THE FUTURE OF THE BIOECONOMY
- AN OWNER’S AND RESEARCH FUNDER’S PERSPECTIVE

Marcus Wallenberg

The Bioeconomy Investment Summit

Helsinki, December 14
NO PLAN(ET) B
For the Nordic countries, the forest is a basis for its bioeconomy.
THE DISTRIBUTION OF FORESTS IN EUROPE
THE SWEDISH FOREST INDUSTRY AN IMPORTANT PLAYER

- A long journey towards sustainable forest management
- 3rd largest exporter of pulp, paper and sawn timber
- Export value of 13 billion Euro
- 70,000 employees and another 30,000 in the supply chain
THE GREEN GOLD

Forest product trade balance

Källa: SCB, Skogsindustrierna
PREVIOUS FOCUS IN SWEDISH FOREST INDUSTRY
WHAT A TREE CAN DO
STORA ENSO’S TRANSFORMATION

Transformation journey
Growth businesses 71% of sales and 90% of operational EBIT

Sales 2006
-3%  21%  12%  70%
30%

Sales Q3/2017
1%  25%  13%  29%
17%  15%
71%

Operational EBIT 2006
-3%  35%  6%  62%
38%

Operational EBIT Q3/2017
10%  3%  30%  17%
90%

(1) In 2006 included in Consumer Board
(2) In 2006 includes merchants
● Are we investing enough resources into R&D compared to other sectors?

● If public and private actors work together, the bioeconomy approach will make it possible to stimulate growth and at the same time secure sustainability.
The Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation has for a long time supported forest related research centres. We have invested 800 MSEK 2008-2017 and will invest another 1 billion SEK 2018-2027 in research on forest production and new forest products.
THE WALLENBERG NETWORK IN FOREST RESEARCH

Wallenberg Wood Science Center, KTH, Chalmers
  • Organic electronics linking cellulose based products to Internet of Things

Laboratory for Organic Electronics, LiU
  • Wood nanotechnology to create new materials from trees

UPSC-SciLifeLab, SLU, UmU, KTH
  • Biology and genetics to increase the biological production in our forests
FOUCS 1: NEW MATERIALS
FOCUS 2:
BIOLOGY AND GENETICS FOR INCREASED TREE GROWTH

Acceleration of Tree Breeding

% 70 60 50 40 30 20 10

1965 1985 2005 2025 2045 2065 2085

SKOGFORSK
WHAT DO WE NEED...?

... more basic research supported by the public sector and private foundations

... more applied research and product development by the industry

... an innovation ecosystem with a vibrant start up arena

... a research and innovation plan that make it possible for our countries and our industry to take the next step to full implement the biobased economy
SWEDEN AND FINLAND SHOULD DRIVE THIS JOURNEY

Why

– More or less endless natural resources
– Willing to invest in a fossil-free society
– Strong R&D base and established innovation systems
– Highly industrialized and two of the most productive start-up scenes in Europe

How

– Create a strong network for research, development and innovation among Swedish and Finnish actors to strengthen the forestry based bioeconomy
“To go from the old to what is about to come is the only tradition worth keeping”

Marcus (Dodde) Wallenberg wrote this to his brother Jacob in 1946 whilst trying to convince him that the family should leave their interests in the railway industry and instead focus on the founding of the airline SAS