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## **Call for proposals: Energy efficiency in cultural heritage buildings**

**The Swedish Energy Agency is pleased to announce a new call for applications in the third period of the National Research Programme for Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings, with an available total budget of 8.5 million SEK. The call closes at 13:00 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2016.**

In order to promote the sustainable use and preservation of historic buildings, the Swedish Energy Agency is funding a national research programme for energy efficiency in historic buildings. The programme covers energy use in historically valuable buildings throughout their lifecycle and focuses on issues that are relevant to stakeholders. The programme particularly encourages interdisciplinary and applied research with a problem-oriented approach, focusing on issues for energy efficiency in the older building stock by taking the technical and aesthetic aspects, indoor environment, property finance and economics into account. Efficient energy supply to buildings, the integration of renewable energy technologies and the building life cycle perspective are also of particular interest. The programme aims to contribute to the knowledge on how different energy performance requirements and objectives can interact with each other rather than be in conflict. Combining the efforts for energy efficiency and preservation of cultural heritage is of societal interest and plays a key role in the development towards a sustainable society. Energy efficiency measures not only reduce energy costs, but can also contribute to the long-term preservation of historical buildings.

The Swedish Energy Agency supports research and development on the supply, conversion, distribution and use of energy. Financial support can also be granted to the development of new technologies promoting energy efficiency in historical buildings.

Initially focusing only on monumental buildings, churches and castles, the program has extended its scope to include all buildings of historic value that were built before 1945.

### **We particularly welcome applications related to a few focus areas**

Together with the program committee, the Swedish Energy Agency has identified the following research- and development focus areas:

**Categorisation of the building stock:** The area aims at reinforcing the holistic view, build up and contribute to the knowledge related to the national stock of historic buildings and the link to energy efficiency and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the buildings from a life cycle perspective.

**Use of historic technologies in new ways:** This area aims at creating new knowledge by combining historic and modern technologies and materials in new innovative applications to address energy efficiency in a broader perspective of cultural heritage buildings.

**Incentives for energy efficiency in cultural heritage buildings:** The area aims at creating new knowledge that investigates issues related to economics at national, financial and household levels with regard to building conservation and energy efficiency.

**State-of-the-art and synthesis:** Projects that target knowledge compilation and synthesis within the area of the program are also welcome. The purpose is to show the state-of-the-art, analyse and combine results, draw new conclusions, identify knowledge gaps and find connections to the existing research and development.

**From research to practice:** Projects that deal with how to shift the results from research to practice, concerning behavioural aspects, use and dissemination of knowledge, as well as how different stakeholders can be reached by the research results and new knowledge.

## **Vision**

The programme envisions to:

- \* Realise the potential for energy efficiency in historically valuable buildings in a careful manner so that the buildings' historic values are not destroyed or distorted, and the indoor climate is maintained or improved.
- \* Create and establish skills, knowledge and proven solutions for all relevant stakeholders to integrate energy efficiency and historic conservation science in the care and maintenance of cultural and historical buildings.
- \* Develop new methods and technologies to improve the energy efficiency of cultural and historical buildings.
- \* Link research and development in the programme area with the research and development activities on energy efficiency in general.
- \* Make Sweden a leader in Europe in terms of services and products in this area.

## **Aim**

The programme aims to communicate and disseminate knowledge and develop technology, methods and solutions that contribute to energy efficiency in historically valuable buildings without destroying or damaging the historical value of the buildings, including decoration, furnishings, interiors or equipment. A

national competence and a permanent interdisciplinary and accessible knowledge base will be created.

### **Objective**

Relevance to energy and energy efficiency forms the basis of the programme and the supported projects. On this basis, there are four objectives for the programme:

- A. Creating a long-term and permanent knowledge base for gentle energy efficiency in cultural and historical buildings by increasing the national competence in the field.
- B. The research will contribute to achieve a national competence of international prominence in the field.
- C. The research programme should develop methods and technical solutions for careful energy efficiency, which combine new and historic technologies in a building in a sustainable manner.
- D. Disseminating the results in an effective and user-friendly manner, meaning that they can be easily understood and used by consumers.

Indicators have been developed for each objective to enable monitoring of the programme.

### **How to apply**

Complete applications are to be submitted to Swedish Energy Agency not later than at 13.00 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2016.

Applicants are advised to review the following before submitting applications to the Swedish Energy Agency:

- the [Programme Description](#) (which contains the programme objectives and vision as well as more detailed descriptions of the research and innovation areas - in Swedish)
- [Instructions to Applicants](#) (which contain useful advice for potential applicants, such as how the assessment process takes place - in Swedish)
- [Ordinance \(2008:761\)](#) on State Aid to Research and Development in the Energy Sector (which contains the formal framework for grant applications from Swedish Energy Agency - in Swedish)
- Project applications should be submitted via Swedish Energy Agency's [e-Channel](#), our electronic application service, for which the creation of a user account is required. (in Swedish)

It is the project manager who is required to create a user account in the e-Channel (username and password) and submit the application. Please note that it can take up to one working day to create a new user account.

It is especially important that the specific knowledge contribution of the project is clearly outlined in the application. It is also important to detail how the project and its expected results relate to previous research and existing knowledge in the sector. Applications must also clearly account for the chosen method and a concrete plan of required actions and the parties who will be responsible for carrying them out. More information is available in Instructions to Applicants (in Swedish).

### **Processing of applications**

The processing and assessment of applications will take place between December 2016 and March 2017. The Swedish Energy Agency intends to finalise the decision process no later than in March 2017; hence, projects are expected to start in March 2017 at the earliest. Incomplete applications may result in a longer processing time.

All received applications are considered public documents, i.e. they may be subject to disclosure. For this reason, please state if any application contents should remain confidential.

More information on the programme is available at the website [www.sparaochbevara.se](http://www.sparaochbevara.se)

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