

Examples from Sweden: participatory processes at local level

Workshop 111-E



Who are we?



ANNA-KARIN BERGLUND LG Association



INGRID PERSSON

Local government



MALIN SVANBERG

LG Association



NILS MUNTHE

LG Association



SUSANNA NOLIN

Local government



ULRIKA STÖÖK

Local government



Timetable:

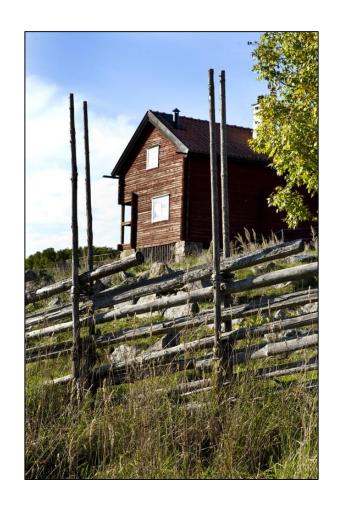
- Intro
 - Municipal and regional responsibilities 150 years of self governance
 - Swedish Association of Local Authorities and regions
 - Some Swedish peculiarities
 - Three trends that calls for participation
- City of Gothenburg A life without violence
- Participatory budgeting in rural areas
- Collaboration with non profit organisations



150 years of local self-government

■ The concept of **self-government** was brought about in conjunction with the municipal ordinance of 1862 and has been written into the constitution since 1974.

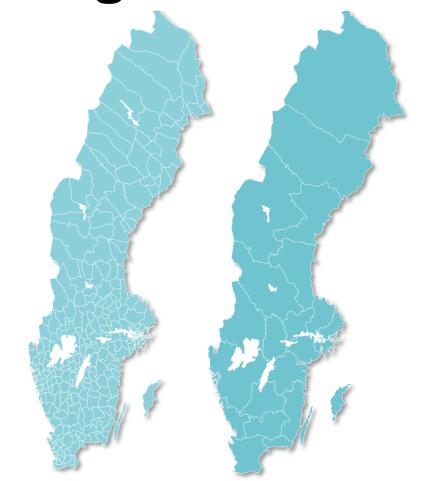
- 290 municipalities
- 20 regions





Municipalities, county councils,

and regions



- Politicians are elected directly by citizens
- There are municipal and county council elections every four years in conjunction with the parliamentary election.
- Proportional election system often
 8 or 9 partys in local parliament

"There are 44 000 elected representatives in municipalities, county councils and regions. Of those, approximately 97 % are politicians in their spare time."



Municipal and regional responsibilities

- Local level collect income taxes.
- Municipalities are responsible for most of the social services available where we live, such as schools, childcare, care of the elderly and disabled, as well as water, waste
- County councils and regions are responsible for shared regional activities with an emphasis on healthcare, public transport and regional development.





The Swedish Associations of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR)

- We act as an employer's organisation, and defend and promote the interests of our members and develop services
- All municipalities and regions are members (by choice)
- We all work at the Democracy and governance department
- The three examples you will hear about today are topics or processes that we are involved in helping our members develop





Some Swedish peculiarities

High voter turnout.... but big diferences

Overall 87 %

Kommun	Valdistrikt med högst valdeltagande	Valdistrikt med lägst valdeltagande
Stockholm	95,3 (94,7)	45,7 (40,7)
Göteborg	94,0 (92,6)	41,0 (37,4)
Malmö	94,0 (93,4)	50,0 (39,7)
Uppsala	94,0 (93,7)	51,4 (57,7)
Linköping	94,1 (94,2)	64,2 (56,4)
Västerås	96,3 (93,1)	61,6 (62,2)
Örebro	93,1 (93,6)	61,9 (61,9)
Norrköping	93,1 (92,0)	59,0 (59,8)
Helsingborg	94,3 (93,1)	60,2 (56,2)
Jönköping	94,2 (91,4)	59,0 (62,1)



History of successful social engineering – high trust society

- Sweden are experts in promoting service delivery for creating trust
- Focus on social engineering, experts and lot of services by the welfare state
- High trust in agencies
- Low trust in decision making
- Higher trust in national government

Since 1990's we have been treating citizens as costumers.... now they started to act as customers!



Three trends that calls for participation

- Increased heterogeneity
- Differences in standard of living
- A strong civil society



Increased heterogeneity

Increased knowledge about different minorities

- Five national minorities
- Variations of function
- Increased gender and LGBT knowledge

Differences of lifestyle

Ethnical diversity

- Proportion of born outside of Sweden
 - **1960 4 %**
 - **2017 18,5 %**
- Are born outside of Sweden or have both parents born outside of Sweden - 24 %

Differences in standard of living



– We pay more taxes than in the bigger cities, why should we then not have a good road, a school in reasonable distance? We are supposed to have the same services all over the country, but today we don't! That is the reason for the growing populism.

Charlotta Mellander economics professor.



Countryside and outskirts of cities left behind



A strong civil society

From voice to collaborator

Participatory budgeting in Sweden



SALAR Congress 2015



"SALAR will support it's members in the work to develop the dialogue and co-creation with citizens and to integrate the results in governance processes and business development for a socially sustainable society"









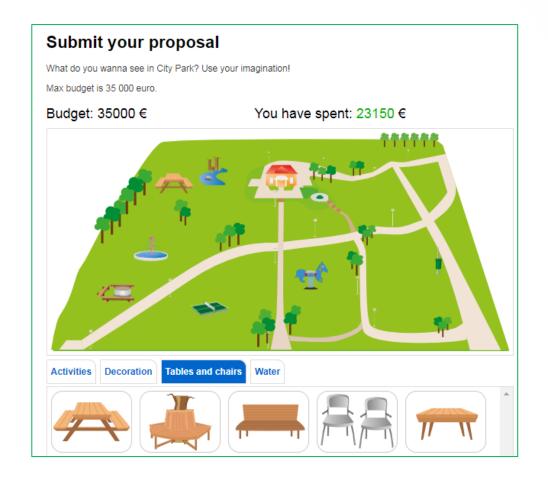


Start 2008





Digital tool



Our PB model













Participatory budgeting - playground





Four step

- 1 Webb tool to propose
- 2 civil servant prepare two options
- 3 voting
- 4 inauguration





Young in Väsby – first step meeting







13 February 2013 Ung i Väsby

- 130 pupils
- 20 groups
- 20 proposal

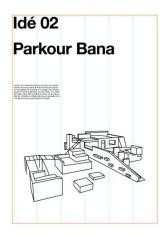


9 proposal to vote on

Nine proposal

















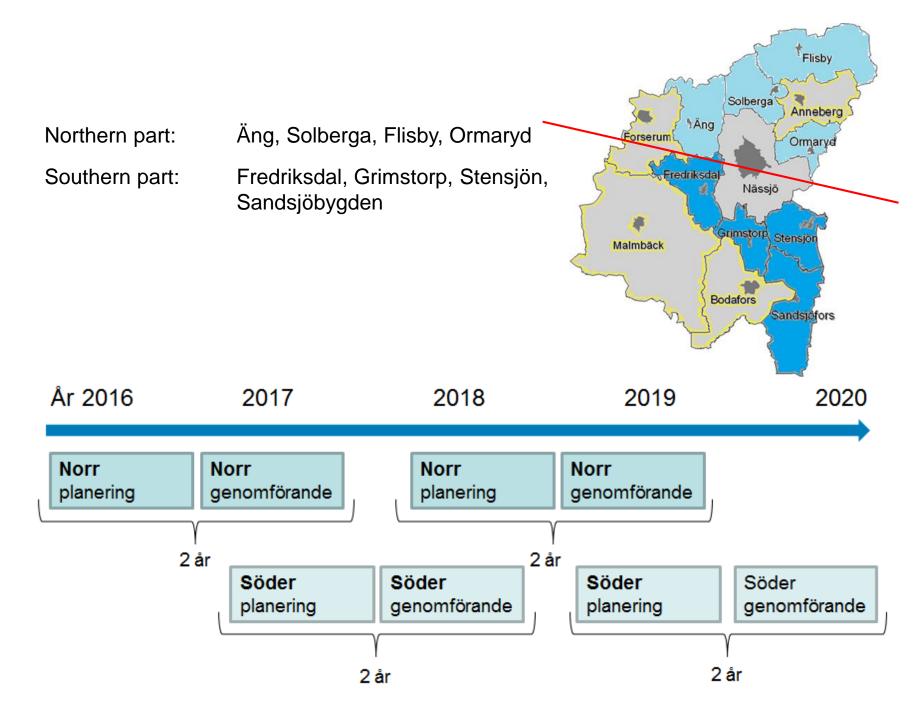




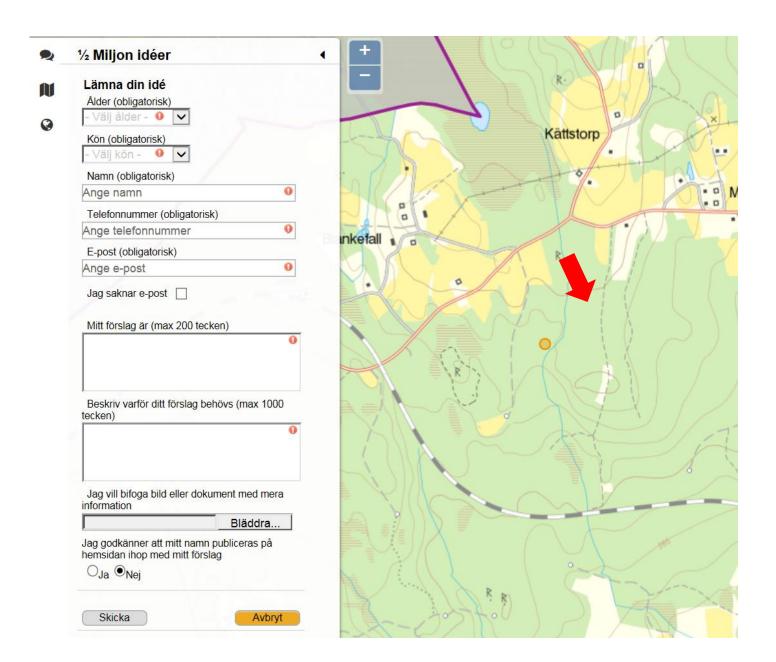


Municipality of Nässjö, 31 000 inhabitants

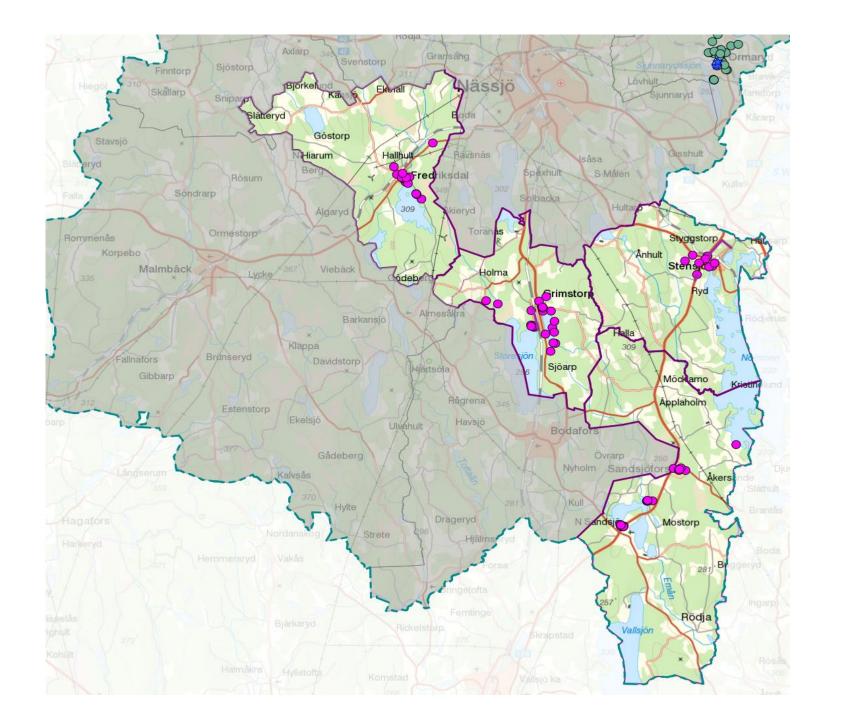










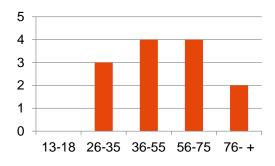






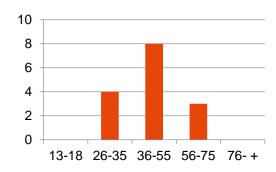
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17 submitted proposals



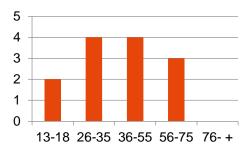
Solberga

17 submitted proposals



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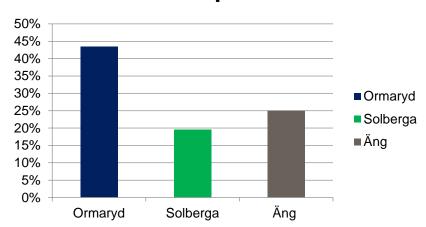
28 submitted proposals

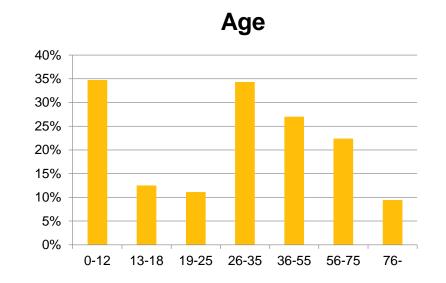






Participants

















Lessons learned



- Citizens are positive
- Increased interest in PB
- New groups of citizens participate
- Women in majority
- Spread to Cities
- The process is tested

Challenges

Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions

- Be persistent
- More money in PB
- Convince the economists
- Encourage politicians
- Scaling up



Coming up 2019

