Secrets on how to win in the NFR lottery...

Finn-Arne Weltzien
Take home message

All it takes is hard work 😊
(and some strategic thinking)

Oh, and a bit of luck…
The good old days…

Antrag
Ich benötige 10 000 (zehntausend) Mark

Olof Norberg
Project types in FriPro

1. **Toppforsk projects:**
   - established professor (next call 2017)

2. **Research projects:**
   - (>6 yrs post-PhD) group leader/professor
   - up to four years (NOK 5-10 mill)

3. **Young research talents:**
   - (2-8 yrs post-PhD, < 40 yrs) experienced postdoc/group leader
   - up to four years (NOK 4-8 mill)

4. **Mobility stipend:**
   - (0-6 yrs post-PhD) – two yrs abroad, followed by one year in Norway
What you need is a (reasonably) good idea … and a CV

Spend some time on this
Getting started

• www.forskningsradet.no

• Start early ( >3-4 months)
• Read call text properly (thematic programmes)
• Carefully choose your partners
• Mandatory meeting between partners

• Support letters and CVs (your own and partners’)
• Budget…
Project description

• You’re selling a concept, not detailed lab protocols
• First paragraph on page 1 is crucial
• Pilot experiments / preliminary results are necessary
  – include in text
  – hypothesis
  – feasibility
• Include figures (high quality)
• Use your colleagues…
If complex, include organogramme
Other relevant issues

• If possible, choose partners from existing network (your own or your supervisor’s)

• Have project concept ready before inviting partners

• NFR (sometimes) like cross-disciplinary or cross-sectorial research
  – Non-academic partners
  – Social science partners
It pays off to be stubborn

My NFR applications 2011-2015

- Total
- Successful

NFR seminar

Adamstuen April 15, 2016
But can be tough…

• Don’t give up!

• Never take rejections personal

• Send many applications
  – submit related projects to different programs (e.g. FriPro & Havbruk)
  – resubmission of previously rejected applications…?
Summary

• Writing grant applications takes time…
Questions?