



Sum up Swedish views

Workshop on Research Funding and Structural Funds

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National organisational structure

- Agency for Economic and Regional Growth – manager of the Structural Funds
- 8 Swedish regions –operational responsibility for the SF

With possible collaborators e.g:

- Vinnova – Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems – finance needs driven research
- Knowledge Foundation
- Etc.

The authorities role to promote research and innovation

- Co-ordinating role – create synergies between different levels and interaction between stake-holders
- Development of a bottom-up approach
- Reactor, navigator and change agent is needed at the regional level, calls does not work
- A more persistent strategy oriented organization may be needed

Continued...

- Region Västra Götaland as an illustrative example, keywords:
 - Understand the regional context
 - Alignment of regional strategies
 - Combining relevance and excellence
 - Make use of all possibilities including the partnerships for the structural funds
 - Dialogue with several national stakeholders

Weaknesses of the Swedish system

- All resources are distributed at once to the regions
- The role of the regional partnership is unclear when it comes to project decisions
- State-aid rules are not fully understood

Suggestion for improvements

- Strategic prioritisation of research areas
- Global view of projects – putting projects into a global and long-term context
- Learning from own mistakes and experiences
- Improve cooperation between national and local authorities
- Less heavy administrative requirements



**Thank you for
your attention!**