

Investing in Research and Innovation

Exchanging European Experiences in a Nordic Context

Conference in Copenhagen 16-18 October 2006



Welcome to the conference 'Investing in Research and Innovation' Copenhagen, 16-18 October 2006

It is a pleasure for me to welcome you to this conference organised jointly by the Nordic Council of Ministers and the European Commission. The conference aims to build a momentum for investing in research and innovation, with the brand new *7th Framework Programme* straight around the corner, and it is a major event in the programme for Norway's Presidency in the Nordic Council of Ministers 2006. The title of the programme for Norway's Presidency is *The new Nordic Region: Innovation and Partnership in northern Europe*, with knowledge, innovation and creativity as a major priority.

I believe that a positive link between the concepts of research and innovation is extremely important. I also consider it extremely important that Nordic efforts in this area are seen in a broader European context. There is no clear-cut choice between Nordic and European – the Nordics are indeed European, and the Nordic Research and Innovation Area (NORIA) is indeed a part of the European Research Area (ERA).

Both on a Nordic and on a European level, we have as a common objective to develop our regions in the world to become among the most dynamic regions for research and innovation, and this with a view to enhancing the living conditions of our people.

I am confident that this conference, in bringing together leading representatives from research and innovation organisations, industry and higher education, as well as policy makers, will stimulate our countries and regions to take an active part in building the European Research and Innovation Area.

I wish all participants good luck in your discussions and look forward to studying the outcome of the conference!



Øystein Djupedal
Norwegian Minister of Education and Research



Background

Investing in research and innovation should be good medicine when facing the challenges of an aging work force and globalisation - but what are the key issues to be solved to make investments work?

In order to address the above question the Northern European countries (Norden) in cooperation with the European Commission has decided to organise this conference. The initiative is inspired by the *European partnership for growth and new and better jobs* while focusing on *research and innovation for growth*.

Some other important questions that will be addressed by the conference are:

- How can we best move on with big initiatives to coordinate national and regional research and innovation efforts and where coordinated actions increase the chances for success?
- Which good practices exist when it comes to cooperation and integration between research programmes in the creation of ERA-nets, and when establishing innovative technology platforms on key areas as e.g. energy?

- How can the future *European 7th Framework Programme for Research* be used as a catalyst for breakthrough activities?
- How can we strengthen the chances for commercial success and how do we succeed in incubation and financing?
- How can a dynamic labour market for researchers stimulate effective research and innovation?
- What are the good Nordic experiences? And what are some other good experiences that promote regional growth?

The Baltic Sea Initiative will, as a part of the event, organise a seminar to promote creativity and knowledge based growth in the Baltic Sea Region.

Main themes of the conference are:

- Research and Innovation for regional growth – bringing regions faster into the knowledge economy
- Strategic aspects of integrating the European Research and Innovation Area
- Human potential – Researchers' careers and mobility
- Innovation, investments and commercialising

Main aims of the conference are to:

- **stimulate** countries and regions to participate in building the European Research and Innovation Area
- **exchange** experiences and best practices on the role of territorial entities and their contribution to the European Research and Innovation Area
- **mobilise** actors to prepare for the *7th Community RTD* and the *Competitiveness and Innovation Framework* programmes.

Target groups: The conference is targeted at leading representatives from research, industry and higher education/universities, research and innovation organisations and policy makers.

Programme for the conference

Day 1
Monday 16 October 2006

**14:30-18:00 Pre conference workshop:
Opening up Nordic national research programmes**

Chair: Professor Peter Nijkamp, President of NWO (Netherlands's Organization for Scientific Research) and EuroHORC (European Heads of Research Councils)
Rapporteur: Mr. Erik Arnold, Managing Director, Technopolis

The concept of ERA (European research area) and the concept of NORIA (Nordic research and innovation area) highlight the fact that there is a need for more regional cooperation in the future. The vision for ERA is an open inner market for research and innovation. In many ways the Nordic region is interesting because the effort regarding research and innovation is one of the strongest in the world.

Today, research funds are mainly distributed nationally and all countries have their own systems for evaluation and application. Important synergy benefits could be gained by combining national efforts. The Nordic Council of Ministers has from Technopolis commissioned a study analysing the advantages and disadvantages, which an opening of national research funds could result in (this including the organisation of joint open applications in the Nordic region).

The study also examines the alternative side-effects for society when opening up the national funds for research. The findings of the report will be presented at the workshop and will be the starting point for a round table discussion in the session.

The talk from the energy field can be seen as a 'test-case' for opening up research programmes.

- 14:30 Chair: *Opening remarks*
- 14:40 **Key note: Mr. Antti Kalliomäki**, Minister of Education and Science, Finland
- 15:00 Mr. Erik Arnold, Managing Director, Technopolis: *The results of the commissioned study 'Building Nordic Strength Through More Open Funding: The Next Step in NORIA'*
- 15:20 Professor Peter Lund, Helsinki University of Technology, Chairman of the Advisory Group on Energy of the European Commission: *Creating effective innovation and research approaches to meet society's mega challenges - examples from energy*
- 15:40 Coffee break
- 16:10 Round table discussing the implications of *Opening up Nordic national research programmes*
- The panel will be addressing questions like 'Do you consider opening up national research programmes as a useful tool to strengthen and develop scientific research and/or increase its societal relevance in



Norden and in Europe? If yes, does your funding agency have any practical experience of opening up programmes or other funding schemes for foreign researchers to apply for funding? If not, could you consider opening up a national programme or other funding scheme during the next years, or do you prefer some other means to enhance international funding cooperation?'

Panel members:

- Mr. Arvid Hallén, Director General, The Research Council of Norway
- Mr. Pär Omling, Director General, Swedish Research Council
- Mr. Hans Kristján Guðmundsson, Director, Rannís (The Icelandic Centre for Research)
- Ms. Anneli Pauli, Vice President (Research), Academy of Finland and Vice chair NordForsk
- Ms. Nina Smith, Chair, Danish Research Agency
- Mr. Per Eriksson, Director General, VINNOVA (Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems)
- Ms. Liisa Hakamies-Blomqvist, Director, NordForsk
- Mr. Robert-Jan Smits, Director, Directorate General Research, European Commission

17:10 General discussion

17:50 Mr. Erik Arnold, Managing Director, Technopolis:
Summary of discussion – The way forward

19:00 Welcome Reception in Copenhagen City Hall
(Address: City Hall Square, Copenhagen - see map for location)

Welcome to Copenhagen: Mr. Jesper Christensen, Second Deputy Chairperson for the Copenhagen City Council



Day 2 Tuesday 17 October 2006

8:30 Coffee, networking and exhibition

**9:00-12:00 Pre conference workshop:
The Baltic Sea initiative 2010**

Chair: Mr. Per Unckel, Secretary General, Nordic Council of Ministers

Rapporteur: Mr. Christian Möller, Senior adviser, Nordic Council of Ministers

The Baltic Sea Initiative (BSI) is a network of networks, working to promote competitiveness and sustainable growth in the Baltic Sea Region in accordance to BSI values.

The Baltic Sea Initiative was launched by VINNOVA and Baltic Development Forum in 2004 to create a bottom up process for stakeholders engaged in the development of the competitiveness and growth of the Baltic Sea Region. The Secretary General of the Nordic Council of Ministers has accepted to take the lead of the BSI network for 2006.

The Baltic Sea Initiative is a forum for discussion of the challenges and possibilities for improving competitiveness in the region. Better coordination of existing initiatives and formulating joint actions in order to strengthen competitiveness and innovation in the region, are goals for the Baltic Sea Initiative.

The BSI has decided to focus on five areas in 2006. These areas are:

- Improving conditions and competitiveness of industrial clusters in the region
- Improving conditions for market driven innovation in the region



INVESTING IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

EXCHANGING EUROPEAN EXPERIENCES IN A NORDIC CONTEXT

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing research cooperation in the region • Enhancing the integration of financial markets in the region • Marketing and branding the region 	11:05	A mini-panel discusses: <i>Initiatives and instruments used for developing the Baltic Sea Region</i>
9:00	Chair: <i>Opening remarks</i>		Panel members:
9:10	Key note: Mr. Colin Wolfe , Head of Unit E/4, Slovakia and Austria, Regio Directorate-General, European Commission		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Liisa Hakamies-Blomqvist, Director, NordForsk • Mr. Kjetil Storvik, Managing Director, Nordic Innovation Centre (NICe) • Ms. Birte Holst Jørgensen, Managing Director, Nordic Energy Research
9:35	Professor Bo Samuelsson, Göteborg University: <i>ScanBalt campus</i> (and other relevant ScanBalt activities). ScanBalt campus sets out to be a European Model Case for increased knowledge-based competitiveness thereby bringing benefits to society.	11:25	General discussion
10:00	Dr. Kaisa Kononen, Programme Manager, BONUS Network Co-ordinator, Academy of Finland: <i>BONUS ERA-NET</i>	11:55	Chair summary
	BONUS ERA-NET brings together key research funding organizations in Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden. BONUS intends to form a network and partnership of key agencies funding research with the aim to deepen the understanding of conditions for science-based management of environmental issues in the Baltic Sea. The strategic purpose of BONUS is to gradually and systematically create conditions for a joint Baltic Sea research and researcher training programme.	12:00	Lunch
10:25	Mr. Juha Järvinen, Project Manager, University of Art and Design: <i>Nordic Baltic Innovation Platform for Creative Industries</i>	13:00-13:45	Opening of the conference Investing in Research and Innovation – Exchanging European Experiences in a Nordic Context
	By establishing a Nordic Baltic platform for creative industries, the interaction between traditional industries and creative disciplines across the Nordic Baltic region could be stimulated and strengthened.		Chair: Mr. Per Unckel , Secretary General Nordic Council of Ministers Rapporteurs: Mr. Andreas Bakke , Higher Executive Officer, Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers, Ministry of Education and Research, Norway Ms. Stefania Bettini , Policy officer, European Commission, DG Research
10:45	Prof. Habil. Dr. Jurgis Vilema, chairman of the Lithuanian Energy Institute: <i>Development of the Baltic energy sector and related needs for research and innovation</i>		Key note: Mr. Øystein Djupedal , Minister of Education and Research, Norway, Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers
		13:45-15:30	Plenary session Theme: <i>Strategic aspects of coordination and integration in the European Research and Innovation Area (ERA)</i>
			Chair: Ms. Anneli Pauli , Vice President (Research), Academy of Finland and Vice chair NordForsk Rapporteur: Ms. Birte Holst Jørgensen , Director, Nordic Energy Research

The instruments available in FP7 to coordinate and integrate research in the European Research and Innovation area will be discussed. These instruments include ERA-NET, ERA-NET PLUS, European Technology Platforms, Joint Technology Initiatives and Article 169 initiatives.

An industrial point of view regarding the role of Technology platforms and Joint Technology Initiatives in the European Research and Innovation Area will be presented.

13:45 Chair: *Opening remarks*

13:50 Mr. Robert-Jan Smits, Director, Directorate General Research, European Commission: *Why and how to coordinate and integrate research in the European Research and Innovation Area*

14:15 Mr. Niels E. Busch, Director, Busch & Partners: *Lessons learned from Nordic coordinated ERA-Net*

The conclusions of a NORIA symposium held June 13, 2006 will be presented. The meeting discussed experiences of ERA-NET programs from a Nordic point of view. The participants represented ERA-NETs where the coordinators come from a Nordic country and/or where at least four Nordic countries participate.

14:35 Mr. Kjetil Storvik, Managing Director, NICE: *SafeFoodEra – An ERA-Net project initiated through Nordic cooperation schemes - experiences and challenges*

The presentation will illustrate how a Nordic network formed the basis for an ERA-NET project with more than 20 participating countries. The project - SafeFoodEra – focuses on a global challenge, namely food safety, and has therefore attracted the interest of actors far beyond Europe.

14:55 Mr. André Martin, Chief Program Officer, NuCellSys GmbH: *Technology platform and Joint Technology Initiatives as engines for integrating the European research and innovation area - for economic growth*





- 15:15 General discussion
- 15:25 Chair summary
- 15:30 Coffee/tea

16:00-18:00 Parallel sessions

Session 1

Theme: *Innovation – the role of trans-national cooperation for incubation and finance*

Chair: Mr. David White, Director, Directorate General Enterprise and Industry, European Commission, *Innovation policy in the EU*

Rapporteur: Mr. Luigi Amati, President, Meta Group, Italy

There is a need to strengthen and integrate the links between the research and business communities and reinforce the importance of innovation policy as a tool for economic growth in Europe. Strengthening the innovation infrastructure in Europe is a key for the success of our efforts. Modern approaches towards incubation and finance should be implemented and benchmarked in Europe.

- 16:00 Chair: *Opening remarks*
- 16:15 Professor Bernardo Huberman, Senior HP Fellow and Director of the Information Dynamics Lab at Hewlett Packard Laboratories, *Harvesting Organizational Knowledge*
- 16:40 Mr. Roland Nobels, Managing Director, Europe Unlimited SA, *Venture Capital from an Entrepreneur perspective: The Venture Capitalist as a Customer*
- 17:05 Mr. Tellef Thorleifsson, Board member of the Norwegian Venture Capital Association and the Swedish Private Equity & Venture Capital Association, General partner Northzone Ventures, *The Venture Capital Perspective on Nordic Innovation*
- 17:30 Mr. Guido Hillebrands, CEO inno Germany AG & Network Manager Incubator Forum, *Research and Entrepreneurship: an impossible marriage?*

Session 2

Theme: *A European open and transparent labour market for researchers: instruments to enhance the innovation process*

Chair: Ms Lene Lange, Science Director, Novozymes, DK and Chair of the NordForsk Board
Rapporteur: Professor Irina Veretennicoff, Head of Applied Physics Department, Vrije University Brussels

Human resources in R&D play a pivotal role in Europe's attempt to face the so-called 'European Paradox', namely that Europe is unable to sufficiently turn research results into globally competitive products. But researchers need an environment which allows them to act accordingly, thus they need a labour market where movement between academia and industry is feasible, structured and rewarded.

Such mobility is not a goal in itself, it is an instrument that can effectively contribute to foster innovation, to share and transfer knowledge and to contribute to enhance university-based technology initiatives.

The session will deal with these issues, starting from the common assumption that the lack of movement is largely due to structural barriers and lack of incentives.

Panel speakers:

- Ms. Sigi Gruber, European Commission, Unit C5 'Universities & Researchers'
- Ms. Maria Cristina Pedicchio, President of the Cluster in Molecular Biomedicine CBM/AREA Science Park, IT,
- Mr. Hans Borchgrevink, Special adviser, Research Council of Norway, NO
- Mr. Graham Davies, Chance Professor and Head of the School of Engineering/Birmingham University, UK
- Mr. Andrew Dearing, Secretary-General of the European Industrial Research Management Association (EIRMA)
- Mr. John Smith, Deputy Secretary General for Research, European University Association (EUA)

18:00-18:30 Plenary, feedback from sub-sessions followed by general discussion

Chair: Mr. Steffen Smidt, Denmark's ambassador to the OECD

Take home lessons

By the chairs from the two sessions:

- Mr. David White, Director, Directorate General Enterprise and Industry, European Commission
- Ms. Lene Lange, Science Director, Novozymes, and Chair of the NordForsk board

Short general discussion

20:00 Conference dinner in University of Copenhagen, Banquet Hall
(Address: Frue Plads - see map for location)



Day 3
Wednesday 18 October 2006

8:30 Coffee, networking and exhibition

9:00-10:00 Plenary session

Theme: *Research and Innovation for regional growth – bringing regions faster into the knowledge economy*

Chair: Mr. Gard Titlestad, Head of Department, Nordic Council of Ministers

Rapporteur: Ms. Kate Runeberg, Senior adviser, Nordic Council of Ministers

Key note: Mr. Louis Bellemin, Head of Unit, DG Research, European Commission

Key note: Mr. Jean-Claude Gavrel, Executive Director, Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE) Program

10:00 Coffee break

10:30-12:15 Panel session

Theme: *Research and Innovation for regional growth – bringing regions faster into the knowledge economy*

Chair: Professor Phil Cooke, Director, Centre for Advanced Studies, Cardiff University

Rapporteur: Mr. Veli-Pekka Tynkkynen, Research Fellow, Nordregio

A major challenge is the ongoing polarisation among the regions of Europe. Economic growth and innovation are foremost taking place in a limited number of metropolitan regions while a huge number of other regions are lagging behind. Another challenge is the uneven territorial distribution of research and knowledge production.



- 10:30 Chair: *Opening remarks*
- 10:35 Mr. Ole Damsgaard, Director, Nordregio, *The Geography of Knowledge Production in Europe*
- 10:45 Introduction by 5 speakers:
- Mr. Christian Ketels, PhD, Principal Associate, Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness, Harvard Business School and Centre for Strategy and Competitiveness, Stockholm School of Economics, *Knowledge Clusters*
 - Mr. Reinhard Büscher, Head of Unit, Innovation policy development, Directorate General Enterprise and Industry, European Commission, *From PAXIS to the PRO-INNO Europe Initiative*
 - Ms. Monica Schofield, Regions of knowledge, Coordinator Regions of Knowledge Pilot Action Baltic Sea Knowledge Region (BSKR) and Regions of Knowledge-2 FP6 Project *LOCOMOTIVE: regional localisation decisions of big companies*
 - Professor Bo Samuelsson, Chair, Scanbalt
 - Mr. Mihail Osejevsky, vice-governor, City of St. Petersburg, Head of innovation system development in St. Petersburg
- Panel discussions and questions/comments from the audience with the aim to:
- discuss the role of clusters and innovation poles for regional development and how to link up local know how for global success
 - identify and characterise the role knowledge

- intensive clusters play in regional growth
- present views and examples of capitalising on knowledge at regional level
- identify ways to improve productive links across science and industry players at regional level
- identify scope for trans-national cluster cooperation and related instruments
- present views and examples of good cluster management
- discuss the need for local pacts on research and innovation

12:15-13:15 Closing of the conference

Chair: Mr. Per Unckel, Secretary General Nordic Council of Ministers

12:15 **Mr. Bertel Haarder**, Minister for Education, Denmark reports from Galathea 3

Galathea 3 is the largest Danish scientific expedition for more than 50 years. The aim of the expedition is to strengthen Danish scientific research, not just by virtue of the research projects that have been included in the expedition, but also in relation to the recruitment of the coming generations of research scientists.

The foundations of Galathea3 and all the educational perspectives and dissemination of information activities surrounding the expedition consists of the total of 71 research projects that will be on board when the navy surveillance vessel *Vaedderen* (the Ram) sails around the world from August 2006 until April 2007.

Key note: Professor Luke Georghiou, Manchester Business School of the University of Manchester, Rapporteur of the Aho Report

Norwegian Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers presents The Copenhagen Declaration on Research and Innovation

13:30 **Lunch**

Organising Committee

Mr. Dimitri Corpakis, Head of Unit, European Commission, DG Research
Mr. Markku Warras, Head of Unit (Acting), European Commission, DG Research
Ms. Sigi Gruber, Head of Sector 'Researchers' career', Directorate General Research, European Commission
Ms. Stefania Bettini, Policy officer, European Commission, DG Research
Mr. Lennart Grundberg, Scientific officer, European Commission, DG ENTR
Mr. Kjetil Storvik, Managing director, Nordic Innovation Center (NICE)
Ms. Petra Nilsson-Andersen, Senior adviser, Nordic Innovation Center (NICE)
Ms. Liisa Hakamies-Blomqvist, Director, NordForsk
Ms. Ellen Knutsen Rydberg, Senior adviser, NordForsk
Ms. Birte Holst Jørgensen, Director, Nordic Energy Research
Ms. Vivi Mathiesen, Senior adviser, Nordic Energy Research
Mr. Ole Damsgaard, Director, Nordregio
Ms. Heidi Dybesland, Senior adviser, Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers, Ministry of Education and Research, Norway
Mr. Andreas Bakke, Higher Executive Officer, Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers, Ministry of Education and Research, Norway
Ms. Kate Runeberg, Senior adviser, Nordic Council of Ministers
Mr. Christian Möller, Senior adviser, Nordic Council of Ministers
Ms. Iben Keller, Project Coordinator, Nordic Council of Ministers
Mr. Gard Titlestad, Chair of the organising committee, Head of department, Nordic Council of Ministers

Advisory Panel

Professor Steffen Smidt, Chair of the advisory panel Denmark's ambassador to the OECD, professor at Copenhagen Business School, International Centre for Business & Politics. Former director general at the EU Commission.

Ms. Stina Gestrelus, DSc. Board member, Nordic Innovation Centre and NordForsk Deputy Managing Director, Medicon Valley Academy (MVA)

Professor Irina Veretennicoff (BE), Vice President of the Federal Council of Science Policy, Vice Chair of the European Commission's External Advisory Group for the Marie Curie Actions, Head of Department, Dept. of Applied Physics, Vrije University Brussels

Ms. Anneli Pauli, Vice chair, NordForsk, Vice President (Research), Academy of Finland

Professor Peter Nijkamp, President of NWO (Netherlands's Organization for Scientific Research) and EuroHORC (European Heads of Research Councils)

Professor Phil Cooke, Director, Centre for Advanced Studies, Cardiff University

Ms. Helle Mostad, Director, Hydro Business Development, Norsk Hydro ASA

Professor Martin Zobel, Professor of plant ecology, Institute of Botany and Ecology, Tartu University, Baltic observer at the Board of Nordforsk

Mr. Aage Thunem, Executive Vice President, SINTEF ICT



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