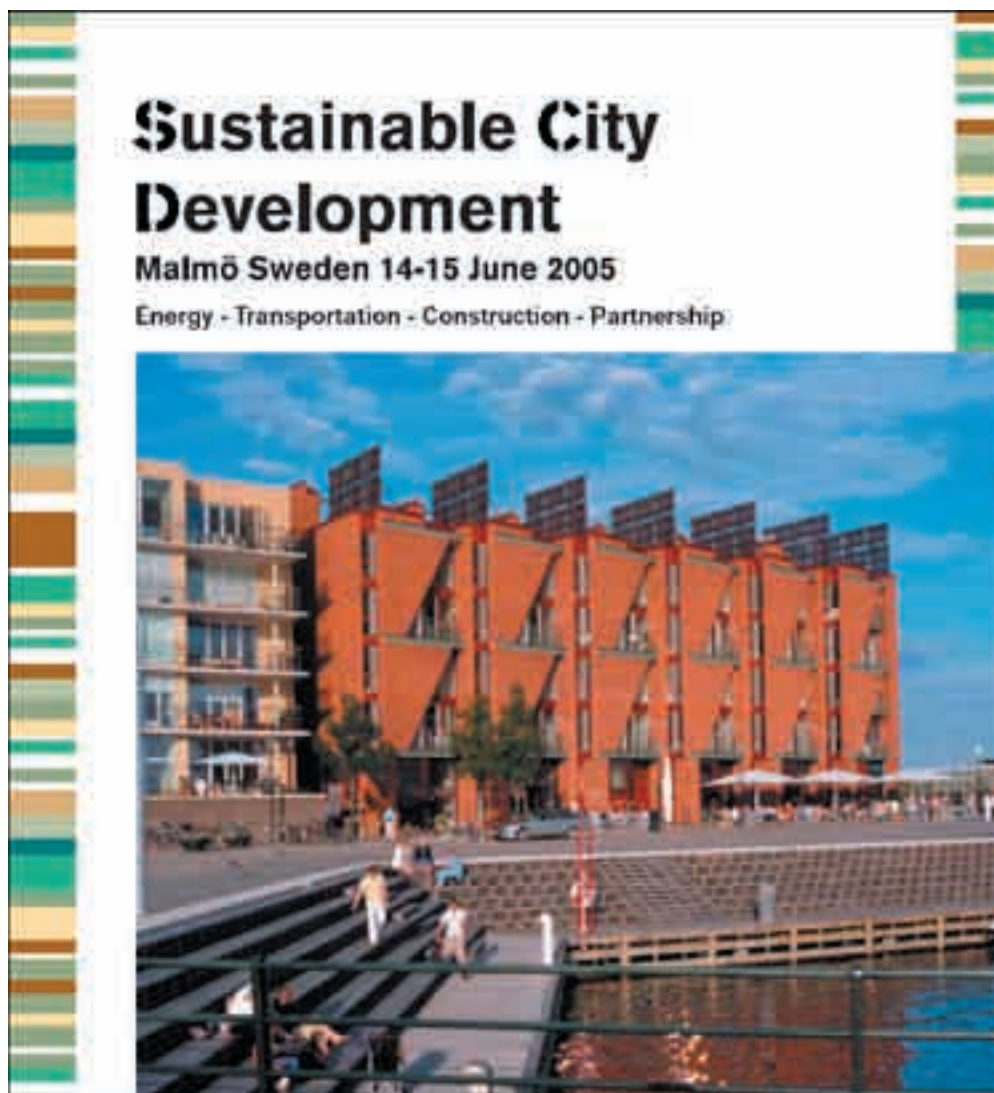


Documentation of the conference
Sustainable City Development
with conclusions and evaluation



Preface

Sustainable City Development in Malmö (14th/15th June) brought together a wealth of practitioners from across Europe and even further afield for two intense but enjoyable days in which everyone from ministers to minstrels provided perspectives on urban sustainability.

It was this broad range of participation and span of topics covered under the Sustainable City banner that created a dynamic conference. Plenum sessions were limited to the opening and closing of the conference with the main focus being on workshop presentations, group work sessions and real-world discussion on the streets of Malmö.

Which better setting to discuss sustainable transport than on the gas powered bus touring transport projects, or to debate innovative partnerships in the organic gardens run by a community organisation in one of the city's parks.

The results of the two days work is being sent to ministers Mona Sahlin and Elliott Morley, as well as DG TREN, all of the participants and a number of other interested organisations around Europe. A summary of all information is available on this page. It is up to everyone now to take these ideas forward in their everyday work for sustainable city development.



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Plenum presentations

Mr Ilmar Reepalu, Chairman of the Malmö City Executive Board

Mr Reepalu welcomed all participants to the Sustainable City Development Conference in Malmö, Sweden and the Öresund region. He reminded the conference that to create a sustainable development it won't help with a quick fix, these issues have to be solved in a long-term perspective. Mr Reepalu also mentioned that the conference participants should take the opportunity to see as much as possible of Malmö and examine the work that has been achieved for sustainability.

Mrs Mona Sahlin, Minister for Sustainable Development, Sweden

Mrs Sahlin wished for new answers to the old questions on urban sustainable

development that this conference discussed. There is an urgent need to integrate sustainable development into planning of new urban areas and in renovating existing ones. One way to promote this that the Swedish government are going to examine is the possibility to lower estate taxes for sustainable investments. But Mrs Sahlin reminded the conference that it takes guts to promote a sustainable development!

Mr Elliot Morley, Minister for the Environment, UK

Mr Morley stressed that it's important to integrate energy conservation and sustainability into the existing housing with poor conditions. A code for promoting sustainable building will be established in the UK and all new buildings are going to follow this code in 2006. Mr





Morley also said that development in the UK over the last years shows that it is possible to combine a strong economic growth with a sustainable development.

Professor Colin Fudge, Pro Vice-Chancellor, UWE Bristol and Chair of the EU Urban Environment Expert group

Professor Fudge explained that in the discussions of urban sustainability we have to remember the ticking demographic bomb. Soon we will have an even smaller workforce than today with more elderly people, how are we going to handle this? Finally professor Fudge concluded that this in combination with how we can turn the small islands of successful sustainability pilot projects into the mainstream development are the answer to an urban sustainable development in our growing cities.

Mr Peter Chudi, Head of Environmental Businesses, Sydkraft

Mr Chudi stated that we have to involve the citizens to create awareness of

environmental issues and especially the opportunities to act sustainably. The use of non-renewable energy sources have to be minimized and the use of renewable energy has to reach out to as many customers as possible.

Mrs Eleni Kopanezou, Head of Unit responsible for Clean Transport and Sustainable Development, European Commission; Energy and Transport DG

Mrs Kopanezou expressed that she was proud to be in one of the 36 member cities in Civitas and holding this speech. She stressed that we have to create local acceptance and a critical mass of markets to promote sustainable transports and energy efficiency. Saving energy isn't only a win-win situation. It can actually be a win-win-win situation!

Summaries by: Daniel Nilsson,
daniel.k.nilsson@malmo.se, City of Malmö

Workshop conclusions

The parallel sessions was designed to inspire and generate practically focused discussion on a number of thematic areas. This gave an opportunity to delve deep into practice, problems and solutions. The workshops were divided into four parts.

- Presentations, invited speakers present good international examples in the field of the workshop
- Discussion, smaller group discussions of "how to move from pilot to mainstream"
- Study tour, a study tour in the Malmö region shows good local examples in the field of the workshop.
- Concluding session, the introductory presentations, the discussion, and the study tour are analysed and summarized in a concluding report - one for each thematic area

The task each group had to relate to was "Your group has been appointed to develop new ways to mainstream "the thematic area" (i.e. sustainable energy production) to create the environmentally, socially and economically sustainable city. All resources you need are available to you. Which measures / actors are most important to achieve this?"

The participants could raise any issue related to the task and the discussions were very open. All measures were listed and the group voted to agree on the five most interesting and important issues to mainstream sustainability for each thematic area that was presented in plenum.

Each group focussed on different issues, some were more into technological development, other into financing and legal framework. Many different approaches and suggestions came up on how to move on. Here are some points that more than one workshop had agreed on:

- Legal framework/policies – with a stable framework it will promote the technological development and help financing
- Create win-win situations
- Financial incentives – i.e. tax reductions or subsidies to speed up sustainable development
- Information and communication – i.e. spread the word of successful initiatives
- Partnership – create partnerships on different levels, locally, nationally, European. Private-public.

The results from the individual workshops can be found on the following pages.



WS1 Mainstreaming sustainability

Task 1

•Which five measures are the most important to Mainstream Sustainability in the decision making process to create an environmental, socially and economically sustainable city?

Five measures to task 2

1. Impact Assessment
2. Common Vision and Goals
3. Public Involvement
4. Economic Incentives
5. Communication

Impact Assessment

- Sustainable Impact Assessments as far as possible in decision making processes
- Complexity depending on type and size of project
- Possible role for regions
- The use of checklists for smaller projects
- More advanced methods/ tools for more complex projects
- Verification / audit processes

Common Vision and Goals

- Local Authority to set visions and goals but in doing so involving and consulting with the general public, industry, educational bodies, ngo's etc.

Public Involvement

- Vital that the public is involved
- To be give the opportunity to comment on Impact Assessments, Local Government vision and any other major decisions.
- Make sure the public got the right or balanced information to base a decision on.

Economic Incentives

- Tax cuts for more sustainable homes
- Cut in landprice/ access to land for sustainable developments
- Lower interest rates on lending money for a more sustainable home
- Free/ cheaper parking for more environmentally friendly vehicles.
- Factor in public purchasing to prioritise environmentally and socially responsible companies

Communication

- Use existing networks
- New ways to communicate
- Continuous process with feedback to all parties concerned.
- Better in listening and not only talking!
- Showing by doing!
- Increased transparency for all parties



WS2/3 Energy production and rational use of energy for sustainable cities

Task

“Your group has been appointed to develop new ways to mainstream sustainable energy production and use to create the environmentally, socially and economically sustainable city. All resources you need are available to you. Which five measures are most important to achieve this?”

Where measures in a broader sense refers to e.g.

- Partnership
- Financing
- Technological development
- Education/influence on behaviour
- Acceptance, etc

Six measures to task 1

1. Good legal framework & regulation
2. Communication
3. Political will
4. Partnerships
5. Social/public demand
6. Marketing

Conclusions

- Workshop 2 & 3 produced a list of important measures for driving forward from islands of good practice to mainstreaming sustainable energy supply and use in cities
- The list is interesting as it moves away

from the more common themes of the past, such as technological development and financial instruments, to a greater emphasis on a stronger regulatory framework, good communications- and political will

- It is thought that if these key measures are in place, then technology and finance can be found



WS4 Building on experience

Task 1

•Your group has been appointed to develop new ways to mainstream sustainable building to create the environmentally, socially and economically sustainable city. All resources you need are available to you.

Five measures to task 1

1. Education, Research, Knowledge, Demonstration
2. Incentives (taxes, subsidies, explanation of benefits, etc.)
3. Participation & Co-operation
4. Leadership & Responsibility
5. Policies (Codes) & Plans

Task 2

• Which are the most important actors?

Five measures to task 2

1. Politicians
2. Property owners, Clients
3. Financial institutions
4. Customers, the public
5. Professionals

Conclusions

- The right information to the right person at the right time
- Awareness and consciousness
- Create win-win situations
- Make sustainability attractive:

Sustainability=good quality of life



WS6 Moving the city forward

Task

•Your group has been appointed to develop new ways to mainstream sustainable mobility to create an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable city. All resources you need are available to you, so there are no restrictions.

Distinguish the five most important measures to achieve this task?

Possible measures discussed

1. Town planning strategies
2. Parking management
3. Tax reforms to stimulate public transports
4. Introduction of mobility centers
5. Marketing and financial initiatives
- 6.... and many more

Five measures to mainstream sustainable mobility

1. Smart growth development fees and policies.
2. Sustainable local fuels (Variety of fuels and vehicles.)
3. Public transport improvements
4. More co-ordination of council departments
5. Space for bicycles and walking

To mainstream sustainable mobility, we need...

1. Politicians with sustainable guts, together with long term desired objectives.
2. Desired objectives suitable for the society, the economy and the environment.



WS7 Cooperation, knowledge and participation for sustainable development

Task 1

Your group has been appointed to develop new ways to mainstream partnership working to create the environmentally, socially and economically sustainable city. All resources you need are available to you.

What do we mean with partnership working?

Which six measures are most important to achieve this?

Six measures to task 1

1. Create new inspiring meeting places to be able to work together in order to understand each others values, ways of thinking etc. Communication between different groups need to be better, a common language is needed.
2. Facilitators are required to take responsibility for setting clear goals and keeping the process focused.
3. Involve different perspectives (not only top down) and interdisciplinary partners. Make sure to include relevant decision makers.
4. Create ownership in terms of greater responsibility for specific tasks

5. Redefine sustainability in the partnership context and find a common holistic perspective

6. Partnership working needs to take better care of knowledge management and make it part of a long term process to create new models for collaboration.



WS8 Greening the city

Measures to mainstream City Greening

- Information/ Marketing/ References
- Public Awareness
- Courageous Politicians & Others
- Regulations & Legislation
- Multidisciplinary Decision Making
- Quantified/scientific assessment
- Clear and measurable targets enforced through planning control

Involved parties to mainstream City Greening

- Government (Pilot Projects & Legislation)
- Research & Development
- Industry (Courage towards New Ideas)
- Media (Public Relations)
- Public (Support & Demand)

Conclusions

- Everyone is to spread the word.
- Combined & comprehensive effort.
- Public figure and/or private initiative to take the lead.
- Movement impossible to stop.
- Legislation absolutely necessary.



WS9 Sustainable technology, business and innovations

Measures to task 1

1. Incentives – but choose the right tones
2. Information
3. Coordination
4. Create demand
5. Change in attitudes
6. Identify "other drivers" than environmental – social, quality of life, security
7. Set radical but achievable targets
8. Business rolemodels

Stakeholders and methods

Procurement

- A. Individuals
- B. Public procurement

1. Best practise benchmarking and information
2. Knowledge transfer from academic research
3. Performance targets – both on local, national and international level

Stakeholders and methods

1. Remove obstacles – subsidies, knowledge barriers
2. Cultural bridging between different groups of actors
3. Easy accessible technology
4. Research on implementation

Conclusions

To succeed we need:

- Intermediating organisations/actors
- Education of and engagement from key actors
- Guts
- Make environmental business "hot"



Evaluation

After the conference an online survey for the participants was available. About a fifth of the participants of the conference has answered the survey which gives a quit good hint on how well the conference has succeeded.

The results from the survey were very pleasant to read for the organiser. About 80 percent of the participants found the presentations, study tours and organization of the conference excellent or almost excellent. Only the group work in the workshops had lower estimate degrees, about 50 percent found it excellent or almost excellent.

Will the conference help the participants in their everyday work was one of the questions. About 35 percent answered that it will much or very much, and 15 percent that it won't or just a little bit. And the conference overall? Close to 90 percent found it excellent or almost excellent!

Some of the comments were about that stakeholders such as private corporations and NGO's should have been more involved in the conference. And the most important experience from the conference? To see Malmö's sustainable project and of course to meet and network with colleagues from all over the world. Anyone surprised?



About

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This documentation and a lot of more material is available at the conference website:

www.malmo.se/sustainablecity

Layout by:

Daniel Nilsson,
daniel.k.nilsson@malmo.se,
City of Malmö

Photo by:

Drago Prvulovic, Malmöbild



For more information

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www.malmo.se/sustainablecity

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