

The image features a silhouette of a person in the foreground looking through binoculars. In the background, another person is also visible, looking in the same direction. The background is a soft, colorful sunset or sunrise sky. The overall composition is framed by dark green geometric shapes.

Research in interaction for transition to sustainable societies

Information meeting 2024-04-23

Why this call?



Unsustainable
present state
with complex
challenges



System Innovation

Transition to a
sustainable
society

Vinnova's program for System Innovation Research

- Vinnova's mission is to help build Sweden's innovation capacity, contributing to sustainable growth.
- Vinnova's programme for System Innovation Research aims to **develop knowledge about the role of innovation policy in the transition to sustainable societies.**
- **Focus:**
 - How processes of systems transformation occur and evolve, and how to develop relevant measures and initiatives to stimulate such processes.
 - Make visible how innovation can be used to transform the way we design, develop, produce and consume goods and services.
- The overall objective of the program is that the results of the **research are put into practice and thereby play an active role in the transition to sustainable societies.**

National interaction platform!

- National interaction platform within the knowledge field on transformation of systems and societies.
- Funded projects and the platform:
 - Contribute to, and make use of, the platform for **communication and interaction** with other researchers and related projects.
 - The platform should be used for **dissemination and sense-making of insights** and results.
 - To get in touch with the platform, contact responsible coordinators Magnus Nilsson and Mart Laatsit.
magnus.nilsson@fek.lu.se och mart.laatsit@circle.lu.se



A photograph of a forest at sunset or sunrise. The sky is a warm, glowing orange and yellow, with light rays filtering through the trees. The ground is covered in fallen leaves, some of which are illuminated by small, bright lights. The left side of the image is partially obscured by a dark green diagonal overlay.

The offer in brief

Purpose?

Stimulate research which results in prescriptive guidelines and knowledge for the development and design of transformative innovation policy



Why?

We believe that policy practitioners, i.e. actors who work to translate policy into practical societal development, need support for the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of so-called transformative innovation policy.

This type of policy addresses society's major challenges and transition needs, by creating incentives and for different actors to jointly drive development and change towards ambitious goals.



What is transformative innovation policy?

An approach to promote innovation that contributes to **the transition to sustainable societies**. This type of innovation requires **collaborations** beyond traditional sectors and industries, and **broad inclusion** of different target groups and perspectives.

- **Focus:**
 - innovation that drives systemic change, addressing complex challenges and objectives linked to sustainability.
 - innovation-promoting efforts that target both technological development AND changes in behaviour, organization and legislation.



What are we looking for?

- Projects that result in **relevant support** for the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of **transformative innovation policy**.
- **Interdisciplinary teams** that possess good knowledge in **user-centered methods**, as well as in the theory and practice of societal change and innovation policy.
- Projects in which **researchers in the Social sciences, Design, Humanities, Economics, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship**, **collaborate with practitioners** within policy, the public sector, the business sector and civil society.

**Who are we
looking for?**



Who are we looking for?

- Creative researchers from different complementary disciplines who are ready to **both conduct research** and **put complex theory into practice**.

Together with...

- Creative policy officials, entrepreneurs and actors in civil society who work with innovation initiatives that have an explicit **transformative agenda**, wanting to **strengthen the design and focus** of the initiatives through **research-based knowledge**.

Advantageous:

- Knowledge in strategic design and communication
- New project constellations (organizations or faculties that have not previously collaborated in the relevant field)

Who are we targeting?

Interdisciplinary teams of researchers in close collaboration with practitioners who work with, or intend to work with, the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of transformative innovation policy.

- Applicant teams must represent relevant research disciplines to address **the transition to sustainable societies** with the help of innovation.
- Relevant **practitioners** within policy or societal development must be included in the project as **active** participants. Active participation means contributing the project through funding or time allocation.
- Applicant actors can come from universities and university colleges, private companies, public organizations and civil society organizations.

Advantageous:

- Knowledge in strategic design and communication
- New project constellations (organizations or faculties that have not previously collaborated in the relevant field)

What is financed through the call?



Relevant projects?

For example...

- **Study successful or unsuccessful transformative efforts to learn lessons about how the design and implementation of future similar efforts should be carried out.**
- **Ongoing analysis or follow-up of ongoing efforts to provide a basis for development and improvement of ongoing and future efforts.**
- **Development of new innovative models and methods in policy development.**
- **Application and follow-up of new innovative models and methods in policy development.**
- **Future scenario studies based on implemented, planned or hypothetical changes to institutional conditions, for example regulations or legislation.**

Understanding of citizens' non-acceptance and acceptance of transition processes to sustainable societies.


Approaches to how harmful technologies, products, practices, policies, power relations in society must or can be phased out.

How innovation policy can and should interact with other types of policy areas in the transition to sustainable societies.

What is not funded through this call?

- **Full-scale positions as a doctoral student or postdoctoral fellow.**
- **Activities that completely overlap with the activities planned by the funded interaction platform for research on system change.**

Tips! Read the **main criterias** carefully in order to understand what is requested in this call!

An aerial, high-angle photograph of a large, diverse crowd of people gathered in a public square. The ground is paved with dark, rectangular tiles. The crowd is dense and occupies most of the frame, with people of various ages and ethnicities. Some individuals are standing, some are sitting on the ground, and some are in small groups. The overall scene suggests a public event or a busy urban space. A dark green diagonal shape is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text.

**How much
funding do we
provide**

How much funding can the project receive?

- Project can apply for between **500,000 - 2,000,000** kroner in funding from Vinnova.
- Funds must be sought for the **activities that the project intends to carry out.**
- The projects will differ in size (budget and time)
- It is possible to be coordinator for **several project** with different purposes, as well as to participate as **participant in several project.**

Rules on government support

- **Industrial research:** seeking new knowledge through planned research or critical analysis in order to develop or significantly improve products, processes or services.
- **Feasibility study:** an evaluation and analysis of: strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and risks in an upcoming research and development project, what resources are required to implement the project and how likely it is that the project will succeed.
- **De minimis support:** you need to submit a certificate of de-minimum support when you submit proposal.
- **Support to organisations that do not carry out economic activities.** This generally includes universities and university colleges, research institutes and other organizations that do not offer a service or product on a market.


Basic requirements for the proposals



Conditions for us to assess the proposal

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

- Project parties and beneficiary are **legal entities**. A sole proprietorship is not a legal person.
- Proposal is written in **Swedish or English**.
- The **project description** must be written in the **template** available for download on the call page.



**What do we
assess?**

What do we assess?

- Applications that meet the formal requirements are assessed with regard to **relevance, potential, actors** and **feasibility**.
- **Read these thoroughly!**
- Besides those you should also think about the **meritorious factors**.
- Vinnova will also apply a **portfolio perspective**

Relevance

- **Is the theme or problem that the project focuses on of relevance to the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of transformative innovation policy?**
- **Does the project meet the requirement for interdisciplinary research linked to transformative innovation policy?**
- **Is the project sufficiently anchored and connected to the practitioners in policy and societal development that request the research results?**

Potential

- **The project's potential to generate knowledge that is in demand and useful for both research and practice in the relevant field.**
- **The project's potential to develop and renew the research area through new interdisciplinary research of relevance to transformative innovation policy.**
- **The project's potential to generate research results that can be put into practice to accelerate the transition to sustainable societies.**
- **The project's potential to contribute positively to increased gender equality and the global goals in Agenda 2030.**

Actors

- **The composition of the project team regarding organizations, research disciplines and areas of knowledge relevant to the project's focus area and aim.**
- **The project team's involvement of practitioners who work with, or intend to work with, the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of transformative innovation policy.**
- **The project team's ambitions and plans to implement research result in practice.**
- **The composition of the project team regarding gender distribution and the distribution of power and influence between women and men.**

Feasibility

- **That the project's implementation plan is credible and realistic given limited access to time and budget.**
- **That the implementation plan is clear about how practitioners within policy or societal development are to be involved in the work, as well as how the project intends to validate its results against policy or society.**
- **That the project has appropriate methods to follow up designated objectives and planned activities, as well as to adjust the implementation based on the learning that occurs.**
- **That the project clearly demonstrates ambition and commitment to utilize the results in relevant contexts and for relevant target groups, within both academia and practice. Utilization and dissemination activities can be planned within the project or in collaboration with the funded interaction platform.**
- **How well equality aspects have been integrated into the implementation.**

[Ansökningar](#) > Forskning i interaktion för omställning till hållbara samhällen

Forskning i interaktion för omställning till hållbara samhällen

2024-05-15 14:00

... som resulterar i normativa riktlinjer och
...nsformativ innovationspolicy. Projekten
...väl meriterande forskning som för
...formativ innovationspolicy.
... implementering, uppföljning
...novationspolicy adresserar
...nom att skapa incitament
...utveckling och
... denna policy krävs
...måelse för både
...vinnova
...ed

How to apply?

How to apply?

To apply for funding, you fill in a web-based form in Vinnova's e-service for applications, which you can find via the button [Apply here](#)

Please note that the assessment process will be conducted in English as some of the evaluators do not understand Swedish. The applications that are written in Swedish, both in the web-based form and in the requested attachments, will be machine translated into English.

In Vinnovas e-service you upload the following attachments:

- Project description
- Resume

Several application periods

- We assess applications at **3 occasions**
- if you submit your application before the last day of one of these application periods, you will have it assessed close to that date.
- You can submit your application at **any time** until the very last application date.
- In the timeline you can see the next application period.

Important dates!

15 MAY 2024
AT 14:00

Last day in application
period

28 AUG 2024
AT 14:00

Last day in application
period

30 OCT 2024
AT 14:00

Last application date

More info or questions?

Vinnova's webb:

- [Forskning i interaktion för omställning till hållbara samhällen | Vinnova \(Swedish\)](#)
- [Research in interaction for transition to sustainable societies | Vinnova \(English\)](#)

Contact:

- jenny.sjoblom@vinnova.se
- josefin.lundstrom@vinnova.se

Questions?