

NNR

BOARD OF SWEDISH
INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE
FOR BETTER REGULATION

Measuring Progress in Regulatory Reform

Istanbul, 21-22 June 2010

– CUTTING RED TAPE FOR BUSINESS –

NNR
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INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE
FOR BETTER REGULATION

About NNR

- Founded in 1982 as an independent, non-party political business organisation entirely funded by its members.
- Members: **15 business organisations** representing all active companies with one or more employees in Sweden; of all sectors and sizes.
- Focus on regulatory **process** and creating and maintaining a **business-friendly regulatory environment** - Sweden and EU

Targets

- **Swedish Government:** 1. To reduce the administrative costs to businesses arising from government regulations by at least **25 per cent** by the autumn of 2010 and
2. To bring about **a significant change** in day-to-day business operations.
- **Swedish Business:** Reduced regulatory costs through a transparent regulatory system that is **easy to understand** and **easy to comply with**.

Most Costly Areas According to SCM Measurements

1. Company Law

2. Accountancy

3. Food Safety

4. Planning law

5. Tax regulations

6. Labour law

7. Consumer and Product Safety

8. Environmental Law

Most Burdensome Areas According to NNR Members

1. Environmental Law

2. Health and Safety Legislation

3. Labour Law

4. Statutory Audits

5. Tax regulations

6. VAT

7. Statutory action plans for equality

8. Statistics and providing information to government

Better regulation is a shared responsibility...

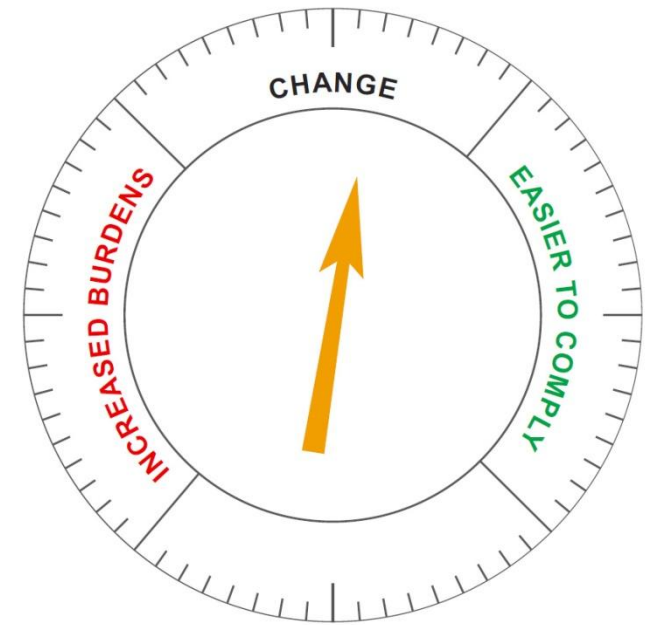
...Co-operation between government and business

- Identifying the problem:
 - Above all, business wants **clarity** in the regulatory environment.
 - Perceived burdens of regulation and ‘**irritation factors**’.
 - Concern about the **cumulative, and total, cost** of complying with regulation.

NNR 'Regulation Barometer'

**Swedish Government
Should Systematically
Evaluate Changes in**

Perceptions! (2nd target:
to bring about significant change for business)

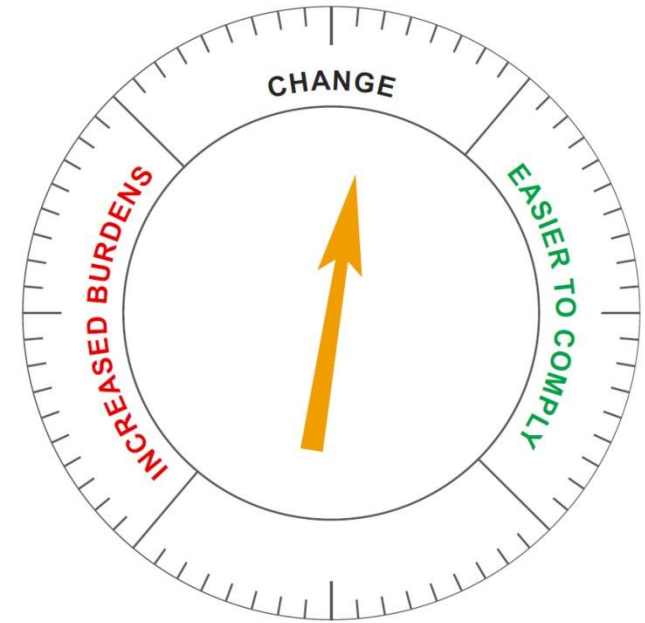


- General
- Short, quick questions
- Focus on main changes that should have been noticed

NNR 'Regulation Barometer'

Important to Communicate Improvements!

- High awareness of government simplification programme.
- High awareness of implemented 'simplification measures'.
- **But**, majority had **not noticed any change** in the level of regulation.
- Those who knew about government's work were more positive.



Simplification of Existing Regulation

- Focus on areas that are perceived as burdensome by business.
- Focus on type of changes that business wants.
- Evaluation of results of simplification measures.

Efficient New Regulation

- Impact Assessments
- Independent Scrutiny – e.g. Better Regulation Council (*Regelrådet* www.regelradet.se)
- Ex-post evaluation of actual outcomes

Thank you!

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<http://www.nnr.se>