

Long-term and Cross-cutting Issues in European Governments and Parliaments

Sweden

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Preface

This country report is one part of a comprehensive report presenting the results of an inquiry concerning the institutions, methods and procedures used by governments and parliaments throughout Europe for dealing with long-term and cross-cutting issues. The study was conducted by the *EURES institute* on behalf of the *Office for Technology Assessment of the German Parliament (TAB)*.

Especially the concept of `Sustainable Development` requires a long-term and cross-cutting perspective. Therefore governments and parliaments in many countries are looking for new approaches to deal with these issues. In this context the project aimed at collecting a wide range of information about the institutions and the methods used by them for tackling long-term and cross-cutting issues.

Consequently, this report can also be used as a handbook. It should foster an international exchange of information and experiences concerning these questions. We are confident that the provided information is of practical use for organisations and experts involved in long-term and cross-cutting issues. Unfortunately some parts of the report exist only in a German version. A desirable complete English translation would require to find a source for additional funding

This country report contains:

- A brief country profile (Kurzbericht) concerning (a) the general political framework (political system and political culture) and (b) a summary of the way the country basically tackles long-term and cross-cutting issues (German)
- A country study on long-term and cross-cutting issues prepared by a country expert (English)
- A compilation of detailed characterisations of long-term and cross-cutting institutions within the country (English)

More information both concerning the project and the other parts of the report is provided on <http://www.eures.de/r38>.

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Contents

13	Schweden.....	2
13.1	Kurzbericht.....	2
13.2	Jonas Åkerman / Anders Eriksson: Country study on Sweden	8
13.3	Survey Results: Organisations and Experiences.....	16

13 Schweden

Fläche:	449.964 km ²
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13.1 Kurzbericht

13.1.1 Übersicht

Schwedens Demokratie weist eine starke Konsensorientierung auf und ist durch ein hohes Maß an Korporatismus gekennzeichnet.

Innerhalb einer pragmatischen Konsenskultur hat sich eine Vielfalt an Langzeit- und Querschnittsinstitutionen entwickelt, die auch methodisch innovative Ansätze praktizieren. Diese haben sich zu einem großen Teil aus einer umweltpolitischen Tradition heraus entwickelt.

Schweden ist sowohl im Hinblick auf Institutionen und Methoden ein besonders interessantes Land als auch aufgrund spezifischer Vergleichsmöglichkeiten mit Deutschland.

13.1.2 Der politische, kulturelle und institutionelle Kontext¹

Demokratietypus:	Majoritär-konsensuell
Staatsoberhaupt/ Regierungssystem:	Monarch / Parlamentarische Demokratie
Partizipation ges. Interessen / Politikstil:	Ausgeprägter Korporatismus / Konsensuell
Direktdemokratische Elemente:	Fakultatives (bei Verfassungsänderung) sowie konsultatives Referendum auf nationaler Ebene
Staatsaufbau / Stellung der subnationalen Ebenen:	Unitaristischer Staatsaufbau / großer Einfluss der regionalen und lokalen Ebene
Politische Kultur:	Pragmatische Konsenskultur; Korporatismus; Hegemonie sozialdemokratischer Werte

Politisches System

Die schwedischen Demokratiestrukturen sind auf einer mittleren "Position" zwischen den politikwissenschaftlichen Idealtypen `Mehrheitsdemokratie` und `Konsensusdemokratie` zu verorten. Das politische System kann damit als *majoritär-konsensuell* bezeichnet werden.

Das Staatsoberhaupt – der schwedische König – verfügt über keinerlei politische Macht, darf weder Regierungsbeschlüsse unterzeichnen oder Minister ernennen, noch fällt ihm im Krisenfall die oberste Befehlsgewalt über die Streitkräfte zu. Insofern verfügt Schweden über ein *rein parlamentarisches Regierungssystem* (Ein-Kammer-System: "Riksdag").

Innerhalb des parlamentarischen Gesetzgebungsprozesses nehmen Ausschüsse eine besondere Rolle ein. In der Arbeit dieser Parlamentsausschüsse findet die ausgeprägte Konsens- und Kompromissorientierung schwedischer Politik statt. Über Kommissionen, die häufig von den Ausschüssen im vorbereitenden Stadium des Gesetzgebungsprozesses eingesetzt werden, können zudem gesellschaftliche Interessengruppen zu einem sehr frühen Zeitpunkt am politischen Entscheidungsprozess partizipieren.

¹ Vgl. im folgenden v.a. Länderstudie Schweden; (Schmidt 1997); (Jahn 1999).

Eine Besonderheit des schwedischen Regierungssystems ist die Trennung zwischen den Ministerien und der exekutiven Administration. Die Ministerialbürokratie ist ausserordentlich klein, sie dient als den Minister in seinem politischen Geschäft unterstützende Abteilung innerhalb des Cabinet Office. Die ausführende Verwaltung ist hiervon getrennt und versteht sich als politisch unabhängig. Dennoch existieren zwischen Ministerium und exekutiver Administration informelle Abstimmungskontakte. Dieses „nicht-exekutive“ Kabinettsystem hat auch Folgen für die Behandlung von Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen.

Interessenverbände spielen in der schwedischen Gesellschaft eine herausragende Rolle und verfügen damit über weitreichenden politischen Einfluss. Das politische System stellt sich als offen für diese gesellschaftlichen Interessen dar. Insofern ist Schweden durch ein vergleichsweise hohes Maß an Korporatismus gekennzeichnet. Nicht nur der traditionelle Konflikt zwischen Kapital und Arbeit wurde an das politische System gekoppelt und auf diese Weise entschärft, auch (gemäßigte) neue soziale Bewegungen haben Zugang zu den politischen Entscheidungsarenen. Radikale Elemente werden dadurch marginalisiert und die Bewegungen als Ganze inkorporiert, was gleichzeitig mit dem Effekt verbunden ist, dass neue gesellschaftliche Ansprüche in die Logik der etablierten Politik integriert werden. Vor diesem Hintergrund lässt sich das politische System Schwedens als *Demokratie mit weitreichenden Konsens- und Verhandlungselementen sowie ausgeprägten korporatistischen Strukturen* charakterisieren. Der *Politikstil* ist stark *konsensorientiert*.

Schweden verfügt über einen *unitaristischen Staatsaufbau*. Dem stehen jedoch *sehr einflussreiche regionale und lokale Verwaltungen* gegenüber. Die zentralstaatliche Verwaltung ist auf nationaler, regionaler und lokaler Ebene vertreten und arbeitet damit parallel zu der gewählten "Landstigsverwaltung" (auf regionaler) und dem "Kommunalbevollmächtigten" (auf lokaler Ebene), was zu einer oft nicht unproblematischen Aufgabenverteilung führt.

Politische Kultur

Die politische Kultur Schwedens lässt sich – analog zu anderen skandinavischen Länder - als "*pragmatische Konsenskultur*" bezeichnen. Innerhalb der parlamentarischen Arbeit sind, wie erwähnt, die Ausschüsse und Kommissionen Ausdruck dieser parteiübergreifenden Konsensorientierung. Nicht zuletzt hier wird die politische Arbeits- und Entscheidungsfähigkeit sichergestellt – gerade in den in Schweden überwiegenden Zeiten von Minderheitsregierungen.

Auch die relative Offenheit des politischen Systems für die (einflussreichen) Vertreter gesellschaftlicher Interessen ist ein Bestandteil der politischen Kultur Schwedens. Allerdings findet diese Partizipation vorwiegend über die traditionellen politischen Kanäle statt, mit der Folge der strukturellen Bevorzugung großer, etablierter Organisationen, die es verstehen, ihre Interessen der politischen Logik anzupassen, mithin "politikfähig" zu machen. Radikalere, mit den politischen Entscheidungsstrukturen nicht kompatible gesellschaftliche Ansprüche werden so jedoch marginalisiert.

Sozio-kulturell kann man in Schweden von einer traditionellen Hegemonie sozialdemokratischer Werte sprechen. Politisch äußert sich dieser Sachverhalt in einer extremen Kontinuität der Regierungsverantwortung unter sozialdemokratischer Dominanz. Begriffe wie `soziale Absicherung`, `Gleichheit`, `Vollbeschäftigung` haben jahrzehntelang als politische Ziele eine zentrale Rolle gespielt. Erst in den 90er Jahren wurde dieser parteiübergreifende und gesellschaftliche Konsens von der bürgerlichen Regierung unter Carl Bildt faktisch aufgekündigt.

13.1.3 Die Behandlung von Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen

Entwicklung

Der Umgang Schwedens mit Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen ist stark mit der schwedischen Umweltpolitik verbunden. Deren Entwicklung reicht bis in die 70er Jahre zurück und hat im europäischen Maßstab traditionell ein vergleichsweise hohes Niveau. In den 80er Jahren verschob sich die grundlegende umweltpolitische Linie vom ordnungspolitischen zum querschnittsorientierten, vorsorgenden Ansatz.

In den 90er Jahren wurde mit der Aufnahme des Konzeptes der nachhaltigen Entwicklung ein weiterer Schritt in diese Richtung zurückgelegt. Explizit wurde Nachhaltigkeit als integrativ verstanden. Im Zuge des Prozesses zur Umsetzung nachhaltiger Entwicklung wurden zahlreiche Institutionen und neue Methoden begründet. Wichtig in diesem Zusammenhang war bspw. die Erarbeitung von Umweltqualitätszielen. Zu diesem Zweck wurden vom Kabinett 24 verschiedene Behörden für die Umsetzung nachhaltiger Entwicklung für verantwortlich erklärt und auf diesem Wege ein hohes Maß an Querschnittsorientierung etabliert.

Gesellschaftliche Akteure

Relevanz der gesellschaftlichen Akteure im Hinblick auf Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen

Nationales Parlament	● ● ●
Nationale Regierung	● ● ● ●
Medien / Öffentliche Debatte	● ● ●
Forscher und Forschungsinstitutionen	● ● ● ●
NGOs	● ● ● ●
Unabhängige Stiftungen / Think Tanks	● ● ●
Wirtschaft	● ● ●
Gewerkschaften	
Regionale Regierungen und Institutionen	● ● ●
Europäische Union	● ● ●
OECD	●
Weltbank	●
andere internationale Organisationen	

Bewertung: Jonas Akerman

Interesse gesellschaftlicher Gruppen an Langzeit- und Querschnittsthemen

	<i>Umweltthemen</i>	<i>Soziale Entwicklungen</i>	<i>Technologische Entwicklungen</i>	<i>Strukturelle ökonomische Entwicklungen</i>	<i>Nachhaltige Entwicklung (integrierter Ansatz)</i>
Öffentlichkeit	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ●	● ●	● ●
Forschung	● ● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ● ●
Parlament	● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ●
Regierung	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ● ● ●	● ● ●

Bewertung: Jonas Akerman

Das Parlament hat im schwedischen Kontext in Bezug auf die Behandlung von Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen eine vergleichsweise schwache Position. Eine Erklärung dafür könnte sein, dass Parlamentarier über relativ geringe administrative Ressourcen für ihre Arbeit verfügen und damit eigenständige Schwerpunktsetzungen und Meinungsbildungen erschwert werden.

Die Regierung spielt demgegenüber eine bedeutendere Rolle. Insbesondere das oben beschriebene „nicht-exekutive“ Kabinettsystem scheint günstige Voraussetzungen gerade für eine Behandlung von Querschnittsfragen zu bieten: So sind z.B. Umstrukturierungen und Verantwortungsstreuungen leicht möglich ohne die gesamte bürokratische Architektur zu verändern. Auch sind die schwedischen Ministerien weit weniger geschlossene Bürokratien als in anderen Ländern; die Flexibilität und thematische Durchlässigkeit ist vergleichsweise groß. Ferner ist es im kleinen, überschaubaren Cabinet Office einfach, über Fachgrenzen hinweg, thematische Allianzen und Netzwerke zu initiieren.

Schwierigkeiten und Hemmnisse

Die erwähnten Vorteile des schwedischen Kabinettsystem hinsichtlich der Querschnittsorientierung werden begleitet von einer offensichtlich geringen Kapazität für Langfristfragen. Die kleinen Ministerien stellen sich hier als eher nachteilig für eine (ressourcenintensivere) Langfristplanung und Strategieentwicklung dar. Der Blick in die Zukunft ist eher von den großen (aber von den Ministerien unabhängigen) Regierungsbehörden zu erwarten. Diese fungieren denn auch häufig als Think Tank. Allerdings ist der Rückfluss der Erkenntnisse zur Entscheidungsebene des Kabinetts dabei nicht immer automatisch gegeben.

13.1.4 Ansätze, Organisationen und Erfahrungen

Die schwedische Umweltpolitik hat in den letzten Jahrzehnten eine Vielzahl an neuen Institutionen hervorgebracht. Das Leitbild der nachhaltigen Entwicklung ist in erster Linie aus diesem umweltpolitischen Kontext heraus aufgegriffen worden und wird immer noch häufig als primär umweltpolitisches Konzept verstanden. Dennoch hat mit dem Auftreten der Idee der Nachhaltigkeit offensichtlich eine schrittweise Langzeit- und Querschnittsorientierung und eine Erweiterung des rein umweltpolitischen Blickwinkels Einzug gehalten.

Ein in Schweden vergleichsweise intensiv genutzter Ansatz im Umgang mit Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen ist deren Bearbeitung in Komitees. Diese werden zu unterschiedlichen Schwerpunkten etabliert mit der Funktion, ein politikrelevantes Themenfeld abseits des politischen Tagesgeschäftes intensiv zu untersuchen und Konzepte, Programme und Problemlösungsvorschläge zu entwickeln. Komitees werden vom Kabinett berufen, ihre Mitglieder sind in erster Linie Experten. Bestimmte Komitees gehen in einen quasi-permanenten Zustand über und fungieren faktisch als politikberatender Think Tank.

Eine solche Institution ist das `Miljövarsberedningen` (Swedish Environmental Advisory Council). Als ein die Regierung beratendes Organ bearbeitet es bspw. Themen wie „Nachhaltige Industrie“ oder „Umweltindikatoren“, ist insofern also hauptsächlich fokussiert auf umweltpolitische Aspekte.

Andere Komitees werden neben Experten mit (von den Parteien vorgeschlagenen) Parlamentsangehörigen besetzt.

Zu diesen gehörte zum einen das 1998-2000 wirkende `Klimatkommittén` (Climate Committee). Seine Aufgabe lag in erster Linie darin, die schwedische Klimastrategie zu entwickeln.

Zum anderen ist hier das 1998 ins Leben gerufene `Nationalkommittén för Agenda 21 och Habitat` (Swedish National Committee on Agenda 21 and Habitat) zu nennen. Dieses dient als Kristallisationspunkt der nationalen Agenda 21 Bemühungen sowohl nach außen in der

Berichterstattung an die Vereinten Nationen als auch nach innen in der Unterstützung von Lokalen Agenda 21-Prozessen. Dabei ist in der thematischen Integration und in der spezifischen Aufgabenkombination der besondere Querschnittscharakter dieser Institution zu sehen.

Teil der schwedischen Administration bzw. stark an diese gekoppelt sind die `Naturvardsverket` (Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, SEPA) und das `Statens Institut för Ekologisk Hållbarhet` (Swedish Centre for Ecological Sustainability, SWECOL). Erstere ist v.a. aufgrund diverser Zukunftsstudien im Hinblick auf nachhaltige Entwicklung in Schweden erwähnenswert (Bsp.: „Sweden 2021 – Towards a Sustainable Society“). Letzteres ist eine 1999 im Rahmen des „Local Investment Programme for Ecological Sustainability (and Increased Employment)“ gegründete Behörde mit der Funktion, als Motor nachhaltiger Entwicklung in Schweden zu dienen.

Eine zentrale Forschungsinstitution mit expliziter Langzeitperspektive ist schliesslich das `Institutet för Framtidsstudier` (Swedish Institute for Future Studies). Dieses betreibt intensive Zukunftsforschung mit einem primär sozial-ökonomischen Schwerpunkt.

Methodisch interessant scheint die Tatsache, dass in Schweden offenbar weitreichende Erfahrungen mit der Einbeziehung (betroffener) gesellschaftlicher Akteure in die Erarbeitung von (politischen) Programmen und Maßnahmen gemacht werden. Auch in der Administration ist dieser Ansatz verbreitet. So führte die SEPA bspw. im Zuge eines Projektes zur Entwicklung von Lösungsansätzen im Transportbereich einen intensiven „Stakeholder Dialogue“ durch.

Vergleichender Überblick über die Institutionen

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Abkürzung</i>	<i>Abkürzung (englisch)</i>	<i>Bedeutung</i>	<i>Innovationsgrad</i>
Institutet för Framtidsstudier Swedish Institute for Future Studies			X X	X X X
Klimatkommittén Climate Committee			X X X X	X X
Miljövardsberedningen Swedish Environmental Advisory Council			X	X
Naturvardsverket Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	NV	SEPA	X	X
Statens Institut för ekologisk hållbarhet Swedish Centre for Ecological Sustainability		SWECOL	X X	X X X

Bewertung: Jonas Akerman

Genannte Institutionen mit detaillierter Beschreibung

Institutet för Framtidsstudier (Swedish Institute for Future Studies) Klimatkommittén (Climate Coommittee) Miljövardsberedningen (Swedish Environmental Advisory Council) Nationalkommitten för Agenda 21 och Habitat (Swedish National Committee on Agenda 21 and Habitat) Naturvardsverket (Swedish Environmental Protection Agency) Statens Institut för ekologisk hållbarhet (Swedish Centre for Ecological Sustainability)
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Weitere genannte Institutionen

Boverket (National Board of Housing, Building and Planning)

13.1.5 Fazit

Schweden ist ein in Bezug auf institutionelle Kapazitäten weitentwickeltes Land. Auch im Umgang mit Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen ist eine Vielzahl an Institutionen geschaffen worden. Diese leiten sich zum großen Teil aus der spezifischen umweltpolitischen Tradition Schwedens her, haben aber in den 90er Jahren eine verstärkte Querschnittsperspektive im Sinne nachhaltiger Entwicklung angenommen. Insofern weist Schweden Ähnlichkeiten mit der umweltpolitischen Entwicklung in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland auf.

Schweden ist im Rahmen dieser Studie aufgrund seiner institutionellen und methodischen Vielfalt ausdrücklich zu den interessanten untersuchten Ländern zu zählen. Eine nähere Betrachtung Schwedens wäre aber nicht nur vor diesem Hintergrund erhellend, sondern auch im Vergleich zur BRD im Hinblick auf die Erweiterung eines umweltpolitischen Ansatzes hin zur integrativen Langzeit- und Querschnittsperspektive.

13.2 Jonas Åkerman / Anders Eriksson: Country study on Sweden

13.2.1 Institutional context and political culture in relation to long-term and cross-cutting issues

Background: Sweden's *Sonderweg*

When discussing governmental policies with respect to long term and cross-cutting issues it should be kept in mind that the institutional context in Sweden is rather peculiar compared to most countries. This reflects that Swedish history pretty much has followed its own path during the centuries after Reformation. Thus substantial aspects of Swedish institutional heritage date back to Count Axel Oxenstierna's administrative reform in the 17th century, others – e.g. the principle of the citizens' free access to government information (*offentlighetsprincipen*) – to the Era of Freedom of the 18th century, whereas others again are products of the constitutional overhaul around 1970.

Parliament

One of the recent features – in this case shared with the other Nordic countries but in contrast to most others – is that the Parliament (*Riksdagen*) is unicameral. It is quite big compared to the population of the country (349 members). Perhaps partly due to this the individual MP (Member of Parliament) has no personal staff and thus has to rely on the relatively limited analytic resources serving all members of her permanent committee(s), the office of her party group and the library and research services serving all members of the Chamber.

Also, despite the recent introduction of optional person voting the electoral system is very much party oriented. Particularly for big parties in big electoral districts² the voters have no practical possibility to change the party district's preference ordering of candidates.

Thus in sum an MP is very much dependent on her party (thus often, bluntly put, functioning as "voting cattle"). The MP-ship being at the same time essentially a full time job, many potential political leaders reject Parliament for, e.g., executive positions in local or regional governments (so Prime Minister Persson was first recruited to Cabinet from the position of mayor in a fairly small town) or careers as political staff or lobbyists and other consultants.

This relatively weak position of Parliament and individual parliamentarians is a likely explanation for the failure of the Swedish Parliament to develop anything like an office of TA (Technology Assessment). Another possible explanation is, as will be discussed below, that Swedish parliamentarians do have a role in the Cabinet's dealing with long-term issues through the so-called committee system.

Historically the Swedish Parliament seems to have been a stronger forum for long-term and cross-cutting issues than at present. Many leading social researchers were MP:s, particularly in the less time-consuming First Chamber of the bicameral representation prior to 1971. For example Sweden's two economics Nobel laureates, Gunnar Myrdal and Bertil Ohlin, were both leading politicians in their day. Although this tradition is not at all continued in Parliament, the strong role of academics in the committee system could perhaps be seen as a continuation.

² Electoral district normally coincide with provinces, although some of the bigger are split. The biggest district is Stockholm county (excluding City of Stockholm) with 38 seats, the smallest Gotland with only 2 seats.

Government

The way Sweden's Cabinet (*Regeringen*) and government agencies interact with one another has quite special features. Whereas in almost all countries the Cabinet consists of ministers who directly manage their respective segment of government, in Sweden "ministerial rule" is unconstitutional behaviour for which members of Cabinet are sometimes censured by the Parliament's Constitutional Committee. Instead the constitutionally acceptable way for ministers to rule is by collective and formal decisions in the Cabinet plenary meetings. A ministry is the part of the Cabinet Office overseeing a segment of the national government and, formally speaking, helping one or several ministers to prepare agenda items for the plenary sessions. Thus, e.g., as in other countries the Minister of Defence is the head of an entity called the Ministry of Defence. In Sweden, however, that is only the branch of the Cabinet Office, with some 120 employees, in charge of defence issues. All ministries are of that order of magnitude except Foreign Affairs, which does include – as an exception to the Swedish governmental structure – embassies, consulates and other foreign missions; Finance; and Industry, which is an amalgamation of three previous ministries.

Government agencies, e.g. the Armed Forces, are subordinate to the Cabinet but not to "their" Minister or Ministry. Thus the Swedish Cabinet is not executive in the usual sense even though in practice, of course, informal dialogue between a minister and her staff on the one hand, and "their" agencies on the other are normally a quite important way of exercising informal power. It is typical, however, that the political responsibility of a Swedish minister for mistakes and problems in agencies is essentially limited to such issues that the ministry has unequivocally been informed about. Therefore the normal phenomenon in most countries that ministers have to resign to take the responsibility for mismanagement at subordinate levels is virtually unheard of in Sweden. Cabinet appoints heads of government agencies (in most cases called Director Generals) for a fixed term of six years, possibly extended for three more years. DG:s are sometimes forced to resign from their office by their minister but to be politically acceptable this normally has to be attributable to personal misconduct. Generally speaking it is not acceptable to Swedish public opinion that a DG should have to resign due to policy differences.

The "non-executive" Cabinet system seems to have some advantages when it comes to dealing with long-term and, in particular, cross-cutting issues at a *policy-formulating* level. These will be developed in some detail below. On the other hand the independence of government agencies – constitutionally and in terms of the strong public opinion supporting agencies against political "interference" – makes it very difficult to *implement policies* of any complexity which are not genuinely embraced by key government agencies. While this is true for short-term and non-cross-cutting issues as well, long term and cross-cutting issues tend to be particularly complex and thus hard to manage entirely by formalised Cabinet decisions.

Returning to policy formulation, the advantages of the Swedish model are:

- With Cabinet a decision making collective with no individual decision-making powers it is relatively easy to assign cross-cutting responsibility without changing the structure of government. For example there has been a system for quite some time of one minister acting as a "virtual" Minister of Research co-ordinating all research policy items across ministries. Historically this task has been both with the Deputy Prime Minister – who was then also "Minister of the Future" – and with the Minister of Finance. Environmental and gender equality issues are other examples of cross-cutting issues even though there is a "real" Ministry of Environment overseeing a number of agencies in addition to overseeing its issue area across government.
- Ministries are not closed and unitary entities with respect to command and flexible administrative solutions can be found. In the above example research co-ordination

remained in the Prime Ministers Office when that policy area passed on to the Finance Minister's responsibility. The Cabinet Office unit in charge of gender equality belongs to the Ministry of Industry, whereas the currently responsible Cabinet member is the Minister of Agriculture Mrs Winberg.

- In the small Swedish Cabinet Office it is easy to find and collect the parties interested in a specific topic. In fact all issues are prepared under co-operation from all affected ministries.

The above characteristics all seem to be positive with respect to the ability to take on cross-cutting issues in national policy-making compared to many other countries. The other aspect being considered here – the ability to cope with the long term – is more problematic for the Swedish Cabinet Office. Here the smallness, favourable for co-ordination across policy areas, means that employees tend to be tied up with short-term concerns. In fact, much long-term thinking takes place in government agencies, but then on the conditions prevailing in each individual agency and typically with only irregular attention from central government. Something of an exception to this, however, is that some agencies do have the (partial) task of functioning as think tanks for Cabinet, e.g. FOI, or to promote societal debate on long-term and cross-cutting issues, in particular the Institute for Futures Studies.

The committee system

The traditional method for creating more long-term oriented environments within the Swedish Cabinet Office is in the so-called committee system (*kommittéväsendet*). This primarily means that Cabinet routinely appoints committees to investigate various policy issues. These may be quite limited – e.g. to suggest an organisational and task structure for a new agency – but may also entail a complete overhaul of a major policy area. This instrument for policy development is quite old. Traditionally also fairly limited tasks were allowed to take several years to investigate. This meant that investigating committees were often able to make original and innovative contributions. Now investigating committee work schedules are often much more pressed and their tasking more precisely predefined by Cabinet. It is a contentious issue whether this is entirely a necessary consequence of a higher pace in societal change, or if there is also an aspect of Cabinet wanting to limit the scope of free committee thinking. At any rate some of the committees certainly function as think tanks for long term issues.

In terms of composition most "committees" actually consist of only one full-fledged member, then called the special investigator. Another common form is the parliamentary committee. Here members, usually MP:s, are nominated by the political parties, but also in this case Cabinet appoints the committee and determines its task. A third form, of particular importance for long-term issues, is the expert committee where members typically include leading academics.

In addition to one or several full members an investigating committee also comprises secretaries, who typically do most of the actual job, and experts representing affected ministries and agencies. Furthermore committees often commission reports from government agencies, university researchers and consultants.

In addition to the investigating committees (*utredningar*, sing. *utredning*), the committee system also includes a few "quasi-permanent" committees intended to promote debate in government and society by organising seminars and by commissioning reports by researchers and consultants. One example of such an entity is the Swedish Environmental Advisory Council (*Miljövärdsberedningen*). Another is the Expert Group for Public Sector Economy (ESO).

13.2.2 The actors perspective

In Sweden there has historically been a tradition of cooperation between the Government and large companies. One implication is, as mentioned, that large companies have seldom been faced with substantial environmental taxes. In addition the Swedish Federation of Industries (SAF) and the Labour Unions have in many instances formed a united front against the introduction of environmental taxes. Since employment has always been at the top of the agenda this alliance has proved rather successful.

According to the Swedish Power Study the Swedish model is a culture which is "extremely deliberative, rationalistic, open and consensual". This has been apparent in the relationship between controllers and polluters which has been characterized by consensus and mutual trust. Cases where polluters have been brought to court are rare.

Contrary to environmental organisations established social and economic interest organisations - such as the Federation of Trade Unions and the Swedish Federation of Industries - have had relatively easy access to the policy making process.

13.2.3 The main institutions and experiences in the context of governmental and parliamentary endeavours to treat long-term and cross-cutting issues³

In the 1980s a shift in Swedish environmental policy occurred. A largely reactive policy was succeeded by a more proactive one. The focus on regulatory instruments decreased and economic instruments became more widely used. Furthermore, environmental policy should be cross-sectorial which was stressed in the 1987/88 Environmental Bill. In the 1990/91 Environmental Bill a further shift of policy was recognized. The bill stated that "responsibility and care for the environment should permeate all walks of life and society. The mission of the 1990s is to readjust all societal activities in an ecological direction". Furthermore the "Polluter-Pays" and "Precautionary" principles were put forward.

In 1990 a major tax reform was implemented. Income taxes, especially for those with high incomes, were cut. Since the Cabinet put a lot of trust in dynamic effects the reform was not fully financed. However, environmental and energy taxes were increased by about SEK 18 billion. These taxes were accepted partly because energy intensive and polluting industry got rather large exemptions.

In the early 1990s the money from the "Wage Earners Fund" were put into several Strategic Research Foundations one of them being the MISTRA. According to the MISTRA Board's Position Paper from 1997 MISTRA should focus on broad, interdisciplinary and above all, solution-oriented programmes which will enhance Sweden's competitiveness on the growing eco-technology market.

In 1996 Göran Persson, as he was going to take office as Prime Minister, proclaimed the achievement of an "ecologically sustainable society" as a new mission for his party. In the following period the Social Democrats has put a strong emphasis on the socio-economic aspects of sustainable development. The need for a trade-off between the ecological dimension and economic growth is not acknowledged, on the contrary, building a sustainable society is seen as positively related to economic growth. This perspective is typical for *ecological modernisation*.

³ This section is to a great extent based on: Lundqvist, Lennart J (1996), Sweden, in *Governing the Environment - Politics, Policy and Organization in the Nordic Countries*, Peter Munk Christiansen (ed.), Nord 1996:5; Lundqvist, Lennart J (2000), *Capacity-building or social construction? Explaining Sweden's shift towards ecological modernisation*, *Geoforum* 31 (2000) 21-32.

In January 1997 the Delegation for Ecologically Sustainable Development (DEFU) was set up. Already in March 1997 the delegation presented its proposals including among others:

- An improved and revised *set of environmental objectives*.
- An annual *Sustainable Development Report* linked with the state budget.
- A *Greening of National Agencies* programme, involving commonly developed criteria for "green public purchase tenders".
- A *Sustainable Investment Programme*

The set of environmental objectives later became the Swedish Environmental Quality Objectives. These were worked out under the co-ordination of the SEPA (the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency).

The Sustainable Development Report was intended to use a set of sustainable indicators. A first proposal for such indicators was made in 1997.

Green public purchase tenders is at present investigated by the Committee for Public Purchase (Upphandlingskommittén), which will deliver their results in February 2001.

The Sustainable Investment Programme was relabeled as the Local Investment Programme. This was a key component in the proposal and typical for the perspective of ecological modernisation. A new more sustainable society should be built. The Cabinet itself make the decisions on applications and a new body, SWECOL (the Swedish Centre for Ecological Sustainability), has been set up in order to facilitate applications and the dissemination of experiences.

The final proposal for a new Environmental Code was submitted to the parliament in 1997. Several precautionary principles are written into the code, for instance Best Possible Technology and Least Harmful Product Substitution. The former imply that best possible technology should be used. The latter has the implication that if there is a less harmful product available at the more harmful product should be substituted for. The actual implications of these principles is hard to estimate in advance since they leave considerable room for different interpretations regarding for instance what are "reasonable costs".

Other important components of the Code are the legally binding Environment Quality Standards and mandatory Environmental Impact Assessment.

13.2.4 Some innovative and promising approaches in the last ten years

Stakeholder groups

Many authorities have been working with stakeholder groups. The SEPA have carried out a project concerning Environmentally Sustainable Transport. Stakeholder groups were formed with people from for instance Volvo, the petroleum industry, The Swedish Transport and Communications Research Board (KFB) and the Swedish National Road Administration. The Swedish Environmental Advisory Council has used stakeholder dialogues in the areas of housing and food production.

The main gain from this kind of project is probably that stakeholders have to work with long term issues. That is, even if there may be rather different opinions in these stakeholder groups these issues are brought up to the agenda. Another benefit is the contacts accomplished between private companies, public authorities and researchers. Regarding this latter component the result in the specific case is much dependent on the persons involved.

Transversal environmental responsibility and the Swedish Environmental Quality Objectives

In the early nineties the Cabinet gave the ministries the task of appointing authorities which should be responsible for the environmental issues in the different sectors of society. The idea was that environmental concerns should penetrate all activities. Today there are 24 authorities with responsibilities for the achievement of sustainable development. Among them are for instance the National Board of Housing, Building and Planning, The Swedish National Energy Administration, the Swedish Defence and the Swedish National Road Administration.

The Swedish Parliament has established 15 objectives for environmental quality that describe the qualities the environment and our common natural and cultural resources must have in order to be ecologically sustainable. The overall aim is that our generation should be able to hand over a society to the next generation in which the major environmental problems have been solved.

The Swedish Environmental Quality Objectives are:

- Clean air
- High-quality groundwater
- Sustainable lakes and watercourses
- Flourishing wetlands
- A balanced marine environment
- Sustainable coastal areas and archipelagos
- No eutrophication
- Natural acidification only
- Sustainable forests
- A varied agricultural landscape
- A magnificent mountain landscape
- A good urban environment
- A non-toxic environment
- A safe radiation environment
- A protective ozone layer
- Limited influence on climate

In order to ascertain what is required and to be able to follow up the objectives, they need to be defined more clearly and broken down to suit each area of activity and level of society. Ten authorities have been commissioned by the Government to define the objectives more clearly in the form of targets, action programmes to achieve them and systems for following them up. The proposals were submitted to the Government in October 1999.

The proposals formed the basis of the work carried out by a committee of inquiry on environmental objectives. The committee looked at which targets and action strategies are needed to enable us to achieve the objectives for environmental quality within one generation. The committee submitted its proposal to the Government on 7 June 2000.

One aim of the committee was to comparisons between the cost-effectiveness of measures in different sectors of society. This was however not fully accomplished.

Transversal research programmes

Civil servants belonging to different government research funding bodies have together formed cross-cutting research programmes dealing with sustainability issues. One such programme is about Sustainable Transport and has an emphasis on human sciences. The programme has ended recently and is about to be evaluated. Another period of funding will be considered.

Future studies using scenarios and images of the future

SEPA has made a couple of future studies regarding sustainable development in Sweden. The latest being a scenario study called *Sweden 2021*. Another example is the ESRG (Environmental Strategies Research Group) which has made a backcasting study comprising Images of Sustainable Swedish Transport in 2040.

Technology procurement and RD & D

Technology procurement is a way of pushing technology development in order to get more energy efficient and environmentally benign products. This approach has been practised in Sweden especially by Nutek (the Swedish National Board for Industrial and Technical Development). It is often carried out as a competition between manufacturers. To enhance the market influence a group of purchasers is put together by the coordinating body. This group outlines a specification for the product in question. When the manufacturers offers are received they are tested and evaluated. One or more winners are chosen. The winners get help with market introduction and are guaranteed a certain order volume. The contributions that do not win may still affect the development in the specific product area. Technology procurement has led to for instance more energy efficient heat pumps, refrigerators and washing machines. It has also been used for electric cars and recently for ordering more than 3000 Ford Focus fuelled by ethanol. In general the Swedish experiences from this approach have been promising.

A related programme has been carried out by the The Swedish Transport and Communications Research Board (KFB). The aim of the programme is to support research, development and demonstration of electric and hybrid-electric vehicles. In all 230 vehicles comprising of 17 types of vehicles have been evaluated regularly. The programme ended in 2000 and the total budget was about SEK 300 millions.

Local Investment Programme

The Swedish parliament has reserved SEK 6.5 billions for a local investment programme during the period 1998-2002. This investment programme has a twofold purpose. It should contribute to employment and it should speed up the transition towards sustainability in Sweden. The municipalities may in cooperation with local companies and organisations apply for funding of projects which lead towards ecological sustainability. The investments may relate to all sectors of society and may for instance imply more energy efficient housing, reduced use of hazardous chemicals in industry or the building of cycle lanes.

SWECOL has been set up mainly in order to support the municipalities in their preparation of investment proposals. It should also act as a link between researchers and practitioners.

The local investment programme is still running and a comprehensive evaluation has yet not been carried out.

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13.3 Survey Results: Organisations and Experiences

Institutet för Framtidsstudier Institute for Futures Studies

IF

96 3001

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2. Relation to government / parliament

<i>government</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>primeminister</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>ministries</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>head of state</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>parliament</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
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The Swedish Institute for Futures Studies is a trust foundation, but dependent on a grant over the state budget. Thus it does not sort under any ministry formally, but its closest relations are with the ministry for research & education, the institute is also closely related to the Prime Ministers Office and to the Ministry for Trade, Industry and Communication. The government appoints the board of directors.

3. organisational structure

<i>permanent</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>temporary</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>from</i> 1987 <i>to</i>	<i>public</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>academic</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>profit</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>nonprofit</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>thinktank</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>committee</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>network</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>other</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>specification</i>	Mainly governmental funding but some cooperation with private companies and other organisations.	
<i>main persons involved</i>	Lena Sommestad, Director; Göran Hallin, Vice Director.	
<i>annual budget</i>	2 million EUR.	
<i>permanent staff</i>	16	
<i>external consultants</i>	8-10	

4. Main activities

Interdisciplinary long-term motivated future studies. Reports, seminars etc..
Focusing on social aspects.

5. Issues treated

Priority areas:

- Demography and economic development
- Welfare and citizenship
- The borderless society

6. Working methods

main emphasis		<i>expert knowledge</i>	● ● ● ● ●
		<i>creativity</i>	● ● ● ● ●
		<i>interaction</i>	● ● ● ● ●
selection		treatment of issues	
<i>customer</i>	● ● ●	<i>internal</i>	● ● ● ● ●
<i>own</i>	● ● ● ● ●	<i>experts</i>	● ● ● ● ●
<i>public</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ●
		<i>public</i>	● ● ●
		output	
		<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ●
		<i>expert</i>	● ● ● ● ●
		<i>public</i>	● ● ● ● ●

7. Major Projects

The future, demography, and economy

The main objective is to study the links between demographic composition and economic growth.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

The smart home? Vision and reality

The main objective is to explore the social and human needs that new technology in the housing sector is supposed to meet.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Health and social change

How has the concept of health changed over time and what are the relations between health in a society and its economic development?

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

Our research on demography and economic growth has proven to show very interesting results. It appears as if we are able to explain a very large part of the fluctuations in national economic growth rates by demographic variables over long-term periods. E.g. the current crisis in Japan or Eastern Europe may to a large degree be results of ageing economies, while the current boom in U.S and western Europe may well be succeeded by a deep recession after 2010.

9. Most interesting reports / publications

The exodus of the Fourties Generation (available English summary on: http://www.regeringen.se/info_rosenbad/departement/finans/eso/PDF/ds2000_13.pdf).

10. Cooperation with other institutions

We are involved in a nordic network of Futures studies institutions, Kairos Futures, Stockholm, Copenhagen Institute for Futures Studies, and Turku business school.

Klimatkommittén

Climate Committee

2601 370

Author: Jonas Akerman, ESGR / FOA, Stockholm

1. Contact

Klimatkommittén
, Stockholm, Sweden

2. Relation to government / parliament

government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	head of state <input type="checkbox"/>	parliament <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
primeminister <input type="checkbox"/>		
ministries <input type="checkbox"/>		

Parliamentary committee appointed by the government.

3. organisational structure

permanent <input type="checkbox"/>	public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	thinktank <input type="checkbox"/>
temporary <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	academic <input type="checkbox"/>	committee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
from 1998	profit <input type="checkbox"/>	network <input type="checkbox"/>
to 2000	nonprofit <input type="checkbox"/>	other <input type="checkbox"/>
main persons involved	Olof Johansson, Chairman.	

4. Main activities

To present a comprehensive strategy to reduce the emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. To propose appropriate policy measures and to estimate the consequences of these.

5. Issues treated

Emissions of greenhouse gases.

6. Working methods

main emphasis	expert knowledge ●●●●●●	
	creativity ●●	
	interaction ●●●●	
selection	treatment of issues	output
customer ●●●●●●	internal ●●●●	customer ●●●●●●
own	experts ●●●●	expert ●●●●
public	customer ●●	public ●●●●
	public	

7. Major Projects

Proposal for Swedish climate strategy (Förslag till svensk klimatstrategi)

To present a comprehensive strategy to reduce the emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. To propose appropriate policy measures and to estimate the

consequences of these.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

9. Most interesting reports / publications

Förslag till Svensk klimatstrategi (Swedish Climate Strategy) (2000).

Miljövårdsberedningen

Swedish Environmental Advisory Council

550 371

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2. Relation to government / parliament

<i>government</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>primeminister</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>ministries</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>head of state</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>parliament</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
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The Swedish Environmental Advisory Council is the governments Advisory Council on environmental issues.

3. organisational structure

<i>permanent</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>temporary</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>from</i> 1968 <i>to</i>	<i>public</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>academic</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>profit</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>nonprofit</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>thinktank</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>committee</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>network</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>other</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>main persons involved</i>	Siv Näslund, Director.	

4. Main activities

The Council investigates and proposes measures that will lead towards a sustainable development. It acts as a link between the government and the research community. Extensive use of seminars and conferences.

5. Issues treated

Issues concerning the environment and sustainability.

6. Working methods

main emphasis	<i>expert knowledge</i> ●●●●● <i>creativity</i> ●●●●● <i>interaction</i> ●●●●●●															
selection	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><i>customer</i> ●●●●●</td> <td>treatment of issues</td> <td>output</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>own</i> ●●</td> <td><i>internal</i> ●●●</td> <td><i>customer</i> ●●●●</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>public</i> ●●●</td> <td><i>experts</i> ●●●●●</td> <td><i>expert</i> ●●●●●</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><i>customer</i> ●●●</td> <td><i>public</i> ●●●●</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><i>public</i> ●●</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<i>customer</i> ●●●●●	treatment of issues	output	<i>own</i> ●●	<i>internal</i> ●●●	<i>customer</i> ●●●●	<i>public</i> ●●●	<i>experts</i> ●●●●●	<i>expert</i> ●●●●●		<i>customer</i> ●●●	<i>public</i> ●●●●		<i>public</i> ●●	
<i>customer</i> ●●●●●	treatment of issues	output														
<i>own</i> ●●	<i>internal</i> ●●●	<i>customer</i> ●●●●														
<i>public</i> ●●●	<i>experts</i> ●●●●●	<i>expert</i> ●●●●●														
	<i>customer</i> ●●●	<i>public</i> ●●●●														
	<i>public</i> ●●															

7. Major Projects

Ecologically sustainable industry

Stimulate companies to increase their ambitions regarding the environment.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Green indicators

The Council has developed twelve environmental indicators for the development of society.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

The Council is often working with stakeholder groups.

9. Most interesting reports / publications

Gröna nyckeltal för en ekologiskt hållbar utveckling (Green indicators for a sustainable development) (1998).

Nationalkommittén för Agenda 21 och Habitat

National Committee on Agenda 21 and Habitat

295 376

Author: Sophie Ljungberg, Swedish National Committee on Agenda 21 and Habitat, Stockholm

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2. Relation to government / parliament

<i>government</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>primeminister</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>ministries</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>head of state</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>parliament</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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The committee consists of parliamentarians and experts from different ministries, under the chairmanship of the Minister of Housing. The terms of reference of the committee is given by the Ministry of Environment.

3. organisational structure

<i>permanent</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>temporary</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>from</i> 1998 <i>to</i> 1 October	<i>public</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>academic</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>profit</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>nonprofit</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>thinktank</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>committee</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>network</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>other</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
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specification To the committee is also linked an advisory group of experts, representing different levels and sectors of society, NGO's etc..

annual budget SEK 2.800.000

permanent staff The General Secretary + four secretaries to the committee.

4. Main activities

- Coordinate Swedish work on Agenda 21 and sustainable development and on the Habitat agenda.
- Provide the Swedish government with the basis for national progress reports to be presented to the UN's follow-up conferences, on Habitat in 2001 and on Agenda 21 in 2002.

5. Issues treated

- The relationship between Local Agenda 21 and work on local land-use planning
- Social aspects of housing
- Influence and democracy
- The role of business
- The relationship between Agenda 21, land-use planning, public health and security

6. Working methods

main emphasis		<i>expert knowledge</i>	● ● ● ●
		<i>creativity</i>	● ● ● ● ●
		<i>interaction</i>	● ● ● ● ●
selection		treatment of issues	output
<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ● ●	<i>internal</i>	● ● ● ● ●
<i>own</i>	● ● ● ● ●	<i>experts</i>	● ● ● ● ●
<i>public</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ● ●
		<i>public</i>	● ● ●
			<i>customer</i>
			<i>expert</i>
			<i>public</i>

To clarify, we understand the government as our customer.

The Swedish government has stated that the municipalities are a very important level for action concerning the Agenda 21 process. And the municipalities often interact with large public and their local Agenda 21 process is carried forward by involving many different stakeholders.

7. Major Projects

National progress reports in 2001 and 2002 + a final report from the committee in October 2002, with proposals and future priorities for ongoing work.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Make reviews of the work on Agenda 21 and Habitat among different stake-holders.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Arrange local conferences and national forums for dialogue with representatives from NGO's, business sector, local civil servants and others at local level.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

The broad cooperation between the national committee and other stakeholders and experts representing different levels and sectors of society, e.g. through the advisory group of experts that is linked to the committee.

Another example of a broad co-operation is the Association for Agenda 21 and Sustainable Development in Sweden, in which the national committee is one of ten members. The association consists of copartners from different sectors in society, such as the business sector, trade unions and authorities representing local, regional or national level etc.. One outcome of the association is the common web site, that is intended to be a forum for all collaborators in Sweden's Agenda 21 work (www.agenda21forum.org).

9. Most interesting reports / publications

The Swedish Interim Report on Habitat II, to UN Habitat centre in October 2000.

Bradley: Agenda 21 in business sector and NGO's, National committee on Agenda 21 and Habitat, in October 2000 (in Swedish).

Eckerberg, Brundin: Local Agenda 21 - a survey of ten Swedish communities, university of Umeå (to be published in November 2000. In Swedish with an English summary).

Eckerberg, Brundin: A survey of Swedish municipalities' work with Agenda 21, university of Umeå, June 1999 (In Swedish with an English summary).

Swedish national report on the implementation of Agenda 21, April 1997.

Planned reports are:

Swedish national report on Habitat II, June 2001.

Swedish national report on Agenda 21, June 2002.

National report on the implementation of Agenda 21 and Habitat, with proposals and priorities for ongoing work, October 2002.

10. Cooperation with other institutions

The National Board of Housing, Building and Planning, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, Swedish Institute for Ecological Sustainability, Swedish Environmental Advisory Council.

Naturvårdsverket Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

NV
SEPA
3367 372

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2. Relation to government / parliament

<i>government</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>primeminister</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>ministries</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>head of state</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>parliament</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
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The government has given the Swedish EPA the task of coordinating and pushing environmental issues both in Sweden and internationally.

3. organisational structure

<i>permanent</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>temporary</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>from</i> 1967 <i>to</i>	<i>public</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>academic</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>profit</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>nonprofit</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>thinktank</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>committee</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>network</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>other</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>specification</i>	Agency.	
<i>main persons involved</i>	Lars-Erik Liljelund, Director.	

4. Main activities

The Agency's most important tasks are:

- To promote ecologically sustainable development and contribute to achieving the objectives by taking on the role of co-ordinator.
- To act as a driving-force in environmental work both nationally and internationally.
- To Compile and disseminate knowledge about the environment, i.e. the current situation and its development.
- To promote sustainability in trade and industry, products, waste and infrastructure in co-operation with the sector authorities as well as regional and local authorities.
- To contribute to the realisation of environmental policy and the achievement of established goals.
- To follow up and evaluate the condition of the environment and the work done to form the basis for further development of environmental policy.

5. Issues treated

All issues related to sustainability and the environment.

6. Working methods

main emphasis		<i>expert knowledge</i>	● ● ● ●
		<i>creativity</i>	● ● ●
		<i>interaction</i>	● ● ● ● ●
selection		treatment of issues	output
<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>internal</i>	● ● ●
<i>own</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>experts</i>	● ● ● ●
<i>public</i>	● ● ●	<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ●
		<i>public</i>	● ● ●
		<i>customer</i>	● ● ●
		<i>expert</i>	● ● ● ●
		<i>public</i>	● ● ● ●

7. Major Projects

Swedish Environmental Quality Objectives

The Swedish EPA coordinates the authorities responsible for the different Swedish Environmental Quality Objectives.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

MaTs (Environmentally Sustainable Transport)

Stakeholder groups were formed with people from for instance Volvo, the petroleum industry, The Swedish Transport and Communications Research Board (KFB) and the Swedish National Road Administration. The main gain from this kind of project is probably that stakeholders have to work with long term issues.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Sverige år 2021 - Vägen till ett hållbart samhälle (Sweden 2021 - towards a sustainable society)

The project analysed paths towards a sustainable society in Sweden. All parts of society were included.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

The approach with stakeholder groups for instance in the project MaTs (Environmentally Sustainable Transport).

The work with the fifteen Swedish Environmental Quality Objectives.

9. Most interesting reports / publications

När vi miljömålen? (Will we reach the environmental targets?) (1999), rapport 5007.

Nya styrmedel för begränsad klimatpåverkan (New policy instruments for limited climate change) (1999), rapport 5019.

Sverige år 2021 - vägen till ett hållbart samhälle (Sweden 2021 - towards a sustainable society) (1998), rapport 4858.

Statens Institut för Ekologisk Hållbarhet
Swedish Centre for Ecological Sustainability

IEH
SWECOL

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2. Relation to government / parliament

government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> primeminister <input type="checkbox"/> ministries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	head of state <input type="checkbox"/>	parliament <input type="checkbox"/>
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3. organisational structure

permanent <input type="checkbox"/> temporary <input type="checkbox"/> from 1999 to	public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> academic <input type="checkbox"/> profit <input type="checkbox"/> nonprofit <input type="checkbox"/>	thinktank <input type="checkbox"/> committee <input type="checkbox"/> network <input type="checkbox"/> other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
specification	Swecol, Swedish Centre for Ecological Sustainability, is a governmental authority that started its activities in June 1999.	
main persons involved	Ola Engelmark, Director.	

4. Main activities

The aim of the centre is to encourage development towards a sustainable society and to inspire to new initiatives in ecological sustainability by turning research findings and ideas of sustainability into practice.

Main activities are workshops, seminars and other meetings as well as working with various networks linking together researchers, innovators, industrialists, local government and non-governmental organisations. This involves strengthening cooperation between these groups both in Sweden and on the international arena.

The centre should also facilitate the governmentally funded local investment programme for ecological sustainability and increased employment.

5. Issues treated

All issues related to the achievement of ecological sustainability in Sweden.

6. Working methods

main emphasis		<i>expert knowledge</i>	● ● ●	
		<i>creativity</i>	● ● ●	
		<i>interaction</i>	● ● ● ● ●	
selection		treatment of issues	output	
<i>customer</i>	● ●	<i>internal</i>	<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ●
<i>own</i>	● ● ● ● ●	<i>experts</i>	<i>expert</i>	●
<i>public</i>	● ●	<i>customer</i>	<i>public</i>	●
		<i>public</i>		● ● ● ●

7. Major Projects

To act as a link between researchers and practitioners in the context of the governmentally funded local investment programme for ecological sustainability (and increased employment).

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

The function as a link between researchers and practitioners in the context of the governmentally funded local investment programme for ecological sustainability (and increased employment).

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Relations government, parliament

Organisational structure permanent, public,

Kairos Futures*Contact*

4676 392

Kairos Futures; , , Sweden

Relations

Organisational structure profit,
