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# Climate change adaptation in the Norwegian and Swedish electricity sectors

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# Presentation outline

- Part 1: Electricity sectors Norway and Sweden
  - Comparison of Norway and Sweden and adaptive capacity; historical changes and implications for CCA
  - Formal regulations and incentive structures
  - Informal practices and organizational culture
- Part 2: Actual adaptation practices Norway and Sweden
  - Comparison of four different companies





# Norway and Sweden

- How has sector changes influenced climate change adaptive capacity?
- 1980s-2010
- Reforms
  - Norway 1991
  - Sweden 1996



# Norway

- 98% Hydropower
- 300.000 Km grid
- Central, regional and **local grid**
- About 140 grid companies
- Reform: 1991

# Sweden

- 45 % hydropower  
45 % nuclear power
- 530.000 Km grid
- Central, Regional and **local grid**
- About 170 grid companies
- Reform: 1996



# Adaptive capacity

- Adaptive capacity understood as the ability to implement adaptation or the process of it
  - Largely an organisational question
- Formal laws and regulations
  - Available resources and clear responsibility structure for adaptation
- Organizational culture
  - Adaptation represent legitimate considerations



# General changes in Norway and Sweden

## Pre reform

- Culturally engineer dominated
- Vertically integrated
- Self (not)-regulated
- Directly controlled

## Post reform

- Culturally economist dominated
- Unbundled
- (Re-)regulated
- Incentive regulation



# Change in cultural factors

## Norway

- “Efficiency crisis” → Energy Act 1991
- From *engineer* to *economist*
- Short term focus (efficiency)
- Legacy lead to efficiency geared regulatory scheme and further lock-in

## Sweden

- External pressure (no efficiency crisis)
- Normatively balanced
- Increased efficiency focus...
- But more long-term focus
- Legacy lead to balance in regulatory schemes



# Regulatory changes Norway

Period	Type of Regulation
Pre-reform, -1991	Self-regulatory system. Goal: Function, not efficiency
1991-1997	Price cap regulation ('light handed regulation')
1997-2001	Economic incentive regulation (by DEA). Goal: Economic efficiency
2001-2012	Incentive regulation + KILE + some more direct regulations (Still strong efficiency focus)
2012(?)→	More nuanced incentive parameters. KILE + Increased direct regulations (N-1?)

- 2001: KILE as a formal «patch fix»



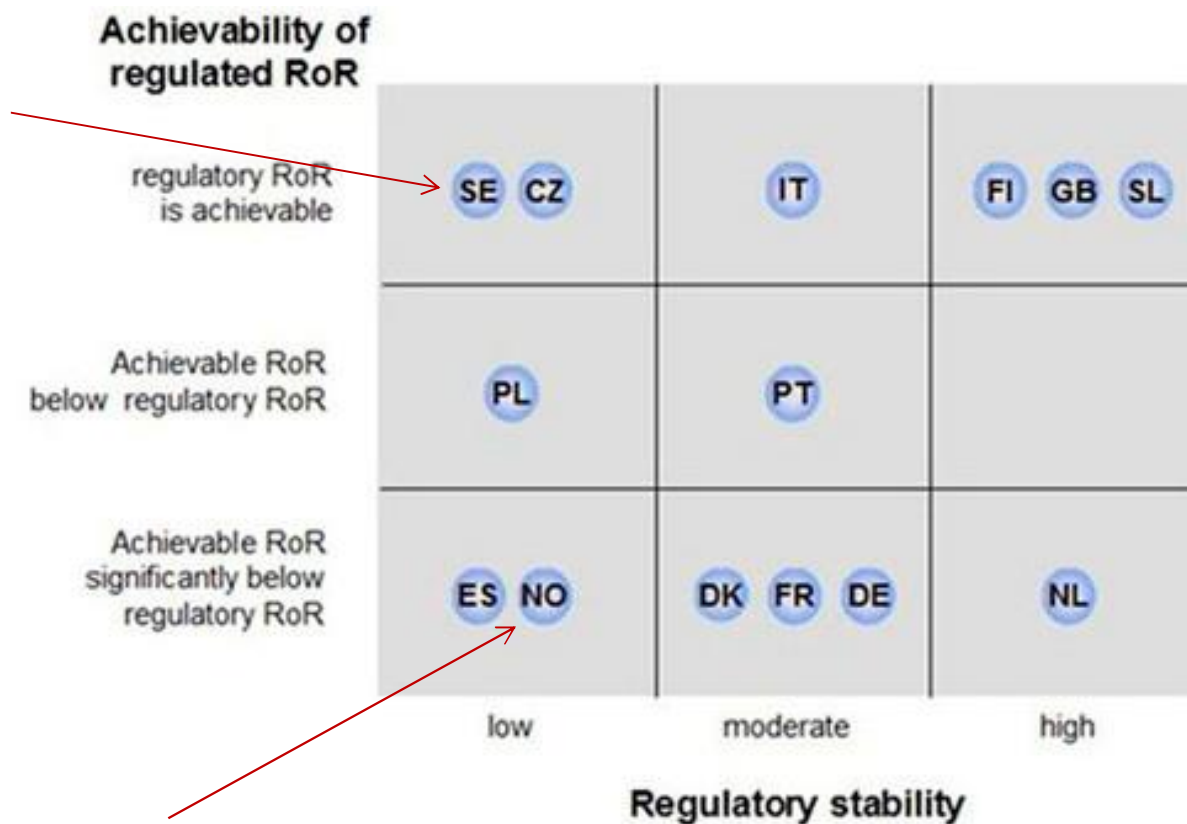
# Regulatory changes Sweden

Period	Type of regulation
Pre reform, -1996	Self-regulatory system/ no formal regulation
1996-1999	No formal regulation
1999-2003	Price cap regulation, 'light handed regulation'
2003-2007	Norm Model Regulation, <i>ex post</i>
2007-2012	'Intermediate' regulation, 'light handed regulation'
2012-	<i>Ex ante</i> regulatory framework

- 2005: Fines for failures 12h, 24h



# Rate of Returns / stability



Source: Eurelectric 2011



# Norway CCA capacity

- Radical Organizational culture
  - Radical move from engineer's legitimacy to economist
  - Undermines *willingness* to invest in adaptations
  - No transforming “extreme weather crisis”
- Formal structure
  - Reduces *ability* to invest in adaptations
  - Strong responsibility gap



# Sweden CCA capacity

- Less cultural transformation
  - Coexistence engineer/economist (leaning)
  - Stable long-term scope
  - Storm *Gudrun* strong (cultural) legitimizer for engineer's paradigm
- Formal structure
  - Weak, frequent change → org. culture important
  - Resources available (for investments in infrastructure)
  - Smaller responsibility gap than for Norway



# Sum up: National context

- Formal structure

- Swedish regulatory framework is ‘weaker’ (than in Norway), leading to more room for culture
- Swedish regulations allow for more financing of adaptations

- Organizational culture

- Swedish legitimate behaviour is more balanced between function and economic efficiency than the Norwegian
- Sweden has experience with ‘national’ weather events boosting adaptation legitimacy



## 2: What about adaptation in practice?

- Is there a difference between company characteristics in regards of how much they adapt?
- 4 companies:
  - Norway and Sweden
    - Formal structure
    - Organizational culture
  - Large and small
  - Experience and no experience with weather events



# Case selection: 4 companies

		Control variables	
		Large, more experience	Small, less experience
Country	Norway	Agder Energi (171.000)	Stange Energi (10.000)
	Sweden	E.ON Sweden (1,000.000)	Kramfors Energiverk (5000)



# Findings: Size

- Smaller companies tend to look ‘backwards’ when looking for vulnerabilities
  - ‘Too much’ attention on handling the regulatory framework
  - Few systems for mapping future vulnerabilities
- Larger companies have capacities
  - Better at combining attention between different considerations – also future vulnerabilities
  - Able to merge adaptation with other business considerations
  - Anticipatory approach



# Findings: Experience (events)

- Companies with experience adapt more
- But:
  - Not fully comparable since all experiences are different
  - The cultural context is probably important for interpretation of incidents
  - Incidents ‘add a layer’ on the other factors (national context and company size)



# Ex: Security of supply against extreme weather

- Norway
  - Low investments levels and huge lag, (but somewhat increasing)
  - Often measures are thought of as too costly (Politics Vs. Economy)
- Sweden
  - Investments increased, more robust grid
  - LARGE increase in investments since 2005 (Gudrun + expectations about increased real value of infrastructure)
- =Undergrounding in Sweden, not in Norway!



# Conclusions: How do the companies adapt?

- National context
  - Swedish companies tend to adapt more than the Norwegian companies
- Company size
  - The larger companies have a more anticipatory approach to vulnerability reduction than smaller companies
- Experience
  - Companies with experience from extreme weather events have a more anticipatory approach and adapt more



Thank you

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