

An abstract graphic on a dark green background. It features three overlapping circles: a large white circle on the left, a medium white circle on the right, and a smaller white circle at the bottom left. A thin white vertical line runs through the center of the composition, passing through the overlapping areas of the circles.

ØRESUND FOOD NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

Øresund Food Network

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Øresund Food Network Annual Report 2007

During 2007, ØFN has developed into an even stronger partner for all stakeholders in the Øresund region. The level of activities and the number of participating stakeholders have increased considerably.

Having said so, the number of paying members has been stable over the year with a slight increase at the end of 2007.

At the end of the year ØFN had 73 members including all the universities in the region with food related activities, small and large companies and various kinds of institutes and organisations.

Those members represent a considerable part of all the skilled people involved in the food cluster, but do not include all the active stakeholders within ØFN.

The following summarises the present situation “state of the art” for ØFN at the end of 2007, and how major initiatives during the past year have contributed to regional integration, visibility and growth.



Focus areas in 2007

At the General assembly in 2007 ØFN decided to reorganize the work in the network. Starting 2007 the focus areas are:

- Food & health
- Process & production
- Gastronomy & sensation

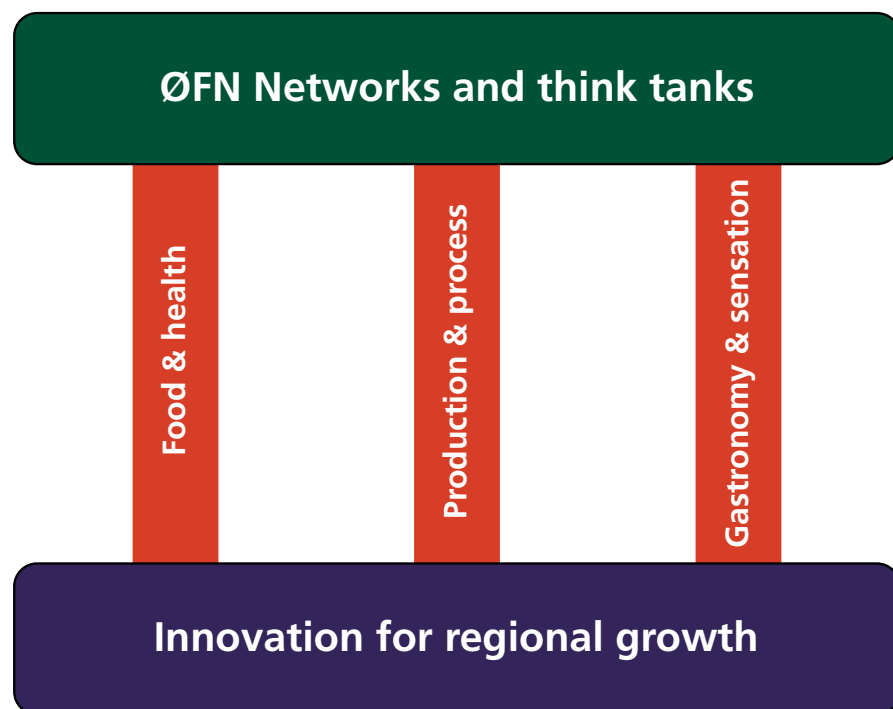
For each focus area there is a working think-tank with the goal to draw a future picture for each focus area.

During that process, discussions are taking place which gives birth to projects, innovations and problems, which can be dealt with by the network stakeholders.

At the present time the think-tanks are in the middle of their work but have already initiated several future projects.

In the figure the new structure of ØFN's work is graphically presented.

It is important to note that the focus on innovation and economic growth through knowledge based collaboration is the baseline for everything ØFN works for, adding value to the whole value chain in the food sector.



Workshops and conferences

Open conferences and workshops

Eleven open conferences and workshops were organised during 2007 by ØFN, some of them quite large and running over several days. These events attracted more than 1000 visitors from industry and research. Reports from meetings are available on the ØFN websites.

- Snack meals for poor eaters, Jan 2007
- A healthy gut in a healthy life - mechanisms and effects of pro- and prebiotics, March 2007
- Collaboration without borders? Annual meeting and general assembly, March 2007
- Child obesity in Øresund region, May 2007
- Nordic Functional Food – a healthy choice, Sept 2007
- Obesity conference, Sept 2007
- Gastronomy – the taste of growth! ØFNs visionary meeting, Sept 2007
- The house of food and sports, Oct 2007
- Matching Food and ICT - taking the big byte, Nov 2007
- The Food and Health Cluster in the Øresund Region – Nov 2007
- Sleep, metabolism and obesity – Nov 2007

International delegations and international conferences

Øresund Food Network is getting more and more known outside the Region. An indication for this is the number of delegations and invitations ØFN is receiving.

In 2007, six larger delegations visited the region and ØFN. Working with economic growth in a triple helix manner is the keywords to success in most of the world these days.

This is the reason that ØFN is an interesting study object, of course in combination with the very interesting food cluster situated in Øresund. The delegations were Asian and European.

Apart from being a region worth visiting, the way we work has also drawn some attention. Therefore the secretariat has been invited to present ØFN and the regional food cluster at several occasions in 2007.

By this way the food cluster has been presented in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Wageningen, Stockholm, Helsinki and Istanbul.

The outcome of several of these presentations have been further contacts for establishing business and science links to the Øresund region.

Facilitating networks and increasing research collaboration across Øresund

Øresund Food Network has contributed to increased research collaboration between the two countries.

Over the period 2003-2007, ØFN has invested seed money (~ 620.000 Euro) to initiate research & innovation projects by Swedish/Danish research groups with participants from universities and industry.

As just one outcome, the ØFN initiated research projects have attracted funds worth 20 million Euros to the region over a four year period.

Building networks is one of the core businesses of ØFN. In 2007 ØFN has facilitated and hosted 14 networks.

The networks range from very scientifically oriented to practical innovation and collaboration. The networks are:

Within food & health

- Phospholipids
- Obesity
- Probiotics
- Prebiotics
- Undernutrition
- Health claims on food
- Whole grain
- DNA-markers for healthier plants
- Food and sports

Within process & production

- Better food in large scale
- Food chain management
- Flexible production and production systems
- Business intelligence

Within gastronomy and sensation

- Every day gastronomy

From network to innovation and innovation methods

Over time it becomes more and more evident that innovation can only result from networking if the network is build upon trust.

Building up trust takes time and effort but some of our networks are such mature networks. Therefore we started activities to facilitate the innovation processes in these networks.

This work resulted in funds from the Nordic council of ministers to develop a range of methods on how to facilitate innovation in mature networks.

The work is still to be started but the board is looking forward to see the outcome of this activity in 2008.

ØFN has also, together with the initiator. Firstmove A/S been involved in the establishment of "innovationsministeriet" with the goal of developing innovation methodology.

The "innovationministeriet" accounts 25 innovative persons that meet once a month to discuss and try innovation methods on real problems.

Finally ØFN is involved in a Nordic innovation centre project dealing with converging technologies.

Through our work with other platforms in the ØSR family we have experiences that can be useful for others dealing with innovation at interfaces between disciplines.



Strategic projects with external funding

FINE (Food Innovation Network Europe)

ØFN has together with 7 other strong and complementary European regions continued the network FINE (Food Innovation Network Europe). The network is funded by EU.

During 2006, the objective was to develop strategies, action program and tools to increase regional investment in food related R&D and innovation.

Stakeholders from Universities, agro food companies and regional/governmental organizations were involved in an analysis on the prerequisites for innovation.

These were measured as the assets for food R&D in the region as well as the efficiency in exploring those assets. Policies influencing Food R&D were discussed as well.

A comparison was made also between the different regions. The reports are available at the ØFN home page. The results with recommendations was presented for and discussed with policy makers from the different European regions at a meeting in February -07.

By doing this, the policy makers can evaluate their policies in comparison with other strong food regions in Europe.

During 2007 most of the time devoted to FINE has been spent on development of inter-regional projects.

The work resulted in a list of 46 project outlines of which 15 are being submitted as proposals for EU-funding. ØFN stakeholders are involved in most of the projects being submitted.

Projects being submitted can be summarized under the following bullet points:

- 1) R&D projects focussing on topics like health or functional foods, food ingredients, aquaculture, traditional food and food & tourism.
- 2) Developing new (R&D) infrastructure, like a food incubator network, shared regional facilities for SMEs, and food technology demonstration and/or educational centres.
- 3) Networking and promotion actions to foster dedicated R&D, for example, industry/science relations and technology transfer.

European regions involved besides Øresund are East Netherlands, Flanders Belgium, Rogaland Norway, Castilla Y Leon Spain, Scottish enterprise, Emilia Romagna/Parma Italy and Poznan Poland.

Unlimited Health (Gränslös sundhet)

ØFN has continued the work in the Interreg IIIA funded project Unlimited Health. The project aims at creating meeting places and networks at the interface between Food and Medicine.

2007 has been a very busy year in the project, facilitating numerous conferences and networks. The following networks are taking part in the project.

Obesity

The focus is attracting stakeholders from the whole of the Øresund Region, primarily researchers from Universities, hospitals and relevant companies (especially pharma) with interest in obesity.

It is especially important to connect the different obesity societies in Sweden and Denmark.

Probiotics

Stakeholders from the whole of the Øresund Region are attending the network. The network has been organising several conferences and workshops during 2007.

Prebiotics

Within the areas prebiotics and synbiotics (pre- and probiotics in combination) the focus has been on inspiring discussions and collaboration between the stakeholders.

This has been done through internal seminars and conferences with state-of-the-art presentations using inspiration from acknowledged speakers from both the Øresund region and the surrounding world.

Undernutrition

There is a great need for exchange of experiences, gathering of knowledge and a targeted effort in the field of undernutrition.

The network is attracting stakeholders from the whole Øresund Region, including researchers, medical doctors, dieticians, nurses, chefs, businesses, etc.

The network has developed a Snack Meals concept addressing nutritional issues for both poor eaters and undernourished persons, especially at hospitals.

The snack meal has been tested at two hospitals in 2007 (Herlev and Slagelse). However, the results was disappointing, mostly because of test design making it hard to find relevant test persons.

The group will during 2008 continue to work on the issue trying to solve the serious problem of undernutrition that affects about 40% of the patients at hospitals.

Phospholipids (PL)

The aim of the focus area on PL is to do networking, exchange knowledge and to generate new projects on the determination and utilisation of the healthy and functional properties of different PL.

The combination of technology, nutrition and formulation in this focus area could accelerate the innovation process in potential projects. During 2007 visionary papers have been written by subgroups within the network.

Four subgroups have been working on different aspects of phospholipids:

- 1) Structured phospholipids.
- 2) Milk phospholipids.
- 3) Glycolipids.
- 4) Marine phospholipids.

Human testing – level of proof

Late 2006, ØFN also got funding from Nordic Innovation Centre for coordinating a quite large project on Health claims on food including substantiation of the claims. The project has 47 participants from the Nordic and Baltic countries.

The work is organised in a dialogue forum, with representatives from the research community, consumer organisation, food industry and the national authorities, which aim at formulating a consensus on use of health claims.

Since the national authorities are the only ones that can suggest claims to the EU the consensus reach in the dialogue forum will be used as inspiration by the national authorities.

During 2007 the work has been focussed on identifying common grounds for so called article. 13 claims. Dialogue

forum has met 6 times over the year and hosted a larger conference in Helsinki.

Since the work is not yet finished the outcome of the project is still to be seen. However, the possibility for joint Nordic meetings through the project funding will increase the Nordic influence of the new EU-legislation in the area. Apart from the dialogue forum there are 3 workings groups in the project aiming at updating PASSCLAIM to make sure the most recent science is included in the list of possible methods and finally formulate a best practice for health substantiation of claims.

During 2007 all the working groups intervention studies, biomarkers and animal testing have been working hard to establish best practice within their area. During 2008 this work will result in scientific papers updating PASSCLAIM on these issues.



The virtual food factory – food + IT

Within the interreg IIIA funded project “The virtual food factory” ØFN is working together with Øresund IT. The aim of the project is to foster contacts and collaborations between the two sectors.

The borderline between Food and IT has considerable growth potentials with respect to optimisation and automation of food manufacturing, logistics and e-business, quality assurance as well as business intelligence including communication with consumer.

During 2007 the project has resulted in three networks:

Food chain management

The network is dominated by scientists from a wide range of disciplines with interest on the mathematics, information technology, sensors, imaging or food technology.

The network creates an inspiring meeting place for those interested in the area. During 2007 the network has worked on a position paper stating the vision of the network.

Flexible production and production systems

The network is targeting small and medium size companies trying to solve day to day problems using new technology. Within the network a group of scientists function as advisors and consultants as well as they identify researchable issues within the area of flexible production systems.

During 2007 ØFN has also established collaboration with SESAM food (a private network dealing with automatization of the food industry and located in Jutland). ØFN are sure that this combination of efforts will be very useful for the development of this network.

Business intelligence

In the late 2007 ØFN started to build up the network on business intelligence. The network is dominated by IT providers with expertise on intelligent business solutions. Right at this moment the network is connecting to a range of food businesses to make the network a true food + IT network.



7 FP technology platforms

“Food for Life” and “Plants for the future”

Over the year ØFN has been actively involved in match-making of industry and the EU 7th frame program project proposals.

Some of these activities have been organized together with the technology platform Food 4 Life. In the light of the success in Food 4 Life, ØFN has also been involved in the establishment of another technology platform “Plants for the future”.

The funding has been obtained and the work will start in 2008.

ØFN Board 2007

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Ingegerd Sjöholm, Lund University

Alan Friis, Food-DTU

Dave Servin / Anders Nilsson, SLU-Alnarp

Grete Bertelsen, Department of Food Science (IFV) LIFE

Lotta Törner, Skåne Food Innovation Network

Torben Bo Toft Christensen, Landbrugsrådet

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Lennart Svensson, Region Skåne

Niels Gøtke, (Vice chairman) The Directorate for Food, Fisheries and Agri Business

Ulf Åberg, Region Skåne

Henrik G Jensen, Plantedirektoratet

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Jenny Bergsten - Project Leader

Dorthe Bjergskov Nielsen - Project Leader

Jytte Josephsen - Project Leader

Susanne Thoren - Project Leader

Magnus Grubbe – Student Assistant

Nils-Olof Jönsson – Student Assistant

Annual Revenue

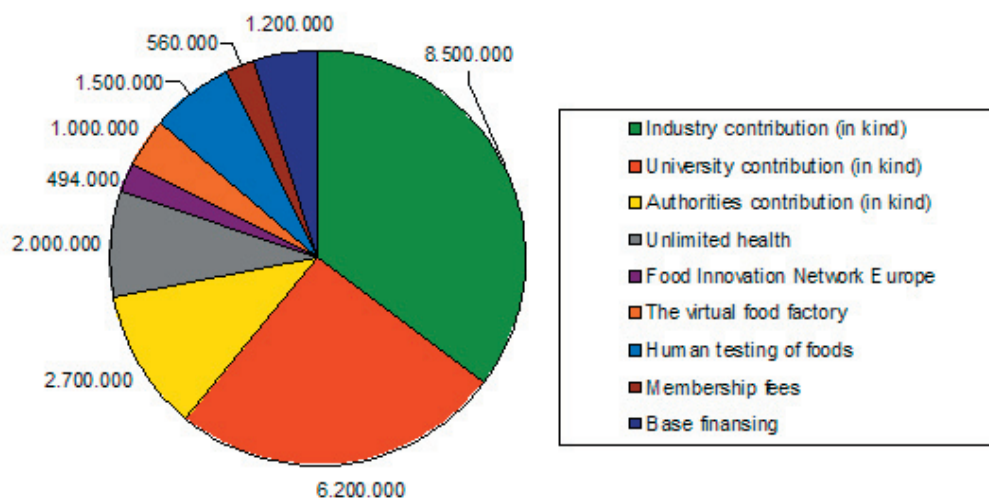
The base funding covers the general operating cost, information & communication, research project seed money, networking activities and salaries.

The base funding was approx. 2 MSEK for 2007. This funding origins mainly from the national and regional funding from Denmark and Sweden which is allocated via Öresund Science Region (ÖSR) as well as from member fees and fees from work shops. This funding has remained quite stable since 2005.

However, the money attracted via the strategic ØFN projects have increases steadily and amounts to approximately 10 MSEK at the beginning of 2008.

This, together with the time contributed for free from all the participating members in ØFN projects, gives a truer picture of annual revenue of ØFN which all included accounts for more than 24.000.000 SEK in 2007.

In the figure below the contributions from different stakeholders and projects can be seen.



Members

2007

AarhusKarlshamn www.aak.com	Danish Veterinary and Food Administration www.foedevarestyrelsen.dk	IFAU www.ifau.dk	Procordia Food www.procordiafood.com
AB&CO-TEKNIK www.abco.dk	Department of Food Science (IFV) LIFE www.kvl.dk	Kartoffelmelcentralen www.kmc.dk	Pure and Applied Biochemistry, LTH www.tbiokem.lth.se
Agro Business Park www.agropark.dk	Dining Development www.diningdevelopment.com	Kost & Ernæringsforbundet www.kost.dk	Region Skåne www.skane.com
Anders Hallström Process Consultant www.process-design.dk	The Directorate for Food, Fish- eries and Agri Business www.dffe.dk	KU-Department of Medical Biochemistry and Genetics www.ku.dk	Rieber & Søn Danmark www.rieberson.dk
Arla Food amba www.arlafoods.com	Dansk Landbrugs Grovaresel- skab www.dlg.dk	Landbrugsrådet www.landbrug.dk	The Swedish Institute for Food and Biotechnology www.sik.se
Awapatent AB www.awapatent.com	Technical University of Denmark www.dtu.dk	Lantmännen www.lantmannen.se	Skåne Food Innovation Net- work www.livsmedelsakademin.se
BioGaia AB www.biogaia.com	FF Skagen www.ffskagen.dk	Living Innovation www.livinginnovation.dk	Skånemejerier www.skanemejerier.se
Biomedical Nutrition, LTH www.bionutr.kc.lu.se	First Move www.firstmove.dk	Livsmedelsföretagen Li www.li.se	SLU- Alnarp www.slu.se
Brandt Development www.brandt-development.dk	Food Technology, Engineering and Nutrition www.food.lth.se	Lund Food Science Centre www.lcl.lu.se	SW Seed www.swseed.com
Centre for Advanced Food Studies (LMC) www.lmc.dk	Foodture www.foodture.dk	Nordic Crown Sales and Mar- keting www.wideum.se	Tasty Technology www.tastytechnology.dk
Chr Hansen A/S www.chr-hansen.com	Functional Food Science Cen- tre, FFSC www.ffsc.lu.se	Nordic Gene Bank www.ngb.se	Toft Care Systems www.toft-care.dk/
Colloidal Resource AB www.colloidalresource.se	Gastroproces Technologies www.gastrotechnology.com	Novozymes www.novozymes.com	Umami www.umami.se
Confederation of Danish Industries www.fi.di.dk	Gemba Innovation www.gemba.dk	Nærings og nydelsesmiddelarb. Forbundet www.nnf.dk	VIFFOS www.viffos.dk
Cultimedia Information www.cultimedia.se	Guardian IPC www.gipc.dk	Oatly www.oatly.com	Øresundskomiteen www.oresundskomiteen.dk
Danisco www.danisco.com	City of Helsingborg www.helsingborg.se	PinkCat Innovation www.pinkcat.dk	Øresundsuniversitetet www.uni.oresund.org
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Danish Meat Association www.danishmeat.com	Ideon Agro Food www.agrofood.ideon.se	Plougmann & Vingtoft www.pv.eu	
Danish Technological Institute www.teknologisk.dk		Probi www.probi.se	

