



Nordic Webinar Series

Conclusions from the SECOND webinar

Conclusions from group 1: *Transition at the universities*

AS-IS situation

- Reacted quickly to Corona
- Education has come into focus
- Online teaching transition has been substantial
- Advising government and society has been an important role
- A new position and role in society



TO-BE analysis

- Research based knowledge is a public good that digital education could share fast and free (Nordic model)
- Better at digital life-long learning
- Integrating knowledge across disciplines and national borders
- Make digital education more interactive and integrated with physical presence

Conclusions from group 2: *The impact agenda*

AS-IS situation

- Interest in fact-based decision-making
- The pandemic has shown that science can adapt quickly
- We systematically underestimate the societal changes needed
- The quick mobilization has created an expectation that research and innovation is 'a tap that can be turned on'



TO-BE analysis

- Investment in value-based education and research in the Nordic countries
- Improve mission-driven innovation and cooperation driven by the SDGs
- Need for ways to document and measure impact of results, educated people and cooperation

Conclusions from group 3: *What is the next great challenge, crisis or transition after Covid-19?*

AS-IS situation

- Future challenges are hard to determine but they will be interconnected
- We cannot just solve future challenges technically – we need more holistic solutions
- What seems to link the current pandemic crisis, the climate crisis and the migrant crisis is mobility



TO-BE analysis

- We must take more risks if we want to be able to deal with future challenges. How can we incentivize risk-taking in academia?
- Research-education connection is needed, but also life-long education
- Open innovation competences needed
- We need brave and bold leadership



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Conclusions from group 4: *Horizon Europe (1) – Working with societal missions*

AS-IS situation

- Solving the Covid-crisis is a mission
- There was room for coming up with missions, i.e. the five missions in the HE-program, but we do need to have the curiosity-driven research as well
- Research institutions play an important role in creating a more innovative society

TO-BE analysis

- Research and education should be the engine for transformation for societal changes
- We need to empower our young people to be entrepreneurial
- Obligate researchers to interfere more in public debates
- We adapt our systems to be agile

Conclusions from group 5: *Horizon Europe (2) – Shifting the balance*

AS-IS situation

- Potential for portfolio management for both funding streams
- Researchers show genuine motivation to be relevant and contribute to society (mission orientation)
- Competition between (expanding) research institutions is reducing success rates for applications

TO-BE analysis

- Increase 'missions' understanding
- We need to understand and unfold the missions in a cross-Nordic setting
- We need more communication from researchers to sustain public trust
- NordForsk, Nordic Innovation and Nord HORCS have a potential to increase Nordic collaboration

Conclusions from group 6: *The current transition in the private sector*

AS-IS situation

- Large need for collaboration between businesses, researchers and government
- Companies and nations are increasingly introspective rather than collaborative
- New optimism following disruption
- Companies are more purpose-driven

TO-BE analysis

- Promote collaboration. Where should we cooperate and compete on a national and Nordic level?
- Encourage the private and public sector to make scenarios in collaboration
- Initiatives for digitalization and automatization in a Nordic context
- Make the Nordics more coherent