

# The NORFACE experience - on the journey from individual agency to European collaboration

Hege Torp

The Research Council of Norway  
Department for the Social Sciences

## The NORFACE experience

### NORFACE

- one of several arenas for international collaboration
- a relevant arena for RCN
- a-learning-by-doing arena
- involving staff members of all partners

## The NORFACE experience

International collaboration at the agency level:

- Strengthen the quality and relevance of research
- Service the research community

## The NORFACE experience

### International collaboration needs

- Human resources (to do the job)
- Research funding (to make it real)
- An agreed framework for sound decision making
- Communication of benefits balanced against costs

NORFACE

Has proved it is possible!

## The NORFACE experience

### Impacts of NORFACE on RCN

#### Funding activities:

- Redistribution of funds within social sciences

#### Activities in general:

- Organisational learning
  - Attitudes towards international collaboration
  - Building and managing international networks
  - Reflection on internal processes & operating procedures