

A group of people are gathered around a white table in a modern office setting. A man in a green patterned shirt is looking at a laptop. A woman in a black top is sitting on the table, gesturing with her hands. Another woman in a pink top is writing on a notepad. A man in a dark blue shirt is sitting in the foreground, looking towards the group. The background shows a white wall and a potted plant.

Planning Grant for International Calls 2026

Information meeting 25 March 2026

VINNOVA

Agenda

- **Overview of the *Call for Planning Grant for International calls***
- **Vinnova's National Contact Points for Horizon Europe**
- **Presentation of EU-SME Support Office**
- **Questions & Answers**

We will record the first part of today's meeting – up until the Q&A session!

Who are Vinnova's contact persons?

Jennika Gill Noltorp
Programme Officer for the call

Lars Resman
Sustainable production/
Sustainable materials

Andrea Birch-Jensen
Digitalization

Kajsa Nimvik
Health/ Life Science

Yusra Imsheiel
Food systems, Societal
Development

Daniela Dimitrova
Sustainable production/
Sustainable mobility

Maria Mützell
Administrative questions

Questions on Horizon Europe
[Kontaktpersoner för
Horisont Europa | Vinnova](#)

Technical support
helpdesk@vinnova.se

Briefly about Planning Grant



For Swedish actors planning to apply for funding for a research and innovation project in an international call



Provides an opportunity to further develop and strengthen your project application for a published international call



Aims to enhance the conditions for more internationally competitive applications with Swedish participation

What is meant by an international call?

A call where applications are assessed in international competition.

- **A Horizon Europe Call. It may be an open call or a call published in a work programme – please, link to the published call or to the published work programme.**
- **Another International Call where applications are evaluated in international competition - please, link to the published call**

Planning Project vs Main Project

Planning Project

- **Purpose** To develop and strengthen a project proposal for submission to an announced international call
- **Content** In the planning project, activities are carried out to develop and strengthen a competitive project proposal for an announced international call
- **Timeframe** The planning project may run for a maximum of 12 months. The start date for the planning project may be no earlier than the decision date if a planning grant is awarded. The end date must be no later than one week after the international call has closed.

Main Project

- **Purpose** The research and innovation project for which you will apply for funding in the next step, in an announced international call.
- **Content** The main project is described in the project proposal developed during the planning project and submitted to the international call.
- **Timeframe** The timeframe for the main project is determined by the international call.

What can be funded?

Costs for:

- ✓ **Developing the project idea and application for an international call**
- ✓ **Strengthening the consortium's composition and collaboration**
- ✓ **Strengthening the scientific or technical basis (POC, prototyping)**
- ✓ **Strengthening the business case (IPR, business plan)**
- ✓ **Consultant costs when needed (writing consultants max 75 000 SEK). Justification required!**

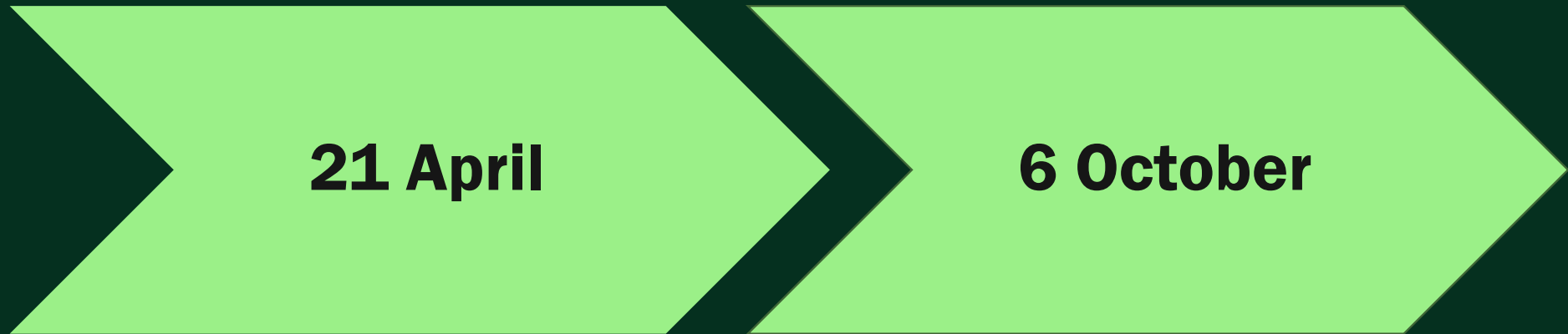
Eligible costs:

- **Personnel costs**
- **Material costs**
- **Other direct costs**
- **Indirect costs**

What can not be funded?

- ✓ Planning projects with no intention to result in submitting an application to a published international call
- ✓ Planning projects within the Eureka programs, for example Eureka Eurostars
- ✓ Planning projects within Horizon Europe's Pillar 1 **except:** MSCA Cofund, MSCA Doctoral Network and ERC Synergy Grant

Time Line 2026



- ✓ Applications not meeting formal requirements will be rejected without assessment.
- ✓ Once we have assessed all applications, decisions of approval or rejection will be announced.
- ✓ Our ambition is to announce the decisions no later than 4-5 weeks after the closing dates.

Who can apply?

- **Small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs)**
- **Research institutes**
- **Academic actors**
- **Public sector**
- **Civil Society**



How much can you apply for?

< 300 000 SEK Project partner

< 500 000 SEK Coordinator for project with at least 3 actors from 3 different countries

< 80% of the total eligible costs of the planning project



Formal Eligibility Requirements

Organisations

- All parties are legal entities
- Coordinating part must be Swedish
- Foreign actors can not apply for grant

Planning Project

- Project Manager employed by coordinating part
- Duration max 12 months
- Completion within a week after the International Call closes
- Max 75 000 SEK for writing consultation

Application

- Follow instructions
- Direct link to the published International Call
- Horizon Europe Call. It may be an open call or a call in a published work programme. Include a link to the call or to the published work programme
- Write in Swedish or English
- Max 80% of total eligible costs can be funded
- For companies: signed Vinnova certificate for de minimis aid

How do you apply?

- **Fill in the application in our e-service**
- **Include the attachment – mandatory for Companies! (A signed Vinnova certificate of De Minimis Aid)**
- **Complete, mark as finished and submit well in advance!**
- **Deadline 14:00 CET on the closing day (21 April and 6 October)**

VINNOVA

Log in

Vinnova has activated two-factor authentication. The first time you log in you will need to create an account.

[Show more about two-step verification](#) ▼

Log in

Create account

VINNOVA

Choose a Focus area

- Sustainable Production
- Sustainable Materials
- Sustainable Mobility
- Societal Development
- Food System
- Health/ Life Science
- Digitalization
- 6G
- Other – specify your Focus area

Why?

**To facilitate the
assessment process**

What happens next?

- Assessment according to the established evaluation criteria
- Externa. evaluators
- Competitive evaluation
- Recommendation for decision
- Decision communicated by Vinnova (4-5 weeks after the call deadline)
- Start report – final rapport – follow-up report

Questions and Answers

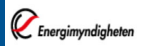
- **Vinnova Contact Persons for the Call**
- **Horizon Europe – National Contact Points**
- **For SMEs: EU-SME Support Office**

National Contact Points (NCP)



National EU-node

VINNOVA
Sweden's Innovation Agency



NCP
National Contact Points

Answers questions on Horizon Europe

Helps to find matching calls and topics

Legal and financial advice

Spreads information

Strategic advice

Information from SE system to EC
via NCP networks, experts and PC

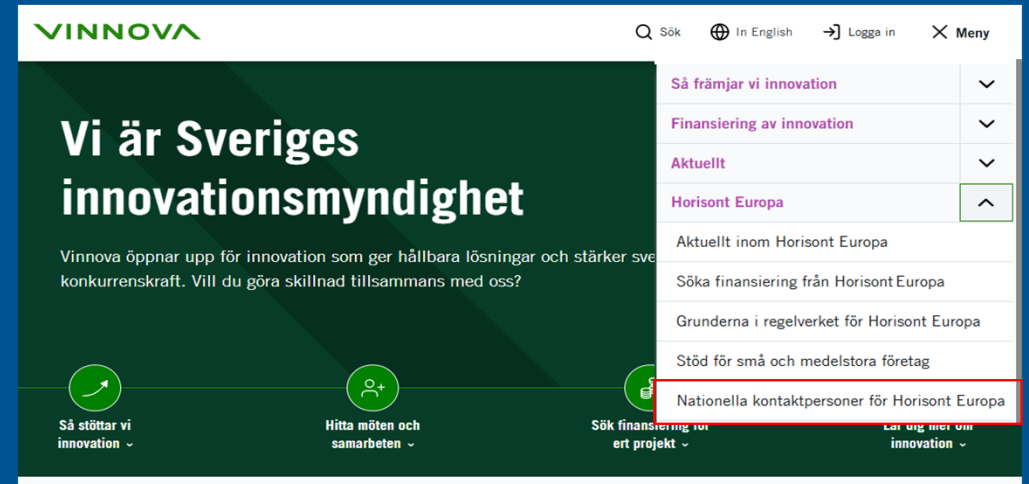
Swedish NCPs:

<https://www.vinnova.se/m/horizont-europa/kontakt/>

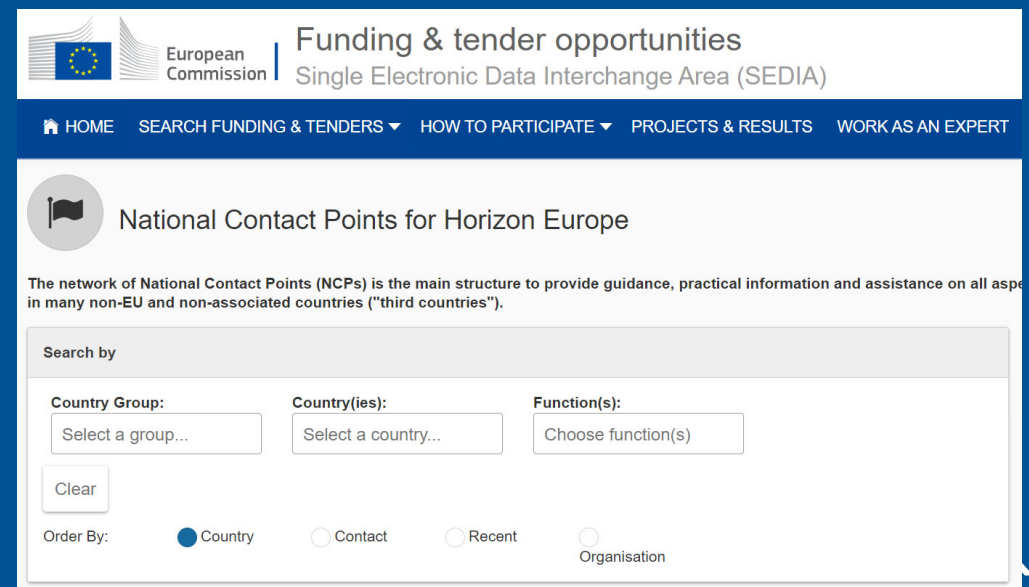


All NCPs:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/ncp>



The screenshot shows the VINNOVA website with a dark green header. The main heading reads "Vi är Sveriges innovationsmyndighet". Below it, a sub-heading says "Vinnova öppnar upp för innovation som ger hållbara lösningar och stärker svenska konkurrenskraft. Vill du göra skillnad tillsammans med oss?". There are four icons at the bottom: "Så stöttar vi innovation", "Hitta möten och samarbeten", "Sök finansiering till ert projekt", and "Låt oss mer om innovation". On the right side, a dropdown menu is open, showing options like "Så främjar vi innovation", "Finansiering av innovation", "Aktuellt", and "Horizont Europa". The "Horizont Europa" option is highlighted with a green border, and its sub-menu is visible, listing items like "Aktuellt inom Horizont Europa", "Söka finansiering från Horizont Europa", "Grunderna i regelverket för Horizont Europa", "Stöd för små och medelstora företag", and "Nationella kontaktpersoner för Horizont Europa", which is highlighted with a red border.



The screenshot shows the European Commission website with the heading "Funding & tender opportunities" and "Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)". Below the header, there are navigation links: "HOME", "SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS", "HOW TO PARTICIPATE", "PROJECTS & RESULTS", and "WORK AS AN EXPERT". The main content area is titled "National Contact Points for Horizon Europe" and includes a brief description: "The network of National Contact Points (NCPs) is the main structure to provide guidance, practical information and assistance on all aspects of Horizon Europe funding in many non-EU and non-associated countries ('third countries')." Below this, there is a search interface with the following fields: "Country Group:" (with a dropdown menu), "Country(ies):" (with a dropdown menu), and "Function(s):" (with a dropdown menu). There is also a "Clear" button. At the bottom, there is an "Order By:" section with radio buttons for "Country" (selected), "Contact", "Recent", and "Organisation".



eu SUPPORT
sme

Intro EU-SME Support Office

EU-SME Support Mission

To strengthen Swedish SMEs participation and the share of approved applications in the following programs:

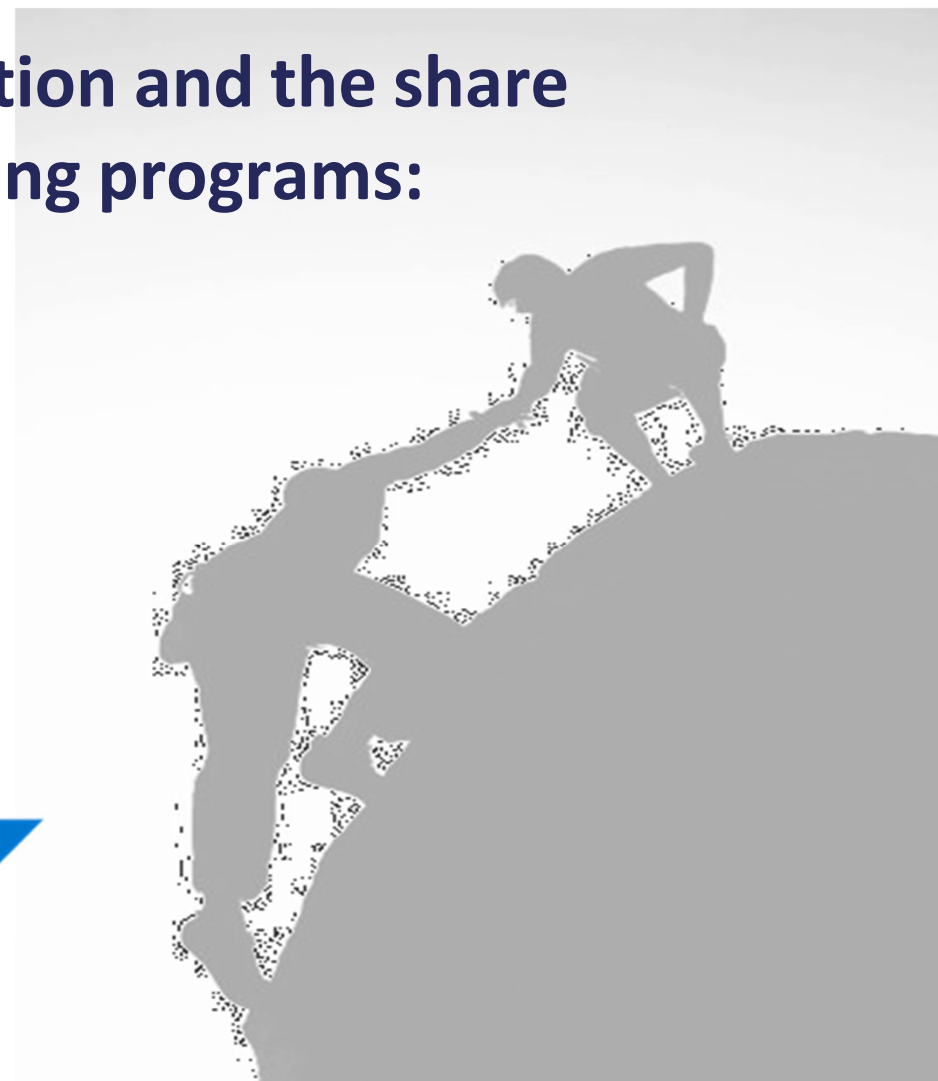
- EIC-Programs
- Eurostars/Eureka
- Innovation fund
- NATO-Diana

Our services are financed by:

VINNOVA
Sveriges innovationsmyndighet



Energimyndigheten



We are EU-SME Support Office

A network of ca 20 advisors from 6 different organizations

- National coverage all-over Sweden
- Industry-wide competence across different sectors
- Collaborations with other organizations such as EEN

Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) – Sweden



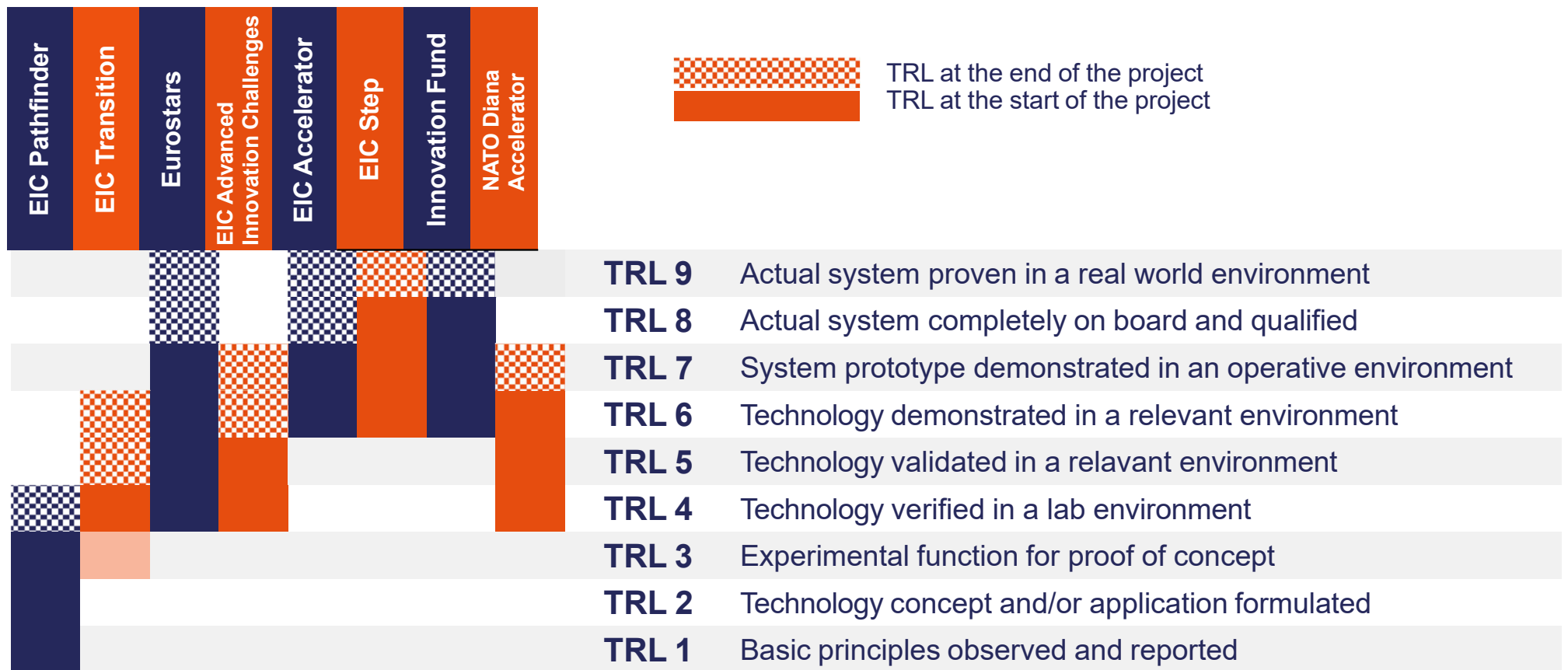
Business Support on Your Doorstep

- International partner search
- National financing programs
- International business developments

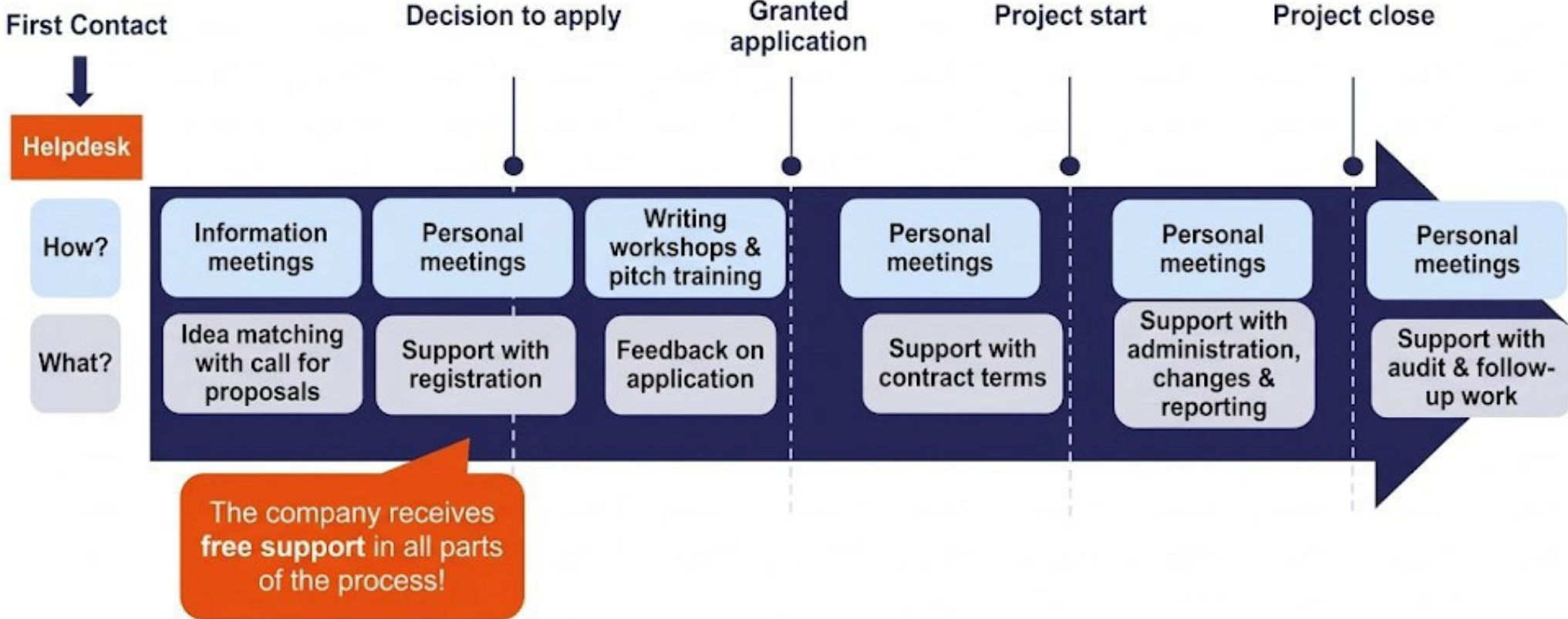


Our supported programs

Programs that we support based on technology readiness levels (TRL)



How can we help SMEs?



EU-SME Helpdesk

www.eusme.se/kontakt

EU-SME events calendar

www.eusme.se/kalendarium

Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)

www.enterpriseeurope.se

Partnering Opportunities Database

<https://een.ec.europa.eu/partnering-opportunities>

Subscribe to our
newsletter



Follow us on LinkedIn®!
www.linkedin.com/company/eusmesupport

More information about the Call and the application link can be found on the Vinnova website:

[Planning grant for international calls](#)

Contact us!

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Thank you!