AMIRALSSTADEN

Sophia Bescher, project manager
Urban Planning Office, City of Malmö

Anna Wachtmeister, assistant project manager
Urban Planning Office, City of Malmö
To use urban planning as an engine to achieve social gains, both by developing new places, but also through participating in the planning process

To investigate new ways of working, new organizational structures with new partners and new economic models

To strengthen the residents' involvement and influence in urban planning processes by developing models for dialogue and testing planning methods where citizens have an increased influence
INTA Conference

Station Rosengård
URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
IN AMIRALSSTADEN
WHY AMIRALSSTADEN?
Based on Amiralsstadens goals and Malmö Commission, internally and externally coordinate to achieve greater impact than if each project manages itself. Support the projects with the knowledge needed to achieve common and greater goals.
Inner life

The City of Malmö

Property owners / investors

Management

Sophia & Marianne

Anna & Modan

Outer life

Civil society

Residents
Amiralsstaden

From above

From below

?
• PARTICIPATION "Who is participating in whose process?"

• QUESTION "Kill your darlings and leave your comfort zone at the door"

• PROCESS "Building the bridge together as we walk it together"

• LEARNING "We learn together, eye-to-eye"
GOALS

• Contribute to a sustainable income for more residents

• Contribute to increased levels of health among the residents

• Contribute to sustainable ‘everyday’ lives for residents
PARTICIPATION

BUT ... "Who is participating in whose process?"
1. Who are we?
2. Participation
3. Method
4. Results
5. Ongoing
Akbar Modan & Anna Wachtmeister
Why participation?
How?
Who is participating?
And when?
Method:
bridging knowledge alliances
VISIBLE / RECOGNIZED KNOWLEDGE

- Politicians
- Directors
- Professionals
- Malmö Stad

PROPERTY OWNING COMPANIES

Large civil society actors

- Businesses
- PLANAS

INVISIBLE / COMMUNITY BASED KNOWLEDGE

- Community leaders
- Loose networks
- (marginalised) individuals

Sophia/ Marianne

Malmö University

Modan, Anna
1- How can Amiralsstaden support residents in communicating with the City of Malmö so that the City listens actively?

2- How can the project office become an meetings space which invites to inspiring exchange?
Who was part of the first alliances?
Results
Filmer: Hej Malmö Stad, lyssnar du?
• Insert video
more important

Trust
+
Network
+
Increased understanding
Most important results

Joint learnings
+
Personal development
+
insights
Exemples of insights
The process is just as important as the final result
The local potential in both abilities and commitment

“There is a lot of pressure from outside actors to get involved, but we have to resist and make sure to build on the local because it makes it sustainable!”

Sophia Bescher, project manager Amiralsstaden
Many committed (and quickly) through personal contacts

"The strength of the network was amazing, it just grew and grew! ”

Sophia Bescher, projektledare Amiralsstaden
Anna, Mardy, Emir, Nicole Mats, Salma, Somia, Soultan

Alicia

PLANAS
Trust in Malmö City (and society) increases when Malmö City shows confidence in its inhabitants

”We were given employment by Malmö Stad, this meant they had respect and trust in our abilities.”

”It is awesome to see that people from other countries are hired by Malmö Stad. Sweden is a country with people from many different countries and it is good to see that it is not only swedish people calling the shots!

”Many I know don’t feel motivated to learn Swedish as they don’t feel that Sweden wants them here. Participating in Amiralsstaden has made me realised that Malmö Stad wants me! This is an important feeling. I think this feeling would give many the motivation and push to learn Swedish. If Malmö Stad gives you this opportunity and trust, then it is important to proof that you want to be part of society.”
Att (svenska) språket kan vara exkluderande.

"Here in Amirallstadens Lokal, everyone can speak which level of Swedish or whatever language they want .. without feeling stupid"

"It is not about language skills, this is about skills"
The urban planning process can be part of the integration process

"We were attracted by the fact that we could apply our professional work in our new (the Swedish) context!"

"We are pleased that we learned to organised our time effectively and other important Swedish practices such as punctuality. And we learned better Swedish."

"And I improved my English!"
"Maybe a change of attitude is more important than making sure everyone speaks the same language. Maybe there is a real fear among many in Sweden in what it really entails to communicate and work across borders, therefore there is so much emphasis on that everyone should learn Swedish."

"We naturally seek the most comfortable route."

"Amiralsstaden utmanar för Amiralsstaden förstår att om vi håller oss inom våra komfort zoner så löser vi inte våra sociala utmaningar."

"... During the pilot we worked across borders. It wasn’t always comfortable, but we managed and we have good outcomes!"
ONGOING
K#3: how can the communication between Malmö Stad and inhabitants improve?
WORKSHOP
currently, the municipality:

... initiates projects and processes.
... defines the problem, strengths and goals
... the frames for project set from beginning
... holds dialogue with population about the details

In a more democratic city, the municipality:

... is the facilitator
... allows others parties to initiate and
... shares decisionmaking and leadership
... defines the problem, strengths and goals commonly
... works in process (not in projects)
QUESTIONS:

1. Select an example of networking forums/processes that promote participation.

2. Describe its reasons for success.

3. What does the municipality need to supplement its toolbox with in order to reach this level of participation?