



**NORDREGIO**  
Nordic Centre for Spatial Development

# Towards Holistic Urbanism

## Urban Research at Nordregio

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**norden**

Nordic Council of Ministers

# The City: Beautiful people or Beautiful cities?

- What's a city without it's people?
- People/residents/citizens as the pivot point for urban research

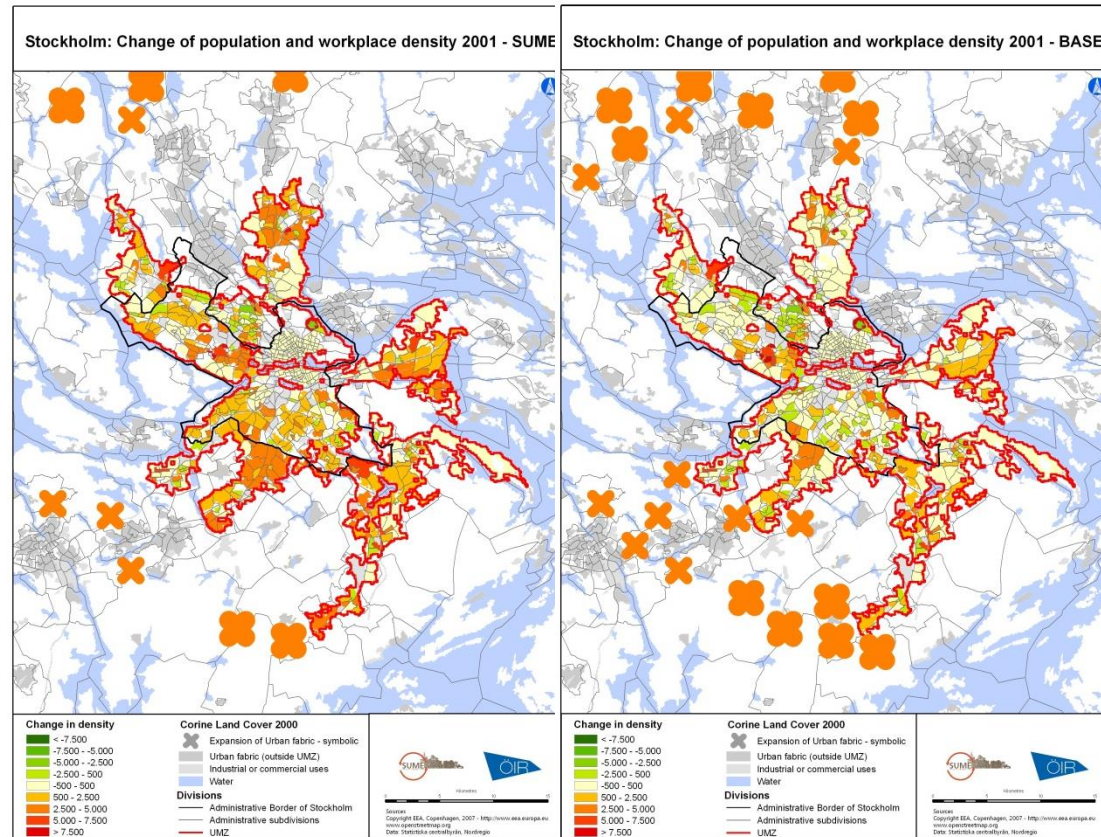


# Holistic Urbanism?

- An interdisciplinary concept that identifies people as the central element of the city
- Aims to overcome the barriers between conventional city-making disciplines
  - Urban planning, architecture and engineering
  - Recognizes economic development, social issues and technology
- Accounts for a diversity elements that influence and interact at the neighbourhood, district, city and regional scales.
- All urban dwellers, regardless of age, ethnicity, employment or orientation, have knowledge and skills that contribute to city-making
  - The disciplines mentioned above are seen as an inclusive point of departure for holistic urbanism rather than strictly defining the concept.

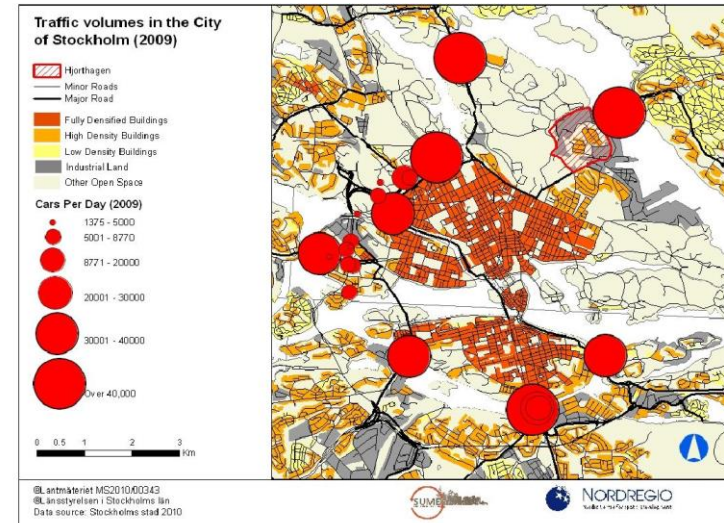
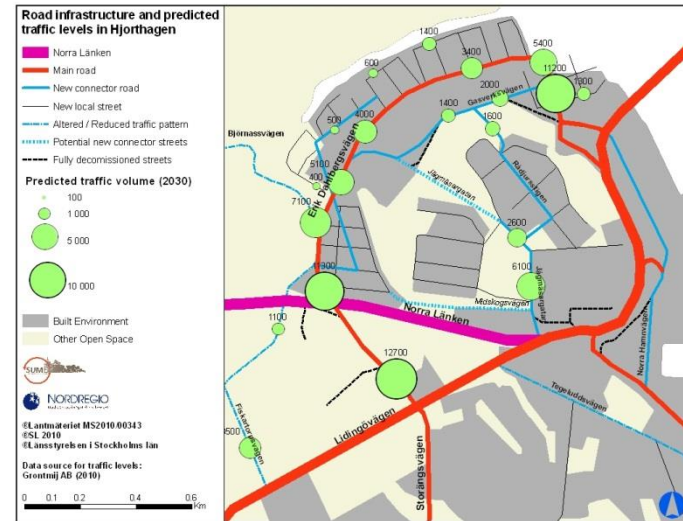
# Sustainable Urban Metabolisms for Europe

- Exploring how urban development in cities across Europe will influence resource efficiency
- Two development scenarios for 8 European cities with distinct contexts



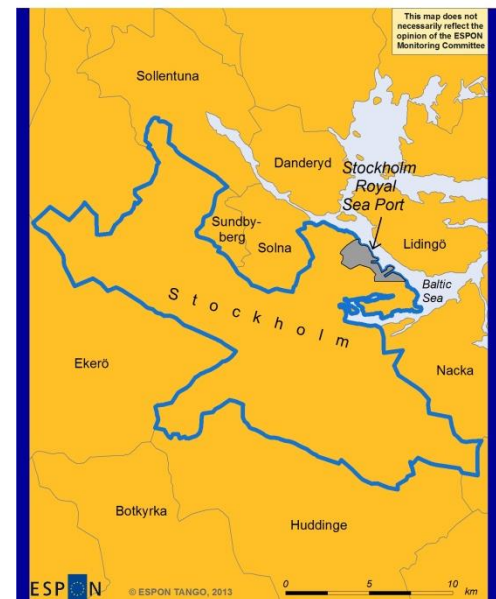
# Sustainable Urban Metabolisms for Europe

- Project also zoomed into the neighbourhood scale
- Looked at the potential impacts of “sustainable” projects in select cities
- Underlines how different scales influence one another and contribute to wider outcomes



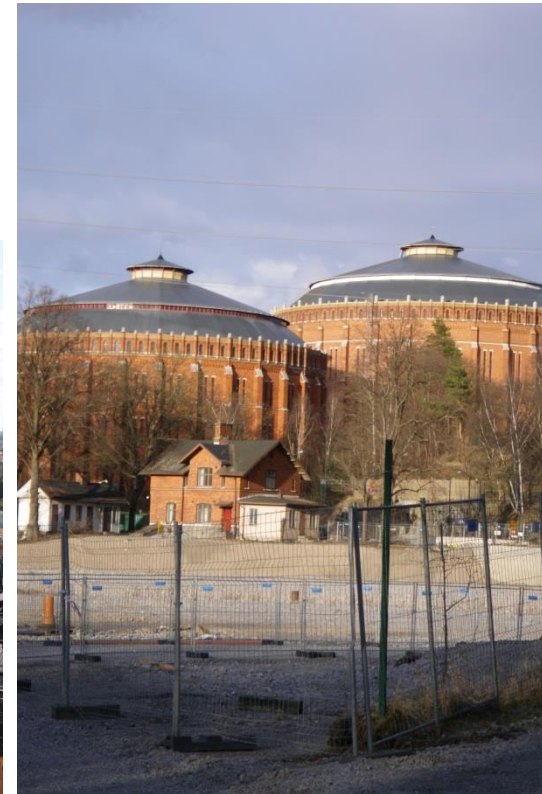
# Territorial Approaches for New Governance – ESPON TANGO

- Exploring the ways in which a diversity of actors contribute to the development of their territory within their contextually specific legal and political settings
  - Governments, private actors, grass roots organizations, media & the public
- Included a case study on resource efficiency in Stockholm & SRS
  - Multi-scalar



# Territorial Approaches for New Governance – ESPON TANGO

- It became clear that the City of Stockholm had some excellent approaches for promoting resource efficiency, but they didn't always apply them...
- It takes more than good ideas to build a great city



# Territorial Indicators of Poverty & Social Exclusion – ESPON TIPSE

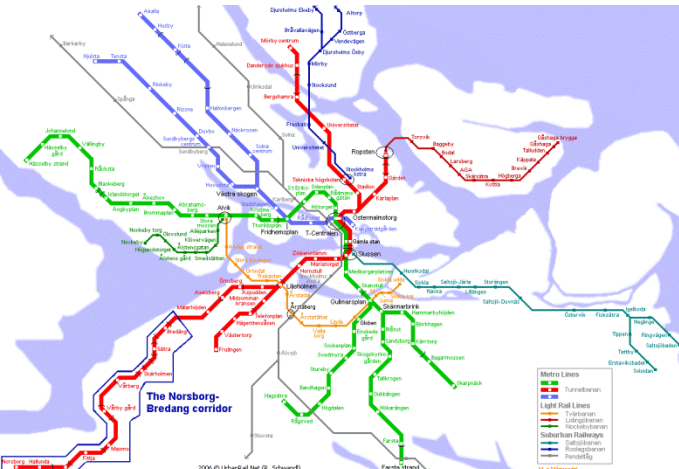
- What are defining characteristics of poverty & social exclusion? How contextually specific are they?
- What are the challenges and good practices that are evident in Stockholm?





# Territorial Indicators of Poverty & Social Exclusion – ESPON TIPSE

- Inclusion & exclusion are influenced by policies from all levels of government
- Clear evidence in Stockholm of the combined influences of economics, social issues, mobility & built form



# Digital Platforms for Citizen Engagement

- Scoping the potentials for public engagement using digital technology
- Identify trends, strengths and issues with such approaches
- Augment, rather than replace, engagement IRL
- Highlighting the value of “soft” approaches to the Smart City



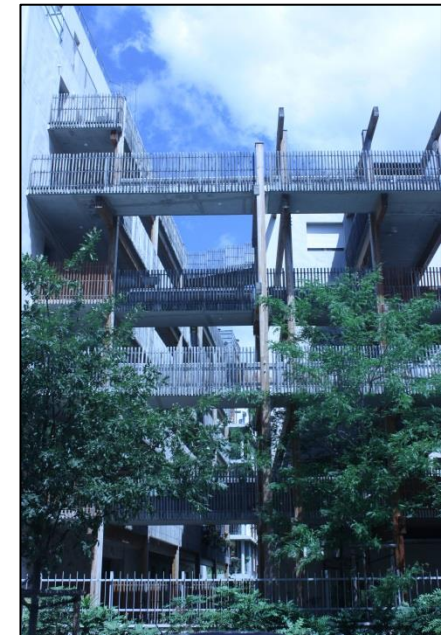
# Interreg REGREEN

- Good practices for green building, with an emphasis on public procurement
- “Green Building”: Buildings, Urban Systems & Governance
- Promoting knowledge exchanges

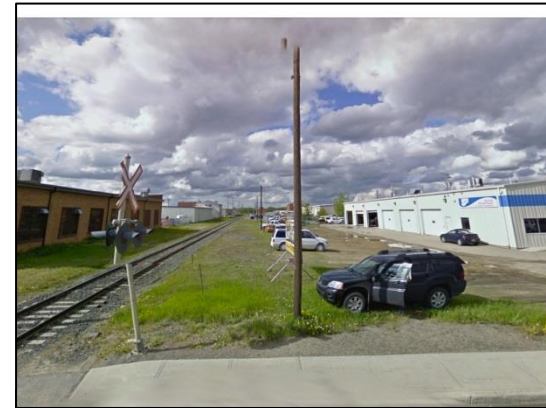
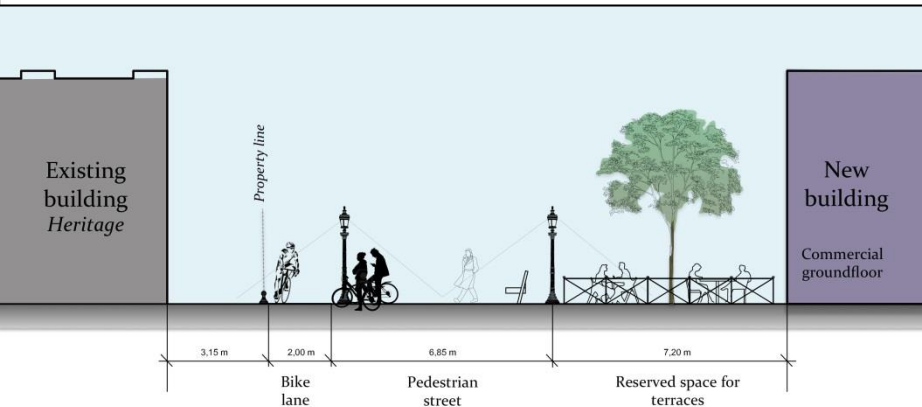
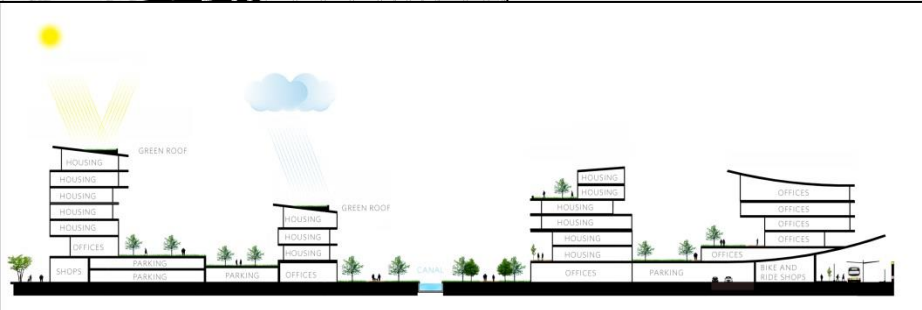


# Interreg REGREEN

- Deeper understanding of how municipalities from across Europe operate
- Rich opportunity to identify good practices & apply them in new settings



# Applying the research...



# Applying the research...



## Holistic development *holistický rozvoj*

**Public space**  
*verejný priestor*



**Healthy mobility**  
*zdravé pohyblivosť*



**Heritage**  
*dedičstvo*



**Education**  
*vzdelanie*



**Nature**  
*príroda*



**Economy**  
*ekonomika*



**Health**  
*zdravie*



# Thanks // Danke // Tack!

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