

### *What is a Spero intervention?*

The word *spero* is Latin and means hope. Together with Swedish partners, PMU wants to support groups in other countries that are working in challenging circumstances, in order to create hope for a brighter future.

A *Spero Intervention* will support emerging, often small groups, networks or initiatives in sensitive situations, areas or countries. (E.g. in places where Christians are restricted due to limited religious freedom etc.) There may also be places where there is freedom of religion but where ethnic groups or otherwise marginalized groups are particularly vulnerable. Open Doors' annual *World Watch List* is one useful tool in order to find further information. The country of the intervention should preferably be outside of Europe and be included in the latest version of the *OECD's DAC List of ODA Recipients*.

The intervention needs to be part of a holistic strategy or in some way be part of a long-term vision for the ethnic group, area or country. PMU only provides support for social initiatives. Other parts of a strategy or vision must be funded by other sources.

The intervention does not need to result in a specific type of organization, neither in the short nor long term. The context of each country determines which organizational form is most suitable. Regardless of its organizational form (organization, church, network, company, etc.), PMU wants to support the group in creating a "DNA of social commitment" from the beginning. We therefore want the Spero intervention to support individuals and groups who are already involved in their communities and who show potential for becoming leaders in their society in the future.

In challenging environments, it is not always possible to work in a traditional way. We are therefore open to creative and innovative interventions.

PMU is willing to be included as a donor in this type of effort. Therefore, any individuals or groups that need the kind of support described above can contact PMU. We will then start a dialogue with the applicant and can also provide advice from an early stage.

### *Important points*

When planning a Spero intervention, please consider the following points:

- One of the goals of the intervention needs to aim at creating hope in a difficult situation.
- The intervention needs to have a *clear local ownership*, i.e. people from the country/area having a vision for the intervention will be responsible for it. The Swedish partner and PMU should primarily have a supporting role.
- The intervention must *encourage and contribute to an involvement in society*, regardless of the organizational form of the emerging group.
- The aim of the intervention must be to *support particularly vulnerable group (s) in society* with a short or long-term perspective.
- The intervention needs to contribute to training and developing local *leaders*, preferably including persons from within the ethnic or marginalized group concerned, *both men and women*, also including *young men and women*.
- An intervention with a limited budget often has a greater effect when *focusing on one or a few issues or themes*, rather than focusing on many areas.
- The design of the intervention needs to contribute to *transparency regarding the management of financial resources and counteracting corruption*. PMU can assist you in understanding how to set up good finance and administration systems.

- The importance of taking into account how the transfer of funds from Sweden can take place safely. This can be a challenge in some situations, areas or countries. Therefore local partners, Swedish partners and PMU need to discuss this early in the process, in order to find the best possible solution.
- The fact that PMU can support an intervention with up to 50% of the project's total budget, but with an upper limit of 50 000 SEK.  
*For example:* If the effort has a total budget of SEK 100,000, then PMU can support it by 50% of that amount. If the project has a total budget of SEK 200,000, PMU can support it with a maximum of 50,000 SEK i.e. only by 25%.

### *What activities can be supported?*

There are few restrictions on how an intervention can be designed - as long as it stays within the framework mentioned above. PMU is open to supporting new types of initiatives that differ from what we have supported before.

A small part of the support can go to a study trip/visit to Sweden for person/s from the country of the proposed intervention.

We also encourage the Swedish church to visit the country, as well as to include young people in these visits. However, costs for travel, food, accommodation and any compensation for loss of income and other compensation for Swedes relating to study visits or for relationship building etc. cannot be supported by PMU.

### *What actors can receive support?*

See description under the heading *What is a Spero intervention* above. A collaboration framework between PMU and the local partner is not required to be able to apply for this kind of intervention.

### *How to apply?*

- By sending a concept note for a development intervention using PMU's own funds up to 150,000 SEK PMU via e-mail to [egnamedel@pmu.se](mailto:egnamedel@pmu.se). (Annex 6.15)
- The concept note can be sent to PMU at any time during the year. In 2021, PMU will support a small number of pilot interventions for learning purposes.
- If the concept note is approved, PMU will send a template to be used for the narrative application. PMU does not require the use of a specific PMU budget template but can, if desired by applying partners, send a proposed budget template.
- The completed application can be sent to PMU at any time during the year, PMU will review applications on an ongoing basis. Sometimes further information might be requested by PMU.
- The application needs to be signed by both the implementing party in the partner country and a Swedish partner. Signed, scanned documents can be sent by email separately by both parties, provided that the contents of both signed application documents are identical.

### *How to report?*

- PMU will send instructions and templates for reporting if PMU approves the application, as well as a *Letter of Confirmation and Grant Agreement*