A number of project reports have been generated in FBD that can be downloaded from the homepage of the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) at:

https://msb.se/sv/Produkter--tjanster/Publikationer/
BACKGROUND
The Swedish Forum for Biopreparedness Diagnostics (FBD) is a national laboratory multiagency cooperation between four agencies covering a broad spectrum of biorisks associated with human, animal, feed, food, drinking water and environmental samples.

GOAL
The aim of FBD is to strengthen the diagnostic capability and capacity for select agents in Sweden.

ACHIEVEMENTS
Methods have been developed and tested to allow diagnostics in case of an outbreak or suspected dissemination of select agents. The methods shared within the FBD include in-house-methods for real-time PCR analyses of these agents.

One of the ultimate aims of the FBD is to enable cooperation in a crisis, where sample load is too great for any one agency to manage. A key to sharing sample load lies in harmonisation of quality assurance, since the agencies must be able to rely on analyses performed at each other’s laboratories. To fulfill this demand a quality manual has been developed and implemented.

The activities of the FBD have also resulted in increased ability of laboratory personnel. Through ring trials and wetlab exercises, staff has been trained and analytical methods and routines at the BSL3 facilities evaluated and improved.

INITIATION OF COLLABORATION AMONG THE NORDIC COUNTRIES
The goal of this project is to establish collaboration amongst the Nordic countries within the area of diagnostics of high risk pathogens. Joint exercises, exchange of knowledge and methods as well as proficiency testing are areas to be discussed.
Contact: Moa.Lavander@slv.se

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND DIAGNOSTIC CAPACITY
The goal is to improve the FBD in-house quality system both for the network and for the methods used throughout the complete chain of analysis and to implement the CWA 15793: Laboratory Biorisk Management standard in the BSL3 laboratories. Contact: Talar.Boskani@folkhalsomyndigheten.se

METHOD DEVELOPMENT
Aim to improve molecular detection methods as well as culturing methods used for select agents. The Integrated Multiplex Assay and Sampling System, IMASS (BBI Detection, UK) for field-detection of eight select agents will be evaluated. Contact: Emelie.Salomonsson@foi.se

DISSEMINATION AND EDUCATION
The aim of this project is to spread knowledge about the national laboratory methods and capacity to first responders in order to increase the preparedness to handle an outbreak of high risk pathogens. Contact: Anna.Lindberg@sva.se

ONGOING PROJECTS 2014-2016

CONTACT
Mona Byström president of the FBD in 2014; mona.bystrom@foi.se

FOCUS AREAS
DIAGNOSTIC METHODS
QUALITY ASSURANCE
BIOSAFETY
GAP ANALYSIS
HARMONISATION
INCREASED CAPACITY
EDUCATION
EXERCISE

FBD AGENCIES
- National Food Agency (NFA), Uppsala
  www.slv.se
- Swedish Defense Research Agency (FOI), Umeå
  www.foi.se
- National Veterinary Institute (SVA), Uppsala
  www.sva.se
- Public Health Agency of Sweden, Stockholm
  www.folkhalsomyndigheten.se

FOCUS AREAS
DIAGNOSTIC METHODS
QUALITY ASSURANCE
BIOSAFETY
GAP ANALYSIS
HARMONISATION
INCREASED CAPACITY
EDUCATION
EXERCISE

DIAGNOSTICS FOR HIGH RISK PATHOGENS (BSL 3)
- Bacillus anthracis
- Brucella spp.
- Burkholderia mallei
- Burkholderia pseudomallei
- Clostridium botulinum
- Coxiella burnetti
- Francisella tularensis
- Hanta virus
- Yersinia pestis

CONTACT
Mona Byström president of the FBD in 2014; mona.bystrom@foi.se

Picture: group photo at FBD project meeting spring 2013