

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.

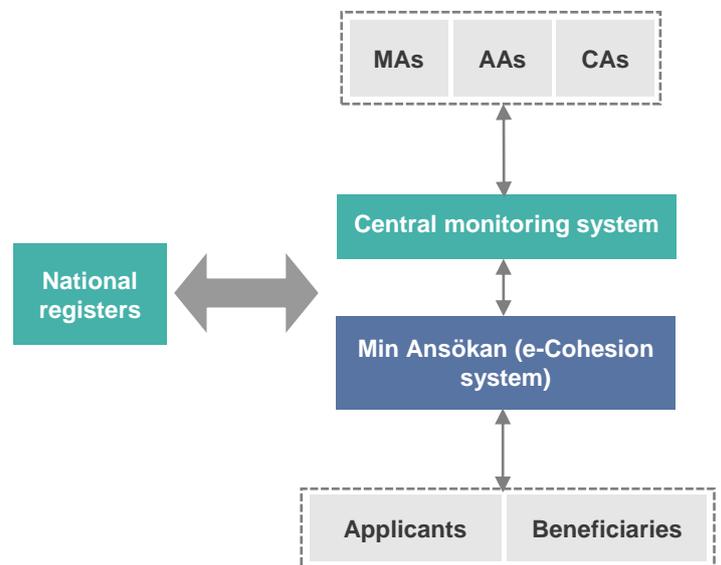
Implementation mode: Relatively centralised.

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.

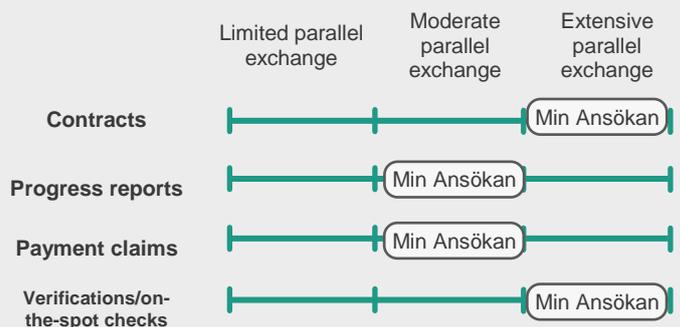
Min Ansökan **supports once-only encoding on the project-level**. Data and documents provided by beneficiaries are shared with all relevant authorities.

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.**

