

SASNET - Swedish South Asian Studies Network

Lund University

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Funding South Asia related Research and Education

Last updated: 22 August 2013

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SASNET Planning grants

From 2001 till 2009, SASNET provided support to Swedish researchers and teachers to plan networks for developing research or education programmes, and for networking in such programmes, in collaboration with South Asian colleagues. Three kinds of grants were available:

Networking grants for planning and continued activities in research and education programmes/projects, in collaboration between Swedish and South Asian partners;

Guest Lecture grants, making it possible to invite a guest lecturer from South Asia to lecture at two or more different Swedish universities; and

Interdisciplinary Workshop Grants, making it possible to organise a South Asia related interdisciplinary research workshop in Sweden or in South Asia.

Information on [the applications for which grants have been given 2001–2009](#).

Please note, no SASNET grants are distributed any longer!

Swedish funding agencies

DUO-Sweden Fellowship Programme

In 2010, the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) initiated a new specific DUO-Sweden Fellowship Programme. It is being administered by the [Swedish International Programme Office for Education and Training](#), a government agency that promotes academic exchanges and cooperation across national borders. ASEM-DUO is an exchange programme for lecturers and students from Europe and Asia, where participating countries exchange one lecturer/student. The ASEM-DUO Fellowship Programme, commenced in 2001, has supported exchanges of professors and students in tertiary education field between Asia and Europe under ASEM domain. Students can study abroad between 4-6 months and lecturers can spend one month abroad.

The DUO-Sweden Fellowship Program aims at promoting exchanges of people between Sweden and 16 Asian countries – including India and Pakistan – on a balanced basis. In this respect, DUO-Sweden requires that a PAIR (two persons) of undergraduate or graduate students who are currently enrolled in universities be exchanged in the framework of a cooperative project. Approximately 50 fellowships will be selected (that is 25 pairs) through the Duo-Sweden programme per year. The exchange project must fulfill three requirements:

- 1) An educational institution in Sweden (home institution) and an educational institution in Asia (host institution) should have established an academic cooperative arrangement; and
- 2) The Swedish home institution has selected an EU national student enrolled at the home institution to send to the Asian host institution, and such selection has been accepted by the Asian host institution; and

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3) The same Asian host institution has selected an Asian student enrolled at the host institution to send to the Swedish home institution, and such selection has been accepted by the same Swedish home institution.

Out of 43 applications for the first year (2010-11) year, 13 were granted. None of them however applied to South Asia. The programme was again be announced for the period 2012-13. 12 finalists were selected, but also this time none applied to South Asia. [Go for the 2012 results.](#)

More information on the ASEM-DUO web page: www.asemduo.org

[Bank of Sweden Tercentenary Foundation \(Stiftelsen Riksbankens jubileumsfond\)](#)

Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (RJ) supports research in Humanities and Social Sciences. Support is provided in several forms: programmes, projects, infrastructural projects, and also for research initiation. For the first three, calls are issued once a year. Research initiation can be applied for at any time during the year. RJ



**Riksbankens
Jubileumsfond**

implements proactive initiatives that may originate in, for example, RJ's sector committees. Calls for focused initiatives are issued and applications reviewed in different ways, depending on what the initiative is about.

A programme involves a large group of advanced researchers who, over a relatively long period, carry out a joint research assignment. A project, on the other hand, is a more limited research assignment, conducted by one or a few researchers for a shorter period. Infrastructural support is given for work that paves the way for future research, through the setting-up and preservation of archive collections or compilation of databases. Support for research initiation aims to facilitate conferences, seminars or workshops and the creation of new research networks.

Applications are scrutinised in two steps. Applications are assessed by RJ's review panels. Successful applicants are then invited to develop the application, which is reviewed by external experts. The Board takes the ultimate funding decision. Applications for research initiation are reviewed and decisions are taken on a continuous basis by the Executive Committee of the Board. Each application is assessed in terms of its scientific quality and international standard.

Key dates in 2013: 7 January: opening date for applications; 30 January: closing date for applications; 3 May: closing date for second stage; 24 October: Board's grant decisions announced:

[Detailed information on applications](#) (in Swedish only).

[The Crafoord Foundation](#)

Twice each year the Crafoord Foundation distributes funds to those who apply for two main types of grants: Research Grants and Other Grants. The main purposes are to promote scientific training and research. The purposes of the Foundation include promoting Swedish scientific training and research without a view to making a profit for a given individual person or organization. Grants for research are awarded to applicants at Lund University, Linnaeus University, Malmö University, Kristianstad University College, the University of Halmstad, Blekinge Institute of Technology, and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences at Alnarp. In 2011, the Crafoord Foundation received about 500 applications and granted SEK 47.8 million (SEK 55 million in 2010) for scientific research. The current deadline period is 15 December 2012–7 February 2013. [More information.](#)

[Forskningsrådet för arbetsliv och socialvetenskap, FAS](#)

The [Swedish council for working life and social research](#). The Council was established in 2001 through a merger of the Swedish Council for Social Research and the Swedish Council for Work Life Research. The Council supports research by giving grants for projects. The council also creates research positions at Swedish universities and provides grants for visiting researchers as well as scholarships for post-doc studies abroad, during a period of 6–24 months.



**Swedish Council for
Working Life and
Social Research**

The research funded by FAS is divided into six main areas, with associated sub-areas.

- Work and health
- Work organisation
- Labour market
- Public health
- Welfare
- Social services and social relations

Applications are made in two steps. Calls for proposals for research projects are published once a year with a deadline for outlines in January and a deadline for full project applications in May. Deadline for submission of outlines is 31 January 2013.

FAS offers funding of visiting researchers to Sweden. The purpose is to add qualified knowledge and competence to the Swedish research society within FAS' areas of responsibility. These financial contributions should primarily fund shorter stays (less than six months) for research, consultations, lectures and seminars (also at other institutions than the host institution). Grants for visiting researchers are exclusively for researchers active at non-Swedish research institutions. For smaller amounts, maximum 30 000 SEK, applications can be made anytime during the year (but 8 weeks in advance of the researcher's departure). [More information.](#)

In the spring 2012, FAS announced a special call for proposals for arranging workshops/hearings to explore future research co-operation specifically with India. The purpose was to facilitate contact and the exchange of experience between Swedish and Indian researchers; to bring knowledge from the international research community to Swedish research; and to be of considerable value to research in FAS' areas of responsibility. Decisions were taken on 3 October 2012. Altogether nine projects were approved. SASNET was granted SEK 400 000 for organizing a workshop entitled "Urbanization and Migration in Transnational India: Work and Family Life from a Welfare Perspective" in collaboration with the Nordic Centre in India (NCI) university consortium, and the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC) in Bangalore. Of the remaining eight successful applications, three were granted to research group leaders at Karolinska Institutet: another two at Lund University. and one each at the universities of Stockholm. Umeå and Örebro. [More](#)

information.



Formas, the Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning

A governmental research-funding agency, established in 2001, related to the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Industry, Employment and Communications and the Ministry of Education and Science. Formas supports basic research and applied research in the fields of the environment, agricultural sciences, building sciences and urban development. Formas promotes ecologically sustainable growth and development in society, multi- and interdisciplinary research and international research cooperation and experience interchange.

Every year, Formas announces grants for research and development projects within all the fields mentioned above. [More information.](#)

Besides, a number of regular grants that may be applied for at any time, Urgent grants, and Grants for conferences, symposia and workshops ([more information](#)).

Formas also provides [funding for specific programmes](#), such as:

A Joint Formas – Sida/SAREC funded program for research on sustainable development in developing countries was announced in 2007. The program aims to promote participation of scientists from Sweden in sustainability research in developing countries, with an overall intention to contribute to global sustainable development in the spirit of the UN Conference in Johannesburg 2002. Decisions for the latest round, for the period 2010-11 were taken on 10 April 2010. [Information about the South Asia related projects awarded grants.](#)

[Forskraftstiftelsen Theodor Adelswårds Minne](#)

FSTAM, offers funding for students dealing with international organisations and co-operation. The foundation was created in 1997 with the aim of furthering Theodor Adelswårds strong interest in international politics and his commitment towards international cooperation and democracy in the aftermath of the first World War. Other goals of the foundation are to promote young people's understanding of the world around them and to stimulate research at Swedish Universities. In order to reach these goals, the foundation gives research grants to graduate students (PhD and Masters) who are completing their theses in areas of international relations, international cooperation and international organizations with particular emphasis on peacekeeping, conflict resolution, human rights, energy and the environment. Since its' inception, Forskraftstiftelsen Theodor Adelswårds Minne has granted SEK 4.8 million to 52 graduate students and 79 undergraduate students.

The grants are normally given once a year however **no grants are distributed during 2012.**

[International Foundation for Science](#)

IFS is a research council with international operations and the mission to build the scientific capacity of developing countries in sciences related to the sustainable management of biological and water resources. The secretariat is located in Stockholm. Funding comes from governmental and non-governmental sources, as well as national and international organisations. IFS has 135 Affiliated Organisations in 86 countries, of which three-quarters are in developing countries and one-quarter in industrial countries.

At IFS, the idea is that the interests of both science and development are best served by promoting and nurturing the research efforts of promising young science graduates, who have the potential to become leading scientists in their countries. Since 1974, IFS has provided support to more than 4,600 IFS Grantees in some 100 developing countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean. Applications for IFS Research Grants are welcome from young scientists in developing countries to do research on the sustainable management, use or conservation of biological or water resources. This broad statement covers natural science and social science research on agriculture, soils, animal production, food science, forestry, agroforestry, aquatic resources, natural products, water resources, etc. Grants are normally awarded to individual researchers, for a specific research project lasting 1-3 years. Application deadlines are 30 June and 31 December every year. [More information on Eligibility Criteria.](#)



[Knut och Alice Wallenbergs stiftelse](#)

One of the major research funders in Sweden and supports research and educational projects at the national universities, colleges and comparable research institutes. Most of the grants were donations for expensive scientific equipment within the natural sciences, technological and biomedical basic research. The Foundation preferably supports projects of high scientific potential, infrastructure of national importance and individual support of excellent scientists. The Foundation also initiates strategic grants and scholarship programs. All applications to the Foundation must be prioritized by the vice-chancellor (or the equivalent) at the University where the principal investigator works. The Foundation uses peer reviewers for the nomination process. The Foundation evaluates, prioritizes and follows up research grants, while universities are responsible for internal priority, steering, control, monitoring and performance.

Applications should be submitted by individual scientists, or research groups affiliated to a Swedish university or equivalent institution. An application may also be submitted by the management of a university, university college, scientific academy, or national research associations. Applications from private individuals without connection to a research institution are not considered. Furthermore, grants are not provided for private studies outside the Foundation's published scholarship programs.

Applications for research projects with high scientific potential is February 2013. [More information.](#)



[Linnaeus-Palme International Exchange Programme](#)

An exchange programme for teachers and students at undergraduate and master's level in higher education, which aims at strengthening co-operation between universities in Sweden and developing countries for a period up to 8 years. The Programme was established in May 2000 and is financed by Sida. Swedish

**South Asia related projects
given Linnaeus Palme
grants
– In 2002**

International Development Cooperation Agency, and administered by the International Programme Office for Education and Training ([Internationella programkontoret](#)). Last date for applications to the programme for 2013/14 was 15 November 2012. [More information](#).

The decisions for 2012-13/14 were taken in February 2012. Out of 262 projects given grants, 2 are with Bangladesh, 20 with India, 5 with Nepal, and 5 with Sri Lanka. [Go for the full list of Linnaeus Palme grants 2012](#) (as a pdf-file). **NEW**

Minor Field Studies (MFS)

Grants for field studies, aimed at giving Swedish students the opportunity to procure knowledge on developing countries and development issues. This programme also aims to give students, lecturers and institutions at universities and colleges the opportunity to establish contact with institutions and organisations in developing countries. financed by Sida, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, and administered by the International Programme Office for Education and Training ([Internationella programkontoret](#)). Decisions for 2013 are taken in January 2013.

Applications for 2014 should be delivered before 1 November.

- In 2003
- In 2004
- In 2005
- In 2006
- In 2007
- In 2008
- In 2009
- In 2010
- In 2011
- In 2012

A large number of Swedish undergraduate students have got MFS grants to do thesis work in developing countries. A searchable database where all MFS theses since 2003 are presented in full-text is available. [Go to the database](#). See also specific lists of South Asia related MFS projects during the period 2003-07: - [Afghanistan](#) (1 project); - [Bangladesh](#) (17 projects); - [India](#) (120 projects); - [Nepal](#) (7 projects); - [Pakistan](#) (3 projects); - [Sri Lanka](#) (29 projects). No projects were carried out in Bhutan and the Maldives.

MISTRA (Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research)

MISTRA supports strategic environmental research with a long-term perspective, aiming to solve major environmental problems. The main part of MISTRA's funding is focused on broad-based interdisciplinary programmes. An endowment of more than SEK 3.3 billion, as of Jan. 1, 2004, makes it possible to allocate an annual sum of some SEK 250 million to funding of research. This makes MISTRA the largest source of funding for environmental research in Sweden. **Mistra invites small and medium sized Swedish companies together with academic research organisations to submit proposals for research projects concerning the implementation of discoveries and inventions contributing to the solution of environmental problems and improvements in sustainability.**

The overall purpose of the investment in MISTRA Innovation is to encourage the development of innovative ideas through the interaction of small and medium sized enterprises with universities and other research institutes. MISTRAs investment should lead to products, processes and services which reduce the environmental impact of our society and improve the sustainable use of resources. MISTRA will invest a maximum of 40 million SEK, over four years, in this area. The first call for proposals resulted in the allocation of 20 million SEK in six projects. The remaining 20 million SEK will be allocated to projects answering the second call.

The Olof Palme Memorial Fund for International Understanding and Common Security

Offers scholarships and grants to young people for international exchange, and for studies of peace and disarmament.

Sida, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

The Unit for Research Cooperation (FORSK) is where Sida's support to partner country research and research of importance for the development of these countries is now handled. Support is provided for research councils, universities and research institutions, for regional research networks and for international research programmes. The unit also supports Swedish research activities relevant to developing countries. [Go to the information page regarding Support to Research!](#)

Grants to support Swedish development research used to be provided by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Sida, through its Developing Country Research Council (u-landsforskningsrådet). These so-called *uforsk grants* belong to the most important ways of financing Swedish research projects related to developing countries, including South Asia. The aim has been to establish and maintain a knowledge base of relevance to aid and development issues, plus capacity for developing country research in Sweden. Deadline for applications for the period 2013-2014 was Tuesday 3 April 2012. [More information](#).

According to a decision by the government **Sida's program for development research will from January 2013 be hosted by Vetenskapsrådet (the Swedish Research Council)**. Successful applicants will be informed through Vetenskapsrådet in January 2013. During 2013 the total budget is 114 MSEK out of which 30 MSEK for new applications. [More information](#)

Sida grants to assist practical use of research results in Indian and Indonesian collaboration projects



SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY

In 2011, the Swedish International Development

Cooperation Agency, Sida, through its Selective Cooperation Unit

(Partner Driven Cooperation) had a call for a programme entitled "**Collaboration Grants - Use of Research Results**", an initiative open only for co-operations in India and Indonesia.

Applications should apply to collaborative projects related to the use of research for 2012 - 2013.

Sida was reserving 20 million Swedish crowns (SEK) per year 2012-2013 for this call.

Deadline was 4th April 2012. [More information](#).

South Asia related projects given Sida/SAREC grants

- In 2003
- In 2004
- In 2005
- In 2006
- In 2007
- In 2008
- In 2009
- In 2010
- In 2011
- In 2012

SIDA grants to South Asia Partner Driven Cooperation projects

- In 2010

Thematic research. SAREC has supported Swedish research on vital Global issues. They include "Financial Systems in the Third World", Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law", "Education for Poverty Alleviation", "Research on IT in developing countries", "Biological multitude focused on its importance for poor people's survival", and "Climate Change".

Support to HIV/AIDS research. Since 1989, Sida has supported research on HIV/AIDS and related sexually transmittable diseases relevant for the situation in developing countries. Sweden and Sida are intensifying the fight against the pandemic by increasing the support and by maintaining HIV/AIDS as a strategic issue in all development cooperation. In 2006, [three South Asia related projects](#) were among the 22 being funded.

The Indo-Swedish Facility for Environmental Initiatives and Innovations ("the Facility"). Was set up by Sida in December 2006, with an aim to encourage knowledge sharing and co-operation on development of new technical solutions between India and Sweden, and to evolve best practices in the environmental field. The Facility offers funds to apply for, and is open to Swedish and Indian public institutions, the private sector, civil society and research and academic institutions. On the Swedish side it has been administered by an officer at the Swedish Embassy in New Delhi. From 2007 the Facility has been fully operational. [More information, including guidelines and full background material.](#)

STINT (Stiftelsen för internationalisering av högre utbildning och forskning)

The Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education – supports the internationalisation of Swedish research and higher education, and encourages participation in its programmes. They offer:



– **Institutional Grants (IG) programme supports new international collaborations in research and higher education within all disciplines and all countries in the world..** This programme was initiated in 1996. So far the STINT Foundation has funded 300 IGP projects, close to one hundred are still active. The IGP includes all areas of higher education and research. The programme is open for cooperation with all countries. Gives opportunities for broad and long-term co-operation between Swedish and foreign institutions or academic groups in one or several countries. The scope of co-operation should, as far as possible, include research as well as higher education. [More information.](#)

– **Initiation Grants.** The purpose of STINT's activity is to strengthen the competitiveness of Swedish universities and colleges through the development of international relationships. The internationalisation of higher education and research is mainly based on concerted, long-term efforts. Sometimes however, it is important to be able to act quickly when the opportunity arises. STINT offers an Initiation grant for this purpose. Initiation grants are given for the implementation of short-term projects targeting the building of new and strategically interesting international relationships. [More information.](#) Applications may be submitted continuously throughout the year. Assessment of received applications starts on the following dates in 2013: January 29, April 9, June 11, September 10 and November 26.



Swedish Institute (Svenska institutet)

The SI offers grants for post-graduate studies and research in Sweden and abroad, as well as for International development cooperation in the cultural and public spheres (including expert exchanges with developing countries).

The Guest Scholarship Program is open for PhD students and post-doc researchers from South Asia. The scholarship is open for all subjects. The scholarship amounts to SEK 12 000 per month for PhD researchers and SEK 15 000 per month for post-doc researchers (holders of a PhD degree). **There will be no call for applications for the Guest Scholarship Program for the academic year 2013-2014.** [More information.](#)

The Swedish Institute Study Scholarships are targeted at highly qualified students from 12 developing countries with which Sweden conducts long-term development cooperation – in South Asia **only Bangladesh** is included. Scholarships will be awarded for studies in Sweden mainly on second cycle (Master's level) from autumn 2011. Scholarships will cover both living costs and tuition fees. A few scholarships will be awarded for studies at first cycle (undergraduate) level. About 80-100 scholarships will be offered for the academic year 2011/2012. **The online application form for the academic year 2013/2014 will be open between February 1-11, 2013. No scholarships are offered for the spring 2013 application round.** [More information.](#)

The Travel Grants for Expert exchanges with developing countries are now integrated in the Creative Force Programme. [More information.](#)



The Pakistan Overseas Scholarship Scheme is also administered by the Swedish Institute. It was created after a formal agreement on collaboration in research and

research training between Pakistan and Sweden, that was signed on 1 November 2004. The programme is exclusively open to Pakistani nationals aiming to pursue Master and PhD studies in Sweden. Applications for the Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Masters and PhD for Pakistani nationals are made directly to the Pakistan Higher Education Commission (HEC). The aim of the program is to strengthen Pakistan's national research capacity through educational cooperation between Pakistan and Sweden. **Since 2008 no new grants have been available from the Pakistan Overseas Scholarship Scheme, but a large number of scholarship holders are still carrying out their training at different Swedish universities.** [More information from HEC web site.](#)



Signing of the agreement in 2004. The chairman of Pakistan's Higher Education Commission, Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman (central position), along with Mr. Erland Ringborg, General Director of the Swedish Institute and Mr. Shahid Kamal, Ambassador of Pakistan to Sweden.

Swedish Institute of International Affairs (Utrikespolitiska institutet)

Offers grants for research on International Studies with special relevance for security and foreign policy.



Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet)

Under the auspices of the Ministry of Education and Science, the Swedish Research Council offers research grants to all the disciplines. In 2001 it replaced the separate research councils for science; medicine; etc, that existed previously. The total budget is 2 500 Million SEK a year. The Swedish Research Council provides support for basic research of the highest scientific quality in all fields of science. The goal, as formulated by the Swedish Government, is to establish Sweden as a leading research nation. There are three scientific councils within the Swedish Research Council: one for **Humanities and the Social Sciences**, one for **Medicine** and one for the **Natural and Engineering Sciences**. It also includes a Committee for **Educational Science** and a Committee for **Research Infrastructures**. The Swedish Research Council is one of the most important funders of Swedish South Asia related research.

The Swedish Research Council is the single largest provider of public funds for Swedish basic research. Grants are allocated through a peer review process – a system to assess quality and establish priorities that involves many groups of leading researchers who assess the grant applications of their peers. The main categories of research grants are: • **Project grants**; • **Staffing grants** (mainly for research consultants and research assistants); • **Stipends** (postgraduate and European University Institute doctoral candidates); • **Major/expensive equipment grants**; • **Conference and travel grants**; and • **Publication grants**. From 2005 the Swedish Research Council has extended the grants programme for International post-docs to cover all sciences, including humanities, social sciences and educational science that previously were taken care of by STINT (see above). The 2013 general call for applications, which will include

Project Research Grants in all subject areas, will open in the middle of February 2013. Closing dates for applications vary between subject areas and calls for application:

Humanities and Social Sciences, Educational Sciences and Infrastructure and Artistic Research - 26 March

Medicine and Health - 4 April

Natural and Engineering Sciences - 11 April

Framework grant and graduate school within SIMSAM - 17 april

[Full information about the general announcement.](#)



Swedish Research Links

Introduced by Sida and the Swedish Research Council in 2002, Swedish Research Links aim to stimulate cooperation between researchers in Sweden and those in selected developing countries. The long-term aim of the programme is to contribute to mutual scientific and socioeconomic development of the countries involved through funding for support to collaborative research projects of high scientific quality and mutual relevance. The programme is open to researchers in basic and applied research within all academic disciplines.

The Swedish Research Links Programme was funded by Sida till 31 December 2012, but administered by the Swedish Research Council. The grant should normally be administered by a Swedish university or higher education institution, or another public organisation in Sweden engaged in research (administrative entity). The Programme aims to foster research ties between researchers in Sweden, on the one hand, and researchers in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and the Balkans on the other. The key condition for the Swedish Research Links Programme has been that researchers from the countries involved must submit joint applications on projects of mutual interest.



The Call for proposals for Swedish Research Links grants for the period 2013–15 opened on Monday 12 March 2012. The Swedish Research Links Programme offers international collaborative research grants,

aiming to foster research ties between researchers in Sweden and selected countries, in South Asia:

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. Please note that China and India are no longer included in Swedish Research Links, whereas several other countries in Asia have been re-introduced in the programme.

The long-term aim of the programme is to contribute to mutual scientific and socioeconomic development of the countries involved through funding for support to collaborative research projects of high scientific quality and mutual relevance. The programme is open to researchers in basic and applied research within all academic disciplines. It is funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and administered by the Swedish Research Council. Applicants for International Collaborative Grant are individual researchers who serve as the project leaders and have the scientific responsibility for the project. The application must include at least two principal researchers: one affiliated to a university or research institution in Sweden and one affiliated to a university or research institution in a programme country. Researchers must be citizens or have permanent residence in the qualifying countries. [Full information.](#)

South Asia related projects given Swedish Research Council grants

- Project grants, November 2002 (for 2003-05)
- Project grants, November 2003 (for 2004-06)
- Project grants, November 2004 (for 2005-07)
- Project grants, November 2005 (for 2006-08)
- Project grants, October 2006 (for 2007-09)
- Project grants, October 2007 (for 2008-10)
- Project grants, November 2008 (for 2009-11)
- Project grants, October 2009 (for 2010-12)
- Project grants, October 2010 (for 2011-13)
- Project grants, 2011 (for 2012-14)
- Project grants, October 2012 (for 2013-15)

South Asia related projects given Swedish Research links grants

- In 2002 (for 2003-05)
- In 2003 (for 2004-06)
- In 2004 (for 2005-07)
- In 2005 (for 2006-08)
- In 2006 (for 2007-09)
- In 2007 (for 2008-10)
- In 2008 (for 2009-11)
- In 2009 (for 2010-12)
- In 2011 (for 2012-14)

Research funding transferred from Sida to the Swedish Research Council

Funding for Swedish research of relevance to low and middle income countries will be transferred from Sida to the Swedish Research Council beginning in 2013. Beginning from this year, the Swedish Research Council will have at its disposal SEK 170 million of the state international development budget for funding of Swedish research of relevance to low and middle income countries. Sida was previously in charge of these funds. This change was adopted by the Swedish parliament at the beginning of December 2012.

Programmes that are part of funding of Swedish research of relevance to low and middle income countries (U-forsk), as well as Swedish Research Links, will thereby be handled entirely by the Swedish Research Council, beginning in 2013. The rationale for this transfer is to ensure the best possible scientific quality of these activities.

Programme of funding Swedish research of relevance to low and middle income countries (U-forsk)

The funding decisions regarding the 2012 call for applications regarding U-forsk will be made by the Director-General of the Swedish Research Council. These decisions will be published on vr.se on 23 January 2013. At that time, we will also send all applicants a letter containing the decisions together with the written assessments.

2013 call for applications

The Swedish Research Council will issue a call for applications for U-forsk in 2013. The exact date of the call for applications has not yet been set. There will not be any major changes in the terms and conditions of funding compared with those of previous years. Additional information regarding the 2013 call for applications will be available soon.

Programme for funding of cooperation between researchers in Sweden and researchers in these countries (Swedish Research Links)

Regarding Swedish Research Links, the decision will not mean any changes for researchers submitting applications. The Swedish Research Council has been handling this programme for several years, even though up until now, Sida has been responsible for the funds. See info about Swedish Research Links above.

Stiftelsen Wenner-Grenska Samfundet

Foundation established in 1936, promoting research within social science, economics, natural science, and medicine.

The board has decided that the foundation presently should stick to providing grants to research coordinators at Swedish departments, for them to invite foreign post-docs to Sweden as guest researchers and lecturers. This should be within one of the three preferential research fields, namely:

- Life science (especially studies on a molecular level)
- Social science (especially longitudinal and epidemiological studies)
- International Economics (especially macro-economic analysis)

The Foundation also supports Swedish scientists by Travel grants, Guest lecture grants, Wenner-Gren Distinguished Lectures, Grants for external international symposia (in Sweden), and Specific grants. [More information.](#)

Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems, VINNOVA

Government agency under the Ministry of Industry, Employment and Communication with a mission is to promote sustainable growth by financing RTD and developing effective innovation systems in the fields of:



- Environment, Medicine and Health
- Natural Sciences and Technology
- Society and Culture

It is a strategic granting and co-ordinating actor in the Swedish innovation system, contributing to long-term economic growth and sustainable development in both ecological and social terms by funding problem-oriented research in order to meet the needs of industry, society at large and by developing effective innovation systems. Research funding 2007: approx SEK 1 700 million. Due to the required matching funding from other financing bodies, the sum of available resources is twice as large.

[Go to the web page with VINNOVA's announcements for grants.](#)

Nordic and European funding agencies

EU's Asia-Link programme

The Asia-Link Programme is an initiative by the European Commission to promote regional and multilateral networking between higher education institutions in Europe and developing countries in Asia.

The programme aims to promote the creation of new partnerships and new sustainable links between European and Asian higher education institutions, and to reinforce existing partnerships. Project partnerships should involve at least two European partners (from different countries) and at least two Asian partners. The Commission grant can cover 75% of the total eligible costs of the project, up to a ceiling of EUR 750 000. The Commission may however cover up to 90% of the total eligible costs for projects in which the Asian partners come only from least developed countries (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, East Timor, Laos, Maldives, Nepal).

Since 2002, the Programme has funded 155 partnerships that together involve over 700 higher education institutions from Asia and Europe. [See the list of all 155 projects.](#)

SASNET has made a separate list of the five projects (out of 30 funded projects) that included South Asian partners and were approved in the year 2004. [South Asia related projects funded in 2004.](#)



EU's Framework Programmes

The European Commission in 2002 launched the sixth framework



The European Commission in 2002 launched its much awaited 6th Framework Programme, FP6, an integrated part of the so-called [European Research Area \(ERA\)](#), proposed by the Commission at its meeting in Lisbon in January 2000. 11 500



Expressions of interest were received in beforehand for participation in research through the FP6. 17.5 Billion Euro were to be distributed to research during the period 2003-2006. The seven thematic areas entitled for support were:

- Life sciences, Genomics and Biotechnology for Health Information society
- Technologies, Nanotechnologies and nano-sciences
- Knowledge-based functional materials, new production processes and devices
- Aeronautics and space
- Food quality and safety
- Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems
- Citizens and governance in a knowledge-based society

[More information on EU's 6th Framework Programme from the CORDIS FP6 page](#)

The EU's Seventh framework programme for research and technological development (2007-2013) was designed as a key contribution to the EU's strategy for growth and jobs. The European Commission finally presented its official proposal for the FP7 on 6 April 2005. The FP7 was organised into four specific programmes, corresponding to four major objectives of European research policy:

1. Co-operation (€32.3 bn): refers to gaining leadership in key scientific and technology areas by supporting co-operation between universities, industry, research centres and public authorities across the EU and with the rest of the world. Trans-national cooperation will remain the main instrument for carrying out research activities. This programme will consist of ten different thematic research areas:

- Information and Communication technologies (€9.1 bn)
- Health (€6 bn)
- Transport (including Aeronautics) (€4.1 bn)
- Nanoproduction (€3.5 bn)
- Energy (€2.3 bn)
- Food, agriculture and biotechnology (€1.9 bn)
- Environment (including climate change) (€1.8 bn)
- Security (NEW! compared to FP6) (€1.4 bn)
- Space (€1.3 bn)
- Socio-economic sciences and the humanities (€0.6 bn)

The programme also allows for joint, cross-thematic approaches to research subjects of common interest.

2. Ideas (€7.5 bn): refers to the establishment of an autonomous European Research Council (ERC), which will support and stimulate basic research carried out by individual teams competing at European level. The ERC has already been established and it has published its draft work programme for 2007.

3. People (€4.7 bn): refers to the so called 'Marie Curie' actions, which strengthen training, the career prospects and mobility of European researchers. Special focus will be given to skills and career development, increasing mobility between university and industry, and strengthening links with national systems.

4. Capacities (€4.2 bn): refers to developing and fully exploiting the EU's research capacities through large-scale research infrastructure, regional cooperation and innovating SMEs as well as increased international co-operation and bringing science and society closer together.

[More information on EU's 7th Framework Programme from the CORDIS FP7 page](#)

Horizon 2020 – the next EU framework programme for research and innovation

A proposal for the successor of FP7, Horizon 2020 (H2020) has been submitted to the European Parliament. H2020 will start in 2014 and go on until 2020. The proposal involves some changes compared to the current FP7.



The focus of the programme is research and innovation. New elements in the programme are the [European Institute of](#)

technology (ETI) and parts of the [Competitiveness and Innovation Programme \(CIP\)](#) which has been moved into the Horizon 2020.

The program is built on three priorities with different programme content:

1. **Excellent Science:** ERC grants, the Marie Curie Mobility Program, Future and Emerging Technologies and Research Infrastructure'
2. **Industrial Leadership:** Key enabling technologies: ICT, nano-technology, Advanced Materials, Biotechnology, Advanced Manufacturing and Processing, Space, Research for SMEs, Access to Risk Finance
3. **Societal Challenges:** Health, demography and well-being, Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Bio-Economy, Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy, Smart, Green and Integrated Transport, Climate Action, resource efficiency and raw materials, inclusive, innovative and secure societies

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) and the Joint Research Centre (JRC), are separate programmes within H2020, but outside the three priorities above.

The proposed budget for Horizon 2020 is around 80 billion (up to 90 billion including future inflation), proposed distribution:

1. Excellent Science 32%
 2. Industrial Leadership 23%
 3. Societal Challenges 43%
- EIT and JRC 2%

More information on Horizon 2020: http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020/index_en.cfm?pg=home



Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window (EMECW)

Since 2004, the European Commission (EC) has run the successful Erasmus Mundus Programme, a flagship programme aimed at promoting the attractiveness of the European Higher Education system and third country cooperation and partnerships ([more information about the programme](#)). In addition to this, the EC in 2007 introduced an additional mobility scheme titled Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window (EMECW), designed to foster co-operation between higher education institutions and the exchange of students, researchers and academic staff from EU Member States and targeted so-called Third-countries. It complements current and previous schemes such as Tempus, ALFA, AsiaLink, Alban, Edulink, Erasmus, and the general Erasmus Mundus, providing funds for the organisation and implementation of student – from undergraduate to post-doctorate level – and academic staff mobility flows.

In 2008, the scholarship expanded with new lots focusing on South Asia. The European Commission decided to implement a separate lot (nr 15) to promote academic collaboration between EU and India. The responsibility for this lot was given to a consortium of 20 partner universities in Europe and India, coordinated by Lund University, with flow of 320 fully funded students/researchers/academic staff. The programme has been launched during 2009. [See the consortium web page](#).

Three other lots focusing on South Asia were launched in 2008. One of them was coordinated by Mälardalen University in Västerås. [More information about this so-called EURECA project](#).

In June 2009, the European Commission decided about EMECW projects for the year 2009-10. The Lund University coordinated project (see above) was again selected, but now as one of four projects within the India Lot No. 13, whereas two other lots were selected for other countries in South Asia. [Full information about the six India/South Asia related EMECW projects 2009-10, and the three remaining 2008-9 projects that are still working](#).

NIAS, Nordic Institute for Asian Studies

Copenhagen. Through the so called [NIAS SUPRA programme](#) (Support Programme for Asian Studies) NIAS offers the following types of scholarships: Nordic Contact Scholarships; Öresund Scholarships; Nordic Guest Fellowships; Nordic Travel Grants; and Guest Fellowships for Scholars from Asia. Applications for all scholarships are assessed three times per year. [More information on NIAS' scholarships](#)

The Nordic Academy for Advanced Study (NorFA)

NorFA is an organisation within the Nordic Council of Ministers, and a platform for development of Nordic research training and research co-operation. NorFA offers funding for research programmes, as well as Nordic graduate schools in social sciences and the humanities.



In 2002 NorFA issued a call for proposals for establishing research schools, and out of 50 proposals 10 were selected to prepare an actual application for funding. One of these proposals was [NorfAsia](#), headed by Professor Björn Hettne, PADRIGU, Göteborg University, and planned to have its administration at the Nordic Institute for Asian Studies, NIAS in Copenhagen. The proposed research school, strongly supported by SASNET, should focus on societal dynamics, conflicts and human security in contemporary Asia – including South Asia. It would also give priority to history, politics and culture; work at different levels in Asia, i.e. village, sub-region, nation, and wider regions; and also promote a comparative approach. According to the proposal NorfAsia should become a virtual institution where students would be inscribed with their own Nordic academic institutions which would have the authority to conduct examinations and award degrees. NorfAsia was supposed to start its work on 1 January 2004 but unfortunately it failed to pass the second round of applications. Some of its proposals may however be realized in other forms. [More information on the NorfAsia research school application](#) (as a pdf-file).

NORFACE – New Opportunities for Research Funding Co-operation in Europe

NORFACE is a partnership between twelve research councils to increase co-operation in research and research policy in

NORFACE is a partnership between twelve research councils to increase co-operation in research and research policy in Europe, run during a project period 2004–09. The twelve partners involved are the research councils for the social sciences from Estonia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Canada and Austria participate in NORFACE as associate partners. NORFACE receives core funding from the European Commission's 6th Framework Programme, under ERA-NET scheme.

For social science researchers in its partner countries NORFACE offers: • Support for cross-national research of excellence; • New and exciting funding opportunities; • Facilitation of new multinational collaborations; • Improved dialogue between researchers and funding agencies; and • Co-operation for the enhancement of the social sciences. [Information about funded projects.](#)

Other funding agencies outside Europe

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

in Manila, the Philippines, offers an Internship and Research Fellowship Program. This is a research-project-oriented learning program with topics varying widely from year to year depending on ADB's business needs. Past internship projects ranged from energy conservation in the People's Republic of China and capacity development in South Asia to small and medium enterprise development in Azerbaijan. The Program gives students and academic faculty members the opportunity to work in an ADB project, contributing to its success and sharing knowledge with its officers. The purposes of ADB's Internship and Research Fellowship Programs are to offer the opportunity to work in a major international development organization with a multicultural environment; to gain a deeper understanding of development finance and the impact of ADB; to expand knowledge by learning from experienced professionals and apply it to educational and practical experience; and to present research outputs in a public forum at ADB.

[More information about ADB's Internship and Research Fellowship Program.](#)

Social Science Research Council (SSRC), United States

The SSRC promotes international scholarly collaboration on South Asian regional studies.

South Asia Regional Fellowship Programme

The Centre for Studies in Social Sciences (CSSSC) in Kolkata, India acts as a partner organisation for SSRC's South Asia Regional Fellowship Program. This is a multi year fellowship opportunity for college and university teachers based in South Asia. Every year, a theme of regional significance is chosen and fellowships are awarded through a competitive process. Applicant eligibility is restricted to those permanently residing and teaching in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. There are no citizenship restrictions. Eligible applicants must hold a Ph.D. in the social sciences, humanities, or related fields. As many as 20 fellowships may be awarded to college teachers and university faculty teaching in the social sciences and humanities across South Asia annually. Up to fifteen fellowships are reserved for junior scholars (less than Professor rank), and no more than five for senior scholars (Professor rank and above). The primary intent of the fellowship is to write up completed research. The program is supported by a grant from Ford Foundation.

The Ford Foundation's International Fellowships Program (IFP)

The IFP funds graduate studies for students from certain countries in the Third World. In South Asia this applies only to India.

UNDP's (United Nations Development Programme) Regional Centre in Colombo (RCC)

The RCC offers Human Development Academic Fellowships for for citizens of the Asia-Pacific countries. The aim of the fellowships is to analyse issues from the human development perspective, with a focus on fostering creative thinking and innovative research on the subject among young people. The research must focus on a well-defined aspect of human development, could be theoretical, applied, policy-oriented or a combination and must amount to a substantive contribution to human development thinking relevant for the region. The Fellowship is intended for young PhD students who are at an advanced dissertation stage working on a topic related to human development – theoretical, applied or policy oriented. [More information about the UNDP Academic Fellowships for Asia and Pacific.](#)

Work possibilities in Sweden

International students coming to Sweden are allowed to work in Sweden once they receive their residence permit for studies. You do not need a special work permit. If you have applied for an extension of your residence permit for studies, you may continue to work while waiting for the answer if you made your application while your earlier permit was valid and you have had a residence permit for studies for at least six months. As the Swedish language is commonly used in most work places it is however difficult for non-Swedish speakers to find ordinary work. [More information from the Swedish Migration Board.](#)



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