



Norwegian Ministry
of Education and Research

Food for thought: foresight as an input for STI internationalisation strategies

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Many and complex dimensions and drivers may shape future R&I cooperation...

Science policy

- Shift in scientific strength – knowledge production and excellence
- Emerging and disruptive technologies
- Relevance and overlap in priorities

Trade and industry policy

- Industrial competitiveness
- New or emerging markets
- Market-creating innovation
- Green shift

Foreign policy

- Changes in geo-politics
- International agreements and commitments
- Science diplomacy
- Historical/cultural relations and ties
- Neighbourhood policy
- Development policy

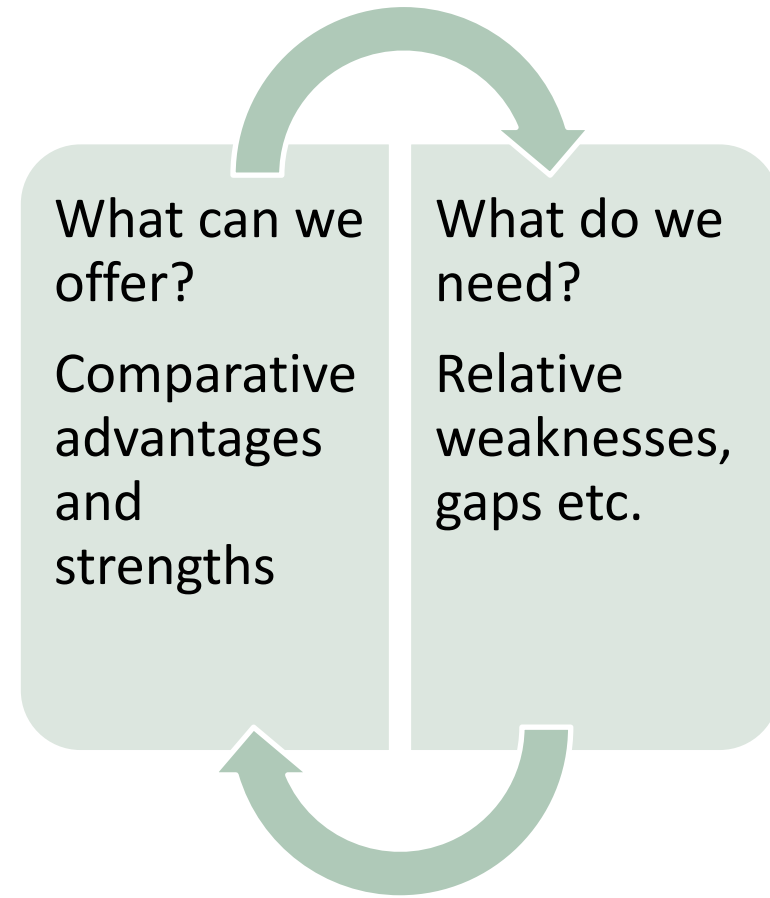
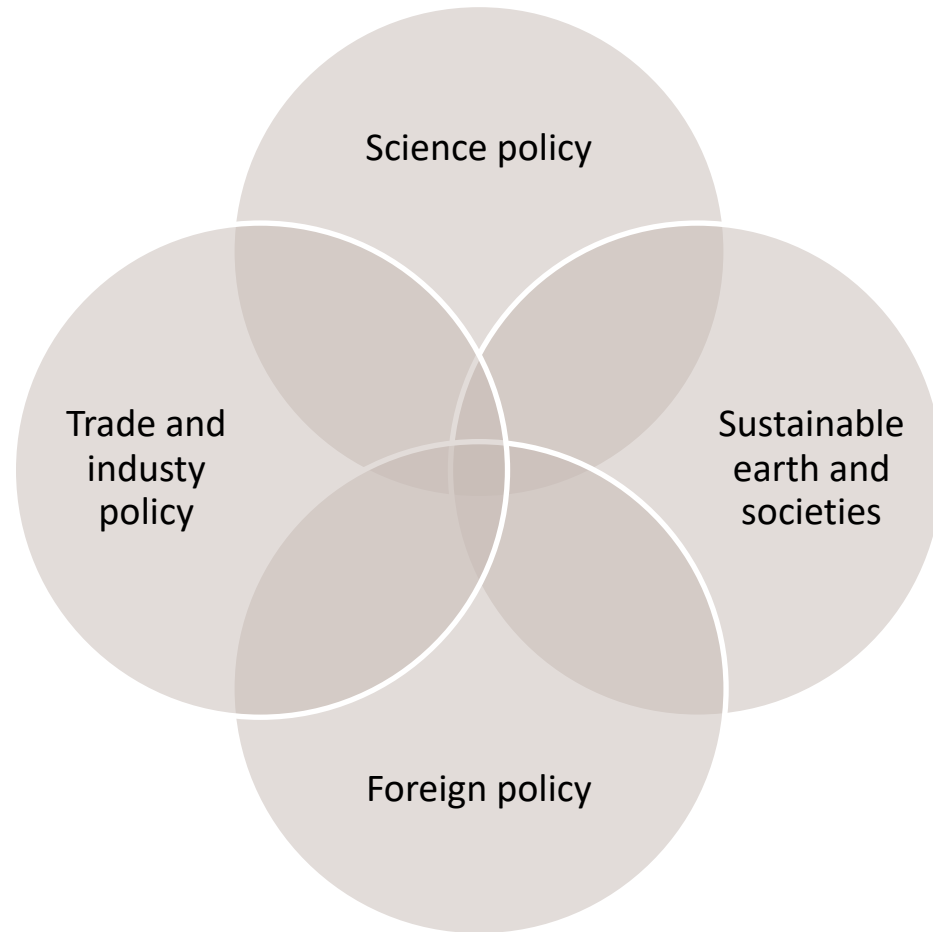
Sustainable earth and societies – tackling global challenges

- Climate, energy
- Environment, eco-systems, resources
- Health
- Social welfare
- Socio-economic development
- Security and resilience

And many others



Seeking overlaps and complementarities





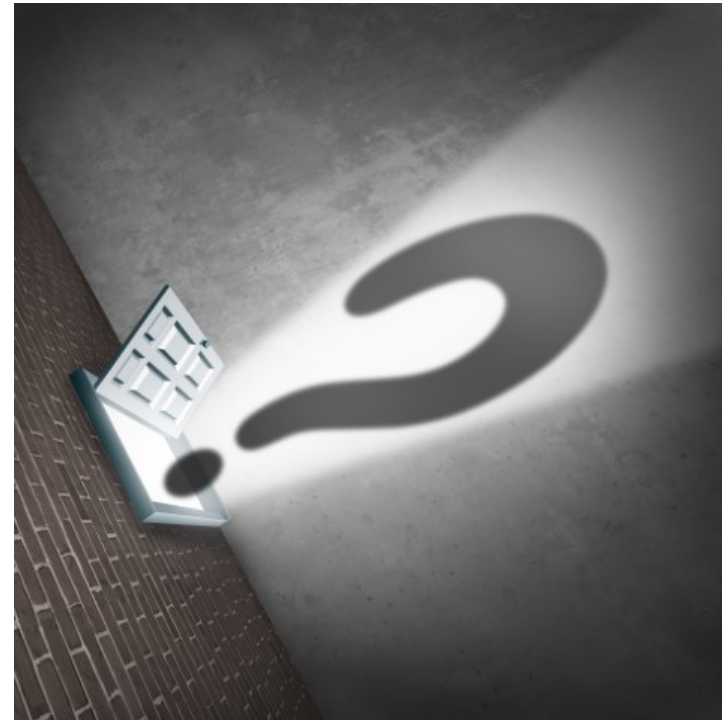
RCN International Policy – a balancing act:

- Nordic and European vs. cooperation outside Europe
- Bilateral collaborations vs multilateral platforms, incl. EU Framework Programme
- National interests vs global perspectives
- Coordination on the European level towards 3. countries
- How to develop cost efficient collaboration schemes



Ways of organising "future anticipation"

- Formalised foresight exercises
- Roadmapping processes
- Participatory practice for coordination



Formalised foresight exercises

- Norway has not carried out formalised exercises as part of developing internationalisation strategies – hence some questions:
 - What kind of capacities, resources and expertise is needed?
 - What kind of exercises/methodologies can provide relevant input (i.e. not being too general/providing only matter of course, being applicable in strategic planning, being open and comprehensive enough to anticipate new trends)?
 - Could or should foresight exercises be done at European level?



Roadmaps for bilateral cooperation with priority countries

- Combine
 - Status for cooperation
 - Description of the country's strengths and weaknesses
 - Identification of thematic areas and funding instruments of particular relevance for research cooperation in the years ahead
- Have so far been used more for further development and implementation of cooperation with each country than as input for strategies



Participatory practice for coordination in Norway

- Approach characterised by:
 - A combination of (semi-)structured consultation and informal dialogue
 - Interaction between top-down and bottom-up
 - Broad involvement of participating actors
- Pros and cons of this method:
 - Relevance and accuracy
 - Co-creation promotes co-ownership and commitment
 - May not get "the full picture" – risk of overseeing important dimensions



How could strategies and instruments be designed to anticipate insecurities and complexities?

- Open and overarching strategies
- Focus on principles
- Flexibility – promote a structured and strategic approach rather than detailed priorities
- Regular revisions and updates

Panorama

Strategy for cooperation on higher education and research with
Brazil, China, India, Japan, Russia and South Africa (2016–2020)





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Thank you for your attention!

