

VOLVO

Strategies for research prioritisation – An industry perspective

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Current drivers for industry research prioritisations & locations

- Customer & market expectations e.g.
 - Customer values: business effectiveness
 - Corporate values: quality, safety, environment
 - Societal values: sustainability, employment, global competence transfer
- Public support of innovation & technology responding to societal needs
 - Legislation, taxation reliefs & incentives
 - Public pre-commercial procurement of innovation
 - Public co-financing of research, development & demonstrations
- Consolidated national & regional innovation strategies
 - Road maps, funding programs & resource bases
 - Specialisations and level of expertise in a global context

Current open issues in industry research prioritisations

- Researching effective multiple stake holder services & functions?
 - Appropriate business models and competence areas
 - Open common platforms & standards
 - New (antitrust) rules for competition & collaboration
- Making industrial research generating enabling technologies with long-term payback (after Bell Labs, etc)?
 - Structured collaboration among corporations, universities & government agencies
- Effective "Knowledge Triangles" (innovation, research, education)?
 - Creating concept & technology feed from researcher controlled univ:s
 - Incentivise need & value driven researcher controlled basic research
 - Integrating innovation perspectives & capabilities in the "triangle"

Some findings of the IVA-report indicating opportunities for improvement

1. Sweden lacks a body for national science & technology coordination
2. Sweden & Switzerland are not conducting road mapping
3. Most countries believe that consensus culture get in the way of up front prioritisation of research; some use private sector representatives, international advisors, top-down ministerial strategies, etc
4. Netherlands & S Korea facilitate tech transfer to international markets
5. Sweden, Switzerland & S Korea lack a strong public institute sector facilitating transferring concepts to prototypes for the market
6. Netherlands & Finland coordinate research infrastructure build up within an EU framework (ESFRI)
7. Taiwan & S Korea prioritise the university funding, there seems to be a trend in other countries to do that to a certain extent