

We promote and coordinate the 3Rs in Sweden

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Introducing The Swedish 3Rs Center

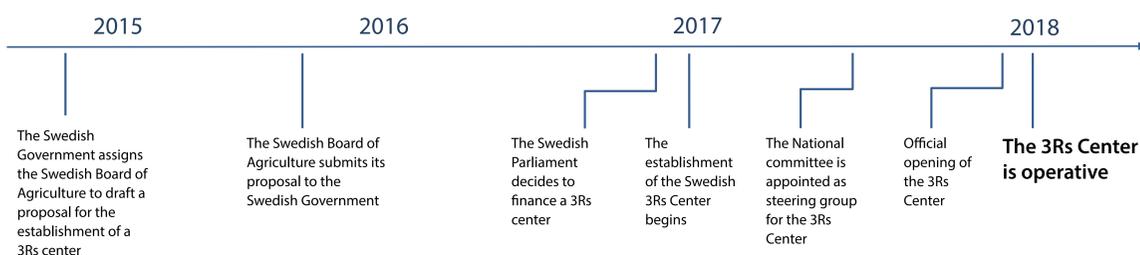
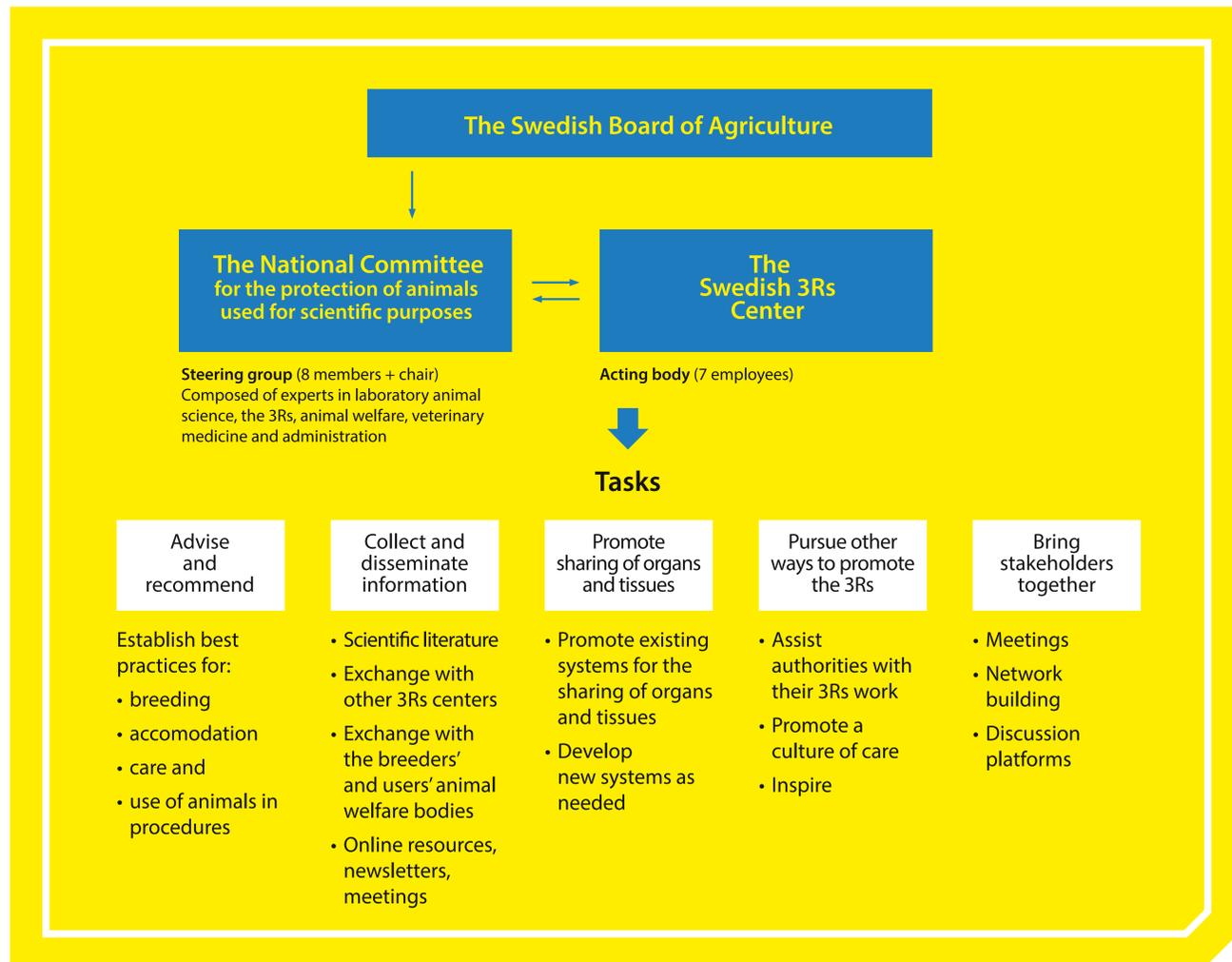
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"Animals have an intrinsic value which must be respected."

"...this Directive represents an important step towards achieving the final goal of full replacement of procedures on live animals for scientific and educational purposes as soon as it is scientifically possible to do so".

"The use of animals for scientific or educational purposes should therefore only be considered where a non-animal alternative is unavailable"

The EU Directive 2010/63/EU for the protection of animals used for scientific purposes



Users / Breeders / Suppliers

Each user, breeder or supplier of laboratory animals must have an animal welfare body according to the Directive 2010/63/EU. The welfare body shall advise the staff dealing with animals on matters related to the welfare of the animals, such as their acquisition, accommodation, care and use, the proper application of the 3Rs, and the technical and scientific developments in that field. In addition, the welfare body shall follow the development and outcome of projects, taking into account the effect on the animals used, and identify and advise as regards elements that further contribute to the 3Rs.

With these tasks, the animal welfare bodies are the 3Rs centers' contact points with the users, breeders and suppliers of laboratory animals. We aim to collaborate with the welfare bodies by providing information on the 3Rs and by collecting and disseminating the results of their practical application of the 3Rs, especially with regard to refinement.

Animal ethics committees

Any project within the scope of the Directive 2010/63/EU needs to undergo a project evaluation. The project evaluation consists in particular of a harm-benefit analysis to assess whether the harm to the animals in terms of suffering, pain and distress is justified by the ultimate benefits for human beings, animals or the environment. Furthermore, the evaluation includes an assessment of the compliance of the project with the 3Rs. The project evaluation in Sweden is carried out by six regional animal ethics committees.

The 3Rs Center seeks to assist the ethics committees with education and information about the 3Rs. In addition, we pursue to collaborate with the ethics committees by evaluating the practical application of the 3Rs in ongoing projects, thereby identifying best practices as well as opportunities for further improvement, and by sharing these insights with the stakeholder communities.

International stakeholders

One of the 3Rs Center's major goals is to achieve more international collaboration, which is essential to raising the worldwide impact of the 3Rs on all aspects of the use of animals in experiments, testing and education. To use our resources efficiently, we need to share our efforts with the global stakeholder community, reach consensus on the 3Rs wherever possible, exchange expertise and information, and improve the collaboration with international organizations, such as ICLAS, FELASA, OECD or other 3Rs centers.

Authorities

Authorities involved in animal testing, legislation and administration of animal experiments have a large impact on the actual application of the 3Rs. The 3Rs Center seeks to contribute to legislation in accordance with the 3Rs by establishing science-based recommendations (e.g. on accommodation and care) to legal authorities. We also support authorities who require, carry out or commission animal experiments in establishing strategies on how to implement the 3Rs in their requirements, guidelines and experimental work.

The Swedish 3Rs Center's main targets



We are located in Jönköping, Sweden

