

20 oktober 2014

Til
Arbejdsgrupperne under Ministerrådet for Næring, Energi og Regionalpolitik

Kopia
Nordregio, sekretariatet i Arbejdsgrupp 4.Grøn vækst: Planlægning og bæredygtighed i byregioner (Nordic Working Group 4 Green Growth: Sustainable urban regions)

Fra
Rasmus Rasmussen, ordførende i Arbejdsgrupp 4.Grøn vækst: Planlægning og bæredygtighed i byregioner (Nordic Working Group 4 Green Growth: Sustainable urban regions)

Emne
Arbejdsprogram 2015-2016 – Arbejdsgrupper under EK-NER

1. Formålet med gruppens arbeid / the purpose of the group's work

The main task for the working group is to study how spatial planning can contribute to green growth within the context of Nordic city regions. The specific activities are developed and progresses in close collaboration between the working group and key stakeholder, i.e. municipalities and regions in the larger city-regions in Norden, with an equal focus on theoretical and practical approach. More specifically the activities should aim at:

1. Identifying and analyzing examples of urban forms and planning processes that can be models for different types of Nordic city-regions, and which can also be inspiring other city-regions in Europe.
2. Contributing to knowledge on city-regional planning tools/models/concepts, and how they could be used, implemented and translated in practice.
3. Facilitating exchange of planning and policy experiences between the Nordic city-regions with regards to the development and planning for attractive and sustainable city-regions.

2. Planlagte aktiviteter i 2015-2016 / planned activities in 2015-2016

There are two main types of activities planned for the period 2015-2016: research projects and policy outreach. All the planned activities are derived from the previous knowledge overview and outreach activities done during the first programme period 2013-2014.

Research projects

Based on the knowledge reviews, surveys and meetings conducted during the first programme period two research projects has been initiated which will be finalised during 2015. The first project is an investigation of the usage of indicators in regional planning processes. The second project is an analysis of how economical, ecological and social issues are integrated in city-regional plans and visions.

During 2015 the main activity will focus tools/models/concepts for city-regional planning both on how such can be developed or organized but also applied and used in practice. A key issue is to provide and structure information and knowledge in a way that it is useful and beneficial for practitioners, decisions-makers, policymakers, planners and other stakeholders at various levels; local, regional and national (and international (i.e. EU)). These research activities will be closely related to the policy outreach (out lined below).

Policy outreach

During 2014 **national meetings** with the Nordic city-regions was organised, with the objective to map practical concerns and issues, and, to ensure the applicability and relevance the working groups activities. In addition the workshops also helped to identify interesting and innovative city-regional planning initiatives. In 2015 a joint **Nordic symposium** will be organised based on the outcomes of the national meetings, which will facilitate the exchange of experience between the different Nordic city-regions, but will also contribute with in-depth information on how to use analytical knowledge.

In order to develop applicable and relevant knowledge for city-regional planning tools/ models/concepts it is important to open up spaces for communication and interaction, and recognize the importance of the co-production of knowledge. Through the symposium researchers and key stakeholders will co-produce new knowledge, which will be presented at **Nordregio Forum** in 2015 targeting a wider Nordic and European audience in fall 2015 (i.e. in Copenhagen) and eventually the findings of all projects and activities will be presented at a **final conference** in 2016 targeting.

Politiske målsætninger / Political objectives

The activities within and on behalf of the working group will develop the knowledge on planning for attractive and sustainable city-regions. The work will contribute to the Nordic Ministry of Councils prioritized area "Green Growth – the Nordic way. The aim of is to recognize Nordic experiences and the added value of a Nordic perspective within the field of urban planning, and identify possible conceptual and practical contribution for attractive and sustainable city-regions.

3. Informasjonsvirksomhet / dissemination activities

The working group prioritizes two-way communication and cross-sectorial collaborations. This means that the activities as far as possible will be done in collaboration with relevant stakeholders (e.g. planners and policy-makers in the Nordic city regions but also politicians at all levels of government) representatives' from national agencies and ministries as well as from the civil society and business world). The result of the project will be communicated through different media, websites, working papers, reports, policy briefs and newsletters, but also with an emphasis on meetings, workshops, symposiums and conferences. Information of the working group's activities will be continuously published on the Nordregio website. The work will also be disseminated internationally with focus on Europe through for example conference presentations and papers. (See also the policy outreach activities outlined above.)

4. Samarbeid med andre grupper og sektorer / collaboration with other groups and sectors

The working group will focus on the spatial planning and sustainable aspects of green growth, and will primarily seek to collaborate with the working group on green innovation and the working group on demography and welfare. City-regional planning is the starting point for the work but much emphasis will also be on working across sectors and on multiple levels in order to integrate all the dimensions of attractive and sustainable city-regions, i.e. ecological, social and economic.

5. Gruppens sammensetning / the composition of the group

<i>Danmark</i>	Holger Bisgaard, Naturstyrelsen (The Danish Nature Agency) Rasmus Kristian Pejter Rasmussen, Naturstyrelsen (The Danish Nature Agency)
<i>Finland</i>	Olli Maijala, Miljöministeriet (Ministry of the Environment) Olli Voutilainen, Arbets- och näringsministeriet (Ministry of Employment and the Economy)
<i>Norge</i>	Ellen Husaas, Kommunal og moderniseringsdepartementet (Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation) Tore Leite, Kommunal og moderniseringsdepartementet (Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation)
<i>Sverige</i>	Maria Nordh, Näringsdepartementet (Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications) Patrik Faming, Boverket (The Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning)
<i>Sekretariat</i>	Lukas Smas, Nordregio Christian Fredricsson, Nordregio