

# Session 2: Strategy: Clusters and innovation ecosystems addressing priorities and challenges on Digital and Green Transition

- Region Skåne's Innovation Strategy for Sustainable Growth (FIRS), **Daniel Kronmann**, Strategist and Head of the Regional Development of Skåne
- Region Västernorrland, Innovation Strategy for Sustainable Growth, **Malin Vedin**, Strategist
- Region Blekinge Innovation Strategy for Sustainable Growth, **Daniel Sköld**, Strategist
- The Role of Academia in the world of clusters, **Charlotte Ahlgren Moritz**, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Malmö University

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# CLUSTERS MEET REGIONS

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SWEDEN | 15-16  
JUNE 2023

CLUSTERS AS BOOSTERS OF INNOVATION  
IN INDUSTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS



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# Smart Specialisation in Blekinge

A joint collaborative strategy to meet an uncertain future...



Smart  
industry

Tech

Missions

# Barriers to innovation

Entre-  
preneurship

Social  
capital

Innovation  
ecosystem

Critical mass

Funding

# Collaboration

## Strategy development & implementation

- Dialogues
- Workshops
- Working groups

## Knowledge & learning

- Online platform/workspace
- Introduction to Smart Specialisation (collaborative learning format)

## Funding sources

- Regional funds
- ERDF

## International collaboration

- South Baltic Sea region-project
- Horizon-projects

## Missions

- Broader stakeholder involvement in working with the EU Missions
- Mission forum on Climate

## Demoregion & testing



- Increase the capabilities and use of testbeds
- Develop a regional testbed/demonstration



## Green transformation



- Transforming the industry in Blekinge



## Regional innovation platform



## Designing missions



- Develop regional method for mission-oriented innovation
- Designing regional missions



## Marine node



- Use a Mission-oriented approach to further stimulate new innovative solutions, technologies and systems





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**The role of academia**

**in the world of clusters**

# What is the purpose of clusters and academia?

What is a cluster?

Clusters should be considered as regional ecosystems of related industries and competences featuring a broad array of inter-industry interdependencies

*European Cluster Collaboration Platform*

What is academia?

The part of society, especially universities, that is connected with studying and thinking, or the activity or job of studying

*Cambridge Dictionary*



## The role of academia in society A Swedish perspective

- The Higher Education Law stipulates that research and education should come to use in society
- Society expects universities to show that research has a societal impact and contributes to a sustainable society
- Academia has a new role to play in society: not only disseminate new knowledge but also to create new knowledge together with other sectors of society



## A Malmö University perspective



- The global challenges are our challenges
- Societal engagement and new models of collaboration are necessary to meet complex questions
- Universities are a partner together with other stakeholders in society to drive change and also change on a system level
- A key competence is our ability to collaborate and co-create new knowledge that can be implemented and scaled-up in society



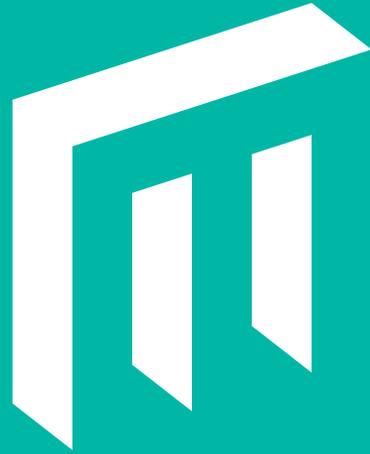
## Academia & Clusters

- Together strong regional innovation engines
- Talent attraction and retainment (students and jobs)
- Clusters are bridges between private industry (especially SMEs) and research
- Clusters as facilitators for collaboration and co-creation (Agenda 2030)
- Importance of clusters for the academic world is manifested when academia is among the founders of clusterorganisations



## The future for clusters & academia?

- Traditional partnership between industry, academia and the public sector could gain from including civil society actors – to meet the Agenda 2020 goals.
- When industry is taking the lead in the green and digital transition - how will the cluster agenda change?
- On a European level, universities are promoted as innovation engines – how will this effect the future role of academia in clusters?



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