Sweden’s climate policy framework

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Background

• Why? Stable and long-term goals necessary for successful green transition
• Aim: Bring predictability and order to climate policy (compare to fiscal policy)

• How? Government tasked cross-parliamentary committee to propose climate policy framework and climate strategy in 2014
• Proposal for framework presented to Government 2016, bill to parliament and decision by broad majority 2017
The three components of the framework

- Goals
- Climate act
- Expert climate policy council
Long-term goals

• Net zero emissions by 2045 at latest, thereafter net negative emissions

• Intermediary goals 2030, 2040

• Goal for domestic transportation sector: -70% by 2030 vs 2010
The climate act

- Inspiration from other countries, e.g. UK, but also domestic financial policy framework and budget act
- Government’s climate policy shall focus on long-term climate goal
- Annual climate reports to Parliament, part of the budget bill
- Climate action plan presented the year after parliament election
Independent Climate policy council

• Expert policy council

• Tasked to assess whether the Government’s policy in all areas is compatible with Sweden’s climate goals
Voluntary action - Fossil Free Sweden

• Initiative to engage companies, cities, organisations for climate action

• Extend challenges - for example transport, solar

• Nine industry sectors develop roadmaps for how to become fossil free before 2045: Cement, Concrete, Construction, Food retailers, Airlines, Mining, Forestry, Trucking, Steel
Next steps

Communication to Parliament on climate action, April 2018

Sweden engaged in initiatives for increased ambition, delivery of P.A.

Swedish EPA tasked to develop a proposal for long-term climate strategy for UNFCCC
SWEDEN’S PROCESS TO A LONG TERM CLIMATE STRATEGY

Paris, 24 April

Sara Almqvist
Cross-parliamentary committee

In December 2014 the Government tasked the Cross-parliamentary committee to develop and propose a national political climate framework including a long term climate strategy.

At the same time the tasked the committee to propose a clean air strategy – to ensure possible synergies.
Experience from the cross-parliamentary committee

• Institutional setup

• Stakeholder engagement and working procedures

• Ambition and targets
Institutional setup

The cross-parliamentary committee consisted of:

• One president
• Politicians from 7 political parties (all but one were represented)
• Experts (30 pers):
  – Environment and energy ministry
  – NGOs
  – Business/Industry
  – Trade unions
• Secretariat (10 pers)
Working procedures and stakeholder engagement

Monthly meetings

- Started off with a set of knowledge building meetings

- The presence of the NGOs and experts gave the politicians curriage

- The industry realized that the politicians were serious and started to turn around from being protective towards looking at possibilities

- Trust within the committee – a closed door is a closed door!
Working procedures and stakeholder engagement

Seminars

• Inspiration and lessons learnt from other countries (UK, Germany, Norway, Denmark)

• Seminars on the most challenging areas for emission reduction
Working procedures and stakeholder engagement

Study tours

• London – met with politicians with experience from the Climate Law in UK – gave credibility to the idea

• COP 21 in Paris – inspiration and a global outlook
Ambition and target setting

• A thorough review of all possible measures in each sector

• Government agencies with high credibility calculated potential emission reductions

• Scenarios illustrating the targets were achievable within current structures – no fantasies

• Development can happen fast – could lower the costs
Key elements in summary:

- Good leadership and high level of trust in the Committee
- Involvement of all key stakeholders
- Ensurance everyone had the same basic knowledge
- Inspiration and lessons learnt from other countries
- Thorough, conservative calculations that show targets are achievable
Thank you!