



# SEED FUNDING TO FOSTER INNOVATIVE MINDS FOR THE FUTURE

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Swedish Research Council for  
Health, Working Life and Welfare



Swedish  
Research  
Council

# INTSAM – COLLABORATION BETWEEN SWEDISH FUNDING AUTHORITIES

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# Why does Vinnova support initiatives like Mirai?

- Innovation has never been more important – and it is urgent
- Agenda 2030, Climate change – common global challenges where we need collaboration and common solutions
- The areas of collaboration in Mirai 2.0 are close
- to the ones that Vinnova focus on:
- Ageing, sustainability, material science, innovation and entrepreneurship.



# Focus of seed funding call

This call is open for collaboration projects between Japan and Sweden that contribute towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Thematic focus areas are:

- Ageing
- Sustainability
- Materials Science
- Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)

# What do we fund?

The following activities may be funded by the seed grant:

- research and development activities, including salary contributions , collaborative activities, meetings, workshops etc.;
- communication efforts;
- conferences;
- travel and seminars (within Sweden);
- Funding may cover personnel costs including overhead costs for university partners.

# How much?

The maximum grant awarded by Intsam is 90 000 SEK per application.

We plan to give out up to 10 grants.

Academic organisations and other non-profit organisations, as well as public sector organisations and other non-commercial organisations may receive funding to cover 100 % of their costs.

Small and medium sized enterprises may receive funding to cover 80 % of their costs.

# Eligibility requirements

The call is open for employees at Swedish universities, businesses, or public sector organisations who would like to collaborate with partners in Japan.

A requirement to apply for funding is that at least one member of the project team participated actively in the academia/industry matchmaking event on 10 June, 2021 or in other relevant activity during this MIRAI 2.0 Research and Innovation Week.

Applicants need to provide a letter of approval from their head of department, manager, or similar, to ensure the support from their organisation.

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# Eligibility requirements cont.

Applicants may apply for funding for initiating a new collaboration project involving at least one Swedish and one Japanese partner.

Each Swedish constellation must include at least one academic partner.

Intsam gives priority to collaboration between different types of stakeholders, such as: businesses, academics, and public sectors.

Small and medium sized enterprises are especially encouraged to apply. Only the Swedish project partners may receive funding.



# Review criteria

Applications will be reviewed based on the following six criteria:

1. Relevance of the formulated problem, objective and expected outcome;
2. Feasibility (how realistic and credible the project plan is, both for implementing the project and for achieving expected results);
3. Potential and benefit for all project participants and the wider community (what effects and value can the project be expected to generate, and how will society benefit from the project achieving its objectives);
4. Potential for continued collaboration after the end of the project period;
5. How expected results may hypothetically be further implemented;
6. The suitability of the project partners to implement the project.

# Important dates & review process

Application opens	7 June
Last day of application	17 September
Date of decision	29 October

Applications will be reviewed by representatives from:

- Embassy of Japan in Sweden,
- Swedish Research Council,
- Vinnova – Sweden's Innovation Agency,
- MIRAI 2.0,
- KTH Royal Institute of Technology,
- Association of Swedish Engineering Industries,
- Hitachi ABB Power Grids.

# The Japanese Kanji for Mirai – the future

**captures very well the  
spirit of this collaboration  
– to bring together  
researchers from our two  
countries to tackle mutual  
challenges together.**

