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## **Förenklingsarbete inom det nationella systemet för forskningsfinansiering.**

Nedan följer svar och kommentarer kring de av KOM ställda frågorna.

- i) *Any experience related to output based approach using lump sums in your national funding system*

In general, the Swedish Energy Agency does not use lump sums or an output-based approach to R&D funding. The exceptions are that we in some cases use fixed amounts for, e.g., travel grants for planning international collaborative projects, or for preparing Framework Programme applications.

- ii) *Figures on time-to-grant in your national funding programmes*

The time-to-grant for funding by the Swedish Energy Agency varies considerably, since we support research, development, demonstration and innovation with almost all the instruments available under the state aid rules. Thus, in some cases where we fund basic but energy focused university research, the ttg is fairly short and follows a given timetable based on meetings in expert committees. In other cases, like large demonstration activities or for support to the innovation processes of SME's, the ttg is highly individual and can be up to 12 months. In these cases, time may be needed to answer questions and analyse projects much like when the Commission handles state aid notifications, or time is required to develop and analyse business plans, investments, other financing etc for innovation projects.


The Energy Agency also allows project applications that are not sent in as a response to a given call, but that are initiated bottom up by companies, institutes and researchers. In this case, the ttg can also be quite long, if you include discussions that may often start from an expression of interest or an idea.

iii) *Any other measures in relation to simplification, undertaken at national and regional level, which could be taken as good practices.*

The Energy Agency does not have any specific simplification measures that can serve as good examples when it comes to the decision process and ttg. We have, however, been trying to reduce the administrative burden of university researchers by streamlining interim report procedures etc.

Another way that could to some extent be taken as a simplification is that we fund some activities in the form of Consortia or Competence Centres. In such cases, we can for instance co-fund cross-disciplinary R&D in collaboration with industry and universities in the form of centres with their own manager and their own Managing Board. The individual research activities in the Centre are then decided by the Managing Board, and not individually by the agency. The main objective of such funding is, however, not simplification as much as promoting cross-disciplinary research in collaboration between academia and industry.

Beslut i detta ärende har fattats av ställföreträdande generaldirektören Zofia Lublin. Vid den slutliga handläggningen har därutöver deltagit avdelningschefen Anneli Eriksson och utvecklingsdirektören Lars Guldbrand, den sistnämnde föredragande.

  
Zofia Lublin  
Lars Guldbrand