commercialisation, licensing and publication. In case of publication consideration shall be taken to a Participant's need of protecting intellectual property and trade secrets. The project agreement must be signed by all project partners before the start of the project.

4. Project Proposal Form

A standard project proposal format has been prepared, and should be used. This is available from the funding agencies.

The proposal shall use the following headings (Please use the format attached at Annexure-I)

1. Background
2. Impact
3. Implementation
4. Actor constellations
5. Work plan (schedule, milestones and deliverables)
6. Budget
7. Annexes (CVs, Project Agreement, etc.)

Project proposals shall include:

³http://www.vinnova.se/PageFiles/30198/General_terms_and_conditions_for_grants_%202015.pdf

- a) Name of National Project Coordinators (NPC) – one for India and one for Sweden
- b) Project description and work plan based on work packages, milestones and deliverables
- c) Prior art of comparable activities worldwide
- d) Project budget
- e) Description of ongoing activities and specific collaborative advantages of the Indian and Swedish participants respectively
- f) Description of previous collaboration activities between the participants
- g) Description of the expected outcome and added value of the proposed project
- h) Project Agreement (to be signed before the start of the project)
- i) Names and short CVs of key people in the project.

6. Submission of Proposal for Indian Applicants

Send only one original hard copy of the application to DST at the following address no later than 20th August 2015:

Mr Raj Kumar Sharma , Director (Scientist-E) International Bilateral Cooperation Division, Department of Science & Technology, Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi-110016.

One digital copy of the application in MS Word or pdf format in a single soft file is also required to be sent to sharma_rk@nic.in . Please do not include any scanned page in the document.

7. Submission of Proposal for Swedish applicants

Applications should be submitted applications through the online portal at VINNOVA (vinnova.se), no later than 20th August 2015 at 14.00 hrs. Instructions on how to fill in the application, information on eligible costs, etcetera, are also available at the online portal. Upload the “Project Proposal Form” under “Projektbeskrivning”, when asked for.

III EVALUATION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS

1. Evaluation Procedure

Committees consisting of experts selected by DST and VINNOVA respectively will evaluate all proposals and report to DST and VINNOVA respectively. DST and VINNOVA will then make a joint decision regarding funding of shortlisted proposals

2. Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria will be applied in the evaluation:

Potential

- Potential impact of the innovation, product or service produced in the project, related to intended market and customers.

- How will the projects results contribute to the competitiveness of the partners in an international context
- Added value of the proposed project to previous collaboration activities within the consortium
- Positive environmental effects

Implementation of project plan

- The relevance and credibility of the project plan in relation to goals, objectives, budget, organisation, etc.
- Relevance and credibility of the risk assessment
- Relevance of the funding, i.e. “What is the added value brought by the external funding”?
- Involvement in activities from industry or other non-academic organisations

Actor constellations

- Relevance of previous collaboration activities within the consortia
- Quality and relevance of the competence of the consortium partners
- Involved actors’ experience of innovation activities in an international context
- The business positioning of the partners, i.e. “How well positioned are the partners in the value chain in order to exploit the project results?”

3. Announcement of Decision

Applicants will be notified of the final joint decision of funding in November 2015.

IV RESPONSIBILITIES AFTER PROPOSAL HAS BEEN APPROVED

After the proposal has been approved, the NPCs and project partners shall observe national rules for progress reports and report adherence to the project plan. This includes technical and financial reporting to DST and VINNOVA, respectively.

After completion of the project, the partners shall promptly submit a final report to DST as well as VINNOVA, respectively. This report shall cover technical achievements as well as financial details. Special focus should be put on the impact of the products/services developed, its exploitation plan and go to market strategy.

Contact Information

DST (India) :

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