



The Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research supports and initiates basic and applied research with a view to improving our knowledge about working life, public health and welfare.

[www.fas.se](http://www.fas.se)



## Sweden has five main government research-funding agencies:

- **FAS** The Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research, [www.fas.se](http://www.fas.se)
- **Formas** The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning, [www.formas.se](http://www.formas.se)
- **Vinnova** The Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems, [www.vinnova.se](http://www.vinnova.se)
- **VR** The Swedish Research Council, [www.vr.se](http://www.vr.se)
- **Swedish Energy Agency:** [www.energimyndigheten.se](http://www.energimyndigheten.se)
- **+ strategic foundations being globalised**



## Current Research Politics and Strategies in Sweden

- Research Bill 2004/05: focus on centres of excellence
- Research Bill 2008/09: focus on strategic alliances on high-quality research and innovations
- Government steering-university autonomy paradox
- Policies of internationalisation next step?
- Role of Memorandum of Understanding
- Role of national co-ordination – Director General Forum and (FINSAM-model)
- Global profile – actors, roles&responsibilities
- From development aid to high science competition



## Swedish research policies in transition – from EU profile to global focus?

- New Worlds – New Solutions and long-term strategies
- Research Bill of 2008/09 Research and Innovation
- Strategic investments to universities/not scholars
- New Knowledge Horizons&User Involvement
- Bilateral University Networks (Karolinska Inst..)
- Research Links/VR
- UNESCO-MOST-Connection
- Politics for Global Development (India..)
- Review of Swedish Research Capacity on Public Health Issues to LM-Income countries
- Royal Academy of Science/ICSU – Global Environment Secretariat



## **Global Social Science collaboration – viewpoints from FAS**

- FAS focus public health, welfare&work
- FORMAS deals with environment/climate issues
- VR has a broader blue sky profile
- VINNOVA focus economic growth/innovations
- FAS supports 13 centres of excellence
- CHESS/Centre for Health Equity Studies/SU
- Centre for Global Health, UMU
- Centre for ethnicity and migration
- FAS supports NORDFORSK/Welfare studies
- Noria-Nets on Collaboration Norden/Asia
- Career Development Networks Sweden-India
- Ageing&demography with China&Japan



## International

- FAS promotes cooperation between researchers both nationally and internationally
- FAS is a member of the European Science Foundation and takes part in ongoing network activities among research-funding bodies in Europe
- FAS takes part in three ERA-NETs: ERA-AGE, WORK-IN-NET and NEW OSH ERA
- FAS is active in 3-4 NoriaNets + NWM-centres
- FAS employs international experts to evaluate research carried out by various state-funded organisations
- PGU – Politics for global development – research agencies&government collaboration (China, India,Japan and South Africa..)



## FAS EU policy and beyond...?

To promote and initiate international research partnerships; to encourage and stimulate our scientists to lead and participate in European and global research collaborations and thereby:

- create research platforms
- enhance transfer of knowledge
- increase research funding from international resources
- increase researchers' mobility
- Question One: do we have the capacity to widen these objectives in a Nordic&Global direction



## Main channels – but to where...?

EU's framework programmes, FP7

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/>

- Work programmes to cover FAS's areas
- Informing scientists about the possibilities in relevant work programmes
- Planning grants for scientists wanting to participate in FP7 projects
- Searching for the Joint Programming Identity
- Between coherent investment and increasing joint call diversity....?
- Going East or West (how far East) and how far South (Africa as another priority...?)




## **ASIA-Noria Net Mission – some comments from FAS**

- Excellent Nordic collaboration on a high priority field
- Looking for a Nordic profile&capacity in collaboration with China and India
- A report rich of policies, institutional overviews and ongoing initiatives
- Illustrating coherence and variation in national policies
- Role of strong national co-ordination/agencies
- Shifting national priorities with regard to top down and bottom up-strategies
- Valuable descriptions of research-policy systems in China and India
- Role of culture specific collaboration models/contextual and institutional factors
- Time span and planning horizons.....



## **Policies, resources, priorities and tools – where are we heading...**

- Choice of countries – alternative routes?
- Choice of thematic fields – Environment, Life Science and Bio-Tech
- What about work, welfare and public health – a Nordic strong field (Nordic Welfare Model?)
- Strong top down (or top to top) initiatives – role of researcher mobility and bottom to bottom line?
- Role of national priorities vs nordic mission
- Models for national collaborations
- Working through Nordic routes or European Highways?



## Design of the toolbox - a mutual challenge...

- Pro&cons of the common pot-model – challenge of harmonizing administrative routines
- Towards a global ECRP-model..?
- Open invitation to a third partner in existing work
- Nordic Co-ordination of calls toward China&India
- Network exchange – seminars&collaboratives
- Creating networks between financiers in Nordic Countries/China/India (thematic focus..?)
- Towards a Nordic Academic Embassy..?
- Creating Junior Academics/Summer Schools and Career Deevlopment networks

# Final comments on global capacity building on Research and Innovations

- Mapping current R&I-collaboration.
- Describing capacity.
- Role of other global partners as UN, WHO, OECD.....
- Finding Nordic Role among other financiers – US, Canada, Europe
- Thematic priorities...
- Other nations/regions
- Towards "open dialogue collaboration" – difficult to co-ordinate all partners..

