



Boosting Innovation from Research to Market

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In cooperation with

Nordic Innovation Centre
Swiss Science Agency

Conference Findings

Boosting Innovation from Research to Market

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Swiss Mission to the EU



Stockholm Region



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www.partnersforinnovation.org



The State Secretariat for Science and Research of the Swiss Science Agency

The State Secretariat for Science and Research develops the goals of the Swiss Confederation in higher education, science and research on the national and international levels. It also has a coordinating function between the various Swiss institutions working in education, research and technology.

The State Secretary Charles Kleiber has headed the Office of the State Secretariat for Science and Research since 1997.

Planning the future: the goals of the Swiss science policy for the new century

Switzerland may be poor in natural resources, but it has a wealth of skills and know-how, by which it has gained international renown in flourishing economic sectors such as microtechnology, information technology and biotechnology. But the world – and its economies – have changed and priorities have changed in turn. To mark the new century, which has been highlighted by an unprecedented explosion of knowledge, Switzerland has put forward a vision in its science policy: reform and invest!

The goals of the Swiss science policy are

- to question its teaching system and to revolutionize the learning process;
- to promote excellence in its universities and research centers and to strengthen vocational training;
- to develop basic and applied research and to support innovation and its industrial application;
- to intensify collaboration between science and the private sector of the economy, between science and the state and to encourage dialogue between science and society;
- to encourage scientific and technological cooperation at the European and international level;
- to make general improvements in bilateral contacts with numerous countries and to strengthen the Swiss presence at the international level;
- to demonstrate the quality and performance of Switzerland as a site for scientific and technological activities;
- to increase the profile of Swiss scientific and research institutions;
- to promote the attractive framework conditions in Switzerland for free and applied research and for companies;
- to identify new countries with which Switzerland could collaborate more closely;
- to increase the attractiveness of Switzerland as an educational destination for students and professors abroad.

Implementation of the goals of the Swiss science policy

The Swiss education, research and technology policy is implemented jointly by the Confederation, the cantons and various related institutions.

Strategic policy in education, research and technology is handled by the Confederation through the Federal Department of Home Affairs and the Federal Department of Economic Affairs. The State Secretariat for Science and Research is in charge of coordination and management.



Nordic Innovation Centre

January 1st 2004, a new organisation - the Nordic Innovation Centre - opened a fresh chapter in the long tradition of Nordic cooperation.

The objective of Nordic cooperation within enterprise development, innovation and research is to transform the Nordic region into a single smoothly functioning market – a borderless region with free movement of skills, ideas, capital, people and products between the countries.

"In both the business sector and the political sphere there is an increasing desire for closer Nordic cooperation. It is a great challenge to work for a more integrated knowledge market in Nordic countries.", says Kjetil Storvik, the managing director of the Nordic Innovation Centre.



Per Unkel, secretary-general of the Nordic Council of Ministers, says: **"The Nordic Innovation Centre is going to be the Nordic Council of Ministers' single most important instrument for promoting an innovative and knowledge-intensive Nordic business sector."**

Unkel further emphasizes the important role of small, dynamic businesses with growth potential in preserving Nordic prosperity.

Please visit www.nordicinnovation.net for more information.

Forum for innovation policy – our contribution to improve the innovation policy

The Nordic Innovation Centre considers it important to facilitate a Nordic platform for the exchange of experience and good practise in innovation policy. "Forum for innovation policy" is the Nordic Innovation Centre's conduit for this work. On an annual basis the Forum initiates a handful of projects aiming at improving the knowledge basis for innovation policy making.

Dissemination of results and knowledge is a core activity. The target groups are primarily government and private parties within the Nordic countries innovation systems, who are responsible for developing and implementing policy. Thus recipients of the project results include, government, departments, industrial and commercial organizations, the higher educational sector, research organisations etc.





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