

IMPLEMENTATION OF E-COHESION

General characteristics



No. of **targeted national/regional operational programmes** covering ERDF/CF: **10**



No. of **e-Cohesion systems**: **2**

At a glance:

e-Cohesion system: Min Ansökan

Introduction of the system: Operational since 2015.

Type of the system: Covers 9 national/regional OPs and supports several Interreg programmes.

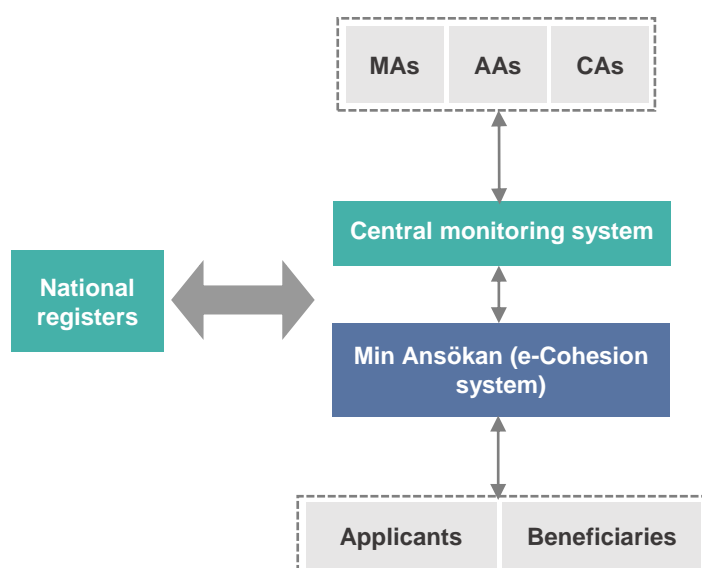
Implementation mode: Relatively centralised.

Use during 2021-2027: Ongoing development based on existing system.

Fund coverage of the system: ☒ ERDF ☐ CF

Context and structure of e-Cohesion

- Sweden's implementation of e-Cohesion is **relatively centralised** – **Min Ansökan** covers nine out of 10 national/regional OPs for the 2014-2020 period, whereas **E-tjänst för företags- och projektstöd** covers one out of 10 OPs (this OP will not continue to be funded by ERDF in the 2021-2027 period, however);
- Min Ansökan is linked to a **central monitoring system** for the OP's covered, as well as some **national registers/databases**;
- Min Ansökan is not linked to the **European Commission's System for Fund Management (SFC2014)**;
- Min Ansökan supports the use of a **qualified e-signature**;
- As a result of organisational structure, there are no IBs in Sweden, only regional MAs.



Key principles of e-Cohesion: interoperability and once-only encoding



Principles: Extensive reuse of information; no interoperability with EU tools.

Min Ansökan **supports once-only encoding on the project-level**. Data and documents provided by beneficiaries are shared with all relevant authorities.

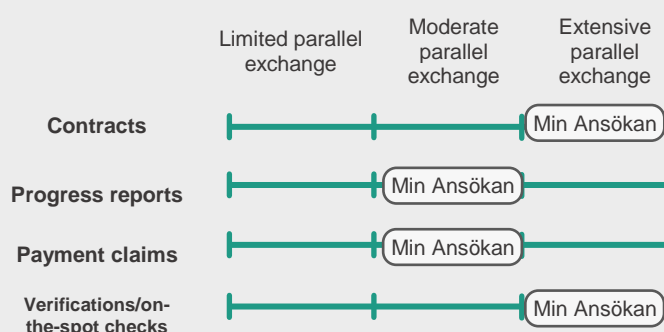
The system **supports the pre-filling of information**:

- Information is pre-filled based on data entered during the project application and during previous steps of the operation;
- The pre-filling of information is highly valued** – nearly all beneficiary respondents using Min Ansökan aware of this functionality perceived it as useful to their operations (resulting in efficiency gains and reducing the number of errors).



Parallel data exchanges: Moderate exchange of information outside of the system.

The use of Min Ansökan is mandatory for project-management. **Data exchanges outside the system are extensive for the preparation and signing of grants and verifications/on-the-spot checks** and are moderate during progress reports and payment claims.



Implementation of e-Cohesion features



Key processes: Coverage of all key processes, except modification requests.

- Min Ansökan supports applications, progress reports, payment claims and management verifications/on-the-spot checks;
- No support for modification requests.



Functionalities: Support for all required functionalities, including interactive forms.

- **Min Ansökan supports all functionalities associated with user-friendliness** (interactive forms, automatic calculations, checks for incorrect/missing data, system-generated alerts, online status tracking, validity of e-signature and availability of previous data);
- **Most beneficiary respondents aware of the functionalities provided by Min Ansökan consider them as useful**, meaning that they result in notable time gains and reduce the number of errors for their users.

Results of the introduction of e-Cohesion

Effectiveness – results and simplification

- The introduction of Min Ansökan has resulted in **extensive improvements and simplification**;
- Most respondents agree that the introduction of the system has led to significant improvements in various areas and has simplified the way they handle information compared with paper-based processes or email exchanges;
- **Min Ansökan has moderately improved information exchanges between authorities and beneficiaries** – most respondents report that its use has reduced repeated transmission of the same information, indicating that once-only encoding is highly valued by users of the system.



Efficiency – benefits vs costs

- The **benefits of using Min Ansökan compared to its costs are moderate** across beneficiaries' key processes;
- Most respondents indicate that the benefits (reduced administrative burden, simplified procedures) of using the system outweigh any associated costs (the time and effort required to use it).

User-friendliness

- **Min Ansökan shows moderate user-friendliness** – more than half of beneficiaries perceive the system as easy to navigate and operate, and consider it as clear and self-explanatory;
- Indication for high satisfaction among users of e-Cohesion systems is whether authorities continue to develop and improve the existing system. In the case of Min Ansökan, **less than half of beneficiary respondents feel that the system's functionalities and its overall functioning are being continuously improved, indicating limited improvements.**

