

# EXPAND FIBRE BROADBAND

- And help power the economy



**Several studies by Swedish ICT Acreo have shown that expanding municipal broadband access and digitization also develop the local economy. Today, many municipalities have taken on a greater role in the expansion of broadband networks and the effects are clearly visible.**

Turn to the next page to read more about the advantages of fibre broadband ● ●

# BROADBAND EXPANSION AND DIGITIZATION

Broadband is an important community service and digitization develops public services in several ways. The Digital Agenda highlights the importance of broadband access and the positive impact it can have on development and the local economy. Swedish ICT Acreo has conducted several different studies that demonstrate the economic benefits of broadband and digitization. Traditionally, the economic assessment of returns and benefit has primarily been based on traditional telecom businesses. Acreo has now chosen to look at the socio-economic benefits, too.

A few examples:

## A SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

*A comprehensive study commissioned by the Broadband Forum.* Its aim was to see whether an investment in fibre networks provides socio-economic gains.

The study reveals some socio-economic benefits, including increased employment due to access to fibre broadband. It also describes how expanding access to fibre broadband impacts several important socio-economic factors. Based only on a few examples, the estimated public benefit totals 1.5 times the investment within four years.

## DIGITIZATION OF ELDERLY CARE

*A study conducted on behalf of the Swedish Local Fibre Alliance.* The study shows how Swedish municipalities that digitize a number of services within home care can reduce their costs. For example, a municipality with 8,000 residents can save SEK 40 million per year on just four simple services. A larger municipality can save up to SEK 250 million. If we were to systematically digitize home care services using available IT products, the savings over six years would equal the cost of rolling out fibre infrastructure to 90 per cent of Swedish households.



## ANALYSIS OF STOKAB

*An analysis of Stockholm's fibre-optic network (Stokab)* shows that the City of Stockholm and the surrounding region have been able to reduce their internal communication costs by 40-60 per cent just by connecting fibre to all their properties and operations. This corresponds to approximately SEK 100 million annually. The study analyses a number of factors, such as lower costs for services to businesses, increased value for users and higher property values. The total benefit based on just a few examples amounts to SEK 16 billion over 20 years.

## STRATEGIC GUIDE

*A new broadband guide has been produced on behalf of the European Commission* to help municipalities and regions in the EU develop local broadband plans. The guide describes various options for stimulating regional and local broadband roll-out.

You can access all the documentation (in Swedish) for the above examples on the Swedish Local Fibre Alliance's website [www.ssnf.org/290](http://www.ssnf.org/290)

The Swedish Local Fibre Alliance is an independent trade association for Sweden's local fibre network owners. The Alliance supports members in creating open, future-proof local fibre networks. Visit us at [www.ssnf.org](http://www.ssnf.org)