



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY
OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Norwegian Donation Reinforcement Programme

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Commitment to Research

- White paper (March 2005) which presented comprehensive measures for strengthening Norwegian research
- The initiative was government based and was first launched by the former Minister of Education and Research, Mrs Kristin Clemet



Very little philanthropic funding of research in Norway



Funding of public universities

Direct government funding	Percent of total budget 2008
University of Oslo	74,2
University of Bergen	76,2
University of Tromsø	75,8
Norwegian University of Science and Technology	70,4

External funding of universities in percent of total external funding 2008

Institution	Gov./Munic	Organisat.	Industry (Norway)	EU
University	31,3	14,1	28,7	10
University colleges	44,4	3,5	37,0	5,7

Donation Reinforcement Programme

- Matching government funds – 25% - for donations for fundamental research
- Adopted by Norwegian Parliament in June 2005.
- Effective in National Budget of 2006
- Guidelines altered June 2008

Conditions - Who can donate?

- Enterprises (from 2006)
- Private individuals (from 2006)
- Foundations and charities (from 2007)

Conditions - Which donations qualify?

- Donations for long-term basic research
- Cannot fund research directly benefiting donor's business activities
- Must be at least NOK 3 million (€ 0,35 million)

Conditions - Who can receive donations and

- Norwegian universities
- Norwegian university colleges that award doctorates
- The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters
- The Research Council of Norway

Practical arrangements

- Donor and receiving institution/donee agree on formalities and use of donation
- Receiving institution/donee must complete a simple application form
- Receiving institution/donee must guarantee that donations qualify for reinforcement
- A decision is normally made within 3 weeks

Practical arrangements

- The Research Council of Norway distributes donation reinforcements
- Reinforcement is paid to the institution that receives a donation
- Financial report from the donee

Present status – donations

- 2006 – NOK 531 mill. (~ € 63 mill)
- 2007 – NOK 193 mill. (~ € 23 mill)
- 2008 – NOK 238 mill. (~ € 28 mill)

- 2009 – numbers are not finalised

Some examples of donations 2008

- The Cancer Society donated NOK 15,66 mill. for cancer research at the University of Oslo
- StatoilHydro ASA donated NOK 10 mill. to the Research Council of Norway for research on HMS in the petroleum activity
- Stein Erik Hagen's foundation donated NOK 7 mill. to the University of Oslo for research on long-term clinical cardiovascular diseases
- Telenor ASA donated NOK 5 mill. for a professorship at BI – the Norwegian school of management

Evaluation

- No formal evaluation has been carried out
- The programme is successful
- Both donors and receiving institutions are satisfied with the system
- Guidelines altered in 2008
 - Size of donation
 - Technicalities related to accounting