

Mistra Urban Futures Skåne Local Interaction Platform Consolidation Report: Progress Made & Directions Forward



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Skåne Local Interaction Platform (SKLIP)

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Title photo: Rasmusgatan in Malmö, by Jacques Montel

Skåne Local Interaction Platform (SKLIP)

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Summary

The Skåne Local Interaction Platform has made impressive progress in creating a base for collaborative urban sustainability research. Platform researchers have been involved in 12 projects on differing urban sustainability themes and different project types. Despite that the platform experienced a number of early developmental impediments, it is now in a strong position for continuation into new urban research topics and cases, project types, and researcher and practitioner participants. This report has highlighted that the platform should continue to pursue high-quality knowledge co-production processes in Skåne by creating a centralised and streamlined management structure, broaden the platform leadership and participation network, reposition the platform initiatives to include more action- and solutions-orientation, and create a simplified project model for new initiatives.

Background

Platform Motivation

Sustainable urban transformation processes require robust processes that are inclusive, including insights different societal actors and processes of change that the actors are receptive to. Malmö has been a leader in experimenting with such approaches. One prominent model that has been developed and used in the past decade has been the approach of the Malmö Commission (Malmökommissionen, 2013). The Commission was created and appointed to understand and address the increasing health disparities and long-term social sustainability in the city. The work of this commission is known nationally as a good example of a cross-cutting approach to knowledge co-generation, facilitating collaboration between researchers, citizens, public officials, civil society organisations and industry. Their work generated scientifically-informed strategies for how the health inequalities in Malmö could be addressed.

Platform Overview

Based partly on the model of the Malmö Commission, the Skåne Local Interaction Platform (SKLIP) is developed as a collaborative research arena focused on sustainable urban development. The platform is a common effort between Malmö University, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Alnarp, Lund University, and Malmö Municipality. The SKLIP was launched in 2016 as one of six platforms of the Mistra Urban Futures project. The Skåne Platform has hosted, or has been actively involved in, 12 research projects, including the active participation from approximately 50 researchers and practitioners from the region and beyond. SKLIP collaborative activities are categorized in three project types: *local* (targeted projects in Skåne); *comparative* (international thematic projects comparing or focussing in two or more urban areas), and *expert panels* (synthesis research on strategic and locally-relevant topics). Each of the individual project themes are diverse and include, for example, urban migration, sustainable neighbourhood development, urban ecosystem services, sustainable building renovation processes, solid waste management, and Malmö's implementation of the SDGs, among numerous others. The individual projects are described in greater detail in an appendix at the back of this report.

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A joint thematic seminar for the local project "Augustenborg Anthology" where authors from academia and the municipality comment, discuss and improve the articles of the anthology together. Photo: Monika Månsson

Platform Leadership

Steering Group

The Skåne Platform is guided by a steering group, consisting of one member from each of the four host institutions. The steering group meets roughly every few months to make decisions on the strategic direction of the platform, as well as address issues of platform finances, new projects, project deliverables, and platform outreach. The steering group at the end of 2019 consisted of Tapio Salonen, Malmö University, Jesper Falkheimer, Lund University, Håkan Schroeder, SLU Alnarp, and Olof Liungman, Malmö Municipality.

Platform Management

Augmenting the steering group is SKLIP management, made up of the platform director and co-ordinator, which, since late-2017, has been located at the Centre for Sustainability Studies (LUCSUS) at Lund University. Furthermore, there is a platform accountant, who is based at Malmö University. The director and co-ordinator have been responsible for activities such as monitoring the respective platform projects, including project progress and outputs, liaising with the Mistra Urban Futures Secretariat on e.g., information for the website, Skåne platform representation in semi-annual Mistra Urban Futures Board meetings, representing the SKLIP at annual Mistra Urban Futures conferences, co-ordinating and facilitating SKLIP steering group meetings, contributions to project-wide publications and documents (e.g., books, manuals, research articles, operational plans, risk assessments), arranging common SKLIP project activities and the final conference, and working with the platform accountant on financial reporting and budget projections.

Mistra Urban Futures Project

The [Mistra Urban Futures](#) project is a 10-year research initiative (2009-2019) supported by the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research (Mistra). The other Urban Futures interaction platforms are located in Cape Town, South Africa,



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Kisumu, Kenya, Sheffield-Manchester, in the U.K., and Gothenburg and Stockholm. Furthermore, Shimla, India and Buenos Aires in Argentina are also project partners. Mutual learning and development of the research centre's activities goes hand-in-hand with the focus on the research. Mistra Urban Futures was governed by an international Board of directors and a consortium of Gothenburg-based public institutions, two universities and a research institute. The Mistra centre (Secretariat) was hosted by Chalmers University of Technology and the University of Gothenburg, which is also two of the consortium partners. Since the formal completion of the project on 31 December 2019, Urban Futures has been integrated as a unit of the [Gothenburg Centre for Sustainable Development, GMV](#). Under its new name [Centre for Sustainable Urban Futures](#).

The overarching theme *Realising Just Cities* guided all Mistra Urban Futures research activities between 2016-2019. The theme was legitimatised on the bases of rapid urbanisation, globalisation and the complexity of cities demand transformative solutions and new paths towards sustainability and more just cities. Climate change and other challenges in urban areas such as poverty, social segregation, unsustainable lifestyles and urban sprawl are complex and at times even conflicting, engaging a variety of actors, decision-making levels, disciplines and sectors. Responses and solutions need to be found through co-operation and collaboration. Therefore, many projects that were launched during this period were comparative projects between two or more Urban Futures platforms.

Augmenting the above research direction, the project was also home to the [Urban Futures Open Research School](#), which supplemented research activities by offering courses on transdisciplinary methods and epistemology, scenario methodologies, holistic thinking and visualization. The research school also provided activities on critical reflection on co-production as well as the role of the PhD student in processes of co-production in relation to scientific methods, quality, relevance and social utility. International seminars were also held connected to the Mistra Urban Futures' international network and platforms. Several researchers associated with the Skåne platform participated in research school activities. Approximately 60 PhD candidates also have been supported by or associated with Mistra Urban Futures projects.

The common research approach employed by Mistra Urban Futures projects was knowledge co-production (Td-CP). The common research approach is performed through transdisciplinary knowledge co-production made up of interdisciplinary research teams from in- and outside of academia. The approach is to bring different actors together, from research and practice, from society and the private sector, who together co-create knowledge and understanding that promotes more sustainable urban futures. The approach provides the arena for addressing questions and urban challenges no single actor can manage alone. At Mistra Urban Futures many different competences and disciplines meet. People from a wide range of research fields and expertise work participate: from business, sociology, political science, architecture, biology, physical resource theory, law, human ecology, engineering sciences to design. In theory, Td-CP is a holistic approach, starting from the very conception of individual projects and continuing through to project design and research, to implementation of results, including communication and publications of findings. Furthermore, Td-CP is about learning. It is not a single method, rather a methodological *ethos* implemented in different ways depending on the context. It is a means to an end in tackling complex urban sustainability challenges.

Platform Financial Arrangements

SKLIP research activities are supported through a rather complicated arrangement of direct cash contributions to the platform, *in-kind* financing from the individual platform projects, and direct matching contributions of up to 50% from the Mistra Urban Futures Secretariat in Gothenburg. The formal intranational agreement between the platform and the Urban Futures was made

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between Malmö University (SKLIP host) and Chalmers University of Technology (Mistra Urban Futures base), making Malmö University ultimately responsible for the platform budget and all contracts for the individual projects.

Similar Regional Initiatives

The Skåne Local Interaction Platform is not the only initiative in Skåne promoting inter- and trans-disciplinary sustainable urban development. Each of the platform partners also hosts direct or indirect relevant initiatives hosted by the SKLIP institutions. These include [SLU Urban Futures](#); Lund University's [Sustainability Forum](#) (Hållbarhetsforum) and [Urban Arena](#), and the Institute for Sustainable Urban Development, ISU, ([Institutet för hållbar stadsutveckling](#)) jointly hosted by Malmö University and Malmö municipality.

Platform Outcomes & Outputs

Despite the recent launch of many of the projects within the Skåne platform, individual project outcomes and outputs from many of the projects have been notable (see appendix). The projects—and particularly the work of the expert panels—in a relative short period of time, were able to assemble diverse project teams of researchers and practitioners focused on urban sustainability—sometimes uniting experts from academia, city government, interest organizations, and the private sector. In addition to direct contributions of the two Mistra Urban Futures-wide book projects (Simon et al. 2020; Hemström, et al. (forthcoming)), outputs from the 12 projects as of March 2020 have included the submission or publication of 18 peer-reviewed, international academic papers, an anthology (book), three popular science articles, seven reports, a policy brief, a variety of conference papers, posters and presentations, the hosting of several practitioner workshops, and a film. Further strengthening these outputs, several additional manuscripts for scholarly publication will be submitted throughout 2020. Furthermore, a final platform conference consolidating and finalising the Mistra Urban Futures phase of platform activities that was originally planned to take place early-May 2020 (Conference Verkstad: Agenda 2030, May 6th-7th, Malmö, postponed to September 2020). Augmenting all of this, the Skåne platform has also had a strong presence at the annual Mistra Urban Futures international conferences, hosted by the different platforms around the globe (e.g., Kisumu, Cape Town, Sheffield), where SKLIP researchers, practitioners and leadership have co-organized innovative conference sessions, given conference-wide talks,¹ as well as contributed with other conference presentations.

¹ Example from 2019 Sheffield Conference: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sgZ4ceouhHI>

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*SKLIP Director Barry Ness giving a testimonial during the Realising Just Cities Conference in Sheffield, Oct 2019.
Photo: Ulrike Krantz*

Platform Reflections

Platform Management

Despite the impressive progress and inventory of outputs from the platform, the SKLIP hasn't been without its developmental challenges. The platform failed to reach its potential due to being plagued by inadequate management during the platform's initial years. These deficiencies caused developmental delays during the subsequent two years of the project, weakened the relationship between the Mistra Urban Futures Secretariat and the SKLIP, as well as had implications on platform leadership being able to make strategic decisions about the platform direction.

Related, the complicated "dual" project oversight structure (Mistra Urban Futures *and* SKLIP) also caused conflicting priorities for the platform. The platform was obligated to fulfil the obligations and research direction priorities as stipulated in the contract between Malmö University and Chalmers while simultaneously also pursuing research priorities that were relevant for Skåne, specifically Malmö. This, at times, caused competing routines, objectives, and obligations with the research, or participation projects that didn't completely align with developmental priorities in the region.

Augmenting the above challenges, significant management time in 2018 was spent trying to come up to speed with platform management. This predominantly included significant time trying to understand the different initiatives of the platform that were established during the initial two years of the project. For example, it took roughly six months for the director and co-ordinator to realize that the platform was involved in (or there were applications for) 12 research initiatives with ties to Skåne.

In addition, the multi-organizational leadership structure has also caused challenges for creating oversight of platform operations; this was especially the case for the platform's financial situation. Platform management from the launch of the platform in 2016 to late-2017 was located solely at Malmö University. However, when SKLIP management operations changed to Lund University, problems were created for platform management to create and maintain adequate management of operations, especially monitoring project expenses and budgetary oversight, which stayed at Malmö University. This was due to the inability to gaining access to financial systems, commitment from the previous platform accountant about discussions about the finances, and the lack of proper research contracts in place. Related, the complicated project financing system, consisting of different combinations of direct cash contributions from SKLIP partners, in-kind financing from the respective projects, and matching funding from the Mistra Urban Futures

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Secretariat created difficulties to create and maintain a detailed understanding of the platform budget. In addition, and adding to the complications of gaining a proper financial oversight, the system of Malmö University management and staff members from to be paid incremental (i.e., monthly) created caused challenges for detailed oversight of project finances. A general adequate understanding of platform finances was only gained in from mid- to late-2019 via the diligence of the new SKLIP accountant.

The above has subtracted from the research and interactive potential of the platform and caused an unclarity in the financial situation at the platform. However, strong efforts from all platform leadership over the past year has brought clarity and direction to all parts of platform activities.

Platform Researchers & Practitioners

To gain a more comprehensive understanding of SKLIP project research, in late-2019 platform steering group and the management team carried out a comprehensive assessment of all SKLIP research activities. The assessment work was performed by Luciana Capuano Mascarenhas (MAU) and included interviews with all SKLIP project leaders as well as key researchers and practitioners who participated in the various research activities. More specifically, the assessment focused on the impressions on to the opportunities, challenges, outcomes, the institutional arrangements, and other impressions knowledge co-production processes in the respective platform projects. The main sentiments from the assessment are summarised in the paragraphs below.

Knowledge Co-production Opportunities

Most SKLIP project participants viewed the benefits of sharing knowledge, experiences and inspiration via the different collaborations, including between academia and municipalities, industry, and association between different municipalities in Skåne. Furthermore, the hands-on research was deemed more useful, especially for practitioners, since it included societal actors from the project design phase, something that is not common in similar research endeavours. Augmenting the above, a number of participants also mentioned receiving a better and more holistic understanding of problems and needs for research in each research area, as well as an understanding of the differences in the “vocabulary” (jargon) used by different actors. The benefits were not only viewed from the practitioner’s side. Several academics involved in the projects also mentioned the benefits of gaining more practical knowledge and real-world examples, which could be used to improve university teaching on urban sustainability-related subjects. Furthermore, there was mention of the general positive results that come from the increased collaboration between the universities located in the same region, which, in most cases, do not collaborate with each other.

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The practitioners and researchers of the City-to-City Learning Lab on Ecosystem-based Approaches during a study tour in one of the involved communities in Skåne. Photo: Björn Wickenberg

Knowledge Co-production Challenges

Despite the benefits of SKLIP Td-CP, several interviewees discussed specific challenges with the project work. There were a number of practitioners either felt their work in a project was not affected by the project, or that they didn't know how to use the knowledge generated to improve their work. More specifically, participants mentioned the conflicting or incompatible interests, aims, and expectations among the different project actors. For academia, research has to be publishable and critical views and perspectives were preferred; for municipalities, there was a stronger emphasis on research being useful and practical, and more pragmatic for use in different urban contexts. These different priorities often clashed with each other during the duration of the projects.

Furthermore, there was the questioning of adequate levels of engagement and commitment from the different project participants where there were differences in, e.g., motivation and interest, and the time and resources available to participate by many of the individual project partners. Related to the above, there were also comments about the continuity of project staff, where the rotation of staff and on-going changes in responsibility made projects lose important actors and knowledge. A few participants viewed their respective projects as time-consuming and difficult, as the organisations that were involved have different levels of commitment, ways of working and work structures, which made the work difficult to integrate and move the research forward in a common manner.

Project Outcomes & Outputs

Some interviewees were familiar and used to doing transdisciplinary research, while for others, the approach was completely new. Panel activities were embedded into existing activities as much as possible to create synergy effects. However, for a number of the projects, the work represented a new direction of research for its participants. Project group size preferences varied for SKLIP project researchers. For a number of participants, a larger project group constellation did not seem to be an issue, where involvement in a larger group helped to generate deeper understandings; however, other participants mentioned that smaller groups were much easier to work with. Also important to the project was the amount of time each participant could devote to the project where

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there were large differences in the time individual participants had available to devote to the project process.

In general, communication and outreach activities within the panels seemed to work well, but it was mentioned that organizational issues hampered effective communication between projects, SKLIP and the Urban Futures Secretariat in Gothenburg.

There were a number of tangible outcomes from the respective SKLIP projects that were highlighted by the participants. There was a general agreement that an important outcome from the projects was the creation of network of relevant actors around a particular urban sustainability issue. The discussions in the networks generated and helped to expose different ideas within the project area that likely wouldn't have emerged in more conventional project types.



The Sustainable Neighbourhood Development Panel organised a session with a panel discussion “How do we realise the dream of sustainable urban development?” during the conference Meeting Point Urban Magma: Urban Innovation in Malmö, May 2019. Photo: Nina Vogel

Important outputs mentioned by participants that came from the project were the different meetings, workshops and seminars involving the different actors, field visits to different projects, an elaboration of guidelines, creation of frameworks and policy recommendations. Furthermore, participants elude to the academic papers published, a Master's thesis, and project report. Enhancing these, preparation of a teaching case study based on real cases, co-teaching opportunities for University students (participating companies), the production of short videos for use in a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), a book chapter on methodology and the co-production process, the sharing of important policies, guidelines and files between city officials from different municipalities, the presentation of the research at business events (e.g., Business Arena in Stockholm), an outline for “research circle” (Sw. *forskningcirkel*), and a live broadcast for the existing series [Tillsammans 2030](#) were all key outputs that wouldn't have come to fruition without the SKLIP project activities.

Organizational and operational challenges

There were several organisational and operational challenges that were mentioned by SKLIP participants that impeded project work. Many of the projects got a late start (e.g., needing significant time to prepare a sufficiently detailed proposal, budget approval process), therefore, giving limited amount of time left to carry out actual research. This also created a stressful period in late-2019, where most outputs were needed to be completed by the end of the larger Urban

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Futures project. There were also comments regarding the lack of clarity on *what to do* and *what to achieve* by researchers during the respective project/panel formation processes. Other respondents mentioned the time needed to carry out the project work was grossly underestimated, noting that it takes a longer-term time commitment to be able to combine the needs of both academia and practitioners. Other comments were made about individual project leadership, where project responsibilities were undefined and unclear. An example with one of the projects was the questioning who the project leader was, and how much time there was for each person to dedicate to the project work. Another participant considered the process as messy and confusing, where a lot of time was devoted to administrative work. Participant turn-over was again named as a challenge to effective project work where the group constellations changed due to people changing jobs, parental or being on sick leave. Finally, there was mention of language as being a barrier where the working language of English presented a problem of communication with some societal actors.

Locating individual project activities within the broader SKLIP and Mistra Urban Futures project landscape was difficult for some participants. There were questions as to the purpose and structure and what was expected from the panels and projects. For example, participants also didn't know a lot about the other projects in which they are not involved, even though, some of the topics were strongly linked/related. Furthermore, the project formation process was not completely transparent. One interviewee commented that the establishment of researchers working in the panels was carried out very much in a "top-down" manner. Some participants had a very specific contribution in the projects/panels and don't know anything about the platform and how they could continue to collaborate. This created a feeling of being 'left aside' in the process. Having a few, but clear rules (e.g., on reporting results) could have helped project leaders. Some participants asked what will happen next, stating it would be very beneficial if the network was maintained for new collaborative endeavours.

Miscellaneous Comments

From the participant comments, there was a general under-representation of societal actors in most panels and projects. They emphasised that a better balance between academia and societal actors' participation was crucial to co-produce knowledge that creates more sustainable and just cities; otherwise, the projects run the risk of reproducing conventional academic research. It was also stressed that it was important that *all* participants have the same incentives to participate, to ensure a good proportion of different stakeholders (financing the time spent in the project, seeing value in the research conducted and obtaining outcomes that are relevant for all stakeholders). Some of the municipality representatives interviewed also belong to the research community, having a dual role. Having these types of actors that understand both spheres was beneficial, but can also add to an imbalance in stakeholder participation.

Finally, there were conflicting opinions on the platform's demands. For some, it was viewed that the project had the autonomy to propose partnerships and outcomes that they wanted; however, for other researchers, these were seen as "unclear expectations."

Platform Pathways Forward

In addition to a prioritising post-2019 planning at the Urban Futures Secretariat, SKLIP leadership has discussed development and research priorities on several occasions over the past year-plus, in both formalised settings such as steering group meetings and a designated post-2019 planning session but also in more informal discussions. With the completion of the Mistra Urban Futures project, SKLIP leadership sees strong opportunities for both more diverse and independent activities as well as collaborative research activities, especially with other urban regions in

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Sweden, to be carried out via the platform. Furthermore, and based on the experiences of the recent past, the leadership also sees the need to set a new direction for the platform, which places activities apart from other similar initiatives in Skåne. The areas below represent the priorities that have emerged based on the reflections of the platform leadership and research participants.

Simplified & Centralised Management Structure

The ability to maintain adequate oversight of platform finances as well as the progress of individual projects is essential for a properly-running platform. Therefore, a simple, streamlined platform leadership structure is important. Centralising management responsibilities at one location is one way to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of platform management where the operational leadership (i.e., director, co-ordinator, and accountant) can work in unison and maintain on-going face-to-face contact with each other over matters of platform responsibilities. The centralisation would help systems such as billing approval processes, budget work, and project monitoring.

A Broadened Network

While there are other urban sustainability initiatives located at or between two of the SKLIP partners, the platform is the only consortium that unites all major universities in the region. Other actors such as Helsingborgshem (Helsingborg Municipality's apartment rental company), municipalities of Lomma, Eslöv, Höganäs, and Kristianstad have participated in individual SKLIP projects. In addition, the SKLIP had early participation from regional government as Region Skåne, but the commitment only lasted less than a year due to the meagre platform start. Longer-term, non-academic commitment has only come from Malmö. This has caused the platform to be deficient in representation from other key regional actors and in initiative direction.

For the platform to better reach its potential, it is essential that a broader array of actors, both from the public and private sector, be directly involved in SKLIP activities. The wider actor constellation would also help in the platform being a stronger link between different regional actors via different opportunities and events. This would include not only being active in project research, but also play a key role in platform leadership. The broader actor constellation would help to increase the quality of SKLIP Td-CP research, make the research efforts and direction more comprehensive, incorporating a wider array of sustainability-relevant themes, as well as forming a network that is truly world leading. It is currently recognised that the platform faces a "Catch-22"; other organisations will be reluctant to participate in platform activities when there is limited representation and directional focus. The broader network, including participants such as Region Skåne and the Association of Municipalities in Skåne (*Sw. Kommunförbundet i Skåne*) would also strengthen the platform's opportunities and chances for external project funding from funding organisations such as Formas and NordForsk. It is therefore suggested that an actor assessment be carried out to identify strategic new individuals and organisations in Skåne who could add to increasing SKLIP capabilities.

Innovation & Action Orientation

The transdisciplinary research field focused on sustainability has made significant strides over the past decade. It has evolved from a realm of research that boasted the potentials of Td-CP to a field that now has expanded in several strategic directions and where the approaches have been tested through myriad cases. However, the development has not stopped there. Recent efforts in the field, furthermore, have taken an "experimental turn"—not only concentrating on the processes of knowledge co-production, but also focusing on initiatives that create "testbeds" for local solution

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and sustainability transition initiatives that more profoundly address the urgency of sustainability challenges. This is especially the case for adaptive and mitigative measures for climate change. The work has concurrently given rise to opportunities for new “boundary-spanning” organisations and initiatives, ones which better bridge the divides between science, practitioners and society and provide new intermediary roles and processes such as expert facilitation, design thinking (Brown and Wyatt 2010), and liberating structures (Lipmanowicz and McCandless 2014).

It is imperative that participatory initiatives to promote urban sustainability move beyond mere discussion clubs on different targeted topics. The outcomes and outputs of the collaborative processes must better span the spectrum of collaborative idea creation to sustainability solution implementation. Therefore, it is proposed that Skåne platform assume a stronger profile in innovative tangible cases that incorporate a wider array of relevant actors *and* include initiatives that are action-oriented. At a broader level, the platform will fill an important gap in not only creating a comprehensive assemblage of regional academic and non-academic actors focused on sustainability issues, but also push the urban sustainability envelope for cutting-edge research and development regionally and beyond. Furthermore, a solutions-orientation, learning-by-doing will open new forums for direct scientific action in processes of sustainable societal change and create opportunities for new methodological and theoretical insights. For practitioners, it further opens the landscape to new additional forms of collaboration with academia as well as other actors, and creates arenas where relevant and more practical solutions can be tested and, if successful, scaled up, out and deep.

A Simplified Project Model

Projects during the initial four years of the SKLIP were financed through a complicated system of SKLIP-specific contributions, in-kind project funds, and matching funding from Mistra Urban Futures. It is important that any new project funding system be simplified as to decrease the administrative time involvement by both SKLIP management and project participants. In addition, a simplified and transparent system of call for projects also be established at the platform. The system should include a common budget template for applicants, a detailed description of the thematic project focus for applicants, and a comprehensive description of the requirements for project applicants including practitioner-researcher consortium requirements, information on project participants, a detailed workplan, including deliverable submission dates, etc.

Concluding Remarks

The Skåne Local Interaction Platform has made impressive progress in creating a base for collaborative urban sustainability research. Platform researchers have been involved in 12 projects on differing urban sustainability themes and different project types. Despite that the platform experienced a number of early developmental impediments, it is now in a strong position for continuation into new urban research topics and cases, project types, and researcher and practitioner participants. This report has highlighted that the platform should continue to pursue high-quality knowledge co-production processes in Skåne by creating a centralised and streamlined management structure, broaden the platform leadership and participation network, reposition the platform initiatives to include more action- and solutions-orientation, and create a simplified project model for new initiatives.

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<http://www.liberatingstructures.com/>

Appendices

Platform panels

Sustainable Neighbourhood Development Panel

Project leader: Per Arne Nilsson, Malmö stad
Participants: 1 Malmö stad/ MaU, 2 LU, 2 MaU, 3 SLU Alnarp
Outputs:

- Scientific article: Johansson, Magnus & Forsemalm, Joakim (2020, kommande) "Evidence-based urban development: beyond the urban anecdotes" In: Metzger, Jonathan & Lindblad, Jenny. (eds.) Dilemmas of Sustainable Urban Development: A View from Practice. London, Routledge
- Sustainable Welfare in Swedish Cities: Challenges of eco-social integration in urban sustainability governance" submitted to Sustainability. Authors: Jamil Khan, Roger Hildingsson and Lisa Garting
- Report: 'Professionellt lärande och samproduktion: Erfarenhet från Sofielud". Author Ulf Silbersky
- Report: Hållbar områdesutveckling i Malmö: Från experiment till ny praxis? Authors: Nina Vogel, Jamil Khan, Joakim Nordqvist och Roger Hildingsson
- Report: Studieresor Hållbar Områdesutveckling i Malmö och Birmingham. Authors: Roger Hildingsson (LU), Jamil Khan (LU), Anna Litsmark (SLU Alnarp), Fredrika Mårtensson (SLU Alnarp), Joakim Nordqvist (Malmö Stad, Malmö universitet), Nina Vogel (SLU Alnarp) samt Per-Arne Nilsson (Malmö Stad) och Trevor Graham (Urbanisland/ÅF, Malmö Stad)
- Report "Att arbeta evidensbaserat med områdesutveckling- ett förslag på ett förhållningssätt". Author: Magnus Johansson
- Working paper: Landskap, trädgård och växtproduktionsvetenskap at LTV faculty at SLU, on 'Barn och ungas roll i en hållbar områdesutveckling'. Authors: Fredrika Mårtensson & Anna Litsmark
- Working paper: "Förslag till forskningscirkel om ekologisk och social hållbarhet i praktiken". Authors: Jamil Khan, Joakim Nordqvist, Roger Hildingsson
- Conference session Urban Innovation, Malmö 2019-05-15
- Conference presentation, Helsinki 2019-03-14/15 "Jämförande studie av integration av ekologisk hållbarhet och social välfärd i Malmö, Göteborg och Stockholm", Jamil Khan
- Webinar together with tillsammans2030.se, 2019-11-22
- Popular article: Opinion article in Sydsvenskan Sept 23rd, 2019 <https://www.sydsvenskan.se/2019-09-23/barns-utemiljoer-ar-en-rattighetsfraga>
- Article about Sofielund in the specialized journal Accent: <https://accentmagasin.se/politik/tatt-samarbete-vande-negativ-utveckling/>

Description: The main purpose of the panel was to provide evidence-based knowledge overviews with goal to contribute to improved methods for working with sustainable urban development. The panel consisted of representatives from the City of Malmö work with urban neighbourhood development and researchers from Lund University, Malmö University and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences at Alnarp. The Sofielund and Seved areas in Malmö, which currently are the objects of many developmental initiatives, acted as the springboard and point of reference for the work. However, other examples also served as reference, offering empirical data

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for synthesis and knowledge overviews. Panel activities were divided into six salient work packages covering different thematic areas: knowledge base Sofielund, governing through experimentation, development paths for children and youth, eco-social integration in neighbourhood development, implementing the new urban agenda and the sustainable development goals (comparative urban perspectives and the platform's contribution to a comparative project in Mistra Urban Futures), and a knowledge overview and feedback to Malmö City and other relevant actors. The outputs from the panel included a number of scientific articles and other publications, including written reports and written pieces for the media. Panel participants furthermore participated in various work package-relevant seminars and conferences throughout 2019.

Urban Ecosystem Services

Project leader: Åsa Ode Sang, SLU Alnarp
Participants: 2 Malmö stad, 1 MaU, 1 Region Skåne, 4 SLU Alnarp
Outputs:

- Scientific article: to *Urban Ecosystems* "Urban ecosystem services in strategic management and planning in Swedish municipalities"
- Scientific article: "Implementing urban ecosystem service approaches in practice – identification of the key governance challenges to Socio-ecological practice – a new journal by Springer"
- Scientific article: submitted to *Built Environment*, on public health and well-being from green walls and roof
- Scientific article: "Densifying residential areas with green and blue in mind: New perspectives based on experiences" (A perspective essay together with Professor Dagmar Haase)
- Scientific article: submitted to *Ecosystem Services* "Sweden's green city initiative - ambitions and understanding of ecosystem services within Swedish municipalities"
- Scientific article: submitted to *Land Use Policy* "Research on urban trees and ecosystem services –its application to strategic management"
- Region Skånes publikation: "Spridning av urbana miljöer och dess effekter på ekosystemtjänster"
- Swedish publication: *Tidskriften Landskap*: "Urbaniseringens effekter på våra ekosystem och landskap."

Description: The Urban Ecosystem Services panel worked at the interface of academia and practice, tangibly contributing to relevant knowledge on how urban ecosystems are planned, created, and managed to contribute to more sustainable cities. The objective was to gain more knowledge about how practical work around urban ecosystem services is carried out, especially in municipalities in Skåne. Furthermore, the intention was to increase understanding of how the link between quality of urban ecosystem services affects its ability to deliver ecosystem services, and how to actively work to strengthen these aspects in the municipal administrations. As part of the work of the panel, participants actively worked on three activities: creating a more robust picture of knowledge needs in this area, with a concentration on Skåne, performing a knowledge review of the salient themes based on the needs of practitioners, and fostering improved communication between research and practice in the area of urban ecosystem services.

International Migration and Urban Development

Project leader: Erica Righard, MaU
Participants: 1 Malmö stad, 3 LU, 8 MaU, 1 SLU Alnarp, 1 SLU Uppsala

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Outputs:

- Scientific article: submitted to International Journal of Housing Policy “Housing for refugees – Changing policy responses in Sweden to the refugee immigration peaks in 1992 and 2015.” Authors: Erica Righard & Mikaela Herbert
- Scientific article: submitted to housing theory and society, on sustainable housing pathways for asylum seekers and refugees. Authors: Henrik Emilsson and Klara Öberg
- Scientific article: submitted to Environment and Planning “Society and Space, on place attachment and the use of urban public spaces”. Author: Burcu Yigit Turan
- Scientific article: submitted to Urban Forestry and Urban Greening. “Perceived qualities in an outdoor setting promoting well-being – Migrants and locals perspectives” Authors: Anna María Pálsdóttir & Ása Ode Sang
- Scientific article: submitted to City & Society “Making Home-in-Exile: Urban Practice and Palestinian Belonging in Lebanon”. Authors: Erin Cory, Maria Hellström Reimer, Per Möller
- Scientific article: submitted to Global Networks "Migration, place-making and the rescaling of urban space". Authors: Kärholm, Mattias; Jensen, Tina Gudrun; Foroughanfar, Laleh; Söderberg, Rebecka.
- Literature report: “Translocality and Translocal Subjectivities: A Research Overview Across the Fields of Migration-, Culture-, and Urban Studies”. Authors: Hellström Reimer, M., Cory, E. and Möller, P

Description: The purpose of the International Migration and Urban Development (IMUD) Panel was to address this contentious field of research and urban development. It consisted of members with relevant fields of expertise recruited from the Local Interactive Platform (LIP) partners: City of Malmö, Lund University, Malmö University and Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. Its work was organized into four work packages (see below), which have been identified in a collaborative process relying on different perspectives and needs from research and practice. The results consisted of both academic and popular writings as well as presentations in seminars, workshops and conferences.

Local Projects

Antologi Innovation för hållbar stadsutveckling

Project leader: Bengt Persson, SLU Alnarp

Participants: 1 Malmö stad

Outputs:

- Book: “Augustenborg Eco City – Experiences and lessons learned”. Stockholm: Arkus. 2020. Editors: Månsson, Monika & Persson, Bengt
- Peer-reviewed articles in the book:
 - Henriksson, Greger; Anna Bernstad; Susanne Ewert & Lynn Åkesson, Neighbourhood source separation of waste from the perspective of Augustenborg residents - was it good and easy?
 - Emilsson, Tobias & Johanna Sörensen, Green roofs, stormwater and sustainability – Augustenborg as a research site
 - Karvonen, Andrew, Ekostaden Augustenborg as a Permanent Urban Laboratory
 - Haghightafshar, Salar; Henrik Aspegren & Karin Jönsson, Remarks on efficiency of sustainable drainage systems - Augustenborg, Malmö in focus
 - Wester, Misse & Annika Carlsson-Kanyama, Greenhouse – the climate smart flagship in Augustenborg
 - Martin Grander, Greenhouse in Augustenborg

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Description: The Eco-city Augustenborg, a city district in Malmö, Sweden, is internationally recognized as a unique and successful example of socio-economic transformation in combination with ecological rehabilitation. Starting with the development of public housing and neighborhood units at the end of the 1940s, moving on to a period of socioeconomic decline in the 1970s, followed by the Eco-City initiatives in the late 1990s, the story of Augustenborg is in many ways a story about Swedish housing history and how sustainability is increasingly becoming an integral part of local urban development. The latest addition is the innovative “Greenhouse Augustenborg”, a housing development project that aims towards a greener, more climate-smart everyday living.

The anthology summarizes and evaluates the experiences from the transformation of Augustenborg: learning from the past for future urban development and linking to the Sustainable Development Goal 11, Sustainable Cities and Communities. The book includes a variety of texts, ranging from internationally peer-reviewed research to dedicated chapters on specific sub-topics, and contributions that takes on anecdotal or personal approaches. This format allowed for different angles on the same themes, and for a variety of voices to be heard. The lessons learned from Augustenborg serve as a model and inspiration for local urban development - in Sweden as well as internationally.

City-to-city learning lab

Project leader: Christine Wamsler, LU
Participants: 1 Malmö stad, 5 LU, 1 Eslöv kommun, 1 Höganäs kommun, 1 Kristianstad stad, 1 Kristianstads kommun, 1 Lomma kommun

Outputs:

- Scientific article: published in Climatic Change "Beyond participation: When citizen engagement leads to undesirable outcomes for nature-based solutions and climate change adaptation". Authors: Christine Wamsler; Johanna Alkan-Olsson; Helena Björn; Hjalmar Falck; Helena Hansson; Thomas Oskarsson; Evelina Simonsson; Fredrik Zelmerlöv. doi.org/10.1007/s10584-019-02557-9
- Scientific article: published in Journal of Cleaner Production, Volume 247, 20 February 2020, “Environmental and climate policy integration: Targeted strategies for overcoming barriers to nature-based solutions and climate change adaptation”. Authors: C.Wamsler, B. Wickenberg, H. Hanson, J. Alkan Olsson, S. Stålhammar, H. Björn, H. Falck, D. Gerell, T. Oskarsson, E. Simonsson, F. Torffvit, F. Zelmerlow
- Movie clips: <https://www.mistraurbanfutures.org/en/project/city-city-learning-lab>
- 7 Workshops with municipalities Höganäs, Kristianstad/Åhus, Lomma, Malmö, Eslöv

Description: This project supported systematic city-to-city learning to foster ecosystem-based planning, climate adaptation and associated governance. The aim was to create a city-to-city learning lab that allows the participating municipalities to work in close cooperation with researchers from Lund University to: 1) systematically analyse, compare and learn from the integration of ecosystem- or nature-based approaches in their daily planning practice, and 2) assess associated stakeholder involvement and governance mechanisms. In each municipality, one development project relevant for climate adaptation was analysed – from the beginning (project idea) throughout detailed planning, procurement, implementation, maintenance and follow-up (monitoring and evaluation). Questions that were asked included: What are the main planning steps during the process? When, how and why are ecosystem services considered? What are the associated planning structures, mechanism and tools that support ecosystem services integration? Who is involved, when and why? What are the structures, mechanism and tools that support internal and external cooperation and participation? What are the differences between the involved

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municipalities? What can we learn from them to advance ecosystem-based planning and adaptation? The project was the outcome of a joint workshop organised by Mistra Urban Futures Skåne and the Skåne Association of Local Authorities in April 2017, and based on the municipalities' joint identification of local needs and the desire for increased knowledge exchange in cooperation with academia.

Innovation and sustainability in the real estate industry

Project leader: Helena Bohman, MaU

Participants: 4 MaU

Outputs:

- Scientific article: submitted to The Case Journal, based on a case study on Riberhus "Managing Stakeholder in A Housing Renovation Project". Authors: Ju Liu, Karin Staffansson Pauli, Marcus Johansson
- Scientific article: submitted to Housing, theory and society journal "Tenant Voice – as strong as it gets. Exit, Voice and Loyalty in Housing Renovation"
- Scientific article: submitted to the Case Journal "Managing Stakeholders in A Housing Renovation Project"
- Scientific article: submitted to Sustainability "A System Model and An Innovation Approach toward Sustainable Housing Renovation". Authors: Ju Liu, Bo Bengtsson, Helena Bohman and Karin Staffansson Pauli
- Master's thesis: Kirn, L.; Rothfeld, N.; Schmidt, j. (2018), Urban development projects: The role of leadership for social sustainability in a multicultural district (supervisor: Ju Liu)
- Conference presentation: Conference on Business Arena Real Estate Stockholm, 2019-09-18/19
- Conference sessions: Fastighetvetenskaplig konferens, Malmö University, 2020-05-10

Description: The Swedish housing stock represents a considerable share of the country's capital stock, and more than a third of the dwellings in Sweden are rental apartments. A large share of this existing stock of rental housing is reaching an age where renovation is needed. The aim of this project was to contribute to apartment renovation practice, with a special focus on the tenant-landlord relations. Project activities included workshops, conference session coordination and several scholarly publications focusing on different aspects of the renovation process that were carried out in an efficient way and one that better contributed to a sustainable urban development.

Partnerships for Sustainability

Project leader: Joakim Nordqvist, Malmö stad and MaU

Outputs:

- Report: published in Mistra Urban Futures Report 2018:3 "Tillsyn av bostadsmiljöer - ett verktyg för stads- och områdesutveckling?" Authors: Bohman, H., Nordqvist, J. & Tateishi, E.

Description: This project investigated formal, multilateral public-private partnerships (PPPs) with explicit urban sustainability goals. It aimed to provide meaningful reference for design decisions in processes where municipalities take part in collaborative efforts across sectors in pursuit of urban sustainability, and to contribute to informed discussions about contextualised choice-making in matters of partnership architecture. Examining relevant experiences in Malmö in recent years, the project proposed and discussed, from within its empirical framework, a typology of PPPs for urban sustainability. Furthermore, drawing on theory and insights from

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previous research in the field, the project focused on two local cases, in Hyllie and in Sofielund, and investigated aspects of legitimacy and organising, respectively.

The Ecosystem Service City

Project leader: Neil Sang, SLU Alnarp

Outputs:

- Book: “Modelling Nature Based Solutions: Integrating Computational and Participatory Scenario Modelling for Environmental Management and Planning”, Cambridge University Press, February 2020
- Scientific article: submitted as a multistep to Digital Landscape Architecture 2020 at Harvard “Green Places and their Urban Hinterlands: Approaches for Visualising the Social Reach of Urban Green Space with Twitter Data”. Author: Neil Sang
- Scientific article: submitted to Computers, Environment and Urban Systems “Beyond Pseudo Anonymization: A Spatial Data Infrastructure Approach to Ensuring Ethical Use of High Spatio Temporal Meta Data from Mobile Devices for Functional Research on Urban Open Space.”
- Conference presentation: “The Ecosystem Service City” at the Sharing Cities Summit in Lund on October 11th, 2019.
- Conference paper: The Ecosystem Service City: Filtering a Deluge of Social Media Data, Urban Forum, Lund. Urban Forum talk at the International Transdisciplinarity Conference in Gothenburg Sept 10-13, 2019
- Popular article: published in SLU Urban Futures Ambassador report October 2019: “Sharing Platforms for a Sustainable Urban Future”
- Poster presentation: International Transdisciplinarity Conference 2019 in Gothenburg in September, "Hinterland Diagrams: Visualising the extended footprint of urban green space with Twitter data"

Description: Municipalities often use map data to help manage city resources. However, traditional maps may tell us where most municipal owned green space is, but not what it means to the people who use it. By investigating what Urban Green Spaces related activities people are talking about (in public) on social media platforms such as Twitter, this project research included a wider variety of insights than only those who are reached by traditional surveys and consultations. The research contributed to more inclusive ways to inform how our cities are managed. Much of social media content is unrelated to these issues. The challenge is to find the relevant posts and derive from these general measures, which both reflect the interests of a diverse population and respect individual privacy. The field work also was carried out to better understand how and what people say about their city on social media compared with wider public opinion.

Comparative Projects

Migration and Sustainable Urban Development

SKLIP representative: Erica Righard, MaU and Sandra Lundberg, Malmö stad

Description: Migrants, internal and international, move to urban areas and to smaller municipalities where they bring diversity but also connect localities within and across state borders. A key message from the World Migration Report 2015 is that urban partnerships among, for instance, migrant groups, local governments, civil society and the private sector are central to addressing the challenges and optimising the opportunities presented by the growing trend of migration towards cities. This comparative project focused on how cities receive and prepare for

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immigrants, including persons of varying legal statuses, and the effect on local and regional development. Comparative studies across Mistra Urban Futures local platforms in Gothenburg, Skåne and Kisumu concentrated on a creating a more robust understanding the challenges and opportunities that migration presents in the face of sustainable urban development. The project addressed migration and urbanisation from an integrated perspective. As migration studies and urban studies generally are treated as two separate discourses, Mistra Urban Futures had the opportunity to contribute to a new research direction. Here, aspects of sustainable spatial transformation and urban governance as well as constraints of urban-rural development, were seen through the lens of migration.

Solid Waste Management

Project leader: Michael Oloko, JOOUST, Kenya
Participants: 2 LU, 2 Kisumu Local Interaction Platform
Outputs:

- Oloko, M. & Ness, B. (2020) Local projects retrofitted. In Simon, D., Palmer, H. & Riise, J. Comparative Urban Research from Theory to Practice: Co-production for Sustainability. (Policy Press, Bristol). 41-62.
- Policy Brief: published in Mistra Urban Futures Policy Brief 2019:1 "Solid Waste Management Recommendations for Kisumu, Kenya" Autors: Michael Oloko, Luciana Capuano Mascarenhas, Barry Ness, Frankline Otiende
- Scientific article: published in Urban Forum, 30(1), 115–131 “How did Kachok dumpsite in Kisumu City develop into a crisis?” Authors: Awuor, F. O., Nyakinya, B., Oloo, J., Oloko, M., & Agong’, S. G. (2018). doi:10.1007/s12132-018-9342-7

Description: With the rapidly increasing world population and urbanisation, solid waste management continues to be a major concern to most cities. An effective framework for solid waste management to cope with the increasing waste volumes, changing quality of waste generated and disposal techniques is necessary to ensure sustainability. The flow of waste material and the opportunities for improvement form the basis for the project. For the last two years (2017-2018) Mistra Urban Futures under the Solid Waste Management comparative research project involving the platforms in Skåne and Kisumu considered solid waste management practices in two cities; Kisumu in Kenya and Helsingborg in Sweden, reflecting diverse experiences and trends worth considering for sustainability at both local and global fronts. With preferred management actions based on waste management hierarchy (prevention, reuse, recycling, recovery including energy, and safe disposal) and strategies guided by principles of Integrated Solid Waste Management. The research activities and collaborations were carried out in a transdisciplinary environment and incorporated academia, public sector (city management and county officials), private sector, civil society and the community. This was to facilitate effectiveness in policy lobbying and advocacy, institutional strengthening at all levels, enhanced engagement of partners and stakeholders in value chains and knowledge management. The aim of the project was to present potential business opportunities in solid waste management for sustainable solid waste management, and to use multi-criteria analysis approach for decision making in the selection of sustainable waste management technologies for a city. Research activities for 2019 addressed the practicality of a business model, presenting business opportunities as incentives for sustainability at the local level. The activities also considered solid waste treatment technology options (open dumping, conventional landfill, landfill with gas extraction, incineration etc.), and demonstrates how a multi-criteria analysis approach can aid decision making processes and knowledge generation at city levels based on parameters reflecting both local and global effects.

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Participatory Cities

Platforms: Gothenburg, Cape Town, Sheffield-Manchester, Kisumu, Skåne

Outputs: Numerous (<https://www.mistraurbanfutures.org/en/project/participatory-cities>)

Description: This project brought together analysis and action across the different Local Interaction Platforms in three ways: it provided a lens for analysing our comparative portfolio to ask what we can learn about co-producing participatory cities with citizens; it directly researched and tested the theory and practice of participatory urban governance through innovative mechanisms and pilots, and it scoped the possibility of a set of locally-based but internationally connected initiatives to lobby for more co-ordinated action to increase participatory urban governance. Project research focused on tensions and trade-offs between inclusion and exclusion/consensus and dissensus in urban politics, examining where, why and how do forms of co-production between state and citizens lead to empowerment and an opening towards different urban futures. The comparative enquiry investigated these issues across the LIPs, both for local projects and in the broader urban contexts in which they are located.

Implementing the New Urban Agenda and The Sustainable Development Goals: Comparative Urban Perspectives

SKLIP representative: Joakim Nordqvist, Malmö stad and MaU

Platforms: all other

Outputs:

- Scientific article: published in International Journal of Urban Sustainable Development, 1–20. “Adapting the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda to the city level: Initial reflections from a comparative research project.” Authors: Valencia, S. C., Simon, D., Croese, S., Nordqvist, J., Oloko, M., Sharma, T., Versace, I. doi:10.1080/19463138.2019.1573172

Description: Cities’ interpretation, implementation and engagement with the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) form the basis for this project. It is partly based on the outcome of the 2015 pilot project where the then suggested targets and indicators for SDG 11 – the Urban Goal – were tested against the realities in a number of cities in Europe, Africa and Asia. Cities participating in the comparative project are Cape Town (South Africa), Gothenburg (Sweden), Kisumu (Kenya), Malmö (Sweden), Sheffield (UK), as well as Shimla (India) (through the social enterprise, Nagrika) and Buenos Aires (Argentina) (through the New School’s Observatory on Latin America). In-depth analysis and research is being carried out in each city, in parallel with a comparative component, with all cities involved in cross-city learning and interaction. The present project started in 2017 and will continue until at least the end of 2019. The aim is to work actively with cities to support their understanding and implementation of the SDGs and the NUA, and to facilitate cross-city learning and interaction between the six participating cities. The findings, conclusions and results will also be used as feedback to ongoing UN revisions of targets and indicators. The range of issues encompassed by the New Urban Agenda, SDG11 and the urban elements of other Goals makes this comparative Mistra Urban Futures project comprehensive and provides a holistic perspective on urban sustainability. It also reflects Mistra Urban Futures’ approach of co-producing knowledge with different stakeholders and working between the local and global - in this case, with the global initially informing the local while the co-production approach with the respective municipalities in turn feeds back to inform the global.