# LUND UNIVERSITY

**eLearning and Adult Learners in Higher Education, The Swedish Perspectives**

Ossiannilsson, Ebba

[Link to publication](#)

Adults Learning
& Participating
in Education

**alpine**

A Higher
Education Project

eLearning and adult learners in
Higher Education
Helsingfors, June 2004
Ebba Ossiannilsson,
Lund University, Sweden

# Adults in Universities, the Swedish perspectives

# Background
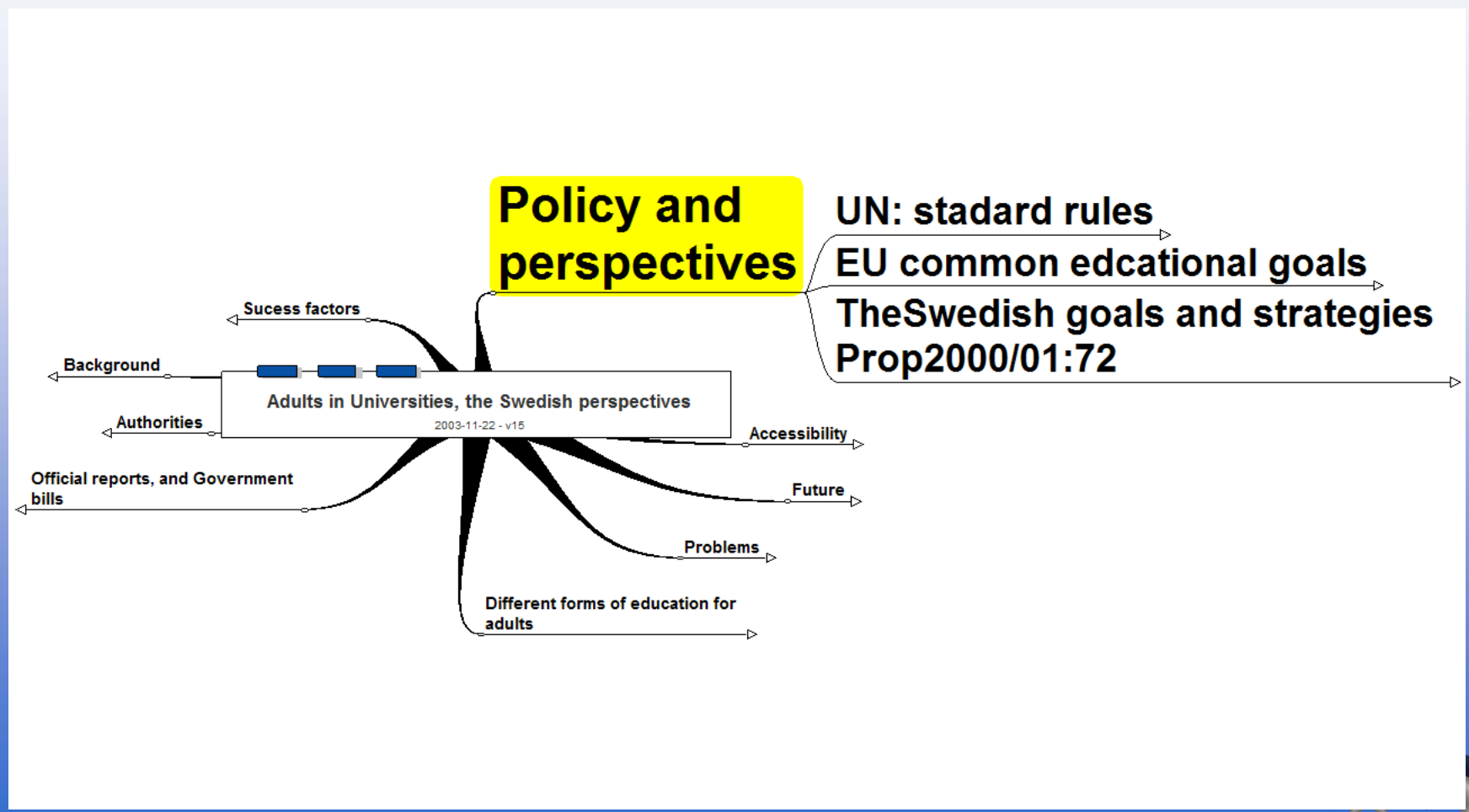
# Education for all/Sweden

- **Improve knowledge and competence**
- **Pedagogic and working methods have to be developed to meet demands for LLL and a knowledge based society**
- **Individual support and counseling, based on validation of prior experiences**
- **Suitable learning environments for education, coching,supervision and netbased learning**
- **Economic support to adults to stimulate participation in education competence development**
- **Jointly responsibility for individuals and groups demand on common and specific education**
- **Formal and informal learning**
- **A fundamental teamwork by politicians and co-operation to realize individuals learning and competence development**

# Jointly responsibility for indivudals and  groups demand on common and specific  education

- **Individual**
- **Society**
- **Empoyers**

# A fundamental teamwork by politicians and co-operation to realize individuals learning and competence development

- Authorities
- Labor -market
- Popular movements

# Different forms of education for adults



Adults in Universities, the Swedish perspectives
2003-11-22 - v15

- Policy and perspectives
- Accessibility
- Sucess factors
- Future
- Background
- Problems
- Authorities
- Official reports, and Government bills
- **Different forms of education for adults**
  - HEI
  - Kommunal Vuxenutbildning
  - Folkbildning
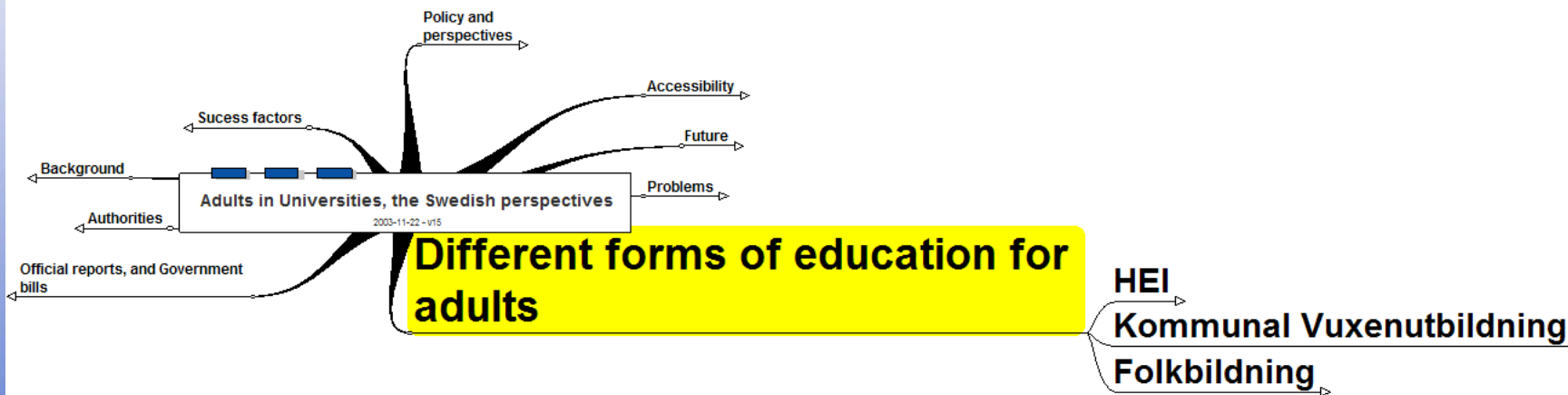
# HEI

- **The Swedish Net University**
- **Support for disadvantage groups**
- **Delegation for widening recruitment**
- **NA**

# Official reports, and Government bills



Arbetsmarknad och högskoleutbildning 2003:27

The Open University (Prop 2001/02:15)

Likabehandling av studenter i högskolan (Prop 2001/02:27)

Rekryteringsbidrag vid vuxenstudier (Prop 2001/02:161)

Bidrag vid kortidsstudier och vissa andra studiestödsfrågor (Prop 2000/01:10)

Vuxnas lärande och utveckling av vuxenutbildningen (Prop 2000/01:72)

Kvalificerad yrkesutbildning (Prop 2000/01:63)

Från kunskapslyftet till strategi för LLL (SOU:1999)

Official reports, and Governme bills

Adults in Universities, the Swedish perspectives
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Sucess factors

Background

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Different forms of education for adults
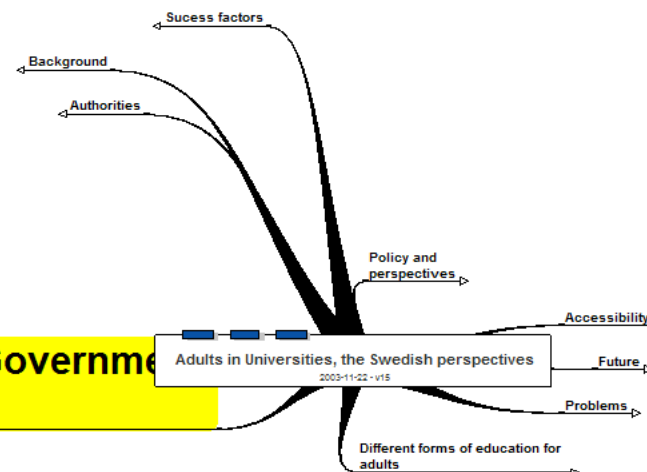
# Authorities

Arbetsmarknadsverket (AMV)
Centrala studiestödsnämnden (CSN)
Folkbildningsrådet (FR)
Handikapppombudsmannen (HO)
Hjälpmedelsinstitutet (HI)
Högskoleverket (HSV)
Landstingsförbundet och landsting (LF, L)
Myndigheten för skolutveckling MS)
Nationellt Centrum för flexibelt lärande (CFL)
Nätunversitet
Riksförsäkringsverket
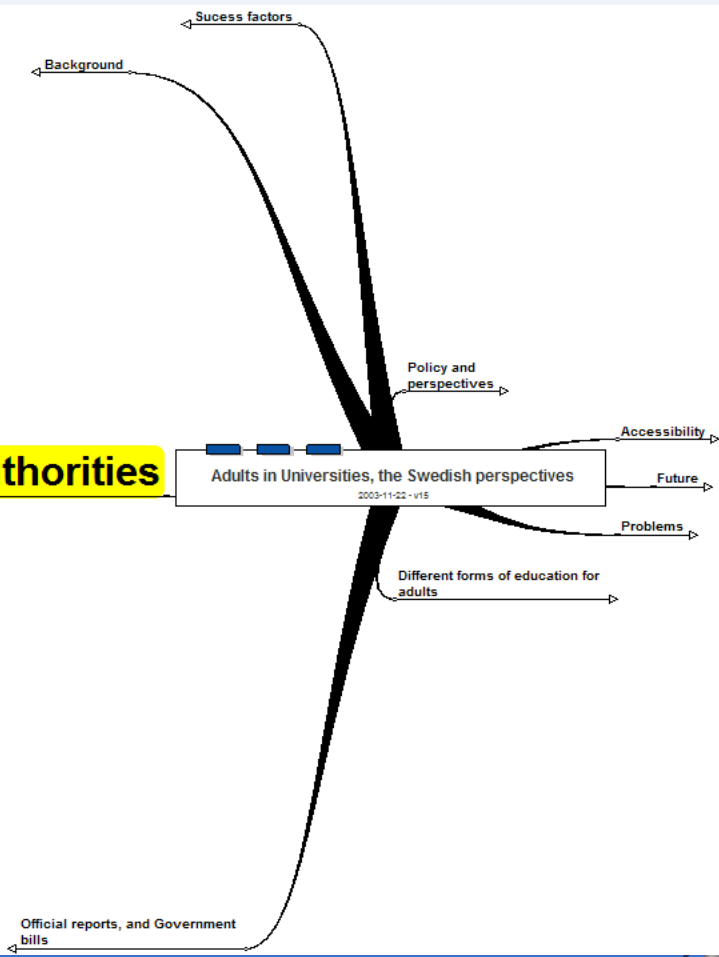SISUS (Statens institut för särskilt utbildningsstöd
Socialstyrelsen
Specialpedagogiska institutet
Statens skolverk
Svenska kommunförbundet och kommuner
Talboks-och punktskriftsbiblioteket (TPB)

Authorities

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# Accessibility



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- Different forms of education for adults

**Accessibility**
- Councelling
- Active recruitment
- Study grants
- Active dialogue learner/education
- Adapt study path
- Aids
- Attitudes

# The Open University- interventions for promoting broader recruitment in Sweden

Ebba Ossiannilsson, Project Manager

Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund University

NÄTUNIVERSITETET
www.netuniversity.se

Adults Learning & Participating in Education

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# Regulations in the HE Act

## College education
## Real Competence
## Commissioned education

Ebba Ossiannilsson, Project Manager

Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund University

Doctoral students, also LIC

Renewal of the pedagogic in HE

CFL

Distributed learning

The Swedish Net University

Ebba Ossiannilsson, Project Manager

Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund University
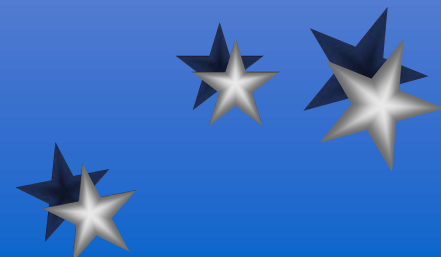
# Courses for immigrants with HE

# Internationalization mobility

# Education on mission outside EES

# Disadvantage groups

Ebba Ossiannilsson Project Manager

Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund University

**Nätuniversitetet**
www.netuniversity.se

alpine
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Adults Learning & Participating in Education

# 34 HEI/49 in SE

# www.studera.nu

**211 milj  SEK 21.1 milj €**

**180 milj  SEK 18.0 milj €**

**100 milj  SEK 10.0 milj €**

Ebba Ossiannilsson Project Manager

Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund

# The Swedish Net University Agency

## Annual Budget: 25 milj SEK   2.5 €

## Staff: 11 persons

Ebba Ossiannilsson Project Manager

Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund University

# Aims:

## Widening the distance education market in Sweden

## Strong Brand Name

## Co-ordinating Agency

## Stimulate improvements

Ebba Ossiannilsson Project Manager

Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund University

# The Swedish Net University Agency- Strategic plan

**Information and marketing of courses via a web gateway**

**Development of ICT supported distance education within important areas**

**Development of knowledge and exchange of experiences**

**Including adm. and co-ordinate activities within the Swedish Net University**

Ebba Ossiannilsson Project Manager

Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund University

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www.netuniversity.se
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# The Portal for The Net University, SE

**Students**

**Lecturers**

**HEI**

**2003 120 000 applicants, 2500 courses**

Ebba Ossiannilsson Project Manager

Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund University

# The Swedish Net University Portal

# -not just concerning technique

## Focus groups; students, lecturers, experts

## student councellors

## Reports; National and international (downloads)

http://www.netuniversity.se/sys/NAvigation/Content.asp?c=188

Ebba Ossiannilsson Project Manager

Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund University

Course information

Map of Sweden

Virtual study rooms

Student pool

Not just info portal, but communication portal

Net Jour, for example Librarian

Ebba Ossiannilsson Project Manager

Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund University

Technical support

Expert panel

"TIME"    "Competence bank"

Barometer

International Section EU

Decentralized info  responsibility

Ebba Ossiannilsson Project Manager

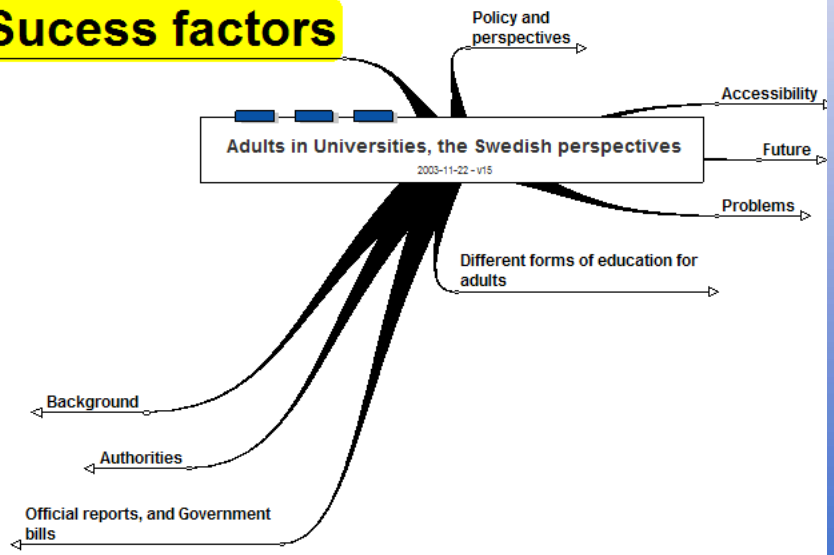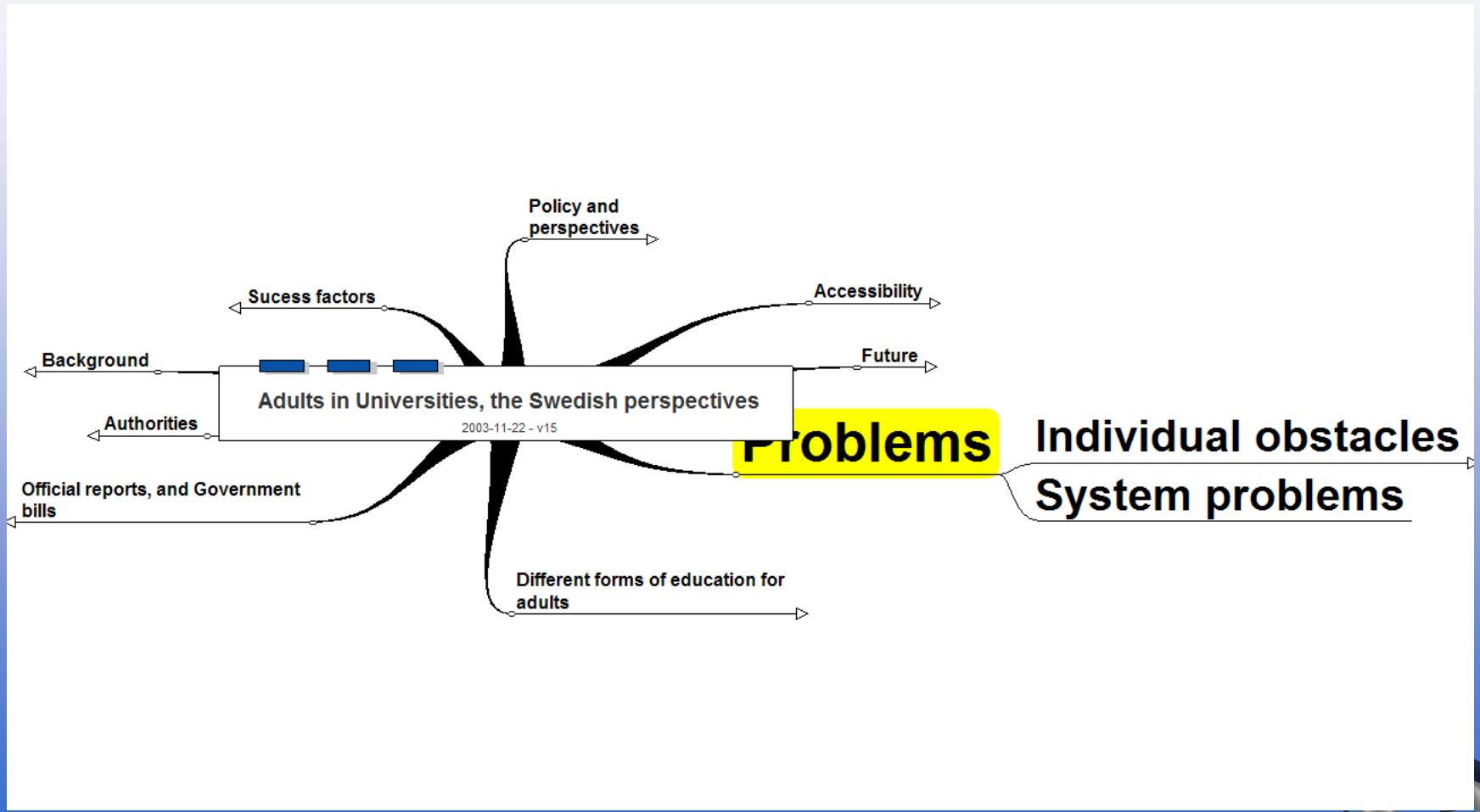Office for Continuing and Distance Education, Lund University

Adults in Universities, the Swedish perspectives
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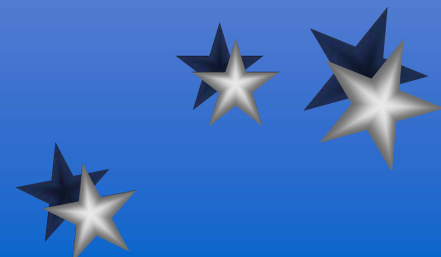- **Problems**
  - **Individual obstacles**
  - **System problems**

# Future
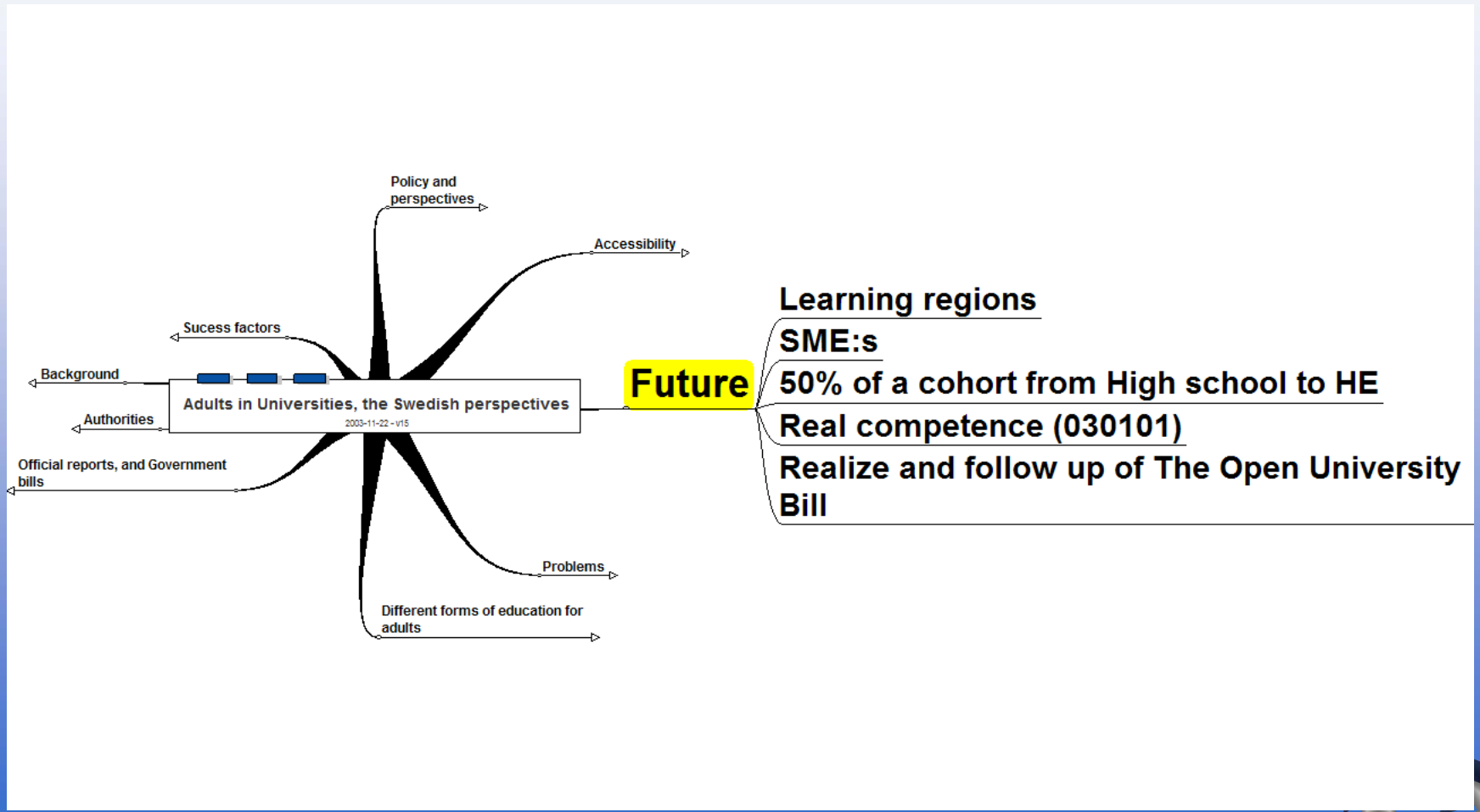
# Thank you for your attention

**Ebba.Ossiannilsson@fov.lu.se**

**www.fov.lu.se**

**I Table of definitions and examples of applications**

**II Information and Communication Technology in University Adult Education**
**1) Introductory paper**

**2) National/university reports on ICT-based learning initiatives for adults**

**3) Case studies**

**III Community outreach in University Adult Education**

**1) Introductory paper**

**2) National/university reports on ICT-based learning initiatives for adults**
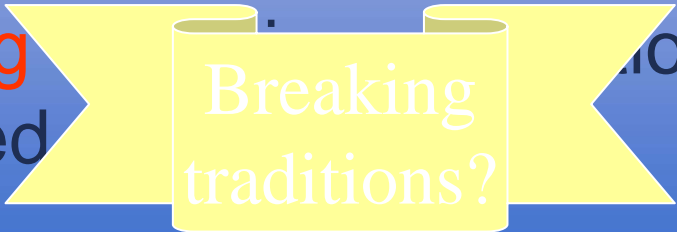
**3) Case studies**

# ICT and Community Outreach

- **Key messages**
- **Further reading**

**University (or HEI) is doing something...**

- – outside it's traditional geographical working area
- – for people who are not traditional students
- – with organisations which are not usually it's partners
- – something ~~...~~ ...ionally considered

**Breaking traditions?**

# Breaking traditions...

- **"outside it's traditional geographical working area"**
  - extra mural units; local study groups
- **"for people who are not traditional students"**
  - adults, older people, university graduates, Alumni
- **"with organisations which are not usually it's partners"**
  - Enterprises; SME's; Workers' Educational Associations
- **"something which is not traditionally considered as it's task"**
  - Action research; community & regional

# Community outreach - basic definitions

- **CO offers a University the opportunity to provide services and activities to community members who are not the organization's usual (traditional) audience**

- **Direct:**
  - establishment of regional units, Distance education..

- **Indirect:**
  - development of expertice and economical growth..

# Means (examples)

- **Establish single entry-points or front-door mechanisms**
  - External Liaisons Offices, Research and Development Offices, Regional Offices, City Offices
- **Create local support units for Open university students**
- **Organise regional development projects and programmes**

- **"Organizations and/or individuals who interact or have the potential to interact with a university"**
  - public/private schools and other training institutions + supervising institutions
  - business and industrial community
  - support organizations (chambers of commerce, trade unions,…)
  - local and regional governments
  - educational users (full & part-time students)

# ICT?

- Information technology (IT) **is the term used to describe the items of equipment (hardware) and computer programs (software) that allow us to access, retrieve, store, organise, manipulate, and present information by electronic means**

- Communication technology (CT**) is the term used to describe telecommunications equipment through which information can be sought and accessed, for example, phones, faxes, modems, and computers'**

**http://education.massey.ac.nz/lt/NETerm.asp**

- **Computer-mediated communication (CMC) is the set of possibilities which exist when computers and telecommunications networks are used as tools in the communications process: to compose, store, deliver and process communication. Such systems rely on a basic configuration of a main-frame computer with appropriate software, connected via telephone and data networks to users with terminals or micro-computers.**

  - electronic mail, which allows messages to be sent to electronic letter-boxes for named individuals, which can be accessed when the named user logs on;

  - computer-conferencing, which allows messaging to be shared 'openly' by all 'members' of a conference;

  - (Chat, synchronous online messaging; added by JM)
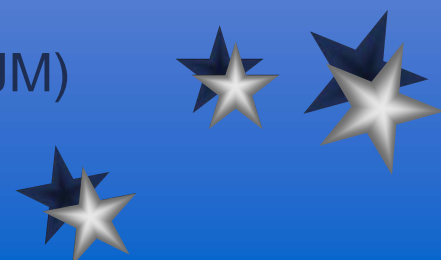
- **Telephone, video, audiocassette, television, radio**
- **Videoconferencing, audioconferencing, audiographics**
- **Computer based learning programmes, CD-Rom**
- **Internet-based communication tools (chat, e-mail, computer conferencing, groupware)**
- **WWW-based resources, interactive materials**
- **(WWW-based) learning platforms (WebCT, First Class, FLE, Luvit, Studium, etc.)**
- ***Virtual training organisation* (eg. Virtual Open University; include course- and student management services and tools)**
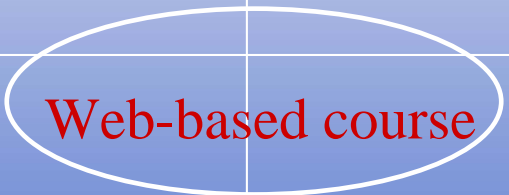
integrated to face-to-face learning

Overheads in web
additional material
links to Internet-res.

email
chat
discussion forums

Text
pictures
sound

Web-based course

Human commu-
cation & inter-
action

Self-study materials
Interactive tests
hypertext & multimedia

conferencing systems
discussion forums
chat, email

Web-based only

**Introductory papers:**

- **Information and Communication Technology in University Adult Education**

  **by J Maninnen, FI**

- **University and Community Outreach in University Adult Education**

  **by  M Dolezal, CR**

# National University Reports on ICT based learning initiatives for adults

) Ebba Ossianilsson (Lund University, Sweden)
Adult education, life-long learning, community outreach and ICT in Sweden

b) Myriam MARTIN (University of Haute Alsace, FRANCE)
Ict-based teaching at the university of Haute Alsace

c) Ineta Kristovska (University of Latvia, Latvia)
The Role of IT and Open and Distance Learning in Adult Education in Latvia

d) Aune Valk (University of Tartu, Estonia)
ICT-based teaching/learning at the University of Tartu, Estonia

e) Jyri Manninen (University of Helsinki, Finland)
ICT in Finnish University adult education

f) J. O. Uhomoibhi (Queens University of Belfast, UK)
ICT-based teaching and learning and Adult Education at Queens University of Belfast

g) Gabriel Dima, Alina Florentina Borcos
(University "Politehnica" of Bucharest, eLearning Services Unit, Romania)
The Context of ICT-based Teaching/learning in Romania

# ICT- Case studies

# National Reports on CO Initiatives for Adults

a) Ebba Ossianilsson (Lund University, Sweden)
Lund University, Sweden and Community Outreach

b) Tina Engblom (Åbo Akademi University, Finland)
The Open University at Åbo Akademi University-
a way to reach out to minority communities

c) J. O. Uhomoibhi (Queens University of Belfast, UK)
Community outreach, adult learners and higher education in Northern Ireland's

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# CO- Case studies

a) Margerita Zagmaister (Slovenian Institute for Adult Education)
Distance education for adults with the help of local study centres- case
study from the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana

b) Tina Engblom (Åbo Akademi University, Finland)
Local courses organised in co-operation with adult education centres:
Local courses in Theology

c) Tina Engblom (Åbo Akademi University, Finland)
Mixed mode courses: Basic programme of studies in law

d) Ebba Ossianilsson (Lund University, Sweden)
Outreach-introduction to university studies

e) Aune Valk (University of Tartu, Estonia)
Organisation of regional activities at the University of Tartu

F ) Jenny Pange (University of Ioannina, Greece)
Courses to adult preschool teachers in Greece. Local courses with
travelling university professors. The case of teaching New Technologies.

# The Swedish Netuniversity

35 universities

2500 courses (70 degree programs)

145 000 applicants

70 000  study places

Annual budget of about 30-35 million SEK (3-3.5million Euro).

Global

Turnover 1 miljard SEK

www.netuniversity,se

# The Swedish Netuniversity

- **The Swedish Net University Agency will work within three principal areas:**

**Information and marketing of courses via a web gateway**

**Development of IT-supported distance education within important areas**

**Development of knowledge and exchange of experiences**

**The Agency will also administer and coordinate activities within the Swedish Net University.**

**Strong brand name**

**A co-ordinating agency**

**Stimulate improvements**

**The Swedish Net University**

**The Swedish Net University mainly aims at widening the distance education market in Sweden.**

**The Swedish government recently decided to set up the Swedish Net University as a dual or multi-modal university based upon the courses and education already given by the Swedish universities and university colleges. As an initial incentive, these institutes of higher education will be given an extra disbursement (totally 100 million SEK for year 2004) from the government, for courses given within the Swedish Net University. The disbursement was 211 million SEK, in 2002, and 160 million SEK last year. Participation within the Net University is voluntary for the universities and university colleges.**

**Strong brand name**

**However, most universities will participate, and offer a wider range of courses than those supported by the extra stimulation resources. The Swedish Net University is planned to be a strong brand name for Swedish distance education provided by Swedish universities.**

**A co-ordinating agency**

**In order to run the project, the Swedish Net University Agency (located in Härnösand in the geographical middle of Sweden) has been started. The primary task for the agency is to co-ordinate the different courses and education given by the various Swedish universities. The agency has an annual budget of about 30-35 million SEK.**

**Stimulate improvements**

**Most of this funding will be used for different purposes such as stimulating improvements in skills and competence among distance education teachers and other personnel. It will also be used to identify topics and areas that would benefit from more distance education. Furthermore the agency runs and develops this web-based platform where the Swedish Net University and its courses are presented.**

# The Swedish Netuniversity

- **Search with free text**
- **Subjects**
- **Start ?  flexibel  spring 2004  summar 2004 autumn 2004  spring 2005**
- **Tempo ? Individual, parttime etc**
- **Level**
- **HEI**
- **In case of physical meetings (where and when)**
- **Language[?]**

# Other innovations using ICT & CO

- **LUVIT, Lund University**

  Web-based courses for Continuing education (Öresund region, world-wide, China,  BSVC)

- **Open University, Åbo Akademi University, Turku**
  – web-based courses for minority population

- **Tarto University**
  – ICT support for Open University students during their independent study time via e-mail lists and WebCT

- **University of Helsinki, Palmenia Centre for Continuing Education**
  – regional offices (9) & regional development policy

From a lifelong learning perspective ICT and Community Outreach are among the most effective and efficient ways of reaching adults and widening their participation in HE.

ICT is a tool for lifelong learning. Delievering courses through the net brings benefits for adults in addition to the stated aims of the course, e.g. to help students become familiar with the eWorld.

Although ICT-based teaching is time-consuming and expensive from an investment point of view, it helps to bring adult learners to universities.

Research into and experience of ICT-based teaching in universities shows that it is an especially suitable teaching method for adult learners, providing better access and qualitatively better learning results.

In delivering courses in the regions, co-operation with local training institutions can be mutually useful.

Instead of offering 100% web-based learning, blended learning which offers the opportunity for face to face study and teaching sessions is preferred by many adult learners who are prepared to invest time in travelling to courses and linking up with their fellow students. Therefore combining Community outreach activities with ICT-based teaching seems to be a good option for adult learners.

When making a decision about offering ICT-based courses to adult students, it is necessary first to consider whether they have the necessary IT skills

Neither ICT nor CO strategies in isolation can help to overcome the negative attitudes, which prevent adult learners from wishing to participate in HE. Offering courses which take place outside the 'ivory tower' of the University may help to overcome adults' perceived fear of the institution but, in addition student support measures such as introductory courses, good online support services and the provision of a strong IT and administrative infrastructure are essential for the successful implementation of an ICT /CO based programme for adult learners.

ICT and CO are particularly effective delivery methods in geographically isolated regions and for use with language minority populations who are living in a widely dispersed geographic area.

The 5th generation of eLearning focusing on What, Where and When; the intelligent Flexible Learning Model, characterized by flexibility in time, pace and space; materials; interactive delivery and approaching zero; all of these tools  can be effective in breaking down the barriers to  wider participation by adults in HE.

Improving adult education provision in Europe
Common understanding/greater integration in Europe
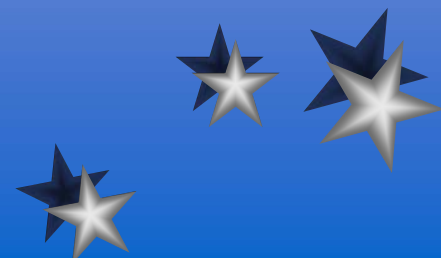
Language and culture
Level of development within individual countries
Appropriate funding to carry out the tasks

To further develop new technology to enable teachers and adult learners to benefit more full from experiences across Europe

Thank you very much for your attention
For questions and further information
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http://www.qub.ac.uk/alpine/