

# STRATEGIC APPROACHES TO URBAN SUSTAINABILITY TRANSITIONS

## ADDRESSING THE HORIZON EUROPE MISSION ON CLIMATE NEUTRAL AND SMART CITIES

*Brussels, December 4, 2019*

*Giles Thomson,*

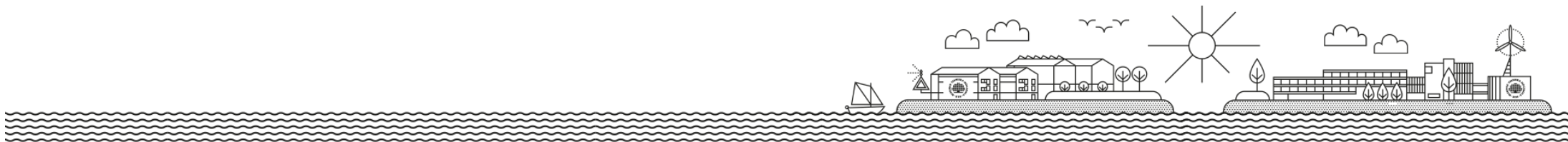
*Blekinge Institute of Technology*



# WHAT IS NEEDED IN THE TRANSITION TO SUSTAINABLE SOCIETIES?



....actions and behaviours, critical analysis, planning and policy, management and leadership, historical changes, governance, **participatory processes**, health, demography, experience-based knowledge, power relations, **socio-technical transitions**, institutional capacity, politics and values, socio-ecological resilience, material performativity, the built environment, spatial practices, multi-scalar effects, transition management, urban metabolism, design processes.....



# EXAMPLES OF MODELS AND METHODS USED AT BTH



## **Interdisciplinary approaches**

- System Analysis
- Strategic sustainable development

## **Transdisciplinary approaches**

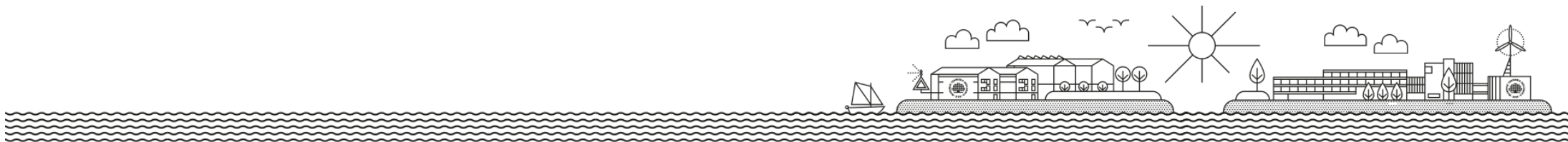
- Visioning and scenario planning
- Decision-making analysis / Critical analysis

## **Social science approaches**

- Historical methods
- Participatory design, modelling & planning
- Ethnographic methods

## **Urban modelling**

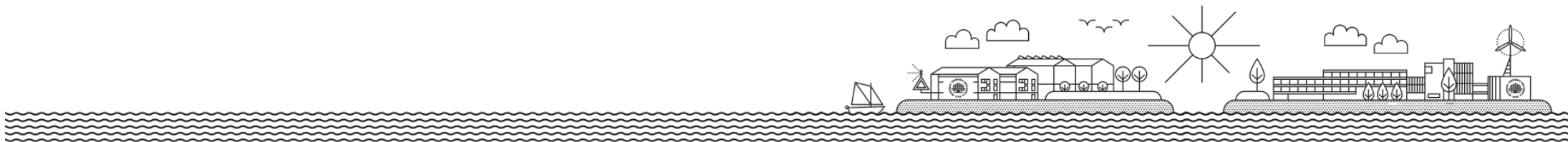
- Urban metabolism
- Urban morphology



# TWO EXAMPLES...



- **Social technical transitions**
  - Decarbonising a sector (transport)
- **Participatory processes**
  - Social sustainability





# SOCIO-TECHNICAL TRANSITIONS: DECARBONISING A SECTOR (TRANSPORT)

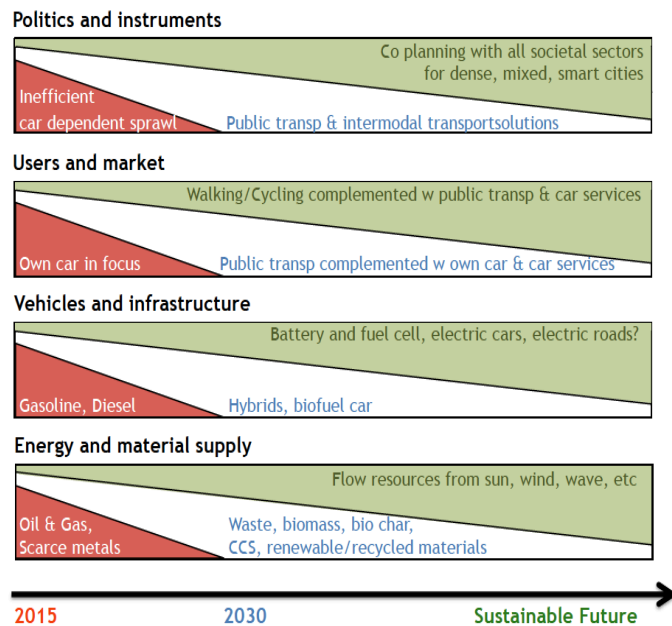
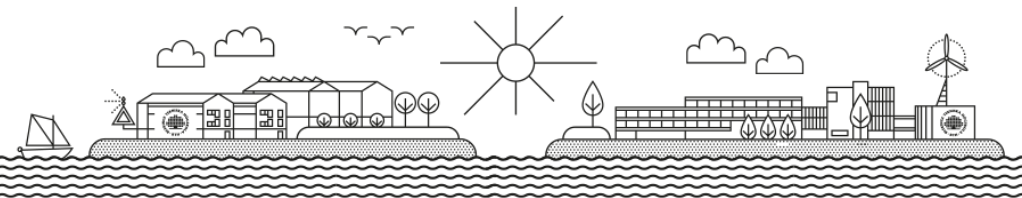


Figure 3. The road to a fossil-free and sustainable personal transport system. How the four identified subsystems can be developed to phase out fossil fuels by 2030 and pave the way for sustainability.

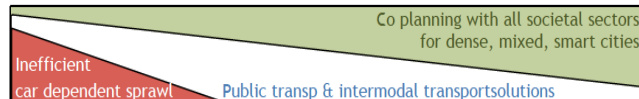
Project: Roadmap Report 'On Track for 2030: Transition roadmap to fossil free & sustainable mobility for SE Sweden'



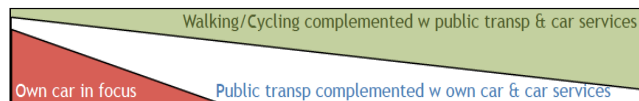
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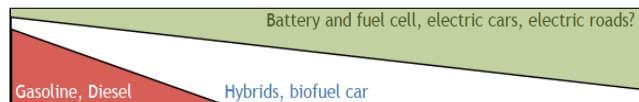
## Politics and instruments



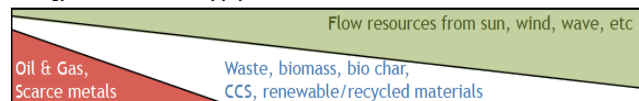
## Users and market



## Vehicles and infrastructure

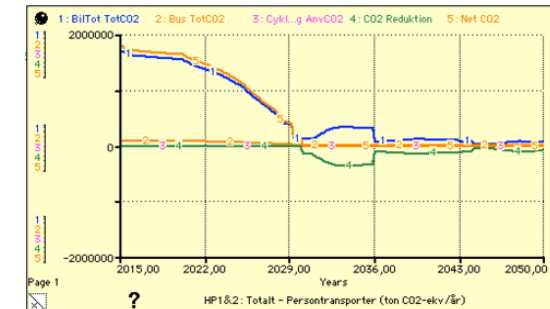
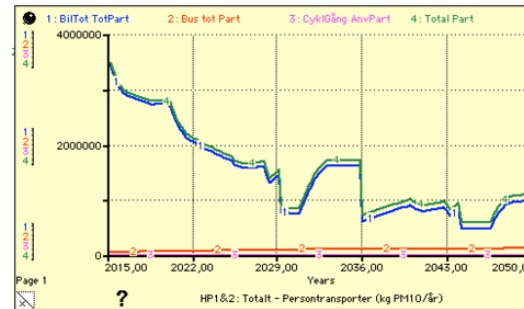


## Energy and material supply

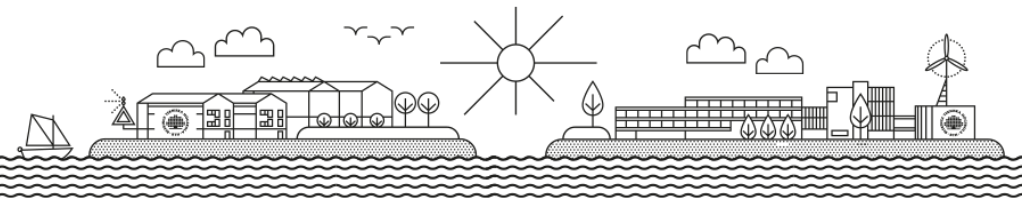


2015 2030 Sustainable Future

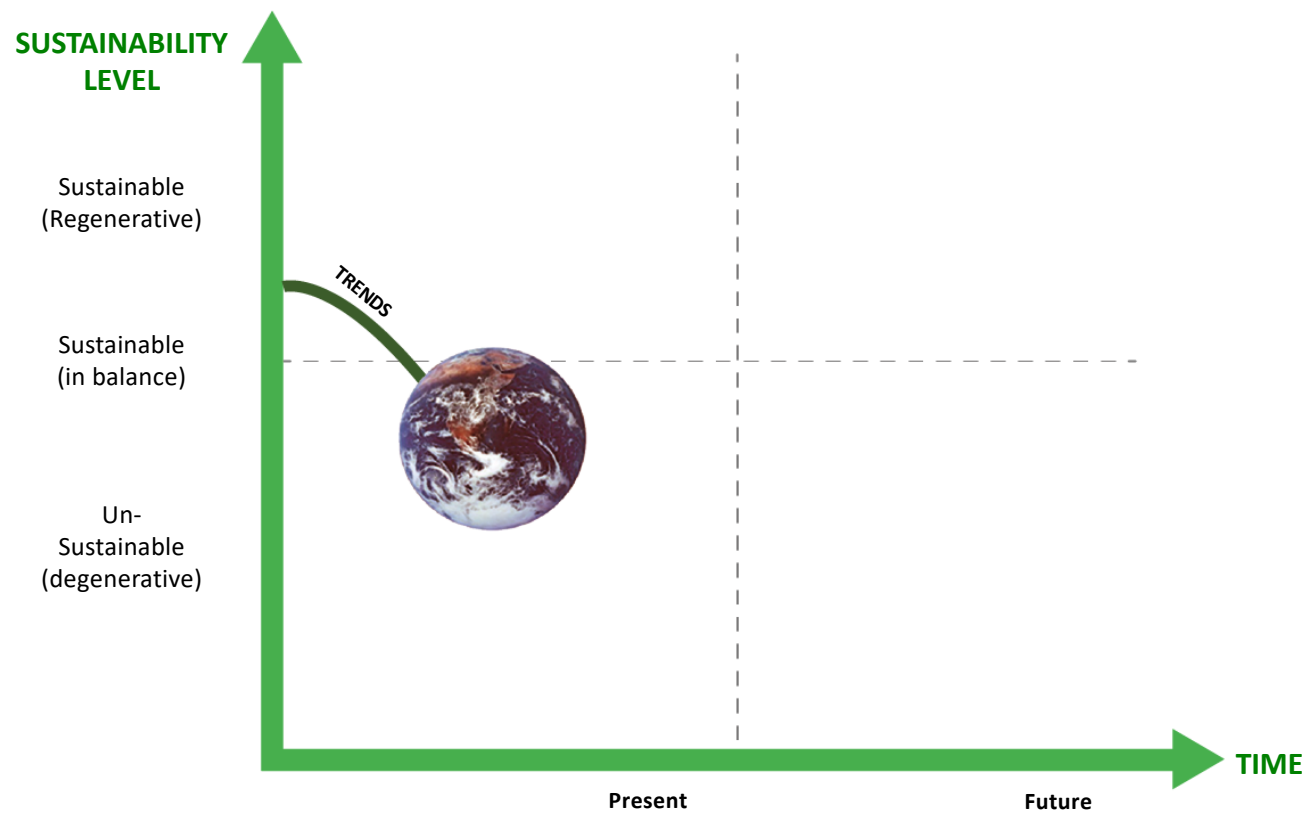
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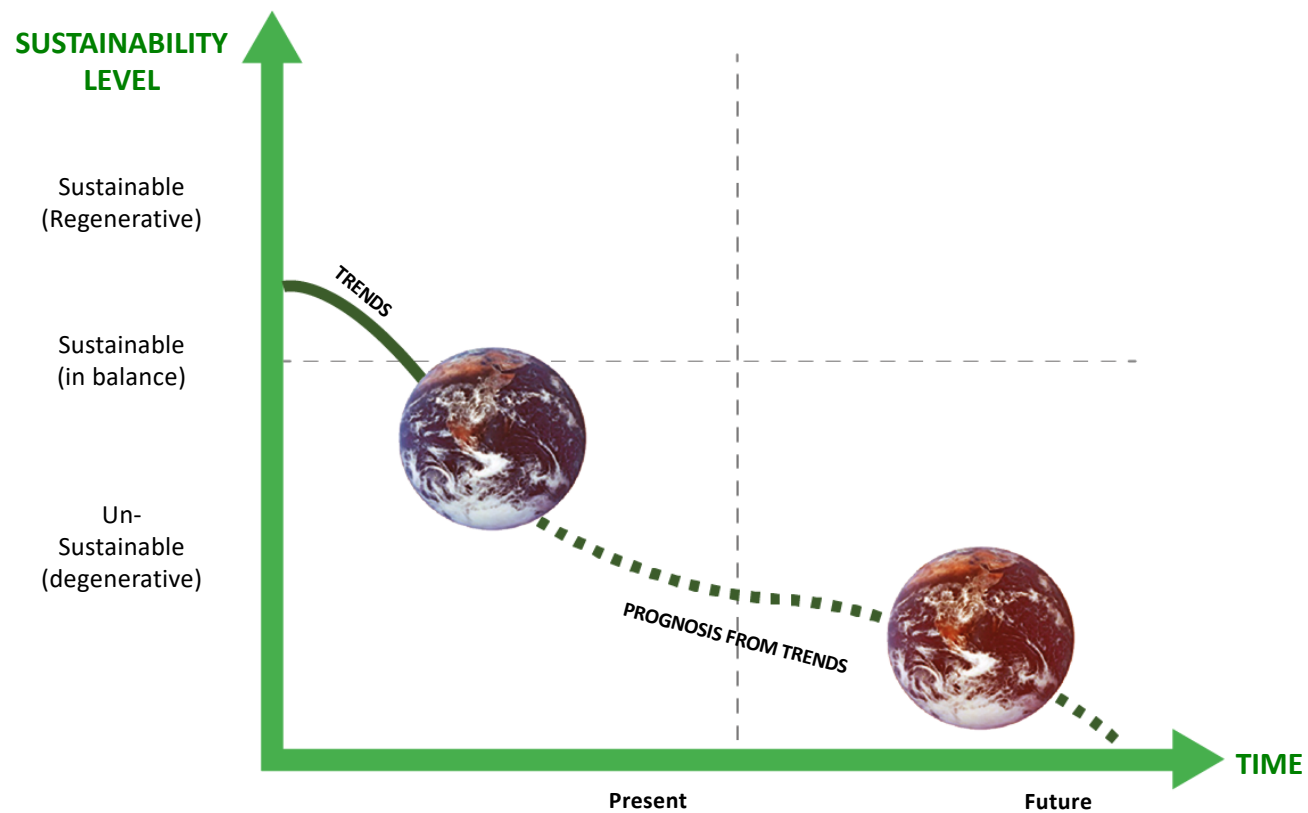


# STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY MODEL



Sources: Broman & Robert (2017), Ny (2019), based on an illustration by Stefan Borell

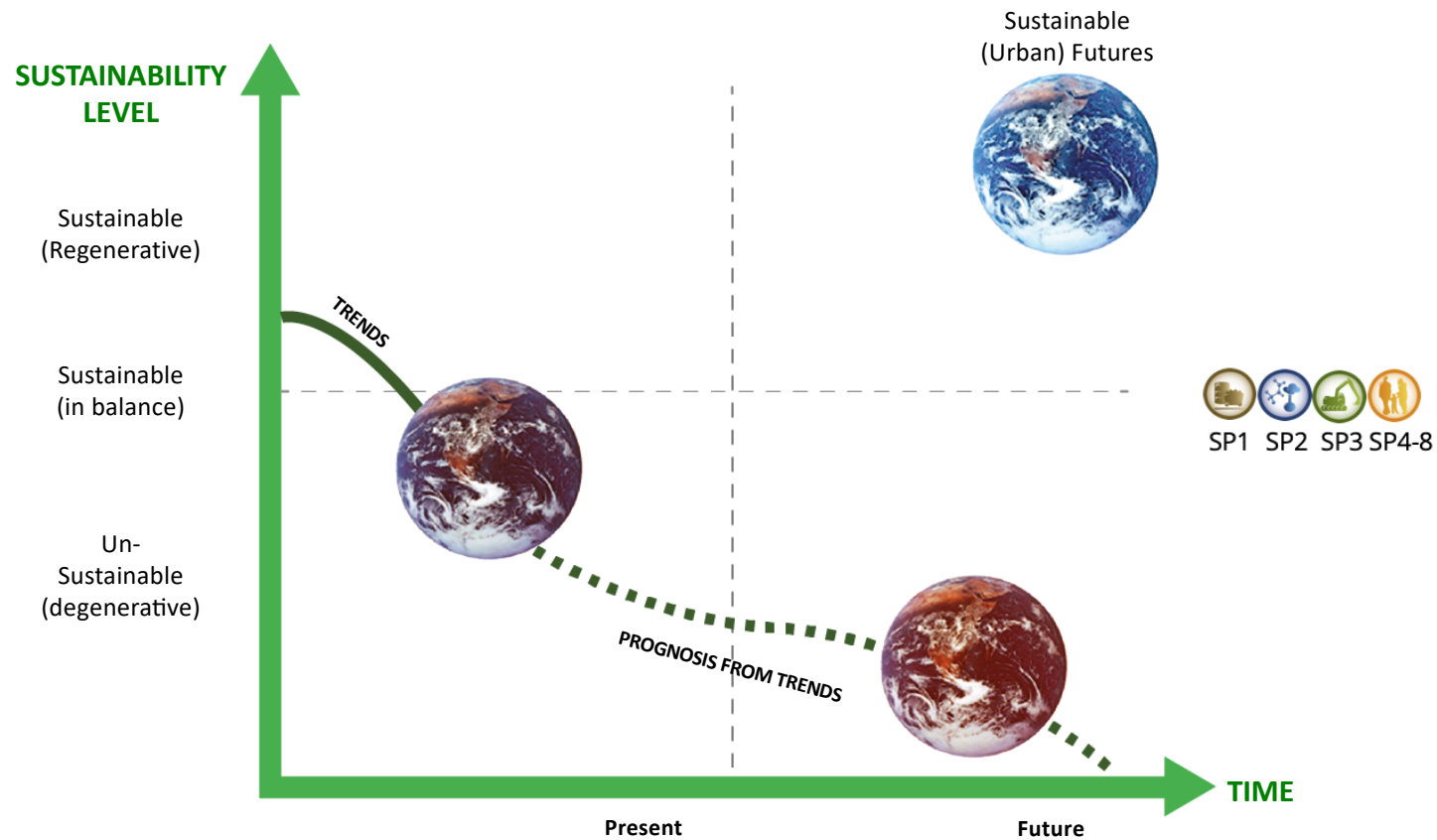
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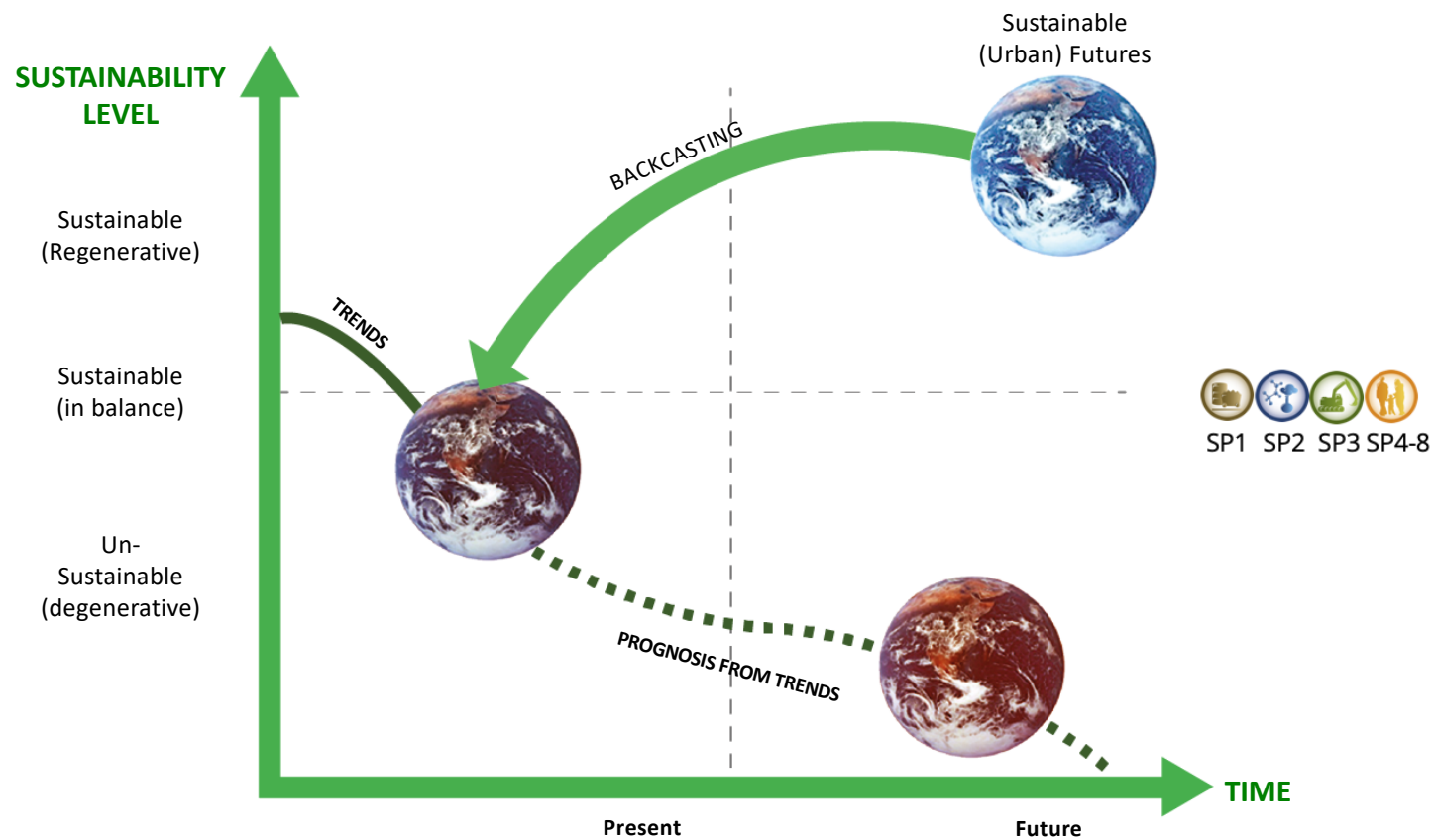


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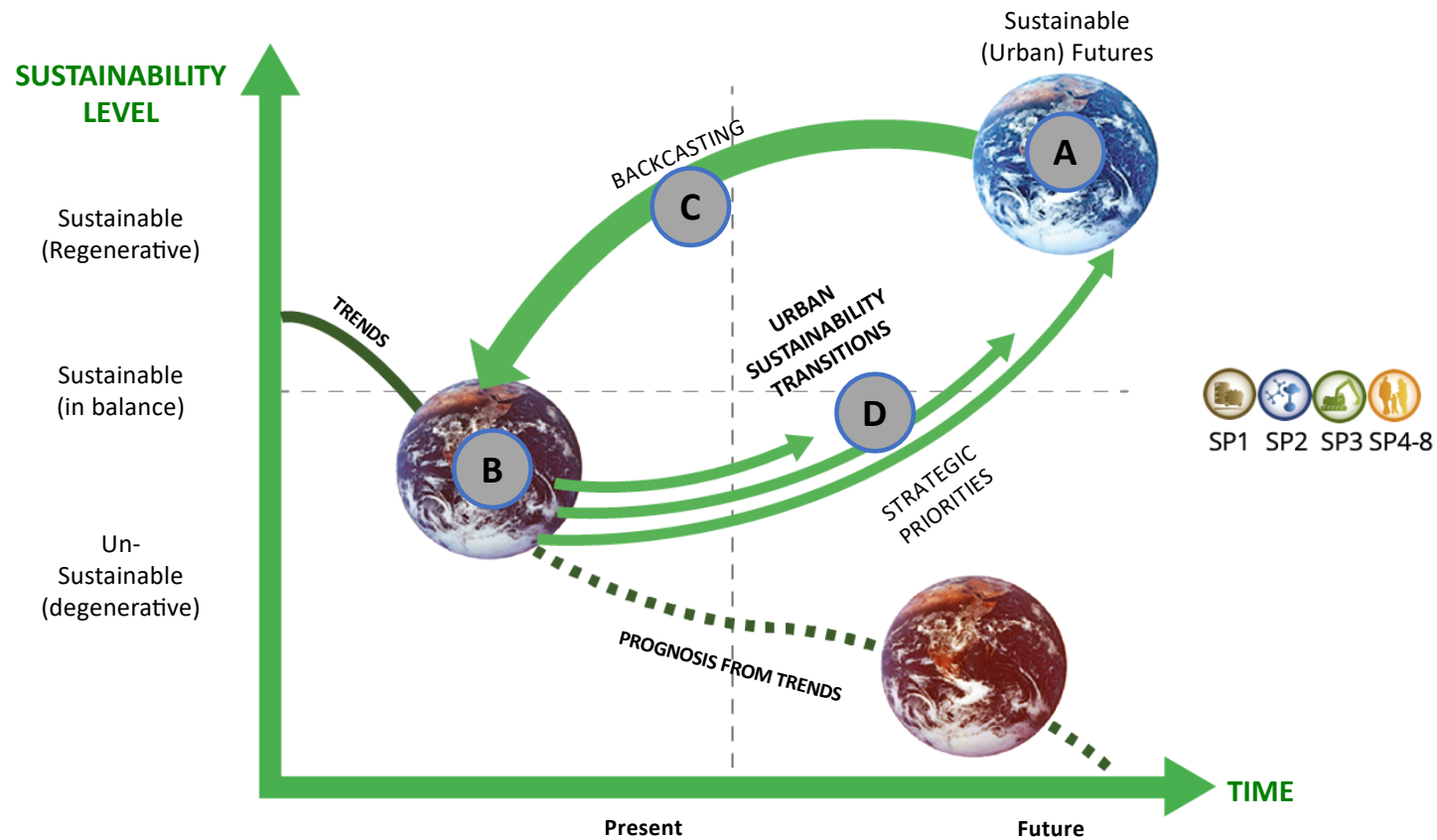
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# STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY MODEL (ABCD PROCESS)



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# ROADMAP PROJECT – MANY ACTORS TO TRANSITION A WHOLE REGION



## Academia and experts



## Business



Handelskammaren  
I sydsvenska företags intresse



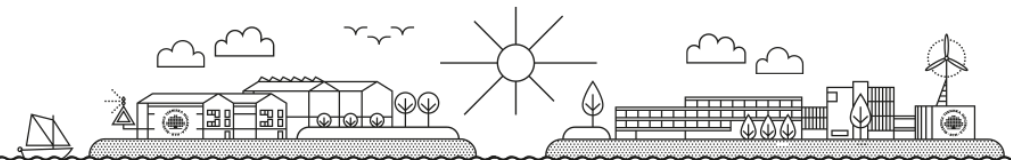
## Municipalities



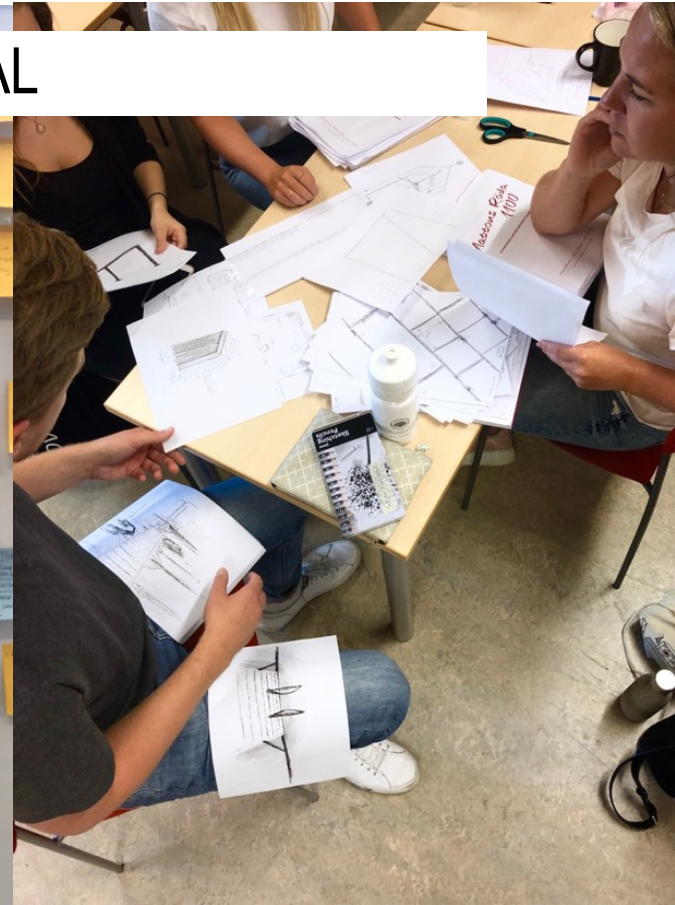
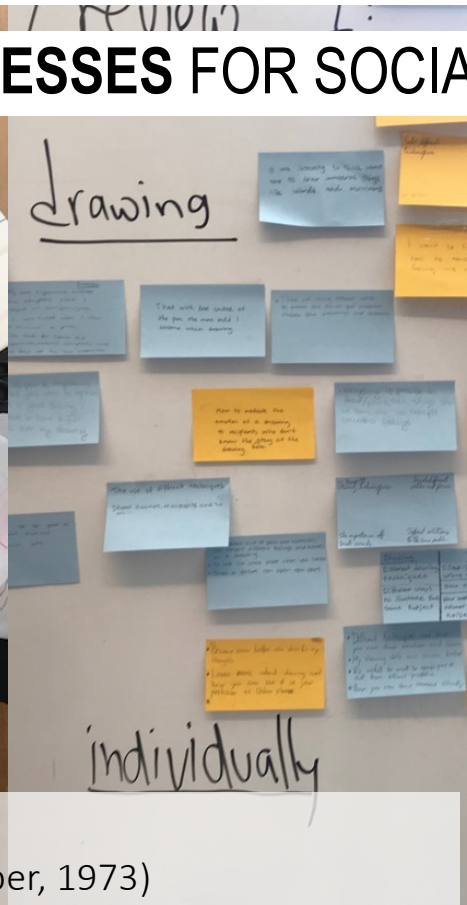
## Regional authorities



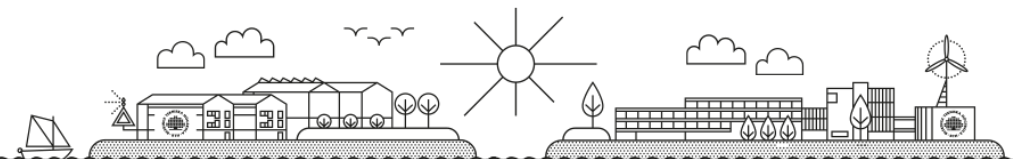
## National authorities



# PARTICIPATORY PROCESSES FOR SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY



- Context
- "Wicked" problems (Rittel & Weber, 1973)
- Experiences, emotion, opinions and (spatial) practices
- Experienced-based knowledge





# MAKING POSSIBLE A LIFE LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE: WELFARE PLANNING AND INCLUSIVE LIVING ENVIRONMENTS



Cross-sectoral collaboration CRITICAL  
ANALYSIS & MAPPING – *WHAT IS?*

Living lab methodology  
COPRODUCTION &  
CODESIGN – *WHAT IF?*

## THE LEX PROJECT RESEARCH GROUP

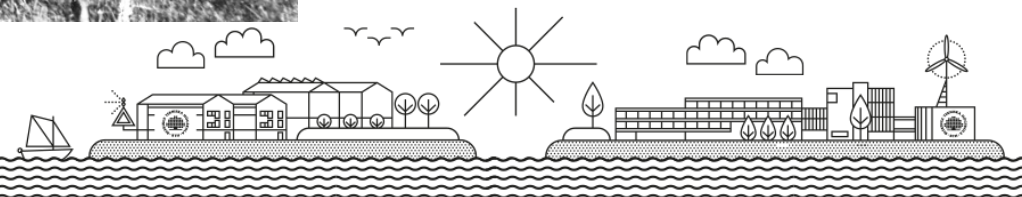
Professor Urban Markström, Dep. of Social Work, Umeå University (PI), Dr. Maria Fjellfeldt, Dep. of Social Work, Dalarna University, Dr. Ebba Högström, Dep. of Spatial Planning, BTH, Dr. Lina Berglund Snodgrass, Dep. of Spatial Planning, BTH



UMEÅ UNIVERSITY



**The LEX project** - Sustainable Living Environments for people with psychiatric disabilities. Aligning housing planning and social services through eXperimental collaborative practices.





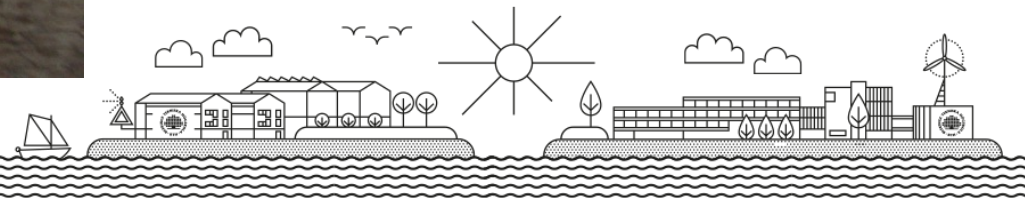


## SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY – COMMUNITY AND EQUITY



- Engage "in the world"
- Design participatory processes carefully
- Which level of participation? Who's voice is heard?
- Who will participate?

**"..by and for citizens..."**





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