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*Project manager*

*Presentation at the 3rd International Open Access  
Conference, 10-11 May 2005, Maputo, Mozambique*

May 2005



## This presentation

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- A background to the SPIDER initiative
  - Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Sida/Asdi
  - The academia become the core
- What is SPIDER
  - Organization
  - Our vision
  - Our mission
- SPIDER Network
  - How can we cooperate

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## ICT at Sida/Asdi

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- Application
- Billion
- Capacity

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## ICT for development @ Sida

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### Capacity

- Strengthening Sida Partner Countries' capabilities to develop their own ICT guidelines
  - Support development of ICT policies, legal and regulatory work
- Strengthening Sida Partner Countries' academic ICT resources
  - Enhance research and collaboration
  - Improve opportunities for learning, e.g. e-learning

*FAVORITE*

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## The Billion no-haves

*Moral dilemma*

- Strengthening Sida Partner Countries' ICT infrastructure and competence
  - Efficient use of technology, e.g. Internet exchanges
  - Special attention to dedicated network resources, e.g. Malaria and HIV/AIDS
  - The rural poor
    - (i) "first mile" challenge (the "walking mile")
    - (ii) decentralized businesses



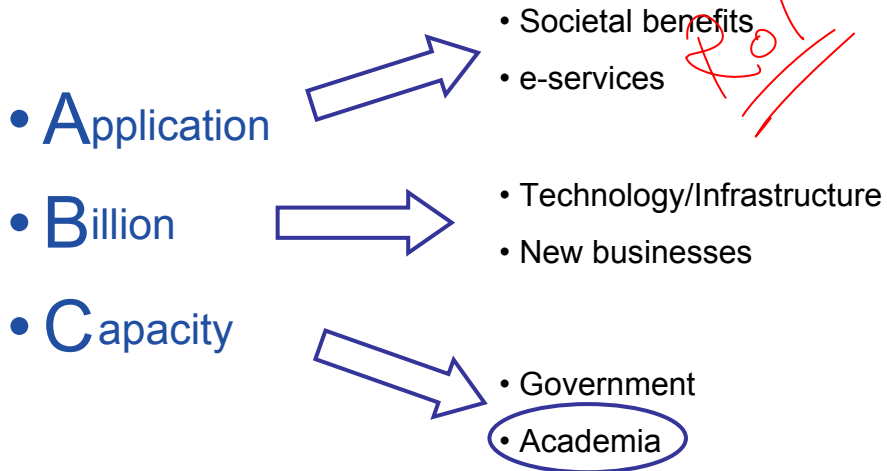
## Application

- Strengthening Sida Partner Countries' incorporation of ICT in various sectors of society
  - Build awareness in all parts of society
  - Create soft infrastructures and e-services, e.g. eGovernment
  - Localization of content



# Sida's ABC for ICT cooperation

(Sida ICT strategy and action plan, January 2005)

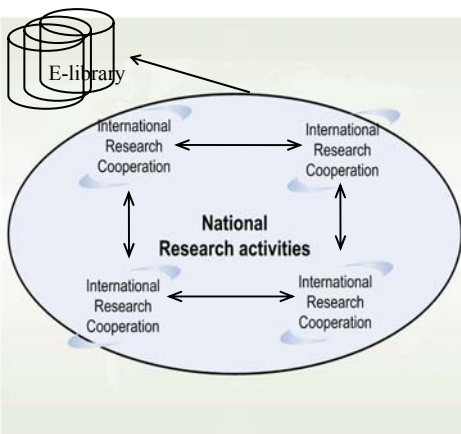


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# Academia become the core



*University policy and master plans*



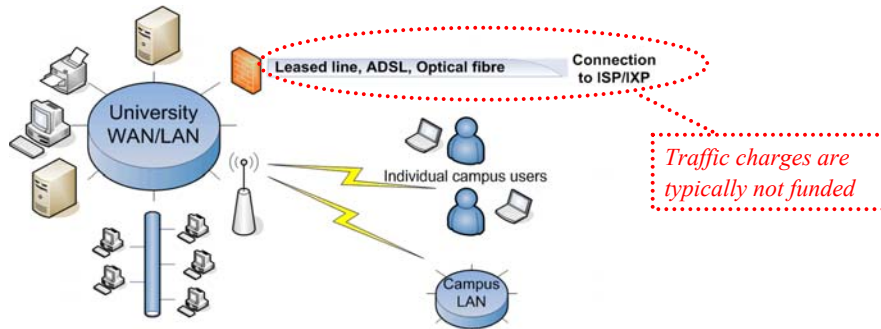
- **The Internet**, vital for researchers
- **Research capacity**, PhD programmes in ICT
- **University applications**, e.g. MIS, e-library and e-learning
- Sustainable network operations and end-user abilities

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## First, technology in focus



### Internet access designed to support

1. search, access and dissemination of electronic publications and research material, and
2. functionality to develop, maintain and run net-based learning (i.e. LMS and content)

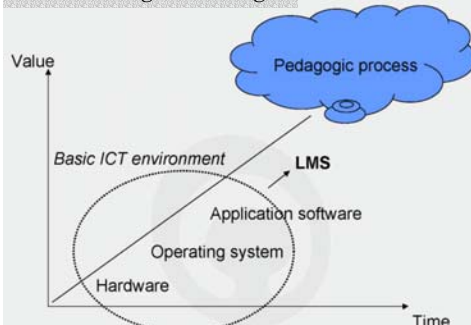
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## Then, Center of Excellence

*From teaching to learning...*



### 1. Knowledge management functionality

- course administration
- student registration and administration
- tests and statistics

### 2. Content management functionality

- design and structure learning material
- import and export content and learning objects

*Sri Lanka project*

### 3. Learning environment

- facilitate the learners
- collaboration students-students and student-facilitator

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## UCSC e-learning center

### Sri Lanka's first Center of Excellence in e-learning

- Introduce a new learning management system (**LMS**) and internal capacity to develop e-learning content. *(The education, a Swedish company, deliver LMS and content (mathematics) for the initial project)*
- Re-design an existing 3-year Bachelor in IT (BIT) program to become net-based and **executed in an e-learning environment**.
- Transform pedagogies and the way teachers and students act. Teachers to become **facilitators** and students to become **dynamic learners**.
- Promote and support nation-wide e-learning.

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The problem:

As these projects become more and more multi faceted the challenge is to offer a capable collaboration partner.

The idea was born:





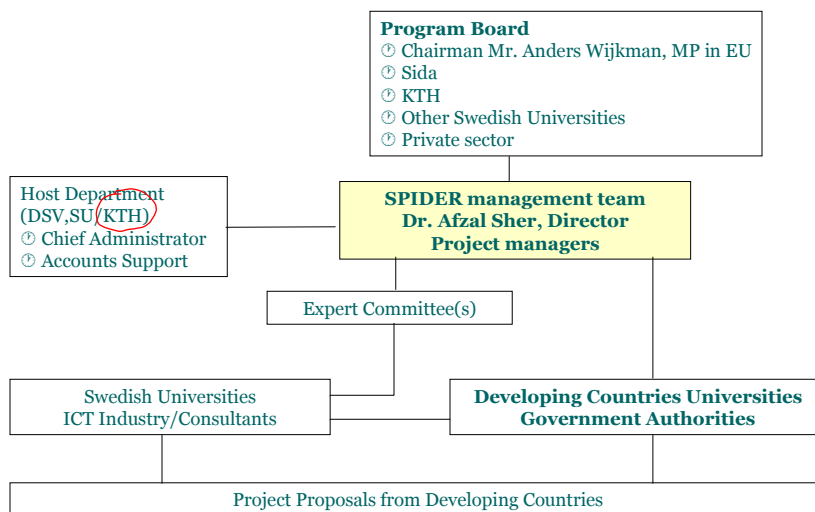
# What is SPIDER?

- Agent for development + combating the digital divide
- Focal point for international cooperation in ICT
- Focal point for ICT expertise
- Initiator/catalyst for cooperation between the North and the South (developing countries)

Established in July 2004



# How are we organized?





## Our role - in Sweden

- Resource base for Sida
- Partner for ICT industry
- Partner /coordinator for the academic sector
- Window to the South

Gateway to specific expertise and consultancy networks

ICT industry in Sweden has unique resources and solutions

Resources of each university are limited

Signals demands and trends in developing countries

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## Our role- outside Sweden

- Promoter of the Swedish ICT resources and solutions
- Partner for peer institutions (EU, WB, InfoDev, IICD, IDRC, Bellanet, ....)
- Gateway to the academic and private (ICT) sector in Sweden
- Entry point to the Swedish society for universities in developing countries

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## Our vision

ICT as an instrument  
and not an end by itself

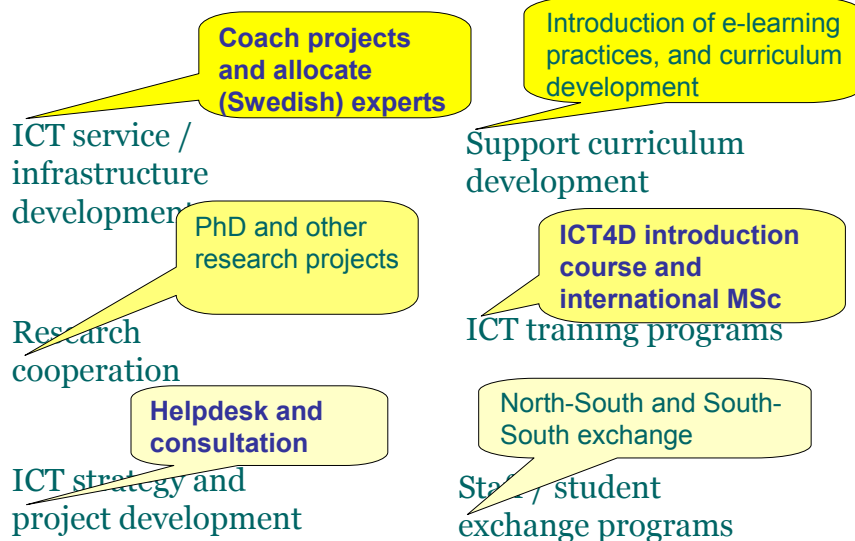
**Promotion and deployment of ICTs**  
by supporting building of infrastructure,  
human capacity and favorable  
environment for combating digital divide  
and poverty in developing countries

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## What do we do?



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## Is SPIDER a financial donor?

Well...

~1000000  
US\$/year

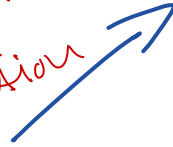


2-3 PROJECTS  
Seed money

Big money

Sida bilateral country agreements  
Other agencies...PPP...

Coordination  
& resource  
allocation



External  
projects

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## Seed funding projects (2004)

- **Tanzania:** Digital Delivery. What is the potential of participatory e-learning in rural Tanzania. *Partner: Blekinge Institute of Technology*
- **Vietnam:** ICT support for formation of business relationships with developing countries based on immigrant competence. *Partner: Jönköping University*
- **Laos:** Vientiane Gigabit Network. *Partner: KTH, Royal Institute of Technology*
- **Bangladesh:** MiCOPa – Micro Credit Operation Automatisation. *Partner: Stockholm University*
- **Mozambique:** MICTI E-Learning Centre. *Partner: Stockholm University*
- **Africa:** Next Generation eGovernment. *Partner: Örebro University*
- **Burkina Faso:** Spider-Link – e-learning platform. *Partner: Linköping University*
- **Laos:** Harnessing Information & Communication Technologies for Development. *Partner: Lund University*
- **SriLanka:** Efficient use of computer capacity – Grid computing. *Partner: Uppsala University*
- **Eastern Europe:** Capacity development, ICT4ICT. *Partner: Mid-Sweden University*

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## The process

- S**upport actual demand
- P**rovide local resources
- I**nvestigate funding options and partnerships
- D**evelop a brief proposal
- E**ndorsement by the Swedish embassy/Sida
- R**eady to contact SPIDER

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## SPIDER Network

### Universities in Sweden

- Blekinge TH
  - Jönköping University
  - Karlstad University
  - KTH
  - Linköping University
  - Lund University
  - Mitt Högskolan
  - Stockholm University
  - Uppsala University
  - Örebro University
- 
- TU Delft, The Netherlands



### Developing Countries

- Bolivia
- Burkina Faso
- Ethiopia
- Honduras
- Laos
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Nicaragua
- Rwanda
- Sri Lanka
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Vietnam

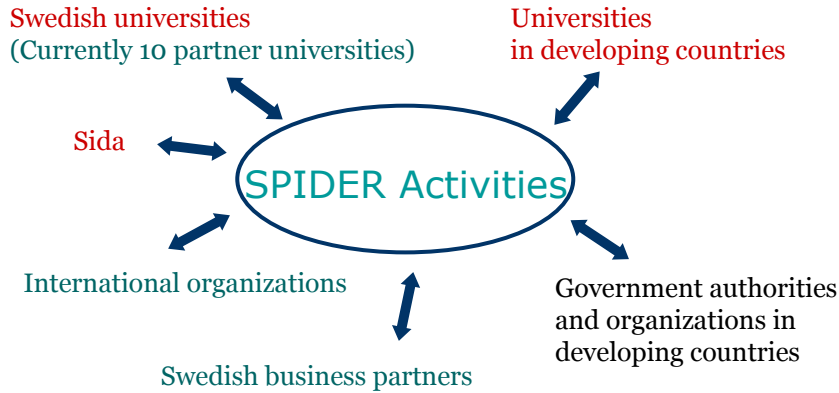


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# SPIDER Network



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## Press release

(Kista, 2005-03-10)

### Inauguration of the Swedish Program for Information and Communication Technology in Developing Regions

Sida is mobilizing Sweden's ICT resources to bridge the digital divide in the world.

SPIDER, the Swedish Program for Information and Communication Technology in Developing Regions aims at reinforcing the Swedish support activities in the field of information and communication technology (ICT) in developing countries. It is a national centre that mobilizes Sweden's ICT resources. SPIDER is supported by Sida and administrated by the Royal Institute of Technology, KTH, in Kista, Stockholm.

The task is to mobilize all ICT resources, related to sustainable development, in Sweden, that are available to developing countries. The Centre will act as a meeting place and a catalyst for entrepreneurs who are interested in strengthening their commitment to the UN Millennium Development Goals.

"We have made the right decision to create this centre, keeping in view the excellent ICT knowledge that is available in Sweden", states Anders Wijkman, Chairman of the Board of SPIDER.

"Gradually, we are going to build a very attractive ICT resource center for developing countries" says Afaf Maher, Director of SPIDER, adding that SPIDER is going to act also as help desk for the Swedish authorities.

**SPIDER**  
has started to spin the web

More at [www.spidercenter.org](http://www.spidercenter.org)

**Thank you !**

[www.spidercenter.org](http://www.spidercenter.org)

