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South Africa

Sweden

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# Strong partnership in SASUF 2030



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UNIVERSITY OF  
GOTHENBURG



LUND UNIVERSITY



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WESTERN CAPE



MALMÖ  
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Stockholm  
University



ÖREBRO UNIVERSITY



science & innovation  
Department:  
Science and Innovation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



National  
Research  
Foundation



STINT  
The Swedish Foundation for International  
Cooperation in Research and Higher Education



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# Building on the momentum created in SASUF (2017-2021)

- SASUF has connected over 3000 researchers, students, university leaders and funding agencies across both countries in seminars and workshops
- More than 140 workshops, seminars and visits have been organised independently by research groups and students in both countries
- Provided seed funding for 70 international collaborations (addressing the UN SDGs)
- Highlighted as a success story during Bi-National Commission talks Sweden/South Africa
- SASUF blueprint for Norway- South Africa collaboration





# SASUF 2030: 2022-2024

1. **Research & Innovation Weeks** (2 physical + 1 virtual)
  - Satellite events & Sustainability Forum (physical)
  - SASUF Goes Digital (virtual)
2. **Seed funding** to get collaboration off the ground
3. **Virtual collaboration funding**



# SASUF Timeline 2022-2024

- **19-23 September 2022: Virtual Research and Innovation Week – SASUF Goes Digital**
  - In parallel with the Gothenburg Book Fair – South Africa as guest / focus country
    - Biggest cultural event in the Nordic countries with 100 000 participants
  - Call for virtual collaboration projects will open during the week
- **27-31 March 2023: Research and Innovation Week in South Africa**
  - Delegation trip with Vice Chancellors & Funding agencies from Sweden
  - Call for seed funding applications will open during the week
- **May 2024: Research and Innovation Week in Sweden**



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# A few of the things we are discussing in SASUF 2030

Student involvement  
Virtual vs. physical  
Managing a partnership with 38 universities

# SASUF Student Network

- More than 900 (!) members
- All universities have appointed a student representative
- Student Network Board
  - Julia Forsberg, Uppsala University (Chair)
  - Andile Mthembu, University of Zululand
  - Caitlin Homstad, Lund University
  - Viwe Kobokana, Stellenbosch University
- Facebook page + Facebook group
  - → SASUF Student Network
- Kept activity in the network alive during Covid-19





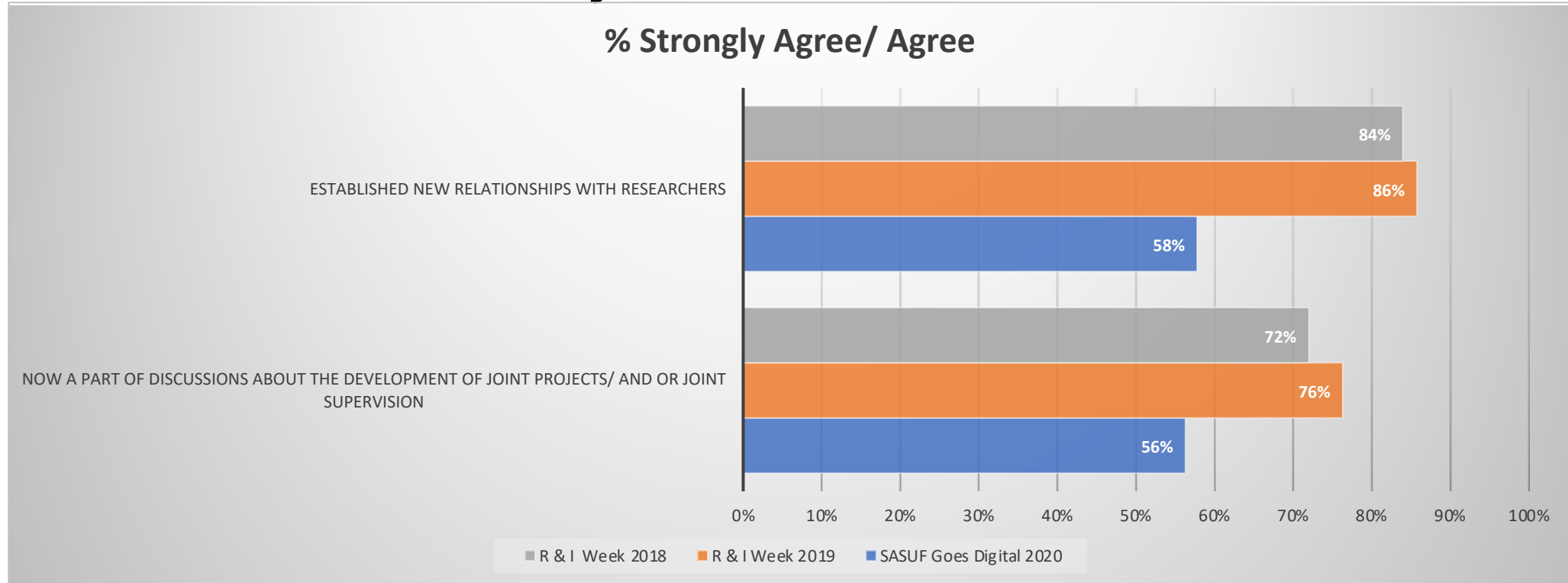
# How Students can engage in SASUF 2030

- Monthly meetings
- Be co-applicant in a project application
- Arrange seminars, lectures, workshops, webinars, etc.
  - In the Student Network as well as during Research and Innovation Weeks
- Participate in the Research and Innovation Weeks
- Join satellite events





# Physical vs. virtual



Everybody wants to build networks - but nobody wants Zoom breakout rooms..



# Call for virtual exchange grants

- Call for Virtual Exchange Grants will open during SASUF Goes Digital
- Next step approach to virtual collaboration by facilitating constructive people-to-people communication and interaction in higher education.
- Develop virtual exchange activities such as courses, programmes or projects
- Each project must include at least two partner universities in both Sweden and South Africa
  - Students must be included in the proposal
- Amount ranging from 150 000 - 250 000 SEK (250- 400 000 ZAR) depending on scope and ambition of the activities



# Main challenge in SASUF 2030

- Managing a partnership with 38 universities
  - Huge diversity within the partnership
- Partnership keeps changing and evolving
- Flexibility is necessary from both project managers and funders



# Our principles for SASUF 2030

- Decentralised and flexible structure
  - Universities can adapt their participation according to priorities, needs and resources
  - SASUF 2030 provides a platform for engagement
- Easy to understand – easy to explain
- Eliminate barriers for engagement
  - Short step from idea to reality
  - Many ways to engage: Satellite/local events, virtual events, physical events
  - As few gatekeepers as possible
  - No excessive administration, committees etc.



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