



Developmental Monitoring – Assuring Sweden’s Status as a Knowledge Society

A STRATEGY FOR THE SWEDISH
HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY (UKÄ)

Strategy

A source of information and an important stakeholder

UKÄ (the Swedish Higher Education Authority) will be the acknowledged source of information on higher education and play an important role both nationally and internationally. We will coordinate our tasks to enable our operational areas and our different fields of expertise to reinforce each other. In doing so we will help to ensure that educational policy targets are attained. Our operations must provide the greatest possible benefit for the higher education sector and help to make sure that students are offered relevant courses and programmes that attain the highest standards.

Confidence in our operations must be based to an even greater degree on dialogue, on the continued high quality of what we produce and our focus on issues that are relevant, pertinent and meet the needs of higher education.

Our strategy is an important tool in our annual operational planning. The priorities adopted in our operations must be based on our strategy and our long-term objectives.

External collaboration and communication

UKÄ is to carry out its tasks so that the results are beneficial for the sector and the development of higher education. Continual dialogue is necessary. We need to be aware of the challenges facing higher education and the circumstances that prevail in different parts of the sector. Forms of cooperation must therefore be developed that can create venues for meetings with the staff of the HEIs, student organisations, policy makers and politicians, as well as stakeholder organisations active within the sector. Digitalisation of UKÄ's procedures is to be developed to enable our results to be distributed, made available and adapted to the needs of the higher education sector. We must enjoy credibility, provide support for the development of higher education and at the same time preserve our integrity and be able to make unwelcome decisions.



Internationalisation

Higher education and research are increasingly undertaken in an international context. To be able to contribute to this development of the higher education sector UKÄ's operations must, where relevant, be imbued with an international perspective. This means that we have to be aware of global developments and that we have to cooperate actively with international stakeholders. For this reason UKÄ must become increasingly involved in international contexts. In this way we can acquire important perspectives and at the same time share our knowledge and expertise.

Gender equality

In order to contribute to attainment of the national goals for gender equality UKÄ must adopt a gender equality perspective both in those aspects of its operations that have external impact as well as in its internal governance. We must establish routines and develop ways of integrating gender equality aspects in our operations. There will be a focus on raising the expertise of all our staff in this area. The action plan for 2016–2018 includes special development measures so that afterwards a gender equality perspective can be an integral element in our normal operations.

Leadership and human resources

The executive team must share overall responsibility and act to enable the implementation of UKÄ's strategy. In addition the executive team must ensure that the work of UKÄ's different departments is coordinated and effective. Managers must create conditions to enable their staff to participate and view themselves as contributing to the attainment of UKÄ's overall mission. It is the responsibility of each and everyone to contribute to the attainment of UKÄ's shared objectives on the basis of their own tasks. In order to do so, advantage must be taken of each individual's expertise and opportunities provided for relevant continued professional development. All of UKÄ's staff must also be familiar with the statutes and regulatory documents that apply to its operations.





Internal collaboration, communication and infrastructure

In order to carry out our task efficiently, exchange of information, cooperation and collaboration between our departments must be a natural element in our operations. In the next few years a new and more coordinated approach to evaluations, appraisals and reviews will make effective internal communication even more necessary. It is important for every one of us to have adequate knowledge of how other departments operate and what they are doing, if we are to be able to act as one authority. For this reason the flow of information and cooperation between the departments will be encouraged to stimulate the learning and creativity of our staff. Everyone who works for UKÄ has a responsibility for ensuring that this functions, so that we can create a platform for effective communication and cooperation between the departments.



What we want:

- ▶ To be the acknowledged source of information about higher education.
- ▶ To provide results that are valuable for the higher education sector.

We are:

- ▶ Valuable – relevant and a driving force
- ▶ Cooperative – our approach and our methodology
- ▶ Trustworthy – the quality we aim for and which characterises us
- ▶ Committed – our basic personal outlook and the way we are perceived

What we do:

- ▶ UKÄ is responsible for the legal supervision of the higher education sector, monitors efficiency and evaluates quality. UKÄ also appraises applications for entitlement to award qualifications. We have overall responsibility for statistics on higher education and review and analyse issues that concern it. In addition our work involves stimulating managerial development at the HEIs.





UKÄ SWEDISH HIGHER
EDUCATION
AUTHORITY

Published by the Swedish Higher Education Authority (UKÄ) 2015
Löjtnantsgatan 21 • P.O.Box 7703, SE-103 95 Stockholm
phone: +46 8 563 085 00 • fax: +46 8 563 085 50
e-mail: registrator@uka.se • www.uka.se