How important is sustainability and what kind of research strategies will come?
How can we ensure that research of highest scientific quality, will also contribute to a sustainable development?
In Swedish:

"Forskningsrådet för Miljö, Areella näringar och Samhällsbyggande"

In English:

"The Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning"
Swedish Research Council Formas

Formas - the mission

To support basic and needs-driven research within environment, agricultural sciences and spatial planning

The research should be of highest scientific quality and of relevance for the areas of responsibility of the council

Formas may also support activities related to development to a limited extent.

According to the Government’s instructions
Swedish Research Council Formas

Formas – the mission

- Funding of research
- Evaluate research and development
- Identify research needs
- Initiate and support interdisciplinary research
- Responsibility for communication regarding research and outcome from research
- Implementation of outcome from research
- Support a sustainable development of our society

Examples from the instructions from the Government

2§ 5. nyttiggöra forskningsresultaten och främja en hållbar utveckling i samhället
Swedish Research Council Formas

How to support sustainable development?

Formas today – mainly as included in the evaluation criteria
**Evaluation criteria**

### Criteria for Scientific Quality:
- Research question
- Method and performance
- Scientific competence

### Criteria for Societal Value:
- Societal value of research question
- Communication with stakeholders/end users
Criteria of Scientific Quality

Research question
- Scientific significance of the aim
- Originality, innovativeness and boldness of aim, theories and/or hypotheses
- Potential for scientifically significant outcomes
- Aim in line with the call for applications

Method and performance
- Feasibility and adequacy of scientific methods
- Innovativeness and boldness of methodology
- Concrete and realistic work plan
- Concrete and realistic plan for scientific deliverables
- Coordination of project and research group
- Suitability of multi- and interdisciplinary approaches
- Ethical considerations

Scientific competence
- Quality of scientific publications
- Ability to carry out the project according to plans
- Adequate experience of project management
- National and international activities, including projects, networks, assignments, commissions of trust, and participating at or arranging workshops or conferences
- Strength and competitiveness of the research team
Societal value of research question

- Research question addresses important societal issues and/or issues of importance for Formas’ sectors
- *Project may, in a short- or long-term perspective, contribute to sustainable development*
- Awareness of stakeholder/end user needs when designing the project
- Aim in line with the call for applications

Communications with stakeholders/end users

- Description of relevant stakeholders/end users
- Concrete and realistic plan for communicating results with relevant stakeholders/end users
- Experience and ability to communicate research results with stakeholders/end users
Swedish Research Council Formas

When evaluating proposals

The applicant *must clearly state* e.g. why it is not applicable to have a plan for communication with stakeholders or why sustainability is not relevant to address.
Welcome to
VISION RD4SD
- Producing a shared vision on how to harness research and development to sustainability

www.visionrd4sd.eu
VISION RD4SD

This is an initiative coordinated and controlled by the policy makers = partners

Policy makers are WP-leaders and the key persons in the workshops, etc.

Scientists within the ESSG (European Sustainability Science Group) are taking care of the majority of the practical work
Main objective:

- To ensure that Europe is able to contribute to a sustainable development of the world, by formulating policies and decisions regarding research and innovation based on robust, up to date knowledge of highest scientific quality
VISION RD4SD Dialogue Workshops and Conferences

2011
spring  fall
Kick-off Conference + 1. Scoping Workshop

2012
winter  spring  fall
2. Scoping Workshop
1. Envisioning Workshop
1. Pathways Workshop
1. Roadmap Workshop

2013
winter  spring  summer  fall
2. Envisioning Workshop
2. Pathways Workshop
2. Roadmap Workshop
Final Conference

Workshops
Roadmap 1 Berlin 15-17 October 2012

Anna Ledin VISION RD4SD
Road map preparation
My expectations regarding the outcome:

Concrete roadmaps presented as a “Resource book” = interactive tool on the web for how to do this in practise, for instance:

- Calls – contents, framing, funding schemes
- Evaluation and ranking – criteria & peer-review
- Running the projects – reference groups, interaction with other projects, evaluation, dissemination
- After finalising the projects – dissemination, open access, evaluation

To be implemented by Formas and other research funding bodies
Thank you for your attention!

Welcome to follow:

VISION RD4SD

www.visionrd4sd.eu