



The Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research supports and initiates basic and applied research with a view to improving our knowledge about working life, public health and welfare.

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Public Health Inequality in health – health challenges in the near future

Swedish Council for Working
Life and Social Research

Erland Hjelmquist, Secretary General



Joint programming

- Science and Technology should contribute to tackle major societal challenges
- Public research funding presents a scattered picture in the EU
- National research programmes not enough to tackle major European societal problems by themselves



Joint Programming

- Member States engaging
- Voluntary and on the basis of variable geometry
- development and implementation of common strategic research agendas
- a common vision on how to address major societal challenges



Discussions so far with:

- **Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research, Sweden,**
- **University of Tartu, Estonia**
- **Academy of Finland, Research Council for Health, Finland**
- **The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development, ZonMw, The Netherlands**
- **The Research Council of Norway, Norway**
- **Economic and Social Research Council, UK**



Why Public Health – Inequality in Health?

By reducing health inequalities, the overall human capital in Europe can be increased significantly

Building evidence from only national research and funding is slow and will not give a clear comparative insight

The variation in social conditions and policies between and within countries presents possibilities for interventions investigating the effects of promotion and prevention



Benefit from existing European longitudinal studies such as:

European Community Household Panel

Eurobarometers

Survey of Health, Aging and Retirement in Europe

Cross-European Longitudinal Study of Aging

Growing up in France

UK Birth Cohort Facility project

Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study

European Social Survey