



International students from South Asia

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Background

- Five 2-year M.Sc. Programs with international recruitment
 - Logistics
 - Waste Management and Resource Recovery
 - Applied Biotechnology
 - Environmental Engineering
 - Communication and Signal Processing
 - Sustainable Technologies for SMEs (Asia Link)



Background – Why international recruitment

- HST
- Nature of our programs – different backgrounds enhance programs
- Internationalisation at home
- Borås city will sponsor two Indonesian M.Sc. Students
- Sweden (Sjuhärad region) will need more engineers in the future
- Best PhD students for research projects
- International faculty with connections in their home country



Background Statistics

- Registered international students
 - 2003 – 2 from India
 - 2004 - ?
 - 2005 – 69
 - 2006 – 86 + 37 (College year)
- International PhD students
 - two Indonesian PhD students (one just finished)
 - Two Iranian PhD students



Means of Recruitment

- India
 - Ads in newspapers
 - Partner (Singhania university to be) that helps screening students
 - On-spot admission with interviews in New Dehli, Mumbai, Hyderabad
- Iran
 - Agent/partner recruits, screens and sees students to Borås
 - On-site interviews and information
- Internet
 - Open for everybody, deadline feb 15th



Nationalities – new 2006

Iran	58 (81)
India	15 (55)
Bangladesh	3 (13)
Pakistan	3
Nigeria	2
Kamerun	2
Others	4



On-spot admission India

2006	Dehli	Mumbai	Hyderabad
Interview	7	4	73
Admitted	3	2	38
Registered	0	0	12



Experiences/Challenges

- India
 - Many students arrive late due to late visa applications – get behind in their studies
 - Hard to evaluate universities in India
 - Quality of students from Hyderabad region
 - Thesis project in industry – hard to find
 - Erasmus agreements don't cover non-Europeans – bilateral agreements needed
 - Economy – many need to work, don't buy course literature
 - Come unprepared – no accommodation booked
 - Ask again and again
 - Time! Miss important information
 - What is considered cheating in Sweden
 - Students tend to overestimate their abilities



Experiences/Challenges

○ Iran

- Manage well even though English is weaker
- Large Iranian exile groups in Sweden – easier to find their place in Sweden
- Not all information in English on the net – feel left out



Conclusions – Future issues

- Required introduction week for international students – inform, inform, inform
- Agent that sees students to Borås, keeps the process rolling
- Interviews, information on-site
- Increase variety of countries, variety makes the difference
- Swedish magister interesting for international students – translation?
- How to market a program you have not received accreditation for yet?