

Demand for low-carbon and resource efficient solutions pulls research and creates new business opportunities

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Johan Rockström et al. A safe operating space for humanity

Nature **461**, 472-475(24 September 2009)

Decoupling in Sweden



About VINNOVA

VINNOVA

- Sweden's research and innovation agency
- Established 1st January 2001
- Under the Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications
- Director General: Charlotte Brogren
- Budget approx. SEK 2 billion (doubled through co-financing)
- VINNOVA's R&D appropriation for 2009 was equivalent to 6.5% of national R&D funding
- Around 200 employees
- Offices in Stockholm and Brussels



Three examples

- 1. Excellent University Research and Companies working together for radical improvments
- 2. Effect targeted funding: The Eco-innovation call
- 3. Joint Programming: Nordic Top Level Research Initiative



Wood based diapers

 50% reduction of fossil based material in hygiene products by 2012



Actors: Chalmers, SCA and Södra



"Eco-innovation"

2009-2013

Budget: 15 M€

2

- Sustainable use of Natural Resources
- ICT for environment
- Sustainable cities
- Efficient energy use













The Nordic Top-Level Research Initiative

- è Nordic Joint research and innovation program
- è First calls in 2009
- è Budget: 45 million Euros 2009-2013



From

understanding to

solution

Joint Programming – **The Nordic Top-Level Research Initiative**



norden

Nordic Council of Ministers Nordic Council

The Nordic Top-Level Research Initiative A total of six subprograms are addressed:

 $\mathbf{\Lambda}1$. Effect Studies and Adaptation to Climate Change;

2. Climate Change s interaction with the Cryosphere;

3. Integration of large scale wind power;

- 4. Sustainable Biofuels;
- 5. Nanotechnology and energy efficiency;6. Carbon capture and Storage.

VINNOVA



Lessons from the North – The Nordic Top-Level Research Initiative

Lessons learned and Implications for Joint Programming

1. The importance of high level commitment





Lessons learned and Implications for Joint Programming

2. Based on Grand Challenges







Lessons learned and Implications for Joint Programming

3. Innovation focus - Industry involvement





Lessons learned and Implications for Joint Programming

4. Building on strengths – Increasing attractiveness





Lessons learned and Implications for Joint Programming

5. Importance of history and existing organizations



Nordic Council of Ministers Nordic Council



Challenges pull research and creates new business opportunities

Planterary boundaries

Climate change, stratospheric ozeone depletion, ozean acidification, chemical pollution, biodiversity loss

Other social and physical restrictions

Energy and mineral security

Food security

Health

Growing population

Challenges (e.g.)

Sustainable use of natrual resources Sustainable cities

Enabling technologies

E.g. materials, nano, ICT, bio,

Applications

Raw materials, low carbon agriculture, Manufacturing, services, transportation, health recycling,

Attractivity

- Innovation hubs
- Strategic assets
 Implementation and use
 - Demonstration
 - Test beds
- Strong R&D-milieus
- SME
- LEs as locomotives

Globalization

- Larger networks
- Strategic cooperation

Policies

- Legislation
- Certification
- Green Public Procurement
- Labeling
- Standards
- Tax incentives



Promoting Green Innovation, challenges and opportunities:

How do we:

- Identify, select and specify Grand Challenges?
 Stakeholder involvement, industry and society? Climate not the only challenge
- Focus on solutions?
 Investing rather than funding
- Act when business is global, research is global and innovation (often) is local?
 Joint programming
- Address market pull or technology push?
 Both

