

A narrow, sunlit street in Japan, likely a residential or commercial district. The street is lined with utility poles and wires. On the right, there are several signs, including one for '全自動卓' (Automatic Table) and another for '祭' (Festival). A utility pole on the right has several signs, including a blue circular sign with a white figure of a person and a child, and a rectangular sign with Japanese text. The street is paved and has a few pedestrians walking away from the camera. The overall atmosphere is one of a busy, everyday urban environment.

# Designing with public purpose, for everyday life

Professor Dan Hill  
Director, Melbourne School of Design  
University of Melbourne

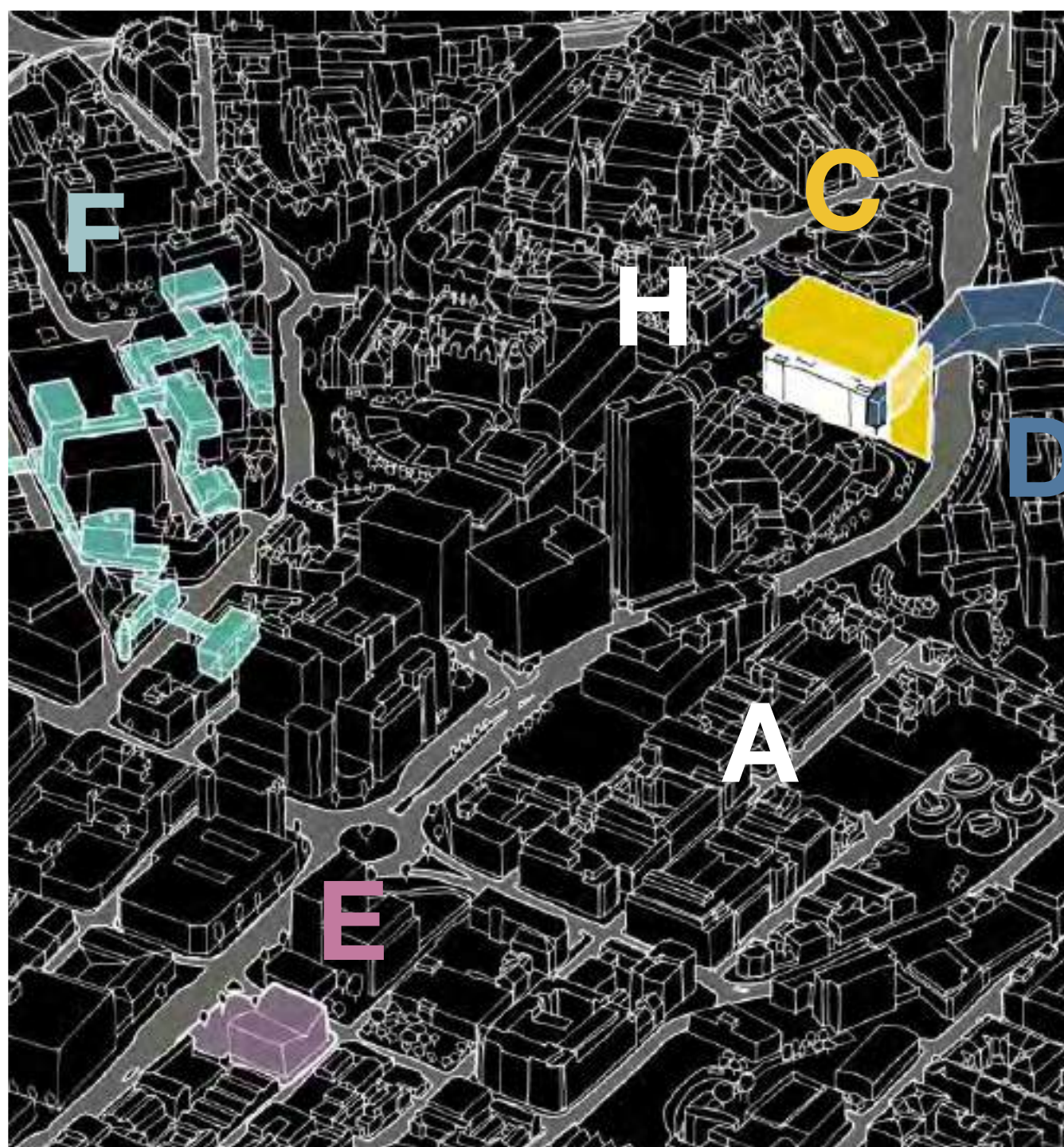
Visiting Professor of Practice, UCL Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose

@cityofsound  
[medium.com/@cityofsound](https://medium.com/@cityofsound)



- ① Policymaking and innovation quite a lot  
Finland and Sweden, perhaps Australia  
(Inevitably the UK will come up)  
Time at the end for questions





Previously



# Vinnova, Swedish Government's innovation agency (2019–22)



*Previously*






**We are taking 21st century challenges,  
evaluating them with 20th century ideas, and  
responding with 19th century tools.**

Madeleine Albright, Former US Secretary of State, 2013



① Doesn't this immediately imply a required change of conditions, structure, process, and culture?





Technology is the answer.  
But what was the question?

Cedric Price 1966



# Uber and Lyft increased traffic delays in San Francisco by 40 percent



TECHNOLOGY 8 May 2019

By [Chelsea Whyte](#)



Uber and Lyft drivers are on strike to demand regulated fares and [livable wages](#), in the lead-up to Uber's initial public offering on the stock exchange on 10 May. Now there is some more bad news for these services: they haven't lived up to claims of reducing traffic congestion.

In San Francisco, rides through these two services increased traffic delays by 40 per cent over a six-year period, according to a new study.

"We collected information on where and when exactly these trips occur and found they are at the most congested parts of the city and the most congested times of day," says Greg Erhardt at the University of Kentucky.

They first asked the companies for access to the data but were turned down. "The companies themselves are wholly disinterested in sharing data with anyone," says Joe Castiglione at the San Francisco Transportation Authority, who also worked on the study.

Instead, the team scraped data from Uber and Lyft by simulating ride requests. This allowed them to map the position of drivers and to determine how many trips are taken, along with where they begin and end.

[Silicon Valley](#) Oct 25

## Uber and Lyft are behind a sharp rise in US traffic deaths

The rise of ride-sharing services has increased traffic deaths by 2% to 3% in the US since 2011, equivalent to as many as 1,100 mortalities a year, according to a [new study](#) from the University of Chicago and Rice University.

**How it was calculated:** Researchers took statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and compared them with the dates Uber or Lyft launched in a specific city. Then they checked accident rates in those cities relative to vehicle miles traveled. That rate shot up in San Francisco after Uber launched in 2010, a phenomenon that was replicated in other cities.

**Deadheading:** The increase in congestion is partly because drivers spend 40% to 60% of their time searching for passengers, a practice known as "deadheading." On average, drivers in New York City traveled 2.8 miles between fares.

**Before ride-sharing:** Traffic deaths fell to their lowest number just before Uber launched in San Francisco. In 2010 there were 32,885 fatal car accidents nationwide, the lowest number since 1949. This decline halted and then reversed after the introduction of ride-sharing in US cities. However, it "may be too soon to tell whether the effect we document is a short-term adjustment or a longer-term pattern," the



**It is architecture and design's task to give form to a societal idea (like justice) through the creation of a setting for people to encounter that idea (like a courthouse). We see in our public buildings and spaces (our park benches and metro trains; a hot dog kiosk and a monument to the dead) what we are made of. Design displays or conceals, society's prejudices and weaknesses.**

Kieran Long, Director, ArkDes (Swedish National Centre for Architecture and Design)

**Aarhus Town Hall (1937–42)**  
Arne Jacobsen et al

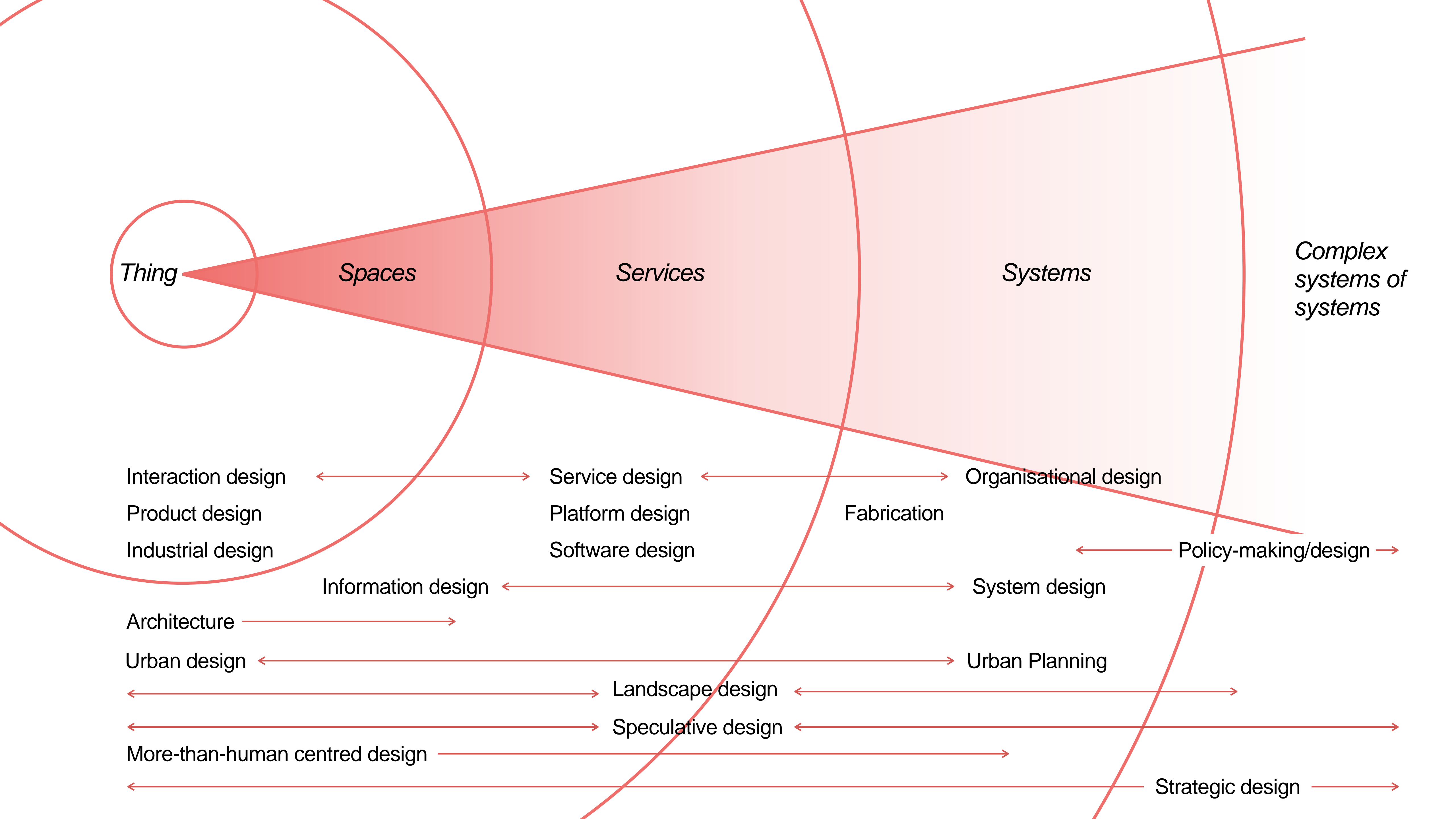




**Strategic design takes the core principles of contemporary design practice—user research and ethnography, agile development, iterative prototyping, participation and co-design, stewardship, working across networks, scales and timeframes—and then it points this toolkit at ethical concerns, addressing systemic change within complex systems, and broader societal and environmental outcomes.**

Dan Hill, *Strategic Design for Public Purpose*  
UCL IIPP (2020)







**Design is not really about problem solving. Dentists solve problems. Plumbers solve problems. Design is about cultural imagination. It's about discovering or inventing new ideas, and making them into things. This starts with finding, framing, and asking the right questions.**

**We can use this understanding of design to address complex processes, systems, buildings and environments, services and things, and the organisations, operations, cultures and structures required to produce them. Addressing those systemic challenges...**

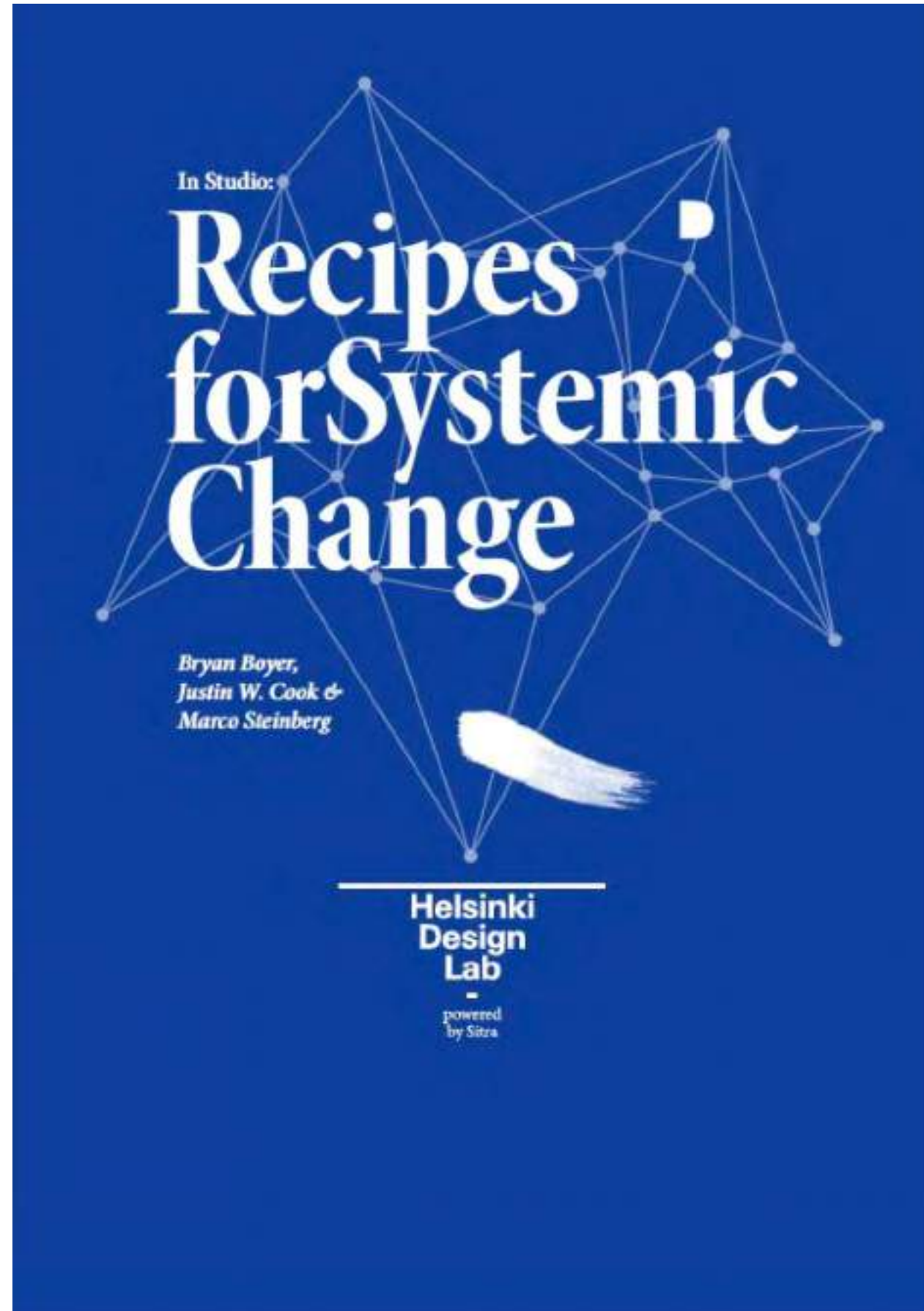




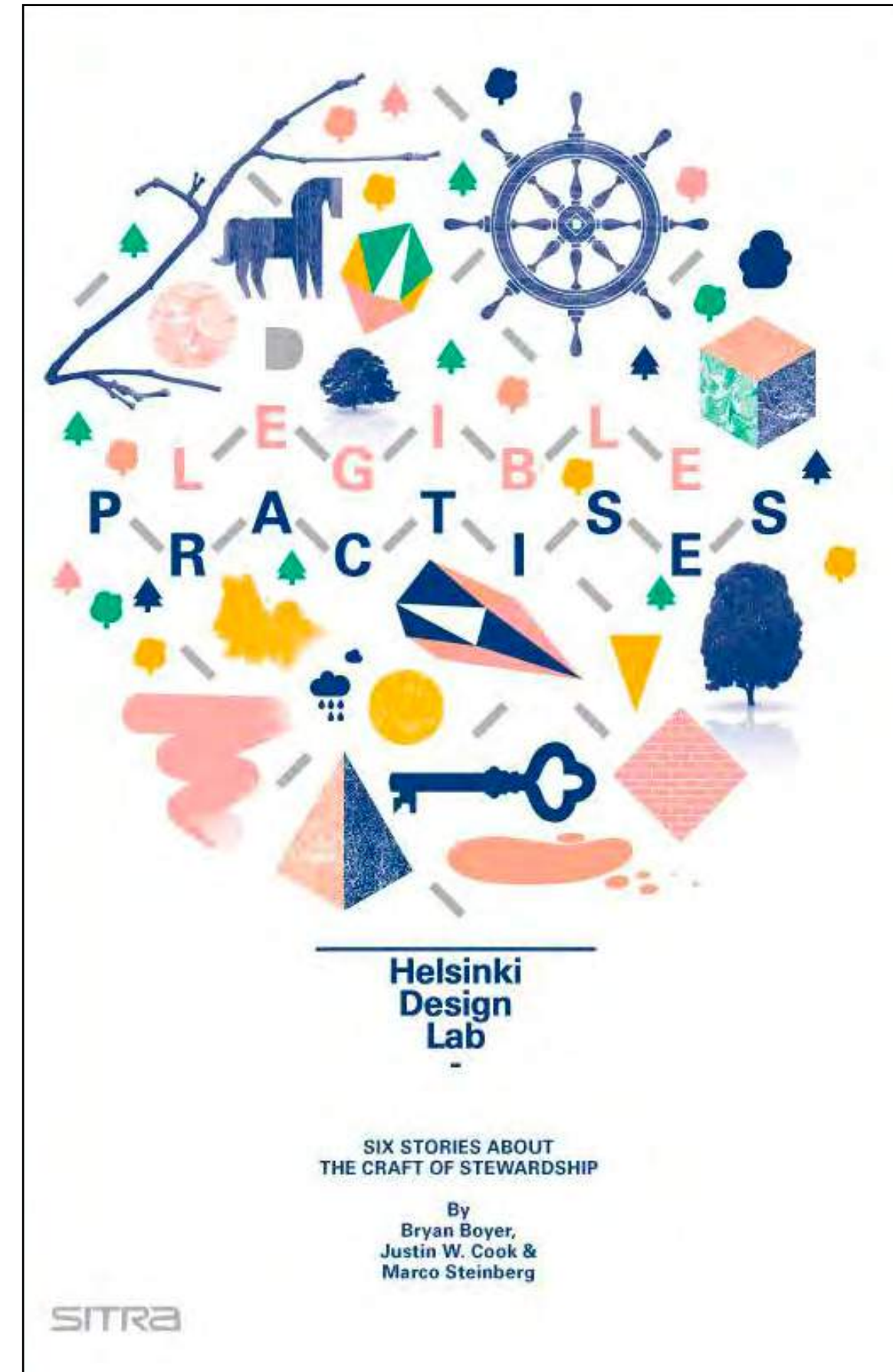
# Finland

Helsinki City Library

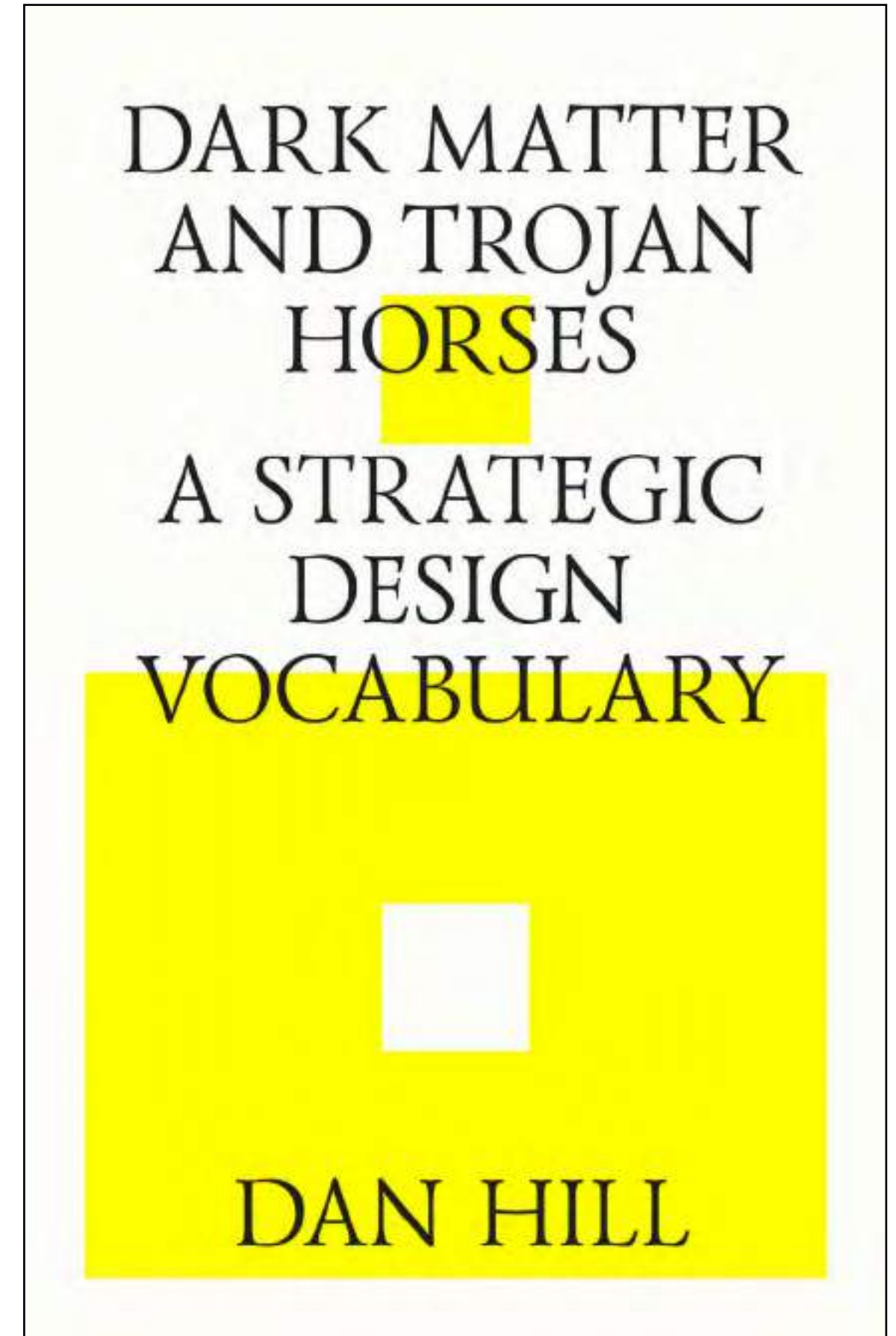




*In Studio: Recipes for Systemic Change*  
Bryan Boyer, Justin Cook, Marco Steinberg, SITRA (2011)



*Legible Practices*  
Bryan Boyer, Justin Cook, Marco Steinberg, SITRA (2013)



*Dark Matter and Trojan Horses*  
Dan Hill, Strelka Press (2012)



# Dark matter



Low2No—SITRA Strategic Design Unit, Arup, Sauerbruch Hutton (2009–15)



# Matter

An aerial photograph of a dense urban development in winter. The ground is covered in snow, and the buildings are a mix of colors, including beige, green, yellow, and red. The architecture is modern and multi-story. In the background, a river and more city buildings are visible under a cloudy sky.

Airut—formerly Low2No, SITRA Strategic Design Unit (2012–15)



# Matter



Helsinki City Library, ALA (2015)



# Matter



Löyly sauna, Avanto Architects, Helsinki (2016)



# Designing matter, and dark matter, or from matter to meta



Low2No, SITRA Energy programme (2007-2017)



# Brickstarter



ENG

[Start a project](#) [Find a project](#) [About this site](#) [Join/Sign in](#)

## Make good things happen in your neighbourhood <sup>x</sup>

1/ [Start your project & build support](#) 2/ [Fund a project](#) 3/ [Volunteer your time](#) 4/ [Share your experience](#)

Brickstarter is an open platform for community projects. You can use it to kickstart and coordinate your idea, get the community behind it, find professional help and advice, and gain financial backing from others.

**BACK THIS PROJECT**

### The Stables

33% FUNDED    €27 432 PLEDGED    3 DAYS TO GO

» A co-working space, café, shop and community garden in what is currently a parking garage «

**NEW PROJECT**

### Cloud City

NEW PROJECT!    [HELP SHAPE THIS PROJECT](#)    60 DAYS

» A sustainable block and public space built on top of Merikortelli «

**BACK THIS PROJECT**

### Jätkäsaari windmill

89% FUNDED    €117 312 PLEDGED    23 DAYS TO GO

» A community-owned wind turbine on the tip of Jätkäsaari «

## Helsinki Design Lab (2012)

**BACK THIS PROJECT**

**BACK THIS PROJECT**

**NEW PROJECT**



# Brickstarter

» A co-working space, cafe, shop and community garden in what is currently a parking garage «

» A sustainable block and public space built on top of Merikortelli «

» A community-owned wind turbine on the tip of Jätkäsaari «

**BACK THIS PROJECT**



**Uusikioski**

43% FUNDED   €1 432 PLEDGED   17 DAYS TO GO

» We will grow herbs on the roof and vegetables in the square behind, and serve you fresh, local produce with a smile «

**BACK THIS PROJECT**




**Aaltogrotto**

62% FUNDED   €27,931 PLEDGED   9 DAYS TO GO

» A co-working space in the disused Aalto-designed stairs on Mannerheimintie «

**NEW PROJECT**



**Baana Bike Repair**

98% FUNDED   €9,942 PLEDGED   52 DAYS TO GO


» Infrastructure for Baana cyclists «

**BACK THIS PROJECT**




**Helsinki Design Lab (2012)**

**NEW PROJECT**



**Tower of Power**

**BACK THIS PROJECT**

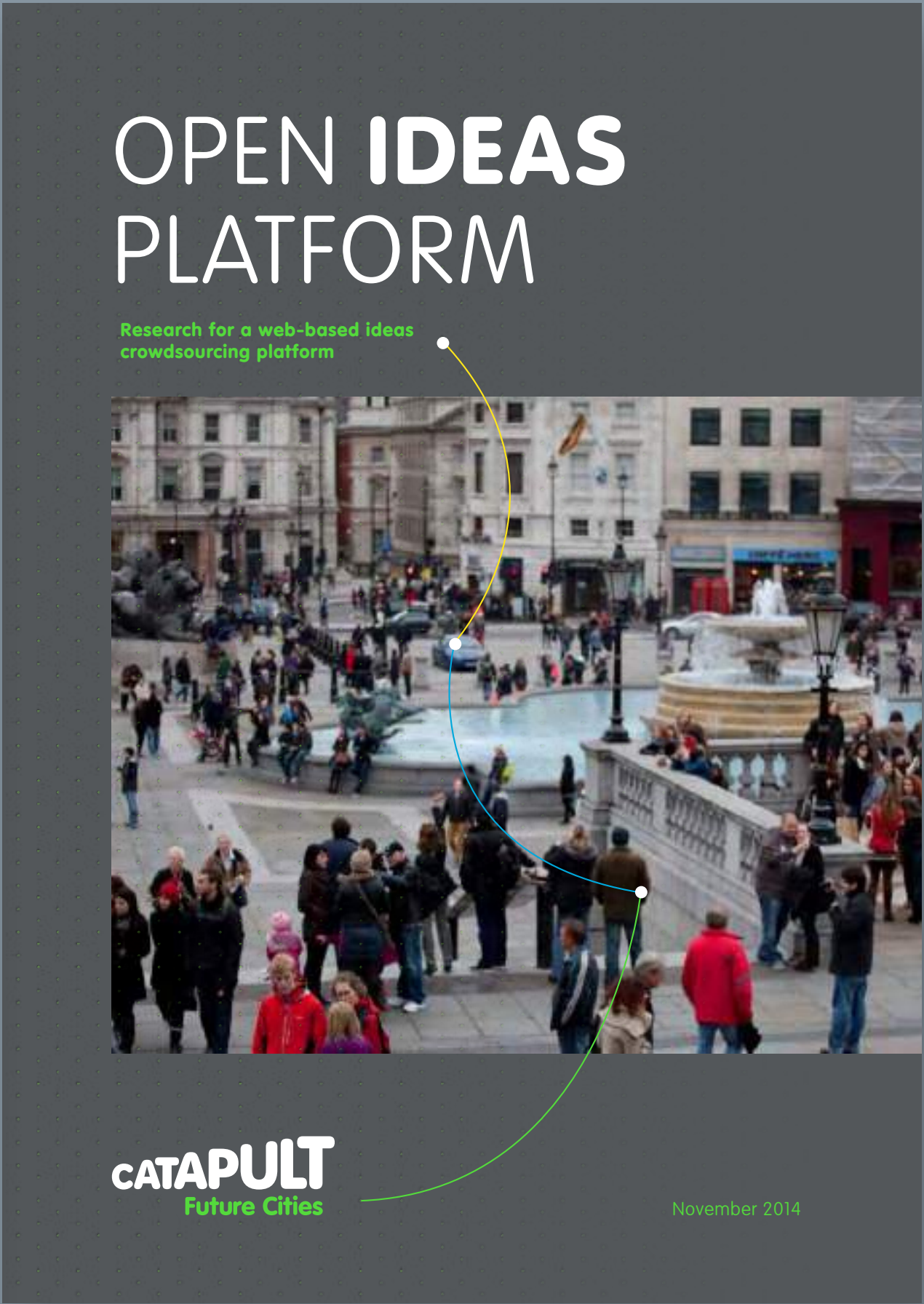
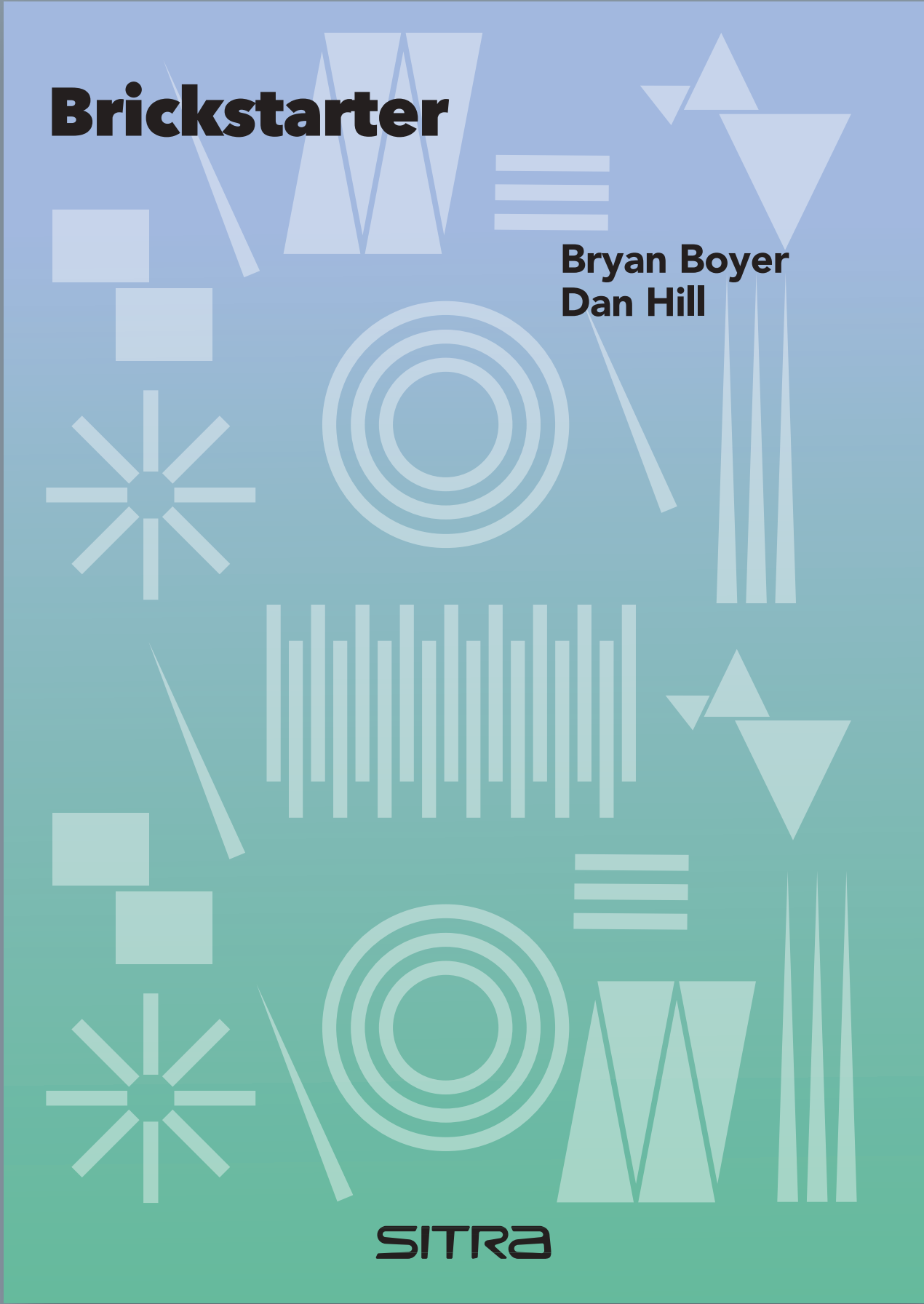


**Punkaharju wind farm**

62% FUNDED   €18 634 PLEDGED   39 DAYS TO GO



# Influencing rather than controlling, via prototypes



Brickstarter, Helsinki Design Lab (2012)



Ravintolapäivä, 2012



Helsinki



# Ravintolapäivä, 2012



Helsinki





# Ravintokilpailu 2012



Helsinki



Ravintolapäivä, 2012



Helsinki



# Ravintolapäivä, 2012



**Ravintolapäivä**  
Community Page about Restaurant Day

Liked Message

Seuraava Ravintolapäivä järjestetään sunnuntaina 17.02.2013.  
Ravintolapäivä on karnevaali ravintola- ja ruokakulttuurin puolesta.  
[www.restaurantday.org/fi/](http://www.restaurantday.org/fi/)



31,975

Ravintolapäivä ja kaupallisuus  
Hyvät vastaanottajat  
Lyhyesti: Emme jul

About Photos Likes Notes 3

Highlights

Post Photo / Video  
Write something...

25 Friends Like Ravintolapäivä

Create Page

Sponsored 5 cibi ammazza grasso bodybuilding.it  
Scopri tutti i 5 sorprendenti frutti che tolgono grasso ai fianchi.

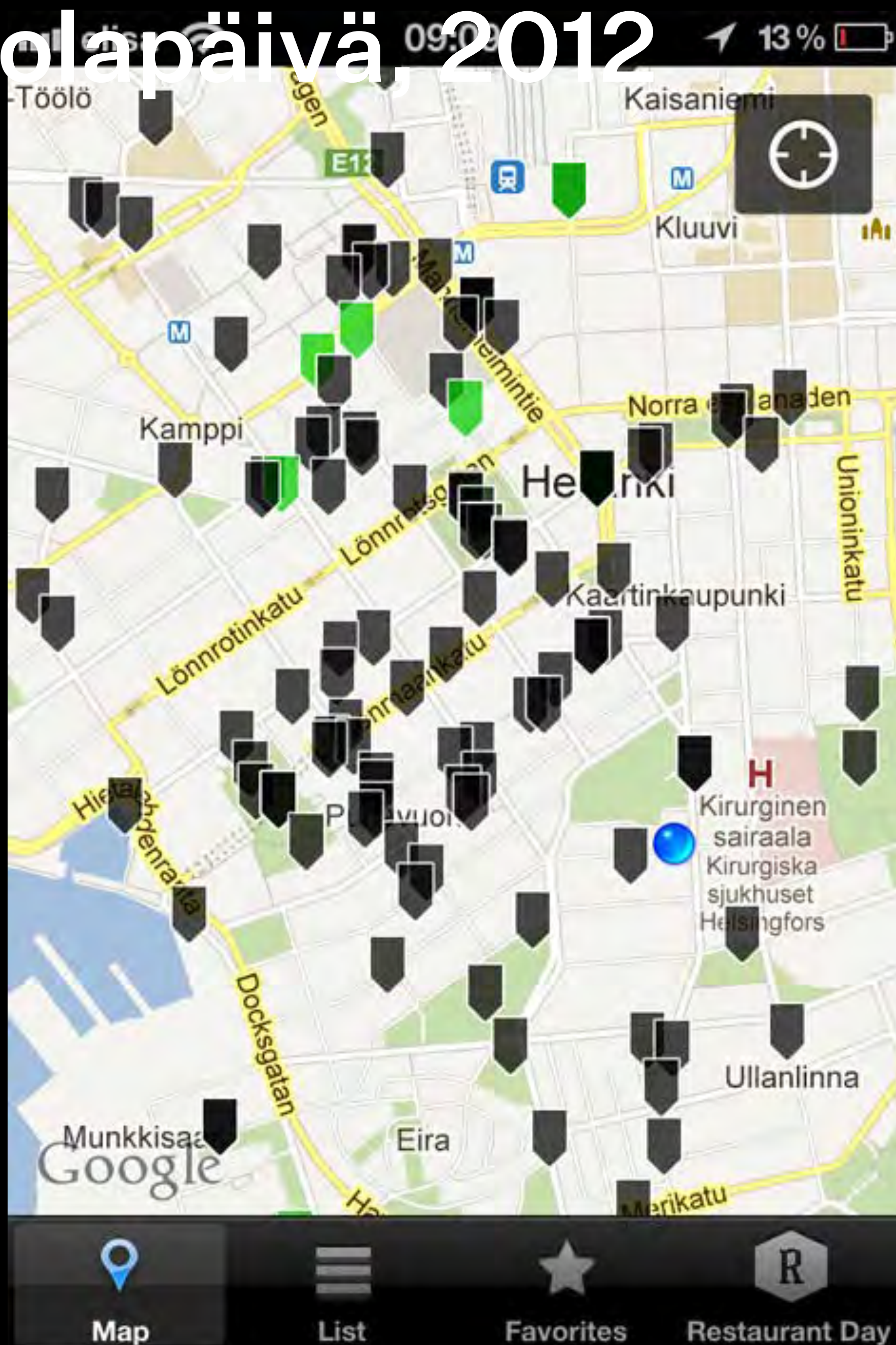
Come Fare 10000€ al Mese? guadagnaresoldiconil...  
Vuoi fare soldi? Ecco come guadagno 350 € al giorno da casa. Inizia ora!

Commit Consultants -...  
Dubai / Abu Dhabi Company Incorporation Free Zones, Offshore Companies, Brances & LLCs.  
Like · 2,874 people like Commit Consultants - Incorporation Specialists, UAE

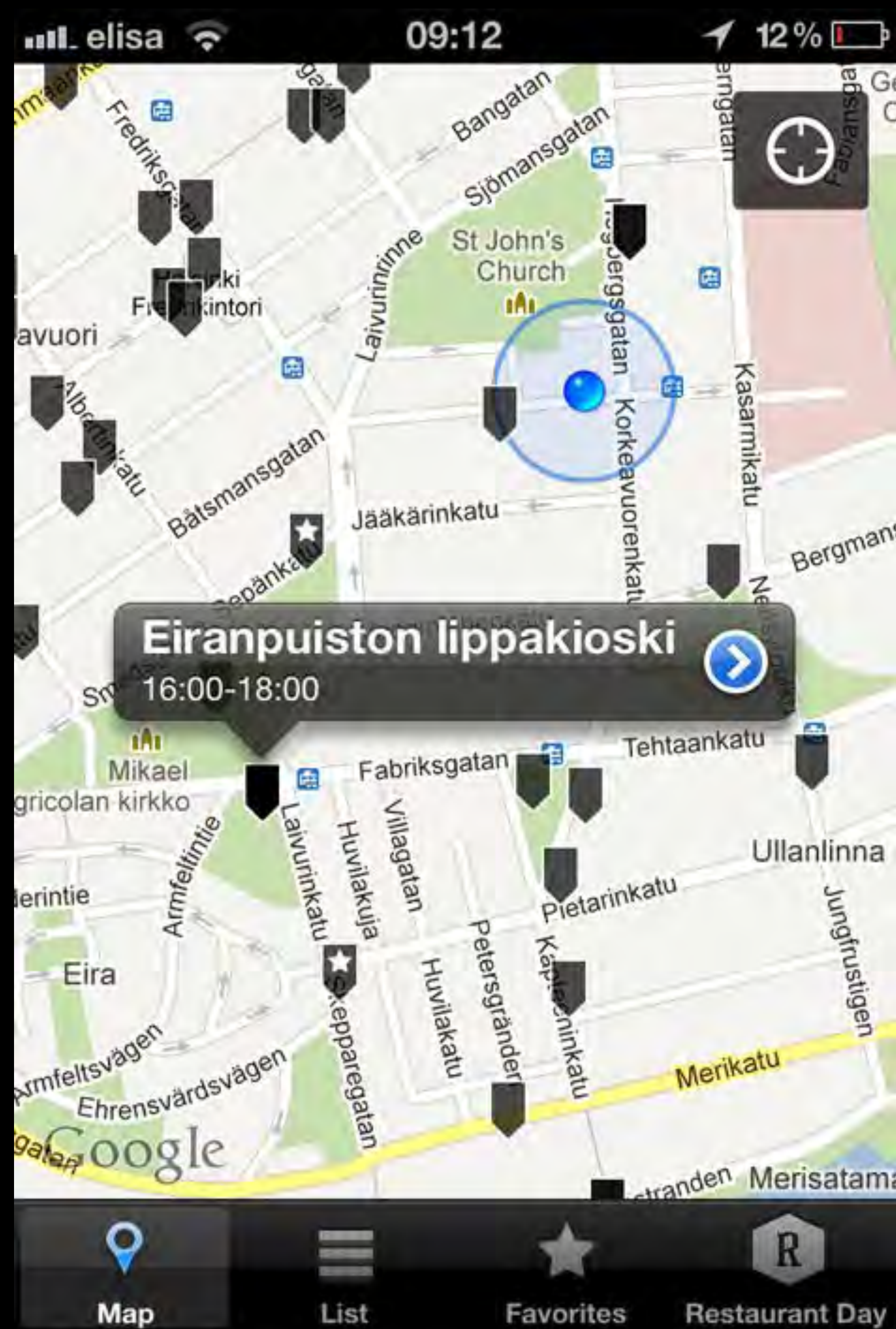
Now  
December  
2012  
Joined Facebook



# Ravintolapäivä 2012



Helsinki





# Ravintolapäivä, 2012



Helsinki



# The day after Ravintolapäivä



Helsinki



# Open Kitchen



Helsinki Design Lab, SITRA (2011-2012)



# Open Kitchen



Helsinki Design Lab, SITRA (2011-2012)



# Open Kitchen



POP-RAVINTOLA. Antto Melasniemen vetämällä karsulla perustettiin ravintola viikoksi Teivassalmen kellohalliin Helsingin. Nyt tiloissa toimii taas Melasniemen ja Heikki Puhosen ravintola.



"Vaikeinta on työmäärä. Se tulee varmasti isolle osalle yllätyksenä."

**Hanna S. Varkhunen**  
Pöytäpalvelus, joka alustettiin ravintolan avauksella.



"Me emme tunne hyvin tätä paikkaa, jossa ravintola on, ja siksi keittiössä koko ajan etsii jotain. Salissa vaikeinta on kommunikoida tilaukset keittiöön. Tällaiset tekniset asiat ovat aluksi yllättävän vaikeita."

**Jesse Järvelin**  
Elävöittäminen ravintolassa.

**Konkurssiin menneestä ravintolayhtiöstä tehtiin yli 30 tarjousta.**

**Hanna S. Varkhunen**  
Pöytäpalvelus, joka alustettiin ravintolan avauksella.

Konkurssiin menneen toimintayhtiön ravintolayhtiö Pöytäpalvelus sai satoja tarjouksia. Konkursseista yli 30 tarjousta, joista oli valittu yksi ostajaksi. Pöytäpalvelus ei halunnut ottaa vastuuta konkurssin seurauksista, vaan keskittyi omaan toimintaansa. Pöytäpalvelus on nyt yksi osa Open Kitchen -ravintolayhtiötä.

**Heikki Puhonen**  
Pöytäpalvelus, joka alustettiin ravintolan avauksella.

Pöytäpalvelus ei halunnut ottaa vastuuta konkurssin seurauksista, vaan keskittyi omaan toimintaansa. Pöytäpalvelus on nyt yksi osa Open Kitchen -ravintolayhtiötä.

**Konkurssiin menneestä ravintolayhtiöstä tehtiin yli 30 tarjousta.**

**Heikki Puhonen**  
Pöytäpalvelus, joka alustettiin ravintolan avauksella.

Konkurssiin menneen toimintayhtiön ravintolayhtiö Pöytäpalvelus sai satoja tarjouksia. Konkursseista yli 30 tarjousta, joista oli valittu yksi ostajaksi. Pöytäpalvelus ei halunnut ottaa vastuuta konkurssin seurauksista, vaan keskittyi omaan toimintaansa. Pöytäpalvelus on nyt yksi osa Open Kitchen -ravintolayhtiötä.



Orientoituminen	Sijainti	Ruokailusta	Hinta	Henkilökunta	Tilan suunnittelu	Markkinointi
"Osoittamaan onnistui, että onnistuimme suunnitella tilan, mikä nähtiin välttämättömäksi ja mikä ei voinut olla muuten. Osoittamaan onnistuimme suunnitella tilan, mikä nähtiin välttämättömäksi ja mikä ei voinut olla muuten."	"Käsitteellisesti on ollut suhteellisen helppoa, mutta käytännössä on ollut haastavaa. Osoittamaan onnistuimme suunnitella tilan, mikä nähtiin välttämättömäksi ja mikä ei voinut olla muuten."	"Ruokailusta on ollut haastavaa, mutta onnistuimme suunnitella tilan, mikä nähtiin välttämättömäksi ja mikä ei voinut olla muuten."	"Hinta on ollut haastava, mutta onnistuimme suunnitella tilan, mikä nähtiin välttämättömäksi ja mikä ei voinut olla muuten."	"Henkilökunta on ollut haastava, mutta onnistuimme suunnitella tilan, mikä nähtiin välttämättömäksi ja mikä ei voinut olla muuten."	"Tilan suunnittelu on ollut haastava, mutta onnistuimme suunnitella tilan, mikä nähtiin välttämättömäksi ja mikä ei voinut olla muuten."	"Markkinointi on ollut haastava, mutta onnistuimme suunnitella tilan, mikä nähtiin välttämättömäksi ja mikä ei voinut olla muuten."

# Kohti omaa ravintolaa

**Ravintolapäivä on lisännyt kokenut ravintoloitsija Antto Melasniemi**

**Helsinki Design Lab, SITRA (2011-2012)**

Antto Melasniemi on yksi Suomen tunnetuimmista ravintolajohtajista. Hän on perustanut useita ravintoloita ja on ollut mukana suunnittelemassa Open Kitchen -ravintolayhtiötä. Hän on myös osallistunut Helsinki Design Labin ja SITRA:n järjestämään ravintolapäivään, jossa on käsitelty ravintolatuotannon ja -palveluksen haasteita.



# Helsinki Street Eats book

Young women in Helsinki city centre, 1950. Note the canopies outside (Stockmann in the background). Does street food, which tends to be in open public places, sidestep the exclusionary social mores of the time and suggest more open venues of contemporary culture?



creating an atmosphere in which women in public were associated with licentious behaviour. Indeed, up to the mid-1960s, women couldn't even enter a restaurant without an accompanying man, nor in a larger group of women. When they did get in, their choice of attire was also regulated such that some restaurants insisted on skirts and dresses, rather than trousers.

As the decade ran its course, however, and infected by the social developments of the sixties, such attitudes began to fade away. By the end of the decade Finnish women could make their own decisions about what and where to eat, and with whom, if anyone at all. By the 1970s, then, women were allowed into restaurants on their own, entirely new types of food had emerged in line with new social patterns, and Alko had decided that food could be fun.

The restaurant scene in general had expanded significantly, principally through the burgeoning cafe chains, and alcohol consumption was also on the rise. Although burger and pizza joints had brought food

out onto the street, albeit not ~~with~~ with any kind of sophisticated open-air in mind, the amount of terraces ~~stayed~~ stayed very low. They were ~~mainly~~ mainly independent summer cafes that ~~temporarily~~ temporarily annexed outdoor space.

In 1977, only 35 operating ~~outdoor~~ had alcohol permits, and even these were not actually located on the streets. In comparison had remained tight in comparison to a greater public acceptance and ~~more~~ outdoor terrace and cafe culture. ~~Like~~ North European nations had ~~little~~ little of terrace culture—in mainstream ~~opinion~~ opinion, it was essentially seen as a Mediterranean phenomenon—~~and~~ such tight regulation inhibiting ~~development~~ development.

Yet opinion was beginning to ~~change~~ change, the scarce supply of outdoor cafes ~~was~~ was a topic of mounting concern in ~~other~~ elsewhere in Northern Europe. ~~Where~~ Where café culture came to be seen as a ~~sign~~ sign of development, and the newspapers ~~filled~~ filled with stories complaining about

## Shifts in popular culture are now changing expectations in food as well

paucity of cafes in the city, or that operating hours were out of sync with contemporary living and working patterns.

In retrospect, these are the first tentative steps towards the 'night-time economy' or '24 hour city', as it was referred to in 1990s policy circles. Yet they were also simple, rather mundane complaints about non-existent opening hours at weekends (Ruopila 2000.)

At the scale of the 20th century, Helsinki's relationship with street food could be drawn as a gentle arc, where the last decade begins to achieve similar conditions to the first. A liberalisation of regulations for restaurants and alcohol consumption throughout the street, alongside a new restaurant boom across the city.

If the start of the century had been characterised by a freer, more open attitude to food, drawn from the cosmopolitan belle époque-era Helsinki, then this was to some extent beginning to be echoed at the century's end.

In between 1900 and 2000, tight regulations, not least in actual prohibition, and conservative cultures in both populace and policy—sometimes forged in the crucible of independence, sometimes affected by war—created moments of a stunted, inhibited food culture in the city. But from the mid-century onwards, a steady curve upwards in attitude, quality, volume and variety of eating estab-

www.louisa.com/food  
Livistelmä suomeksi

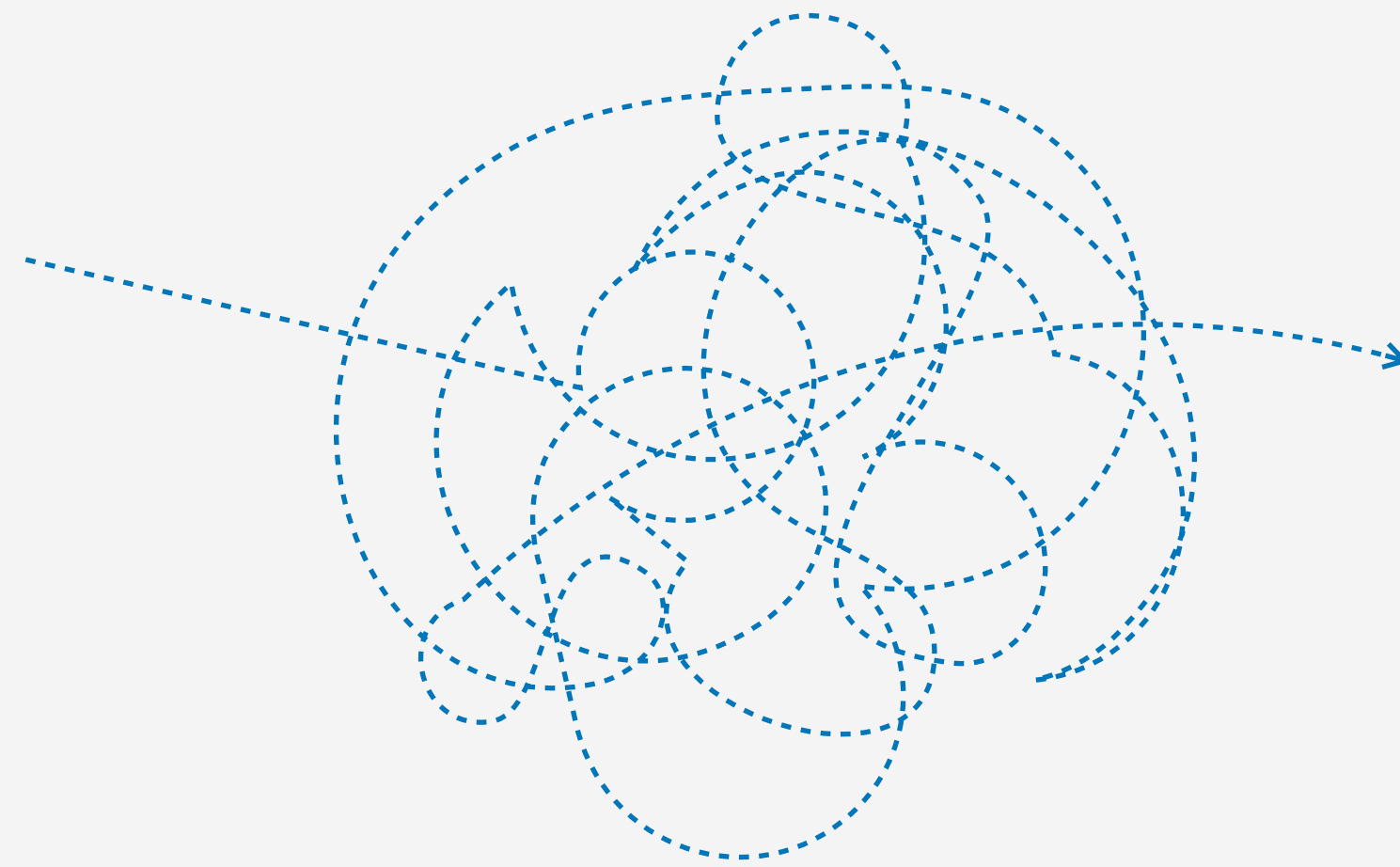


# Open Kitchen partnerships

Ville Relander, Helsinki municipality



# Influencing policy



**2014** Public Works department introduces “agile kiosk activities.” Specific areas in central Helsinki designated for food and coffee trucks, everywhere else agile kiosks can be operated quite freely

**2015** Public Works Department of Helsinki publicly states it “doesn’t want to hinder the popular event” offering only advice for restaurant keepers on tidiness.

**2015** Helsinki’s Environment Centre, responsible for health inspections, adds specific chapter on Restaurant Day-type events, noting no hygiene requirements are imposed during the event, offering advice on organisation of pop-up restaurants.

**2011** Police and Valvira (National Supervisory Authority for Welfare and Health) co-released statements reminding that the sales of alcohol remained prohibited outside actual restaurants.

**2012** the same statement had transformed into a simple information bulletin for the event participants.

**2013** no further statements were given.

**2014** Street Helsinki event (street kitchens/block parties for 20,000 visitors); associated conference by City’s Food Culture Strategy team.

**2015** City hires Restaurant Day founder Timo Santala as head of Food Culture Strategy team.





Helsinki  
Streets of Food

Pekka Sauri  
Deputy mayor, Helsinki



In recent years, there has been a concerted effort to make the streets easier. Less street food. Now, the food which originated in Helsinki has spread to the world. Even though conditions aren't ideal most of the year, street food vendors have been very creative in how they operate. On a global scale, Helsinki is a small city, with few major food events, which makes Helsinki people's lives more important in attracting everyone who lives in the city. Thanks to them, Helsinki is a bold entrepreneurs. Together, they create a backdrop for surprising food experiences. Thanks to them, Helsinki is a city for thought!



# What's happening here, as a designer?

Finding and framing the questions

Researching the context

Understanding the architecture of the problem

Working in the gaps

Finding intermediaries and building networks

Making systems tangible via prototypes

Deploying multiple formats, tools and touchpoints

Stewardship, and cultivating momentum

Tracking impact but not bothering about authorship





# Sweden

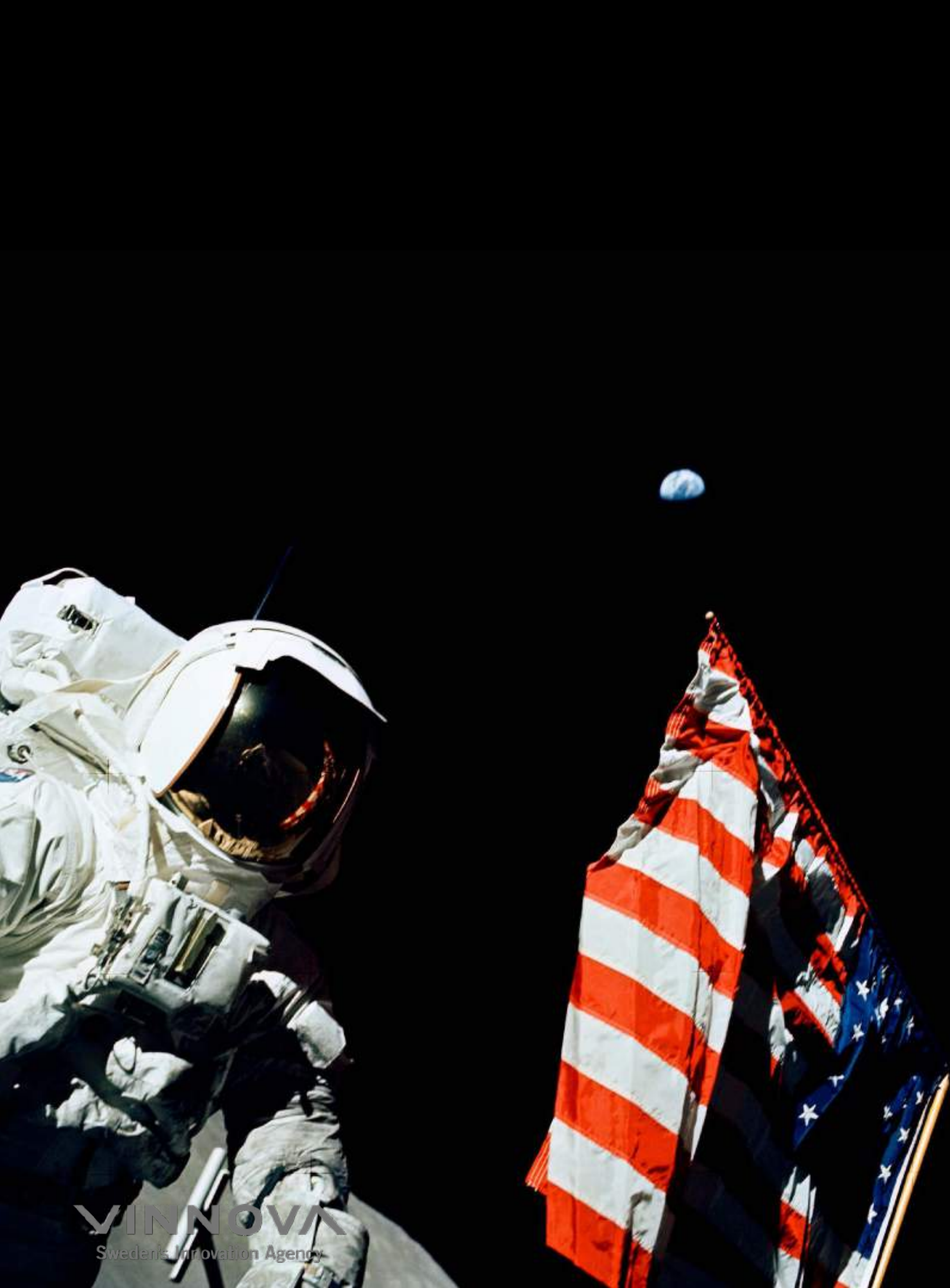
Enskede, Stockholm



# We already have politically-agreed targets







# THE MOON AND THE GHETTO

An Essay on Public Policy Analysis

RICHARD R. NELSON



# Sweden balances innovation across cultural and technical, public and private



Miljonprogrammet housing in Hallunda, Stockholm.



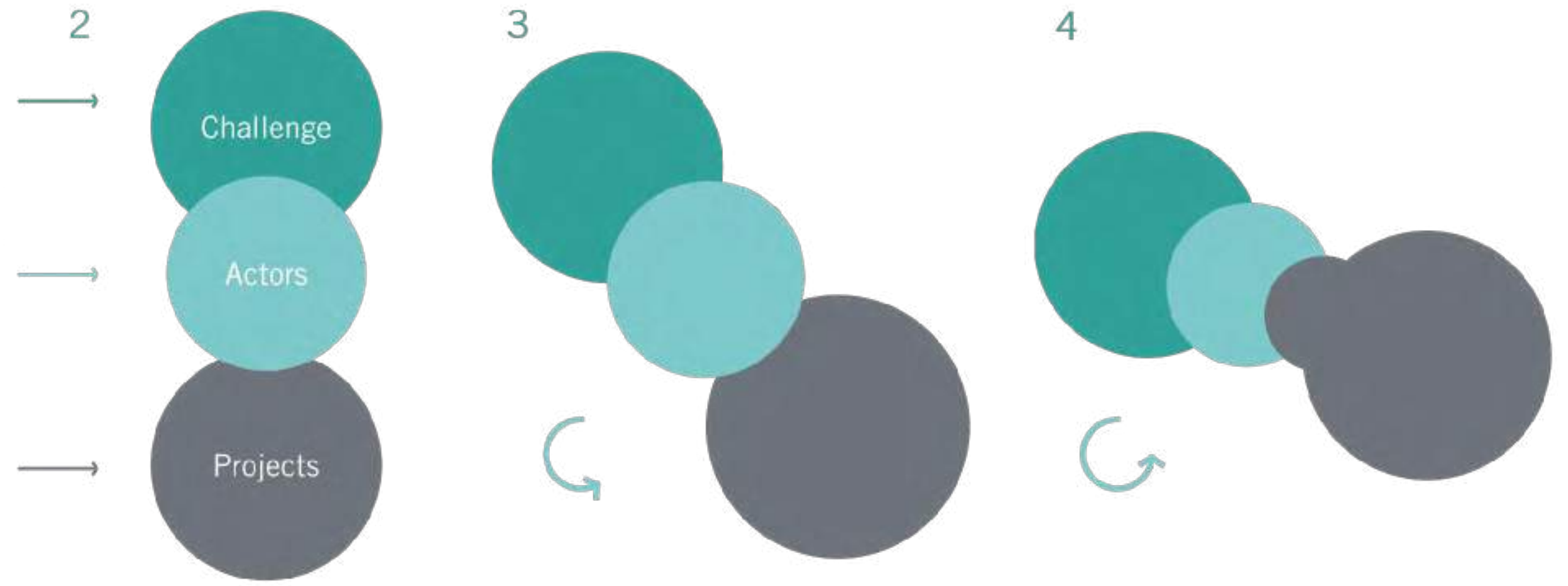
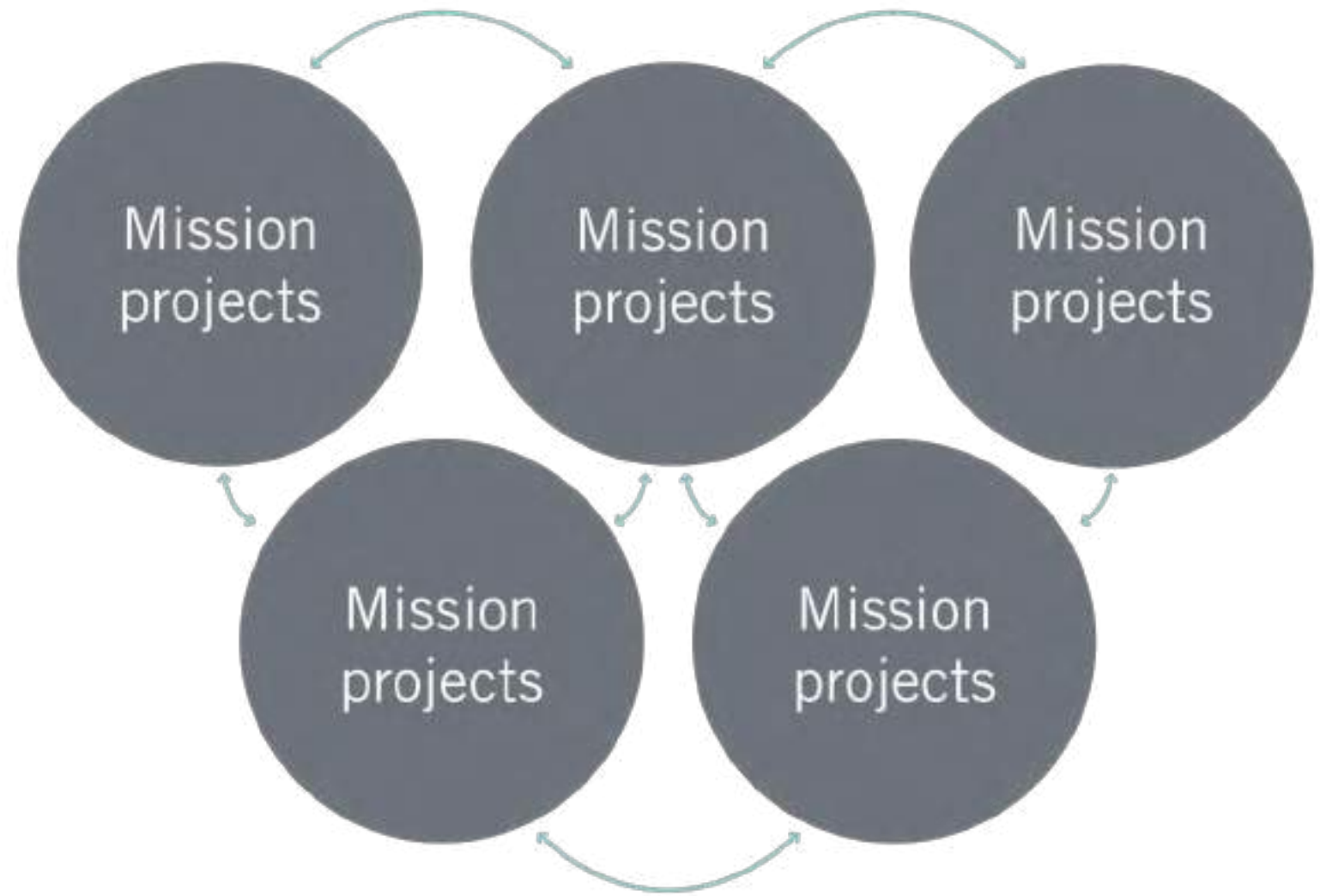
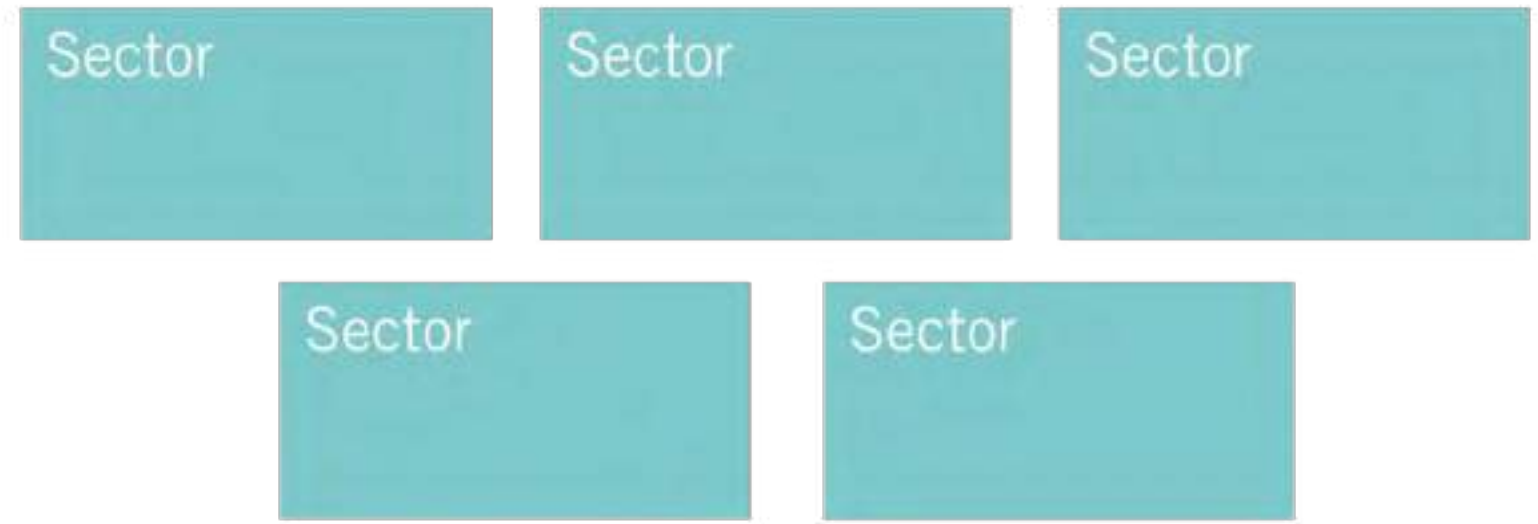
Vision Zero emerges from a culture of road safety in Sweden, not least the invention of the revolutionary three-point seatbelt by Volvo, in the 1950s.

Missions *avant la lettre*, but also cultural context

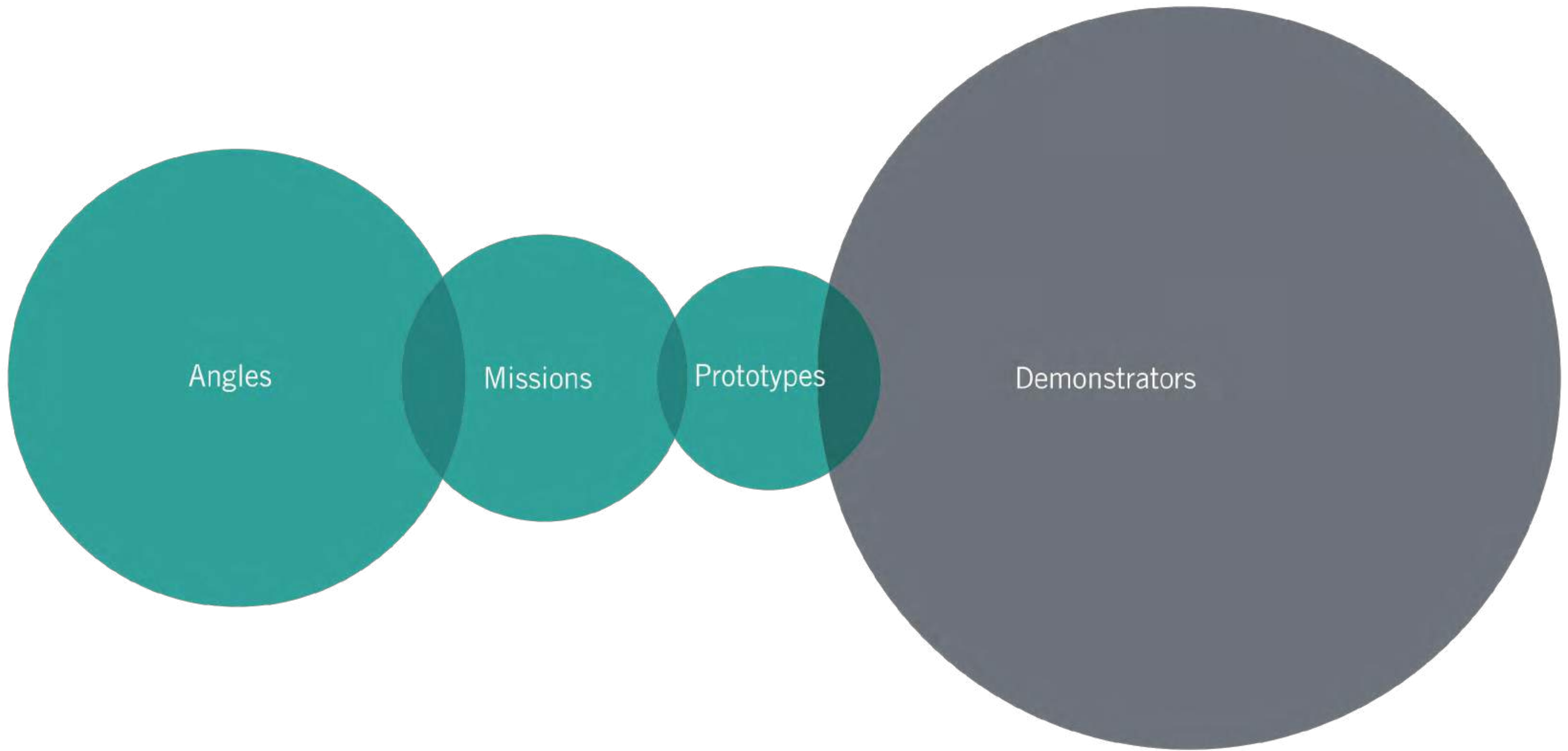


# Grand challenge

## Mission











Healthy  
sustainable  
mobility



Healthy  
sustainable  
food



# System Actors workshops



Workshop aiding Vinnova's strategy development for health and life science, featuring external collaborators and stakeholders, October 2020.



Workshop for emerging Swedish government mission around physical activity, September 2020.



# Observation



This set is from a workshop with Stockholm Region and Boverket in February 2020, concerning mental health and living environments.



Participants are asked to observe the infrastructure of everyday life. For instance, what proportion of our living space is traffic-oriented hardscape?



Not only sight, but multi-sensory. Do these trucks physically fit the environment they are in? What is the smell like? What do they sound like?



With the theme in mind, how might things be reoriented to promote mental wellbeing? What if recycling points were purposefully convivial space?



Fredrik is asking, "Façade, why so blank?" Why is life only at the end of the street? Whose are these cars? What if eight year-olds and eighty year-olds had designed this potential promenade? What if the design driver was mental wellbeing?





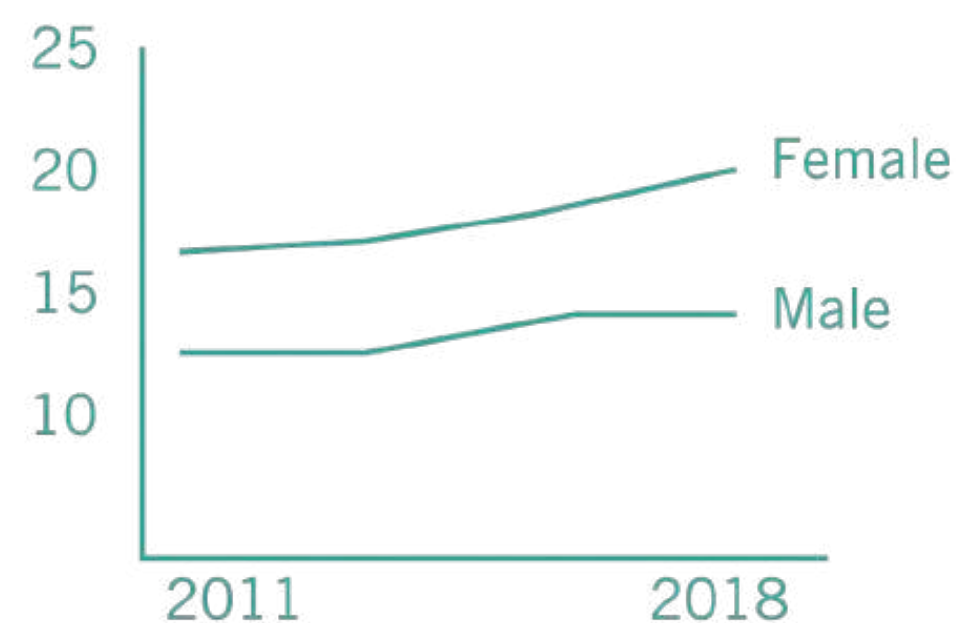




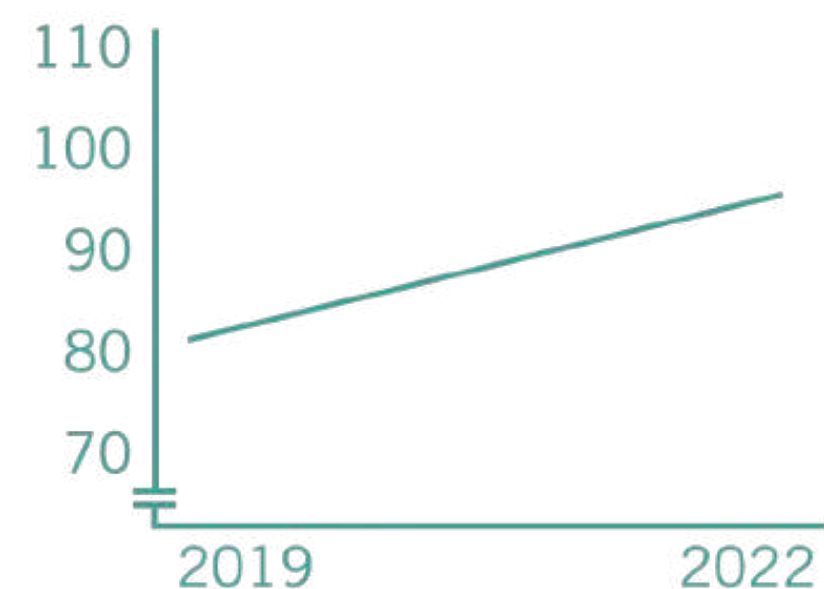
Supply-side, or 'push', interventions			Healthy Sustainable Food	Demand-side, or 'pull'
Approaches to reduce food waste	School food supply chain	School law change to enable food as education	School food	Training school cooks and redesigning meal culture
Research and investment into new crops	New farm design for new foods	Regulation and policy for new foods	New Food	New foods in school food programme
Owned, managed and scaled farming	New approaches to risk-sharing and profitability	Robotics, IoT, and machine learning on the farm	Healthy, resilient farming	Community-supported agriculture models
	Traceability	Animal welfare	Traceable trusted produce	Communicable data-driven labelling systems for accurate information
			Modern Swedish	Swedish restorative, clean and zero-carbon agriculture
Value capture and distribution	Traceability and data for waste	Biofuels and energy from food systems	Circular zero-waste systems	Clear labelling for circular use models
Quality data	Reusing big box retail	Local logistics via active transport	Peri-urban and urban farming	Public spaces and streets as food



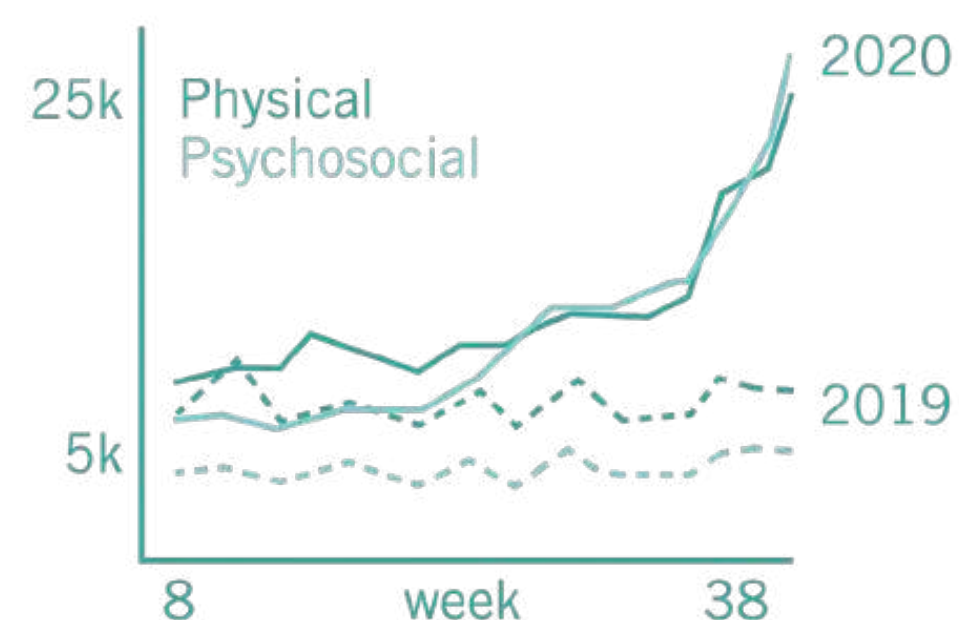
# Upstream, holistic strategic design practice



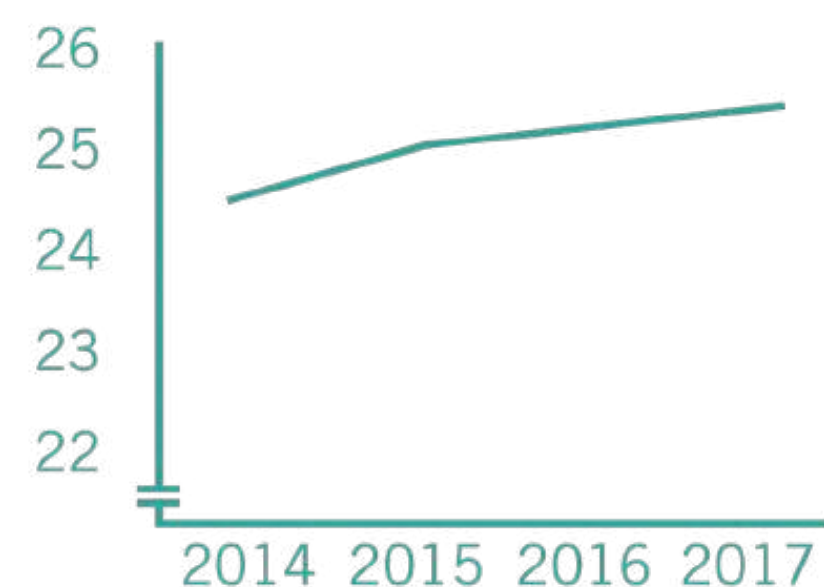
Percentage of Stockholm region inhabitants with impaired mental well-being, 2011-2018



Health and social care expenses, projected to 2022 (billion SEK)



Absence days per 100,000 co-workers due to physical disorders and psychosocial disorders, comparing 2019 and 2020



County healthcare costs per person (thousand SEK)

3%

Percent of healthcare budget dedicated to preventative care

80%

Percent of healthcare costs used to treat chronic diseases

80%

Percent of chronic diseases due to lifestyle and living conditions



# Spatial power structure

Sweden

UK

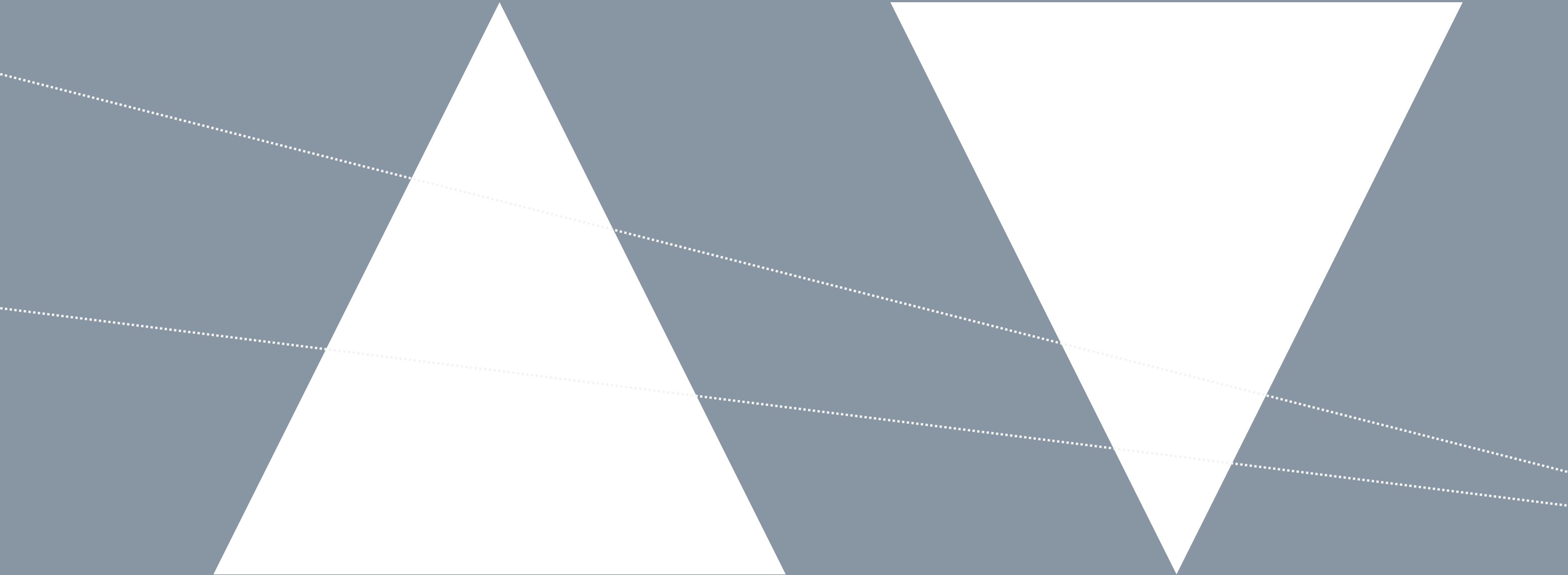
National

National

Regional

Municipal

Regional  
Municipal





# Missions within challenge theme





# Reel

Ensure the transition to an electrified heavy transport system across all of Sweden





# Street

Ensure that every street in Sweden is healthy, sustainable and full of life by 2030.



# System in the room workshops



Health researcher, university

Micromobility startup

Interaction designer, tech corporation

Municipal traffic planner









Gamla Enskede, Stockholm (2022)



Gamla Enskede, Stockholm (1905)



*Beteckningar*

-  Gräns för plan afsedd för fastställelse
-  Enfamiljshus (sammanskygda för flera familjer)
-  Trevånings ullhyringshus (med affärstokaler)
-  Monumentalbyggnader





‘Dom som går i vägen’, Veckorevy (29 April 1935)





祭

カラオケ  
居酒屋

とまり木

楽しく遊べる麻雀クラブ  
全自動卓  
大三元



自転車を除く  
7-9  
15-20



麻雀









チキン

タイレストラン  
フア・デ・タイ  
2F

タイ

ホム子  
レモン



セキネ





**Culture: Civic, cared-for, well-designed, adaptive**



**Regulation: No on-street parking since 1965, for ex.**





Early morning, around 05:30. The mist shrouds the street's lush trees and bushes, yet some early rays of sunlight pick out some ripe red apples amidst the leaves. Exiting stage right, a fox trots around the corner, heading for the park. A couple of cleaning robots quietly Hoover up some broken glass from near the bike lane, as a small autonomous delivery truck slides into the street.

The delivery truck pauses in front of the clothes store on the corner, hydraulic arms carefully placing a large capsule into the shared delivery box. It then sidles up the street to place a waste capsule in the delivery box's place, the low gentle whirr of its electric engines barely perceptible over the swish of its damp tyres.

Slowly, the street wakes up. By 07:45 Jonas guides his nine year-old daughter Zoe towards the shared bus that will take her to school in a nearby district. Zoe doesn't really want to go with the bus, having recently learned how to cycle. She'd rather use a shared bike from

An early indication that this could be a lush green environment, with food grown in the street.

The interplay between the fox and the robots suggests new relationships with non-human nature.

Infrastructure for clearing elements like broken glass suggests a prioritisation of small wheels, whether bikes or wheelchairs or equivalent.

Physical stores remain in this vision, integrated with e-commerce logistics rather than replaced by it. What's the group's view on this?

Combined infrastructures of logistics and waste in one service. Who regulates for that, and coordinates it?

A new importance for environmental aspects, such as noise. Yet tyres produce other environmental issues, such as microplastics. How might they be resolved?

Physical schools still exist, with a recognisable daily pattern. Will they?

Centralstation to catch the train, glancing up at the clock by the s realises that she won't make it if she pauses to fasten her *Hövding* and grabs a scooter from the dock.

She glides away up the street, curving pear tree-lined paths. R scooting past unripe fruit, and r strawberry bushes planted next in the dock, she realises how hu some quick travel-time calculat to a brief halt at Akim's coffee sh corner.

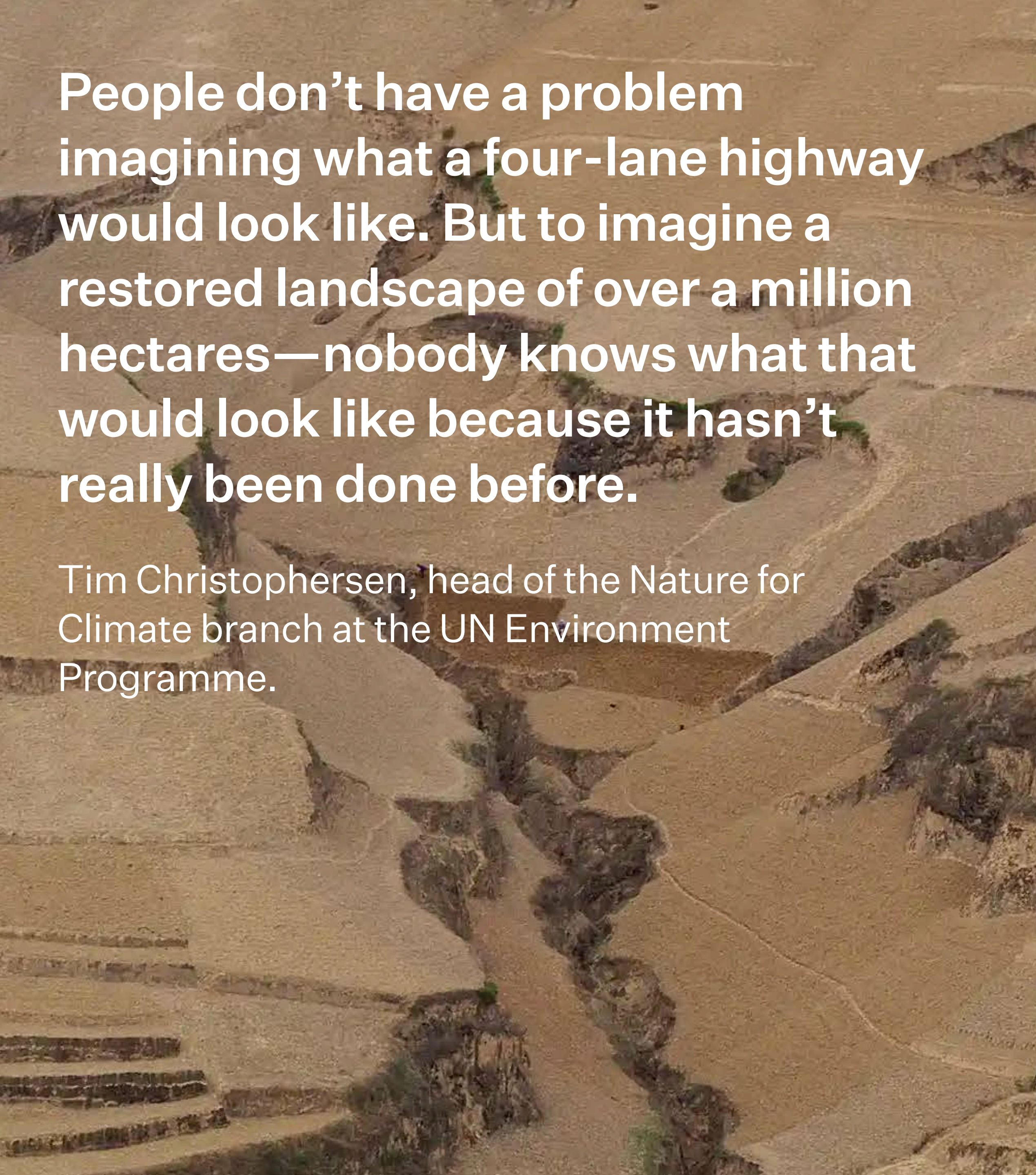
Alia darts in to grab *kanelk bryggkaffe*, hitting pause on the scooter pings the dock its new l dock pings the city.

Eating her *bulle*, Alia sits o outside Akim's place. The stree here are in fact covered with gre absence of most cars, and all lar municipal and otherwise, has op



People don't have a problem imagining what a four-lane highway would look like. But to imagine a restored landscape of over a million hectares—nobody knows what that would look like because it hasn't really been done before.

Tim Christophersen, head of the Nature for Climate branch at the UN Environment Programme.







**‘Wakanda’, by Hannah Beachler for *Black Panther* (2018)**



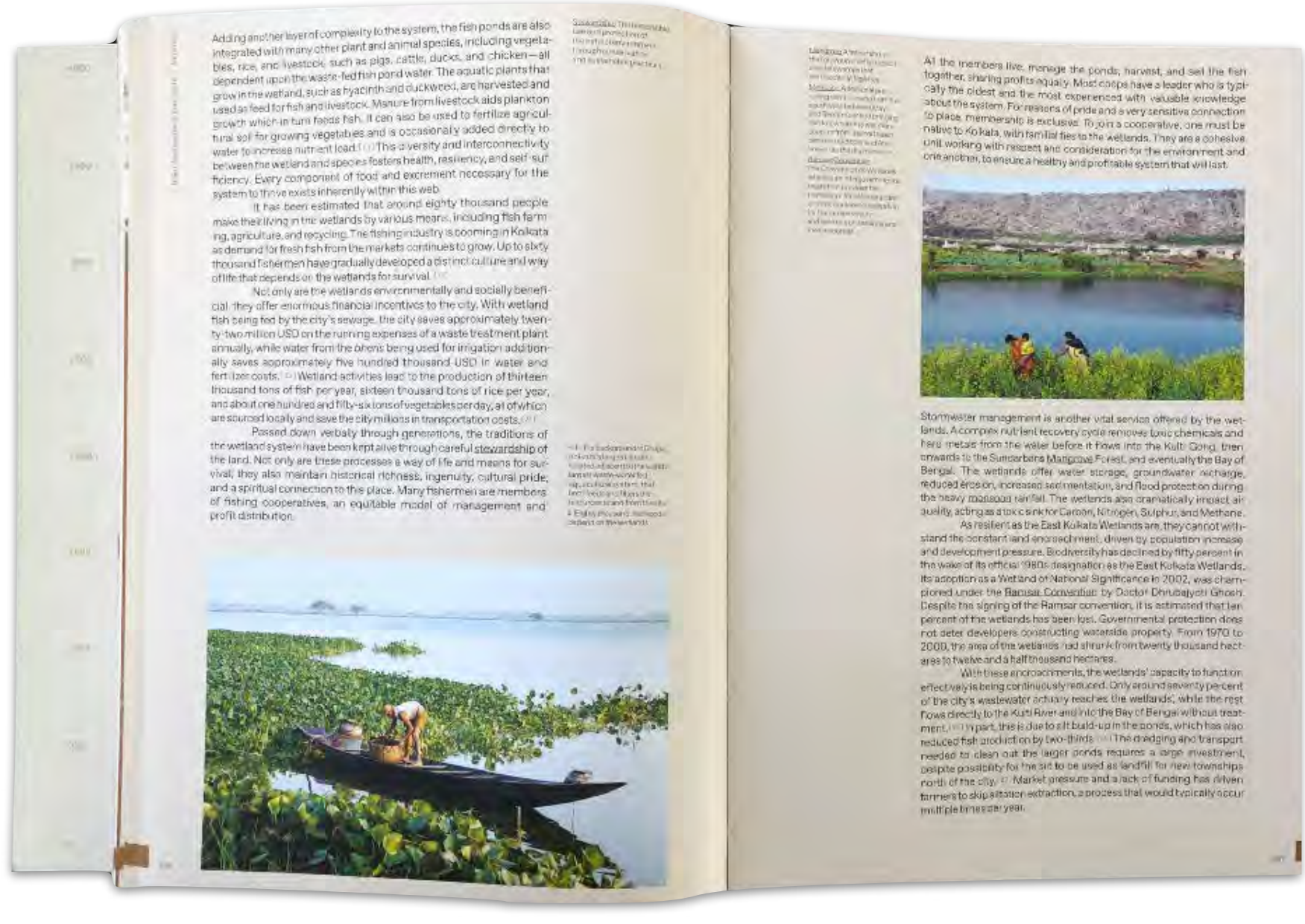
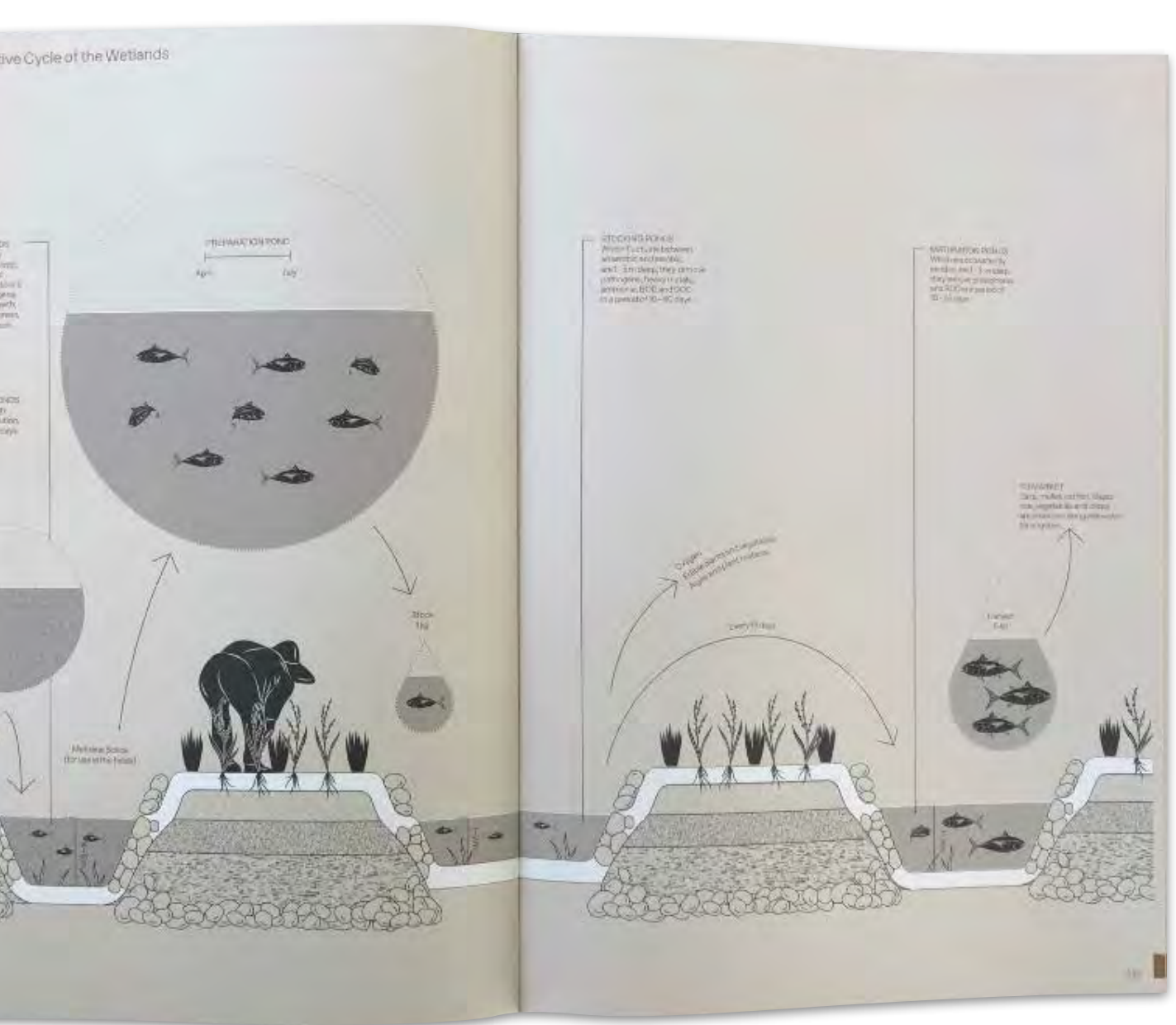
This is a technology



Omniprocessor, Dakar, Senegal (funded by Gates Foundation)



# This is a technology



Nature-based communities don't have a voice because [modern] governance structures do not have a place for their voices. These ways of living with the land can disappear so quickly when they're seen as primitive, not innovative.





# Omniprocessor

Millions of dollars  
14 tons of sewage per day  
Thousands of litres of drinking water

A good thing.



# East Kolkata Wetlands

Zero dollars?  
700 million tons of sewage per day  
13,000 tonnes of fish per year  
16,000 tons of rice.  
156 tons of vegetables per day  
Feedstock for other animals  
Logistics savings  
Biodiversity, in flora and fauna  
80,000 jobs  
Natural water storage, groundwater recharge  
Increased sedimentation and flood protection

**Also a good thing. Also a technology.**




# Technology as culture as infrastructure as Country

Budj Bim, Victoria, Australia







**Technology is the  
active human interface  
with the material world.**

Ursula K. Le Guin



# Government debunked a 15-minute city conspiracy theory... then endorsed it

Levelling up department's own guidance contradicts comments by transport secretary Mark Harper at Tory conference

Ruby Lott-Lavigna

2 October 2023, 2.23pm



Mark Harper speaks at the Conservative party conference in Manchester. | Photo by Ian Forsyth/Getty Images

Share via



The government has endorsed a conspiracy theory about “15-minute cities” as part of its major policy announcement prioritising car owners – despite having already debunked it.

Speaking to the Conservative party conference in Manchester today, transport secretary Mark Harper called himself “proudly pro-car,” while describing the concept of 15-minute cities – where local amenities are located within a 15-minute walk or cycle – as “sinister”.

“What is sinister, and what we shouldn’t tolerate,” said Harper, “is the idea that local councils can decide how often you go to the shops, and that they can ration who uses the roads and when, and that they police it all with CCTV.”

There has been opposition to 15-minute cities from those who say they are a front for “everlasting surveillance” and designed to restrict people’s

Read more

Get our weekly email

Email address

First name

Last name

SUBMIT

## Imagination failures

“Apocalyptic thinking is due to another narrative failure: the inability to imagine a world different than the one we currently inhabit ... People without much sense of history imagine the world as static. They assume that if the present order is failing, the system is collapsing, and there is no alternative. A historical imagination equips you to understand that change is ceaseless.”

Rebecca Solnit



① Do we have a diverse enough research and innovation culture — or governance culture?

Is our research and innovation capacity thoroughly integrated with our policymaking culture?

Is imagination valued? Soft eyes and hard eyes?



The magic of the street is the mingling of the errand and the epiphany.

Rebecca Solnit





# How do we design a *disposition* for care?



路上園芸 rojo engei, Tokyo (2020)



# Parking lot as biodiversity, artwork and social fabric

*Infield*, Linda Tegg, ArkDes Stockholm (2019)





# Parking lot as farm and social fabric



Ron Finley, Los Angeles





# Block as social fabric as education as infrastructure



Bogotá Care Blocks



# Street as garden and social fabric

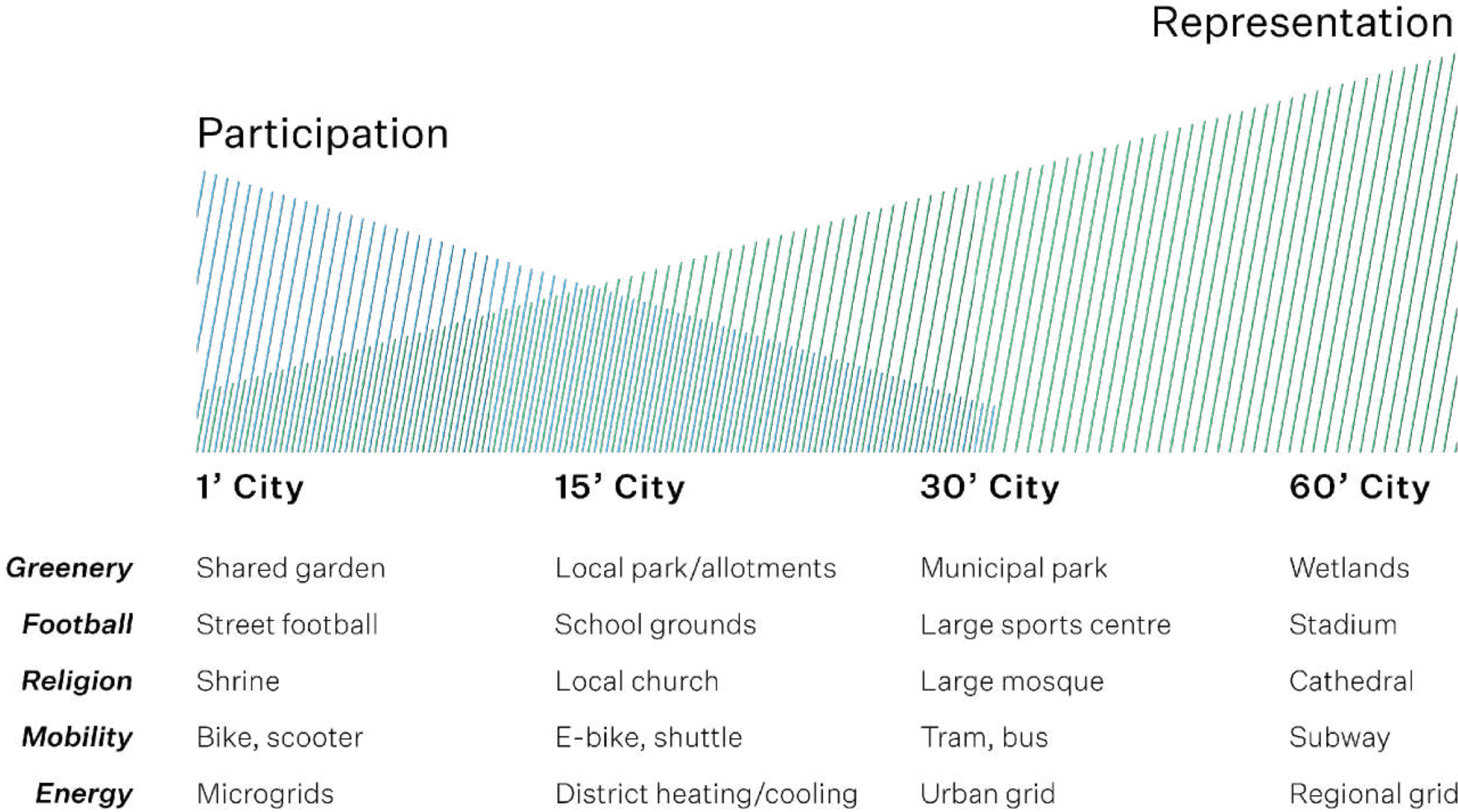


Schöneberg, Berlin





# Scales and cultures of decision-making





The environment hosts dormant sculptures, bound to their context by clear, definable functions. We experience these sculptures every day in our mundane acts of life ... Activating the mundane is an opportunity to see and experience the beauty and utility of the things in our life.

Walter Hood & Grace Mitchell Tada,  
*Black Landscapes Matter* (2020)

The failure—or at least the postponement—of the grand is also the survival of the ordinary and the everyday; the survival of citizens over cities; of infrastructures of everyday dignity over big, signature, spectacular projects; of incremental change over instantaneous transformation; of the bazaar over the mall, the shared auto over the expressway, survival over smartness.

Gautam Bhan, *India Times* (2017)

Gardening is one of the ways that culture does nature.

Rebecca Solnit, *Orwell's Roses*  
(2023)



① How do we build trust (in both directions) in order to enable shared care for our everyday environments?

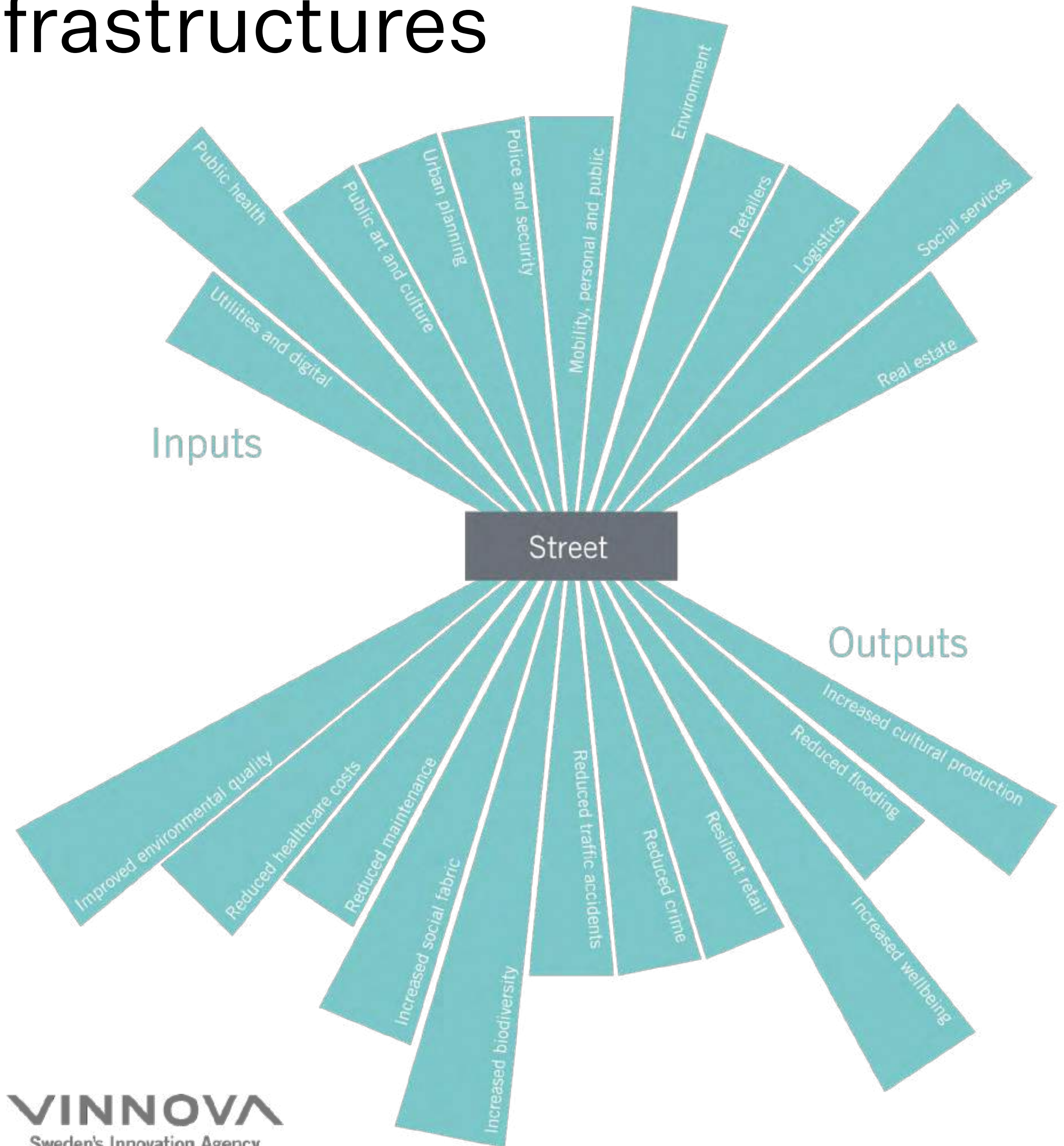
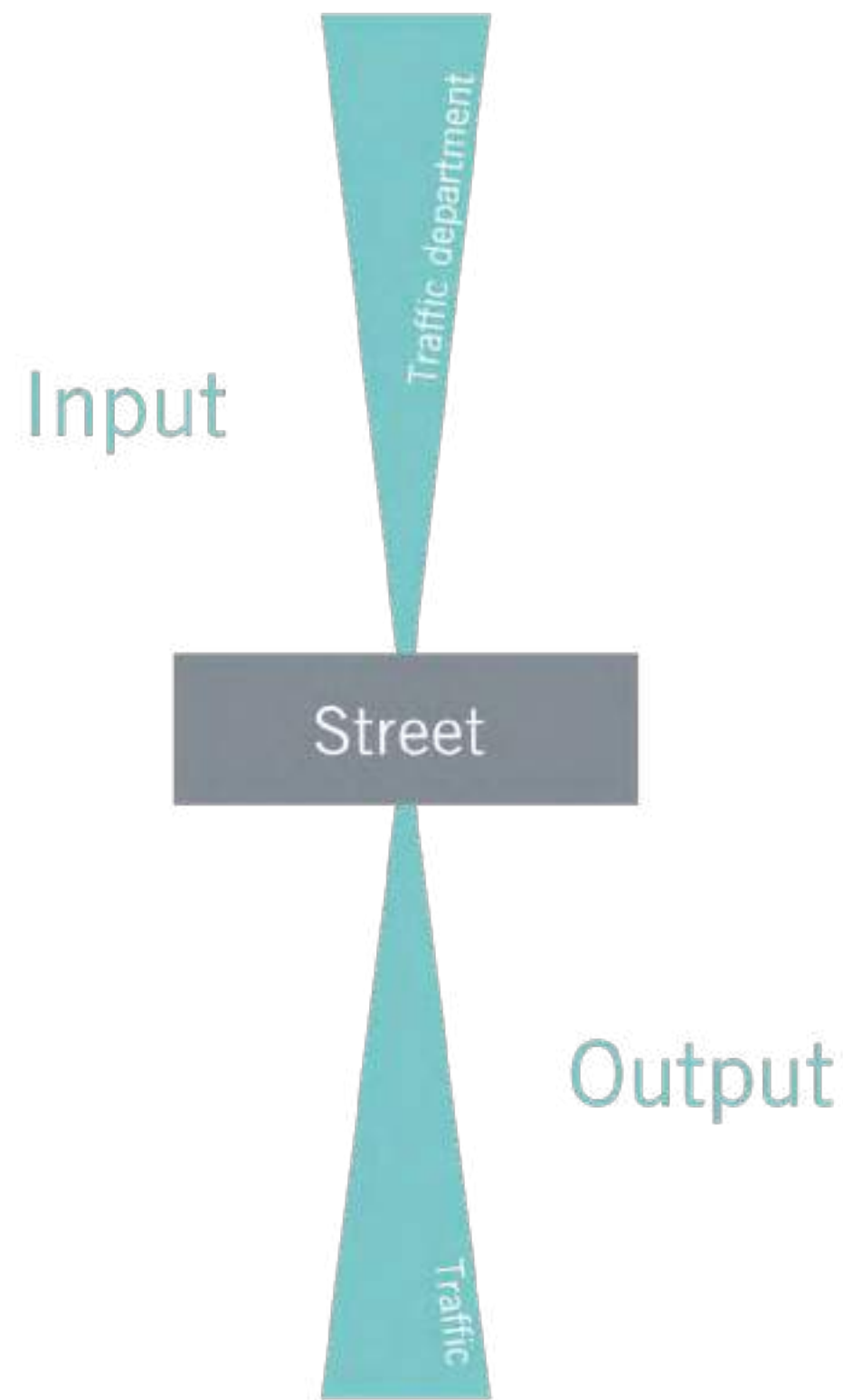
What's the benefit of getting our hands dirty?

What kind of skills and perspectives does this kind of participation require?

What kind of foundational economy, civic capability, or broader cultural shifts, would that take?



# Re-framing everyday infrastructures





## Doorst framework

## Examples

**IF**

The context was approached ...

**AS IF**

The opportunity can be seen as ...

**THEN**

The frame is ...

**IF**

School meals were approached ...

**AS IF**

It is a problem of learning, health and sustainability

**THEN**

The school kitchen should be transformed into an open, creative and shared space with students, staff and cooks working together

**IF**

The street was approached ...

**AS IF**

It is a problem of creating health, social fabric and biodiversity

**THEN**

The street needs to be reoriented around biodiverse and culturally diverse social spaces, as if a public park rather than a car park

**IF**

Food delivery was approached ...

**AS IF**

It is a problem of creating a vibrant and sustainable environment

**THEN**

In-street delivery hubs can be high-quality shared, safe, and secure social spaces, with pick-up, drop-off and recycling



**Soft eyes**



'Bunk', *The Wire*, Season 4 (2006)







# Think and act systemically



We must transform supply  
and demand simultaneously.

Saul Griffiths, *Electrify* (MIT Press, 2021)





Edition: [Australia](#)

[Donate](#)

[Get newsletter](#)

[Become an author](#)

[Sign up as a reader](#)

[Sign in](#)

# THE CONVERSATION

Academic rigour, journalistic flair

[Arts + Culture](#) [Books + Ideas](#) [Business + Economy](#) [Education](#) [Environment + Energy](#) [Health](#) [Politics + Society](#) [Science + Tech](#)

Q Search analysis, research, academics ..

## England's housing strategy carries a high carbon cost – unless politicians are willing to change plans

Published: November 11, 2022 4.40am AEDT



### Authors



**Sophus zu Ermgassen**

PhD Researcher, Durrell Institute for Conservation and Ecology, University of Kent



**Christine Corlet Walker**

Doctoral researcher, Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity, University of Surrey



**Josh Ryan-Collins**

Head of Finance and Macroeconomics, Institute of Innovation and Public Purpose, UCL

### Disclosure statement

The authors do not work for, consult, own shares in or receive funding from any company or organisation that would benefit from this article, and have disclosed no relevant affiliations beyond their academic appointment.

### Partners







[UCL Home](#) » [UCL News](#) » Building more social and affordable housing could save UK government £1.5 billion a year

- [Home](#)
- [Latest news](#)
- [UCL in the media](#)
- [Services for media](#)
- [Student news](#)
- [Staff news](#)
- [Tell us your story](#)
- [Contact us](#)

# Building more social and affordable housing could save UK government £1.5 billion a year

4 October 2023

Investing significantly more in social and affordable housing could save the UK government an estimated £1.5 billion a year overall by eliminating substantial costs related to homelessness, according to a new report led by UCL researchers.

Follow us









① Systems cannot really be mapped or engineered in the abstract; they must be experienced and shifted from within, as active agents—*are we trained for that?*

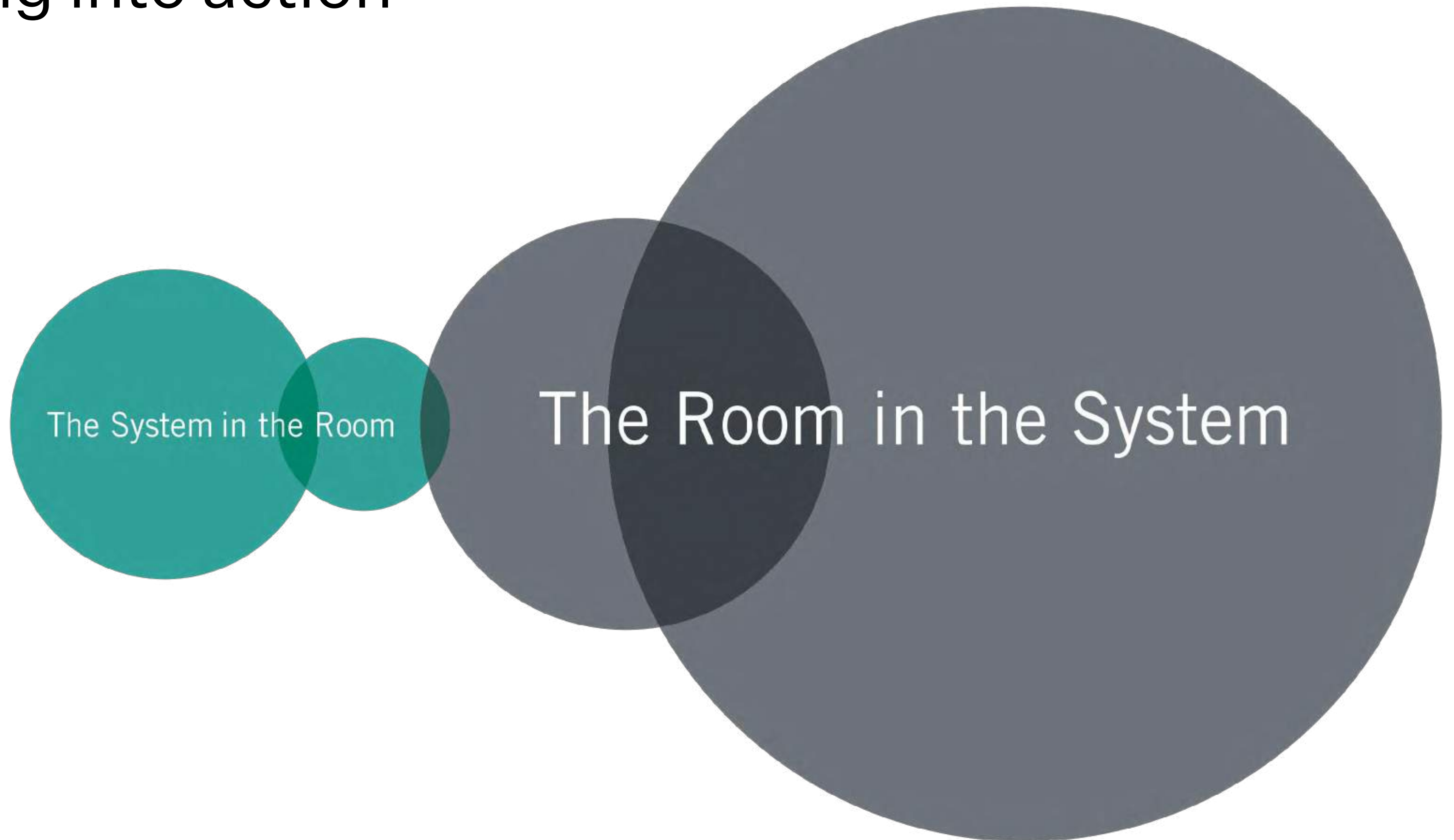


# Participative design





# Moving into action





# Prototypes



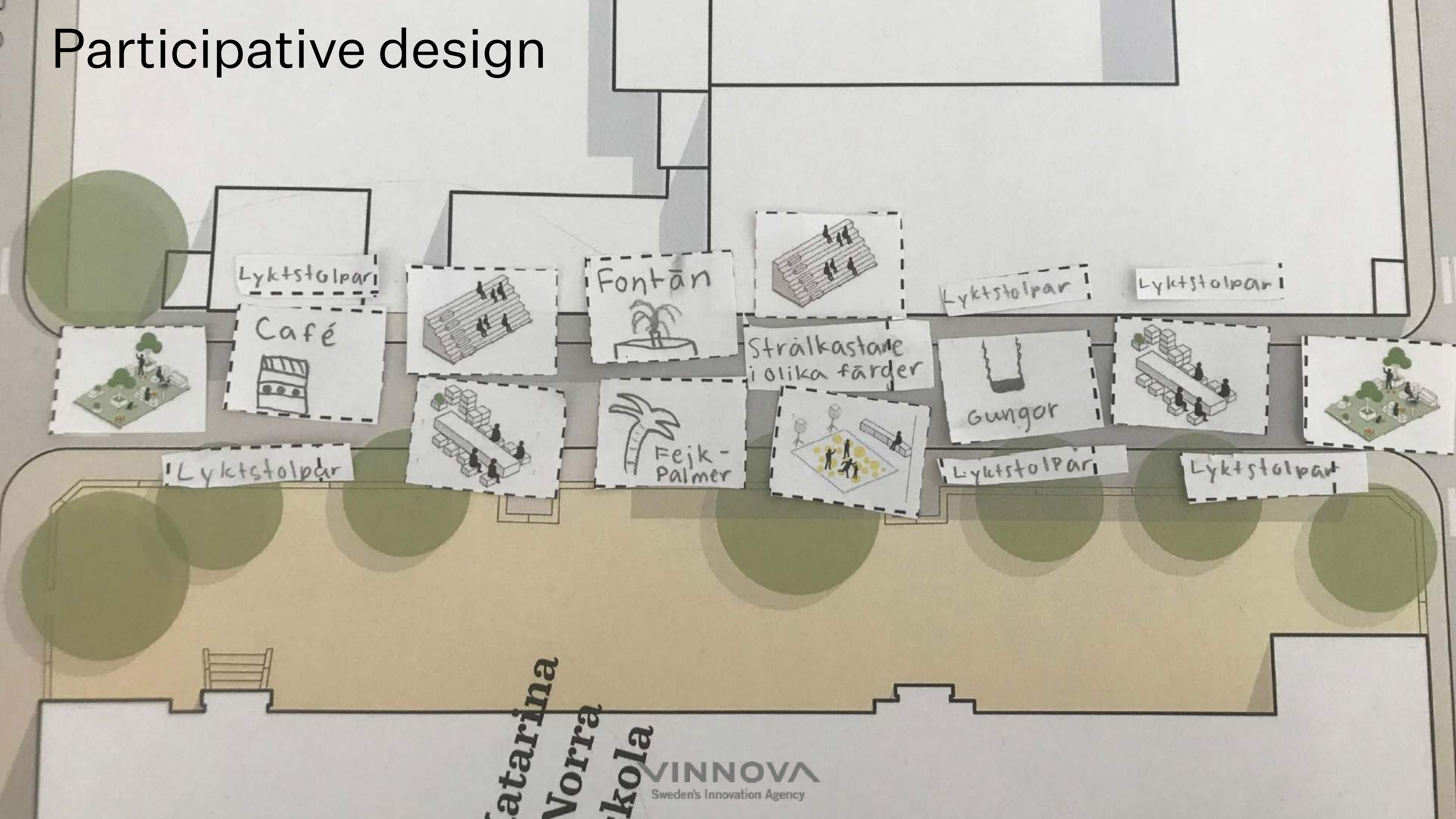


# Participative design





# Participative design

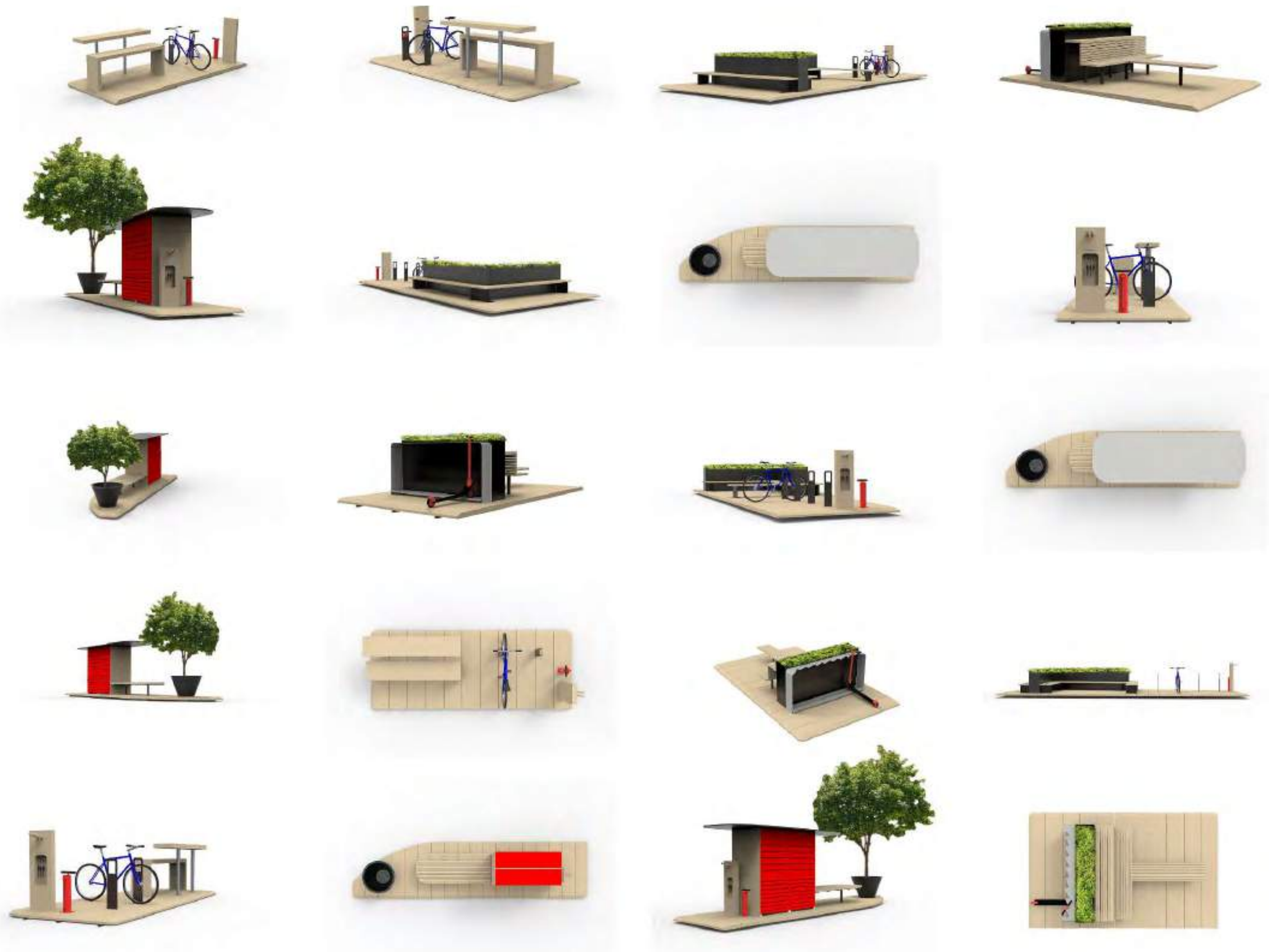
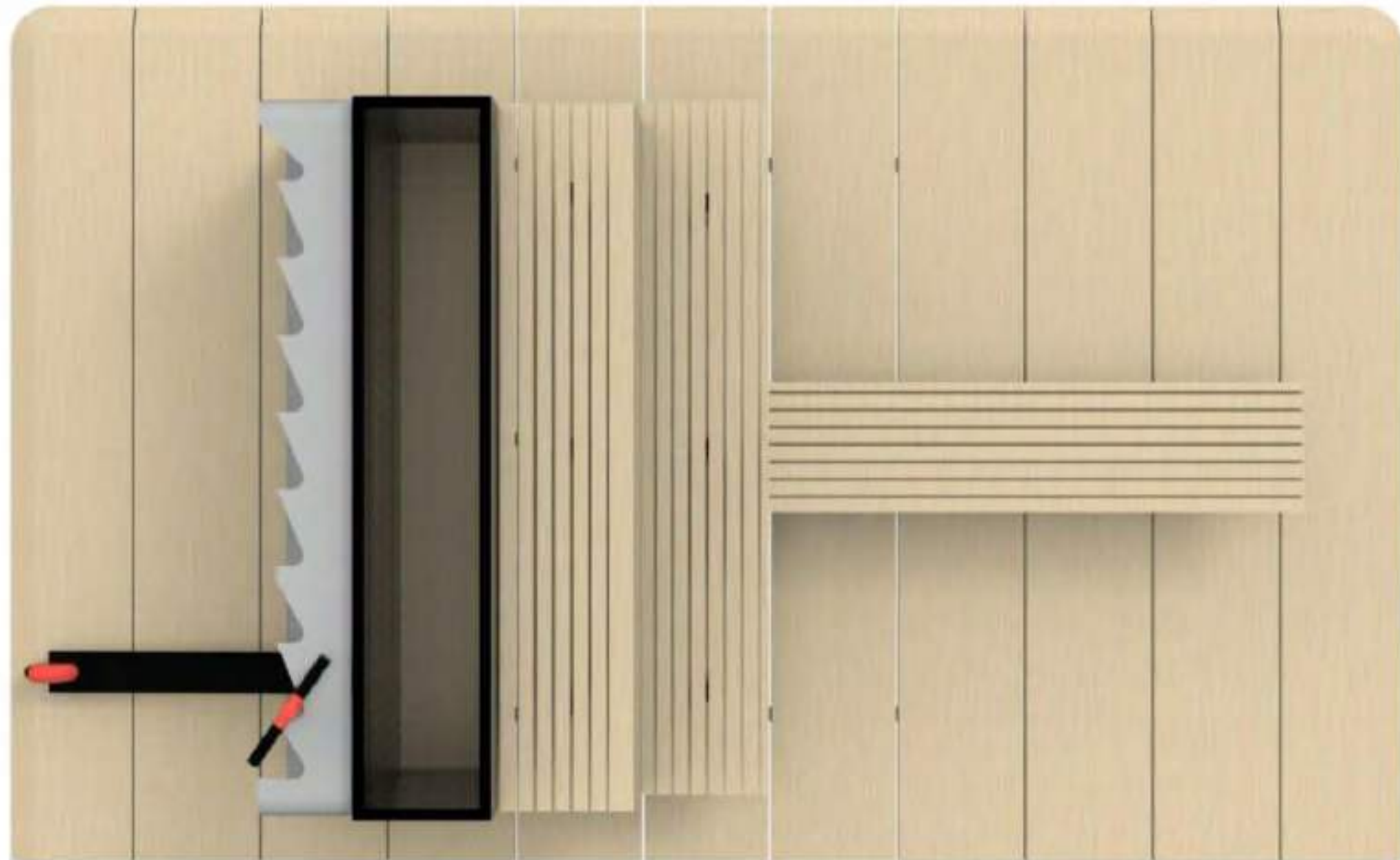


Katarina  
Norra  
Skola

VINNOVA  
Sweden's Innovation Agency



# System design



Prototypes by Lundberg Design, Vinnova, and ArkDes





Prototypes by Lundberg Design, Vinnova, and ArkDes





Välkommen in  
i experimentet!

ArkDes

→  
Gäller



# Design principles for the street

Brian Eno

Think like a gardener, not an architect: design beginnings, not endings.

Unfinished = fertile

Artists are to cities what worms are to soil.

A city's waste should be on public display.

Make places that are easy for people to change and adapt (wood and plaster, as opposed to steel and concrete.)

Places which accommodate the very young and the very old are loved by everybody else too.

Low rent = high life

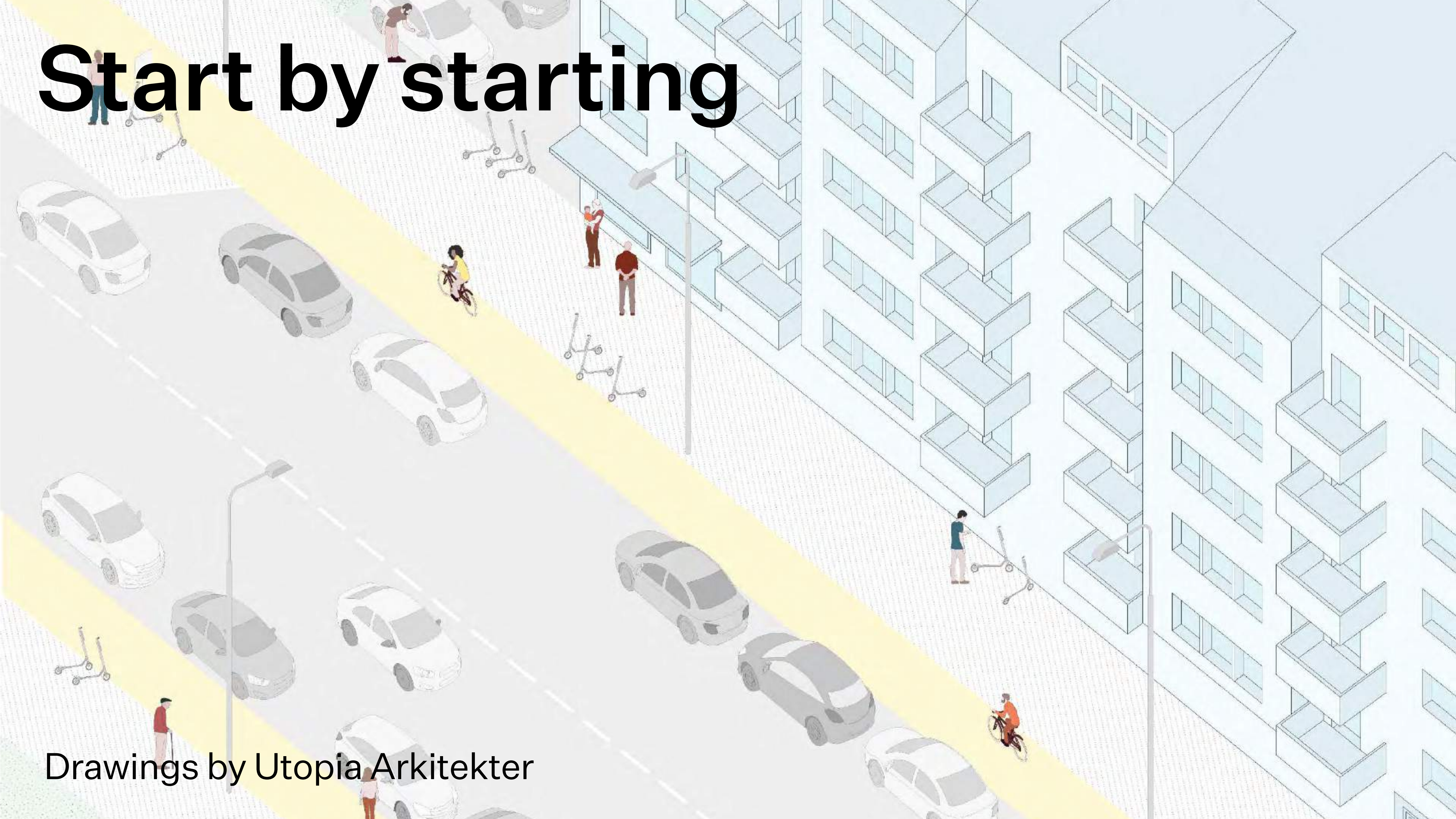
Make places for people to look at each other, to show off to each other.

Shared public space is the crucible of community.

A really smart city is the one that harnesses the intelligence and creativity of its inhabitants.



# Start by starting



Drawings by Utopia Arkitekter



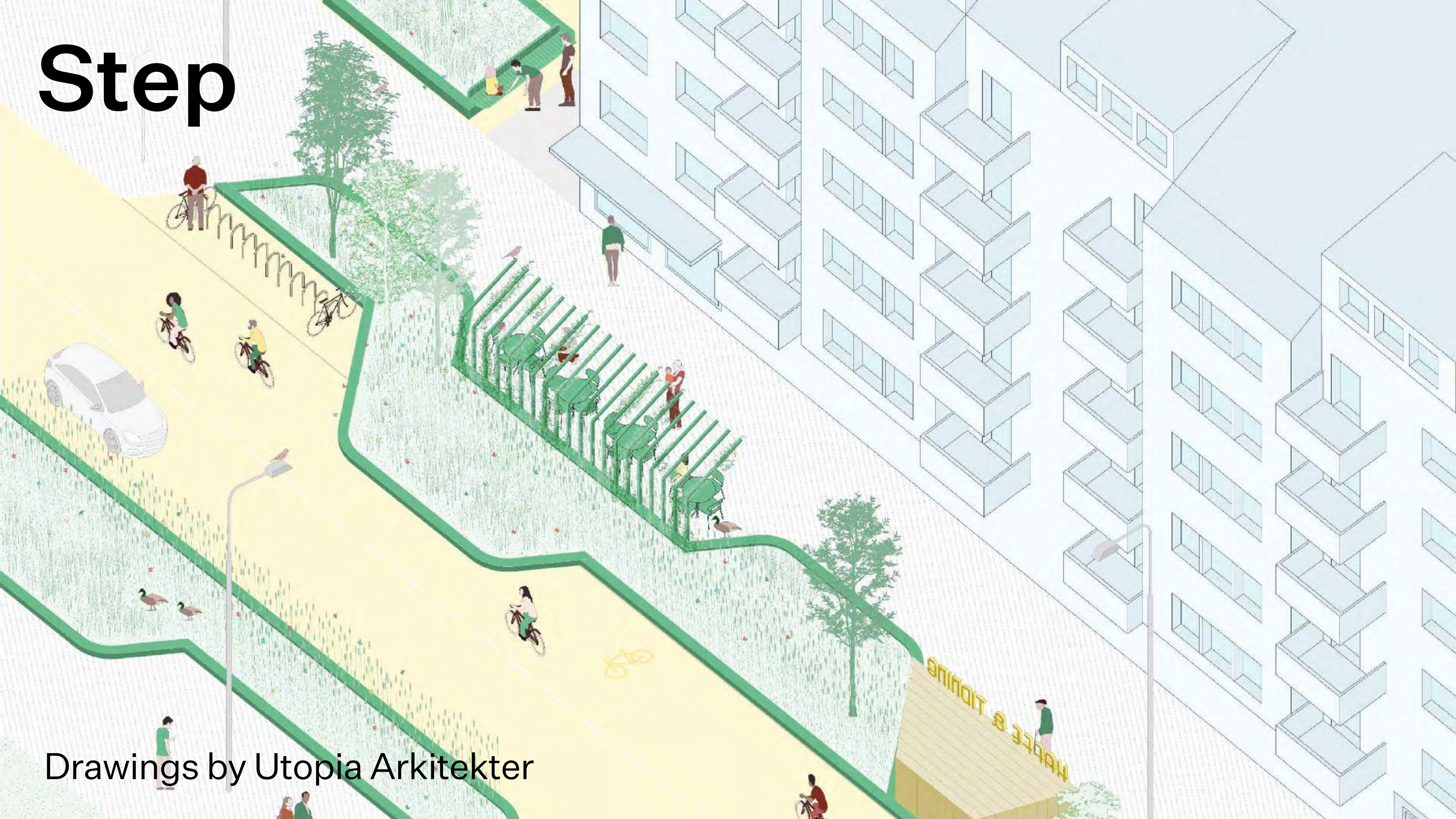
# Half-step



Drawings by Utopia Arkitekter



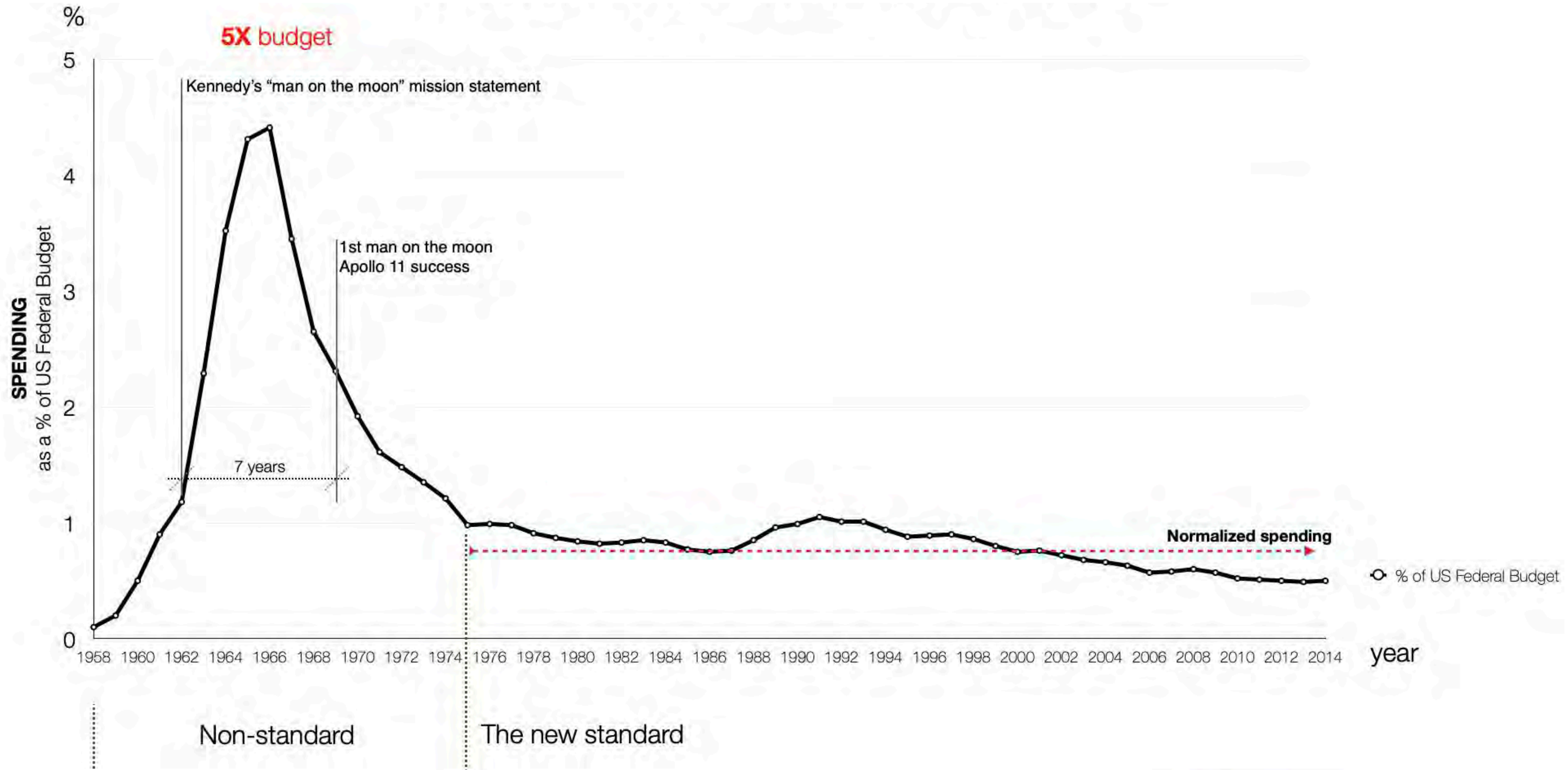
# Step



Drawings by Utopia Arkitekter



# NASA spending from its creation (1958) to 2014



Via Marco Steinberg



① Missions are continuous processes!  
Never finished — so how do we think  
about goals?

How does this affect policymaking,  
and a broader politics, framed around  
time-bound goals?



# Theory of change

AKA The science doesn't work when good policy = bad politics.

Or, it's not about figuring out the answer, and just emailing it to everyone in Sweden.

We like to talk about 'engaging the public', but many scientists really just want to talk at them. And too many ordinary scientists hold politicians in utter intellectual contempt — even though it is the scientists who have chosen a career that allows them to pursue **relatively simple problems as building a machine to detect gravitational waves) rather than genuinely difficult ones (such as running a social-care programme in a small town).**

'The elephant in the room we can't ignore', [Colin Macilwain](#), *Nature* 531, 277 (17 March 2016) (Emphasis added)

**It may be enormously more difficult to design policies to equalise educational achievement or to eliminate prejudices, than to design spacecraft to go to the moon.** For truly intractable problems the most we can expect from rational analysis is understanding which deters us from trying costly remedies that cannot work.

Richard Nelson, *The Moon and The Ghetto* (W. W. Norton & Company, 1977)

The real problem was that **a purely scientific and technological solution could not solve such problems.** There is a greater need to combine understandings of sociology, politics, economics and technology to solve these problems, as well as to make the conscious decision to point innovation towards them.

[Mariana Mazzucato](#), *Mission-oriented Research & Innovation in the European Union*, (European Commission 2018)



# Beyond analysis

News

Opinion

Sport

Culture

Lifestyle

More

World ▶ Europe US Americas Asia Australia Middle East Africa Inequality Global development

## Road safety

Peter Walker

@peterwalker99

Tue 17 Jan 2023 17:00 AEDT



Cost of living crisis is risk to UK road safety, says Halfords boss

→ Read more

## 'Motonormativity': Britons more accepting of driving-related risk

Allowance made for dangers that would not be accepted in other parts of life, finds study with potentially major policy implications



Politicians are less likely to try to tackle issues such as pollution from vehicles or poor driving, the researchers say. Photograph: Maureen McLean/Shutterstock

British people appear to have an in-built acceptance of risks and harms from motor vehicles that they would not accept in other parts of life, a study has discovered, with potentially widespread repercussions for how policy decisions are made.

Such is the cultural ubiquity of these assumptions, described by the researchers as "motonormativity", that politicians are less likely to try to tackle issues such as pollution from vehicles or poor driving, they warned.

The study took a pool of more than 2,000 people and randomly assigned them one of two sets of questions that sought their views either on a driving-related risk or a near identical query on a wider issue, with just a couple of words changed.

In one example 75% of people agreed with the statement: "People shouldn't smoke in highly populated areas where other people have to breathe in the cigarette fumes." But when just two words were changed - "people shouldn't drive in highly populated areas where other people have to breathe in the car fumes" - only 17% agreed.

Similarly, while only 37% of people thought the police needed to take action if someone left their "belongings" in the street and they were stolen, with the word changed to "car" it rose to 87%.

In another question, 61% of people agreed that risk was "a natural part of driving" whereas just 21% agreed when "driving" was changed to

Advertisement

We'll cover your home/contents against damage caused by storm.

Get a quote

Disclaimer and More Information



Home Insurance

you

## Most viewed



Jacinda Ardern resigns as prime minister of New Zealand



# Public purpose can no longer be catered for by 'predict and provide'

**A time of unprecedented change in the transport system**  
**UK Government Office for Science, January 2019**

## Transport today

As its history shows, the transport system is dynamic, constantly changing as new developments and drivers force it to adapt. This is no different today. We are currently in a period of considerable technological change, and more data about transport is being generated and collected than ever before. It is likely that the next 20 years will be a time of exciting progress.

Automation, electrification and greater connectivity will bring new opportunities, including improved road safety, health benefits, increased accessibility and environmental gains. These developments will intersect with social trends, such as increasing urbanisation and a shift towards a more sharing-based economy, further altering the ways in which we travel.

Yet these trends could potentially be disruptive as well, with some sections of society left out of the benefits. Other social trends, including the demographic changes of a growing and ageing population that particularly affect rural areas, will place further demands on the transport system. Dealing with the inherent uncertainties about what will happen adds to the complexity.

By analysing these trends and highlighting the trade-offs, the Future of Mobility project developed a range of future scenarios to help evaluate what mobility in the UK could look like in 2040. Our main finding is that transport needs to be considered as a holistic system, not as sequential or separate elements. The 'predict and provide' principle that guided transport planning between the 1950s and 1990s tended to treat modes separately, but this will no longer suffice.

New technologies create a window of opportunity to move towards a more integrated, UK-wide transport policy. For users of our transport system, multi-modal travel is likely to grow in importance as new options become embedded, such as autonomous and shared transport. Users want seamless end-to-end journeys, and an integrated approach helps to plan for this. There are also economic opportunities. Today, 2.54 million people – 8% of the UK's total workforce – work in transport logistics, with the annual turnover for the UK logistics sector being £1,000 billion (Freight Transport Association, 2017).



“People don't necessarily want to own a car, but they want the mobility, the freedom to move ... In big cities, the private car is not a very practical concept. Maybe it's time for a new concept but I don't think the private car can solve that really —probably more biking or walking...Essentially, we initiate a project that intends to limit the number of cars in the city— which is fully in line with our company’s purpose.”

Håkan Samuelsson CEO Volvo Cars





② Do we have respect for the true complexity of social innovation within our research and innovation cultures?

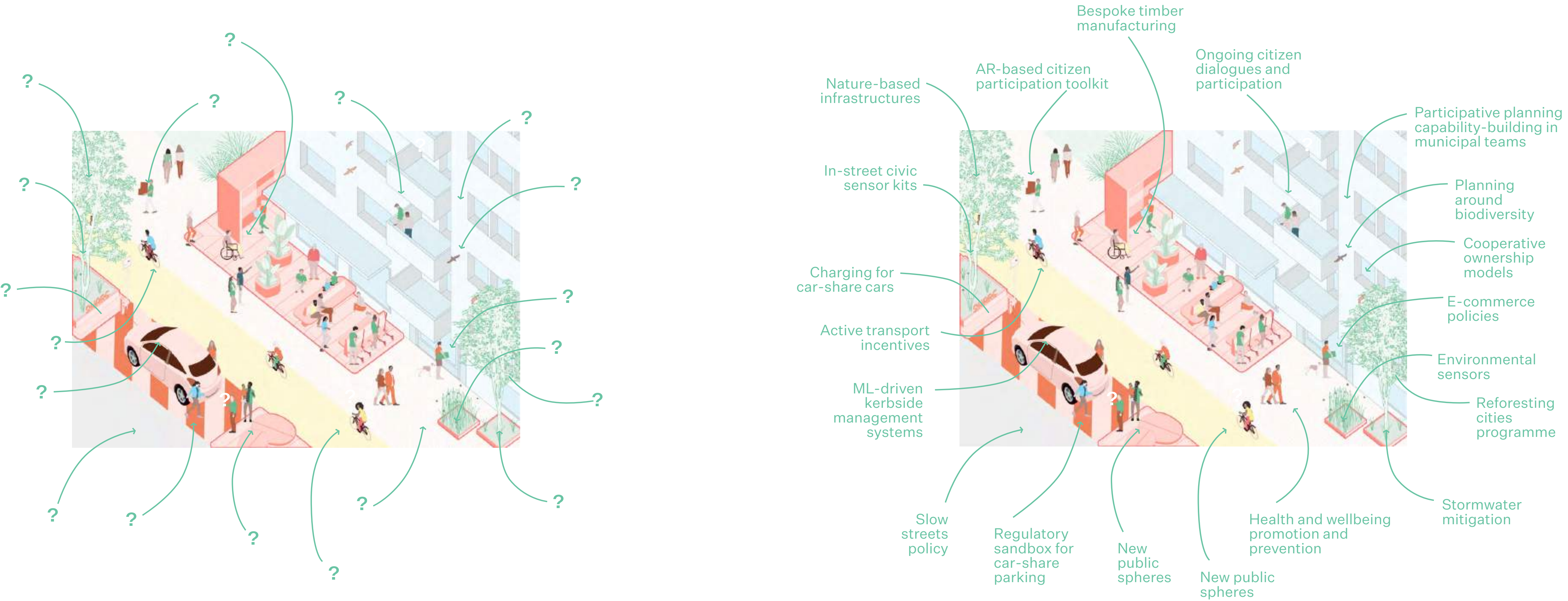
How do we move from *'predict-and-provide'* to *'decide-and-provide'*?

What capabilities do we need given the recognition that *'social license'* is cultivated, not innate? (And indeed, what about *'environmental license'*?)



# A platform for asking questions in public

*Forces us to ask, who decides what about what?*





# Prototyping

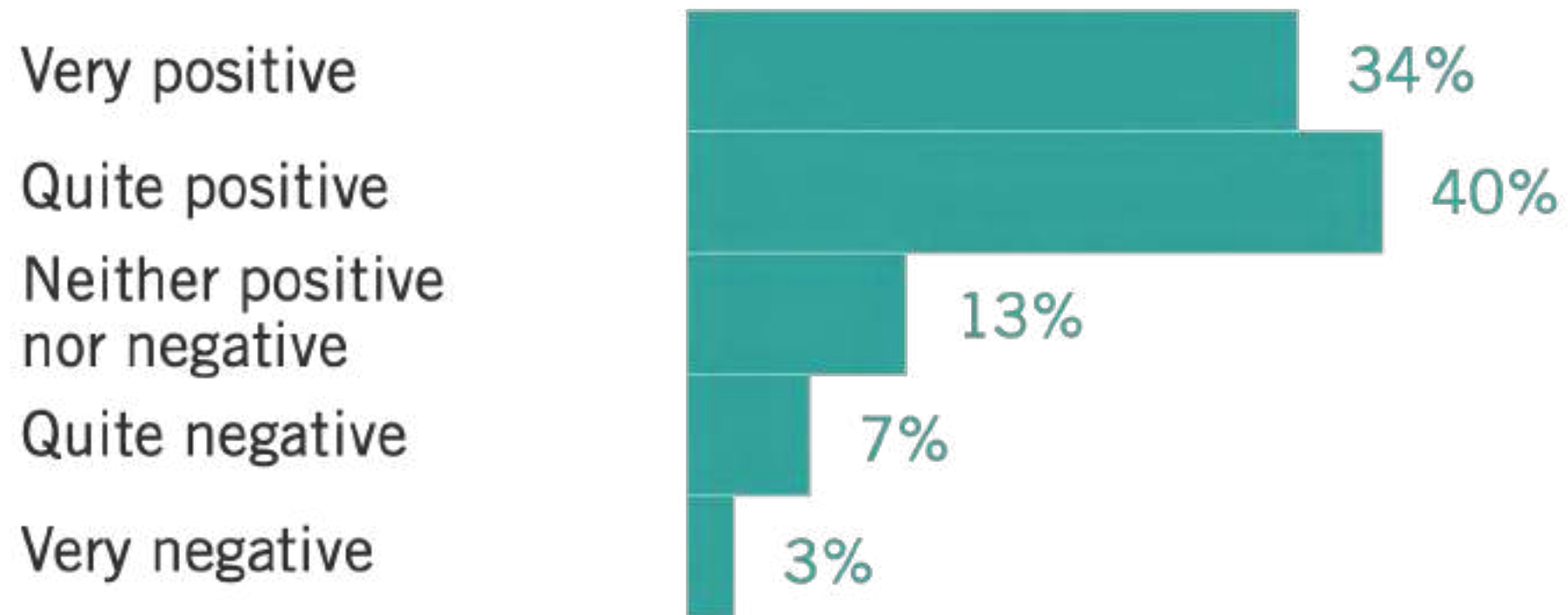
## Follow-on research

As part of the evaluation of the first prototypes in Stockholm, ArkDes commissioned Novus, a research company, to conduct in-street surveys providing qualitative feedback from residents and users of the streets.



## Overall feedback of the prototype core idea

*How do you see the idea of placing mobility hubs, similar to the one you can see in front of you, on different streets in the city?*

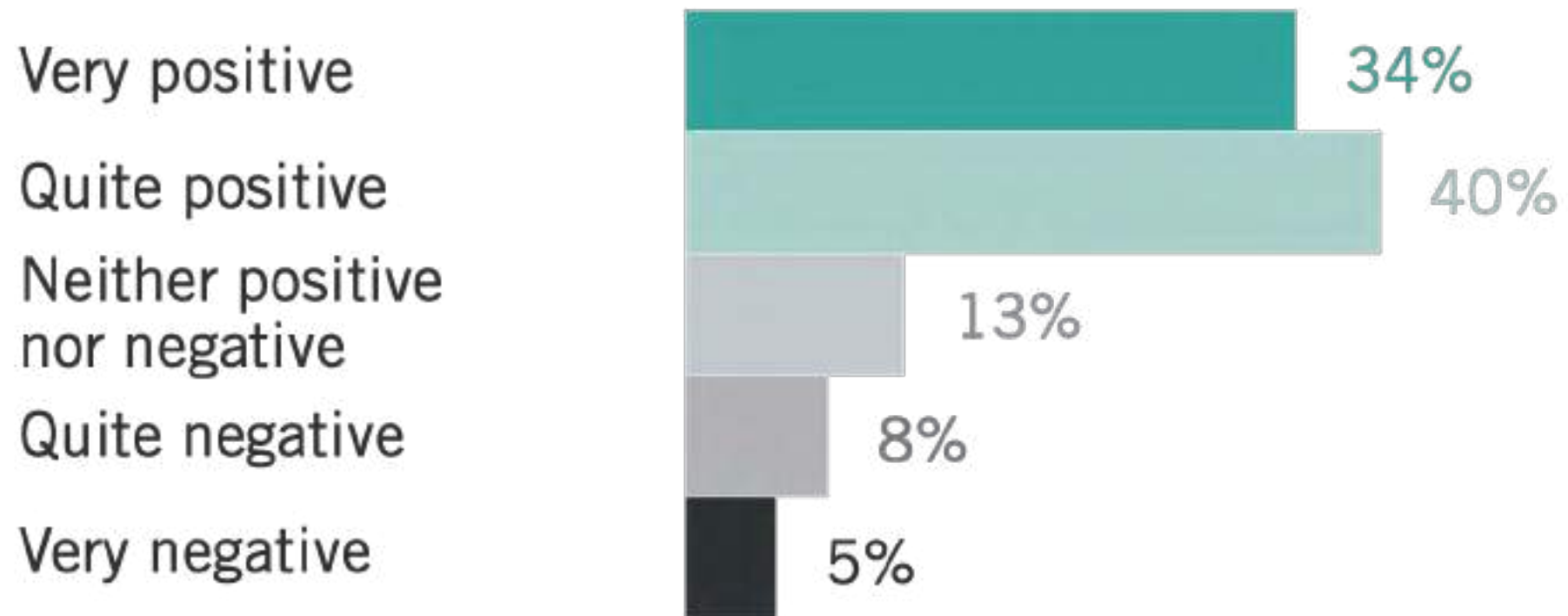


*If you are positive, what is it that you like?*



## Hälsingegatan

*How do you see the idea of placing mobility hubs, similar to the one you can see in front of you, on different streets in the city?*



*If you are positive, what is it that you like?*









# Biodiversity

3 Increase in natural sounds in urban greenery leading to increase in mental health

3 5 Increase in residential greenery leading to increase in birthweight

3 Increase in birdsong leading to improved recuperation from sickness

3 Increase in bird species diversity leading to increase in life satisfaction

14 Reduction in motor vehicle use and decrease in microplastics in seas and oceans

3 Decrease in road traffic noise and increase in birdsong leading to increase in mental health

11 13 15 Increase in local biodiversity leading to decrease in urban heat island effect

3 Increase in nearby green spaces leading to increase in walking maintenance

3 Increase in active travel leading to increase in mental and physical health and wellbeing

# Prop

8 9 10 Increase in property value (if desired) of walkable environment

3 10 16 Increase in mental and physical wellbeing leading to reduction in healthcare costs

3 11 13 Increase in local biodiversity, leading to increased air quality, decreased noise

3 Increase in air quality leading to increase in mental health

3 Decrease in urban heat island effect leading to decrease in early deaths

3 12 13 15 Increase in community gardening leading to increase in mental and physical health and wellbeing

8 9 11 12 13 Increased environmental outcomes via shared electric mobility infrastructure

# Physical

3 Greener play areas boost children's immune systems

3 Increase in immunity against

# Environment

3 11 13 Increase in sustained connection to nature leading to associated benefits to happiness,

5 Decrease in domestic violence due to nearby natural landscapes

3 11



① What kind of evaluation process unlocks this form of value model?



# Platform strategy

## Place layers

Skills, capabilities, and cultures

## In the Street mission

Physical, digital, and social interventions in streets in Stockholm, Helsingborg, and Umeå, within a wider network of nine municipalities coordinated by Viable Cities.

## Place-based collaborators

ArkDes, Stockholms stad; Helsingborg stad; Umeå stad; Umeå Region; planning and health departments; Voi; Volvo M

## System layers

Skills, capabilities, and cultures

## In the Street mission

Urban design/architecture; IoT, data science; user experience; micromobility, transport, and logistics; place-based governance; participative democracy; microeconomics; health and wellbeing;

## System collaborators

ArkDes; Rådet för hållbara städer; Boverket; Volvo M; Spacescape; Stockholm Region

Standards and guidelines

Interoperable mobility standards, street furniture design guidelines, health and safety guidelines for micromobility, civic IoT privacy guidelines, street design guidelines and best practice, accessibility standards

Municipal traffic departments in Stockholm, Helsingborg, Umeå Region; Voi; Volvo M; Lundberg Design; Spacescape

Data, code, and services

Micromobility data standards; Real-time kerbside management systems; 'digital twins'; Internet of Things kits; environmental sensor

Stockholms stad; Helsingborg stad; Umeå stad; Umeå Region; Volvo M; Ericsson One; Vinnova; RISE

Financing

New value models, with 'total value budgeting' based on public health and wellbeing savings, environmental benefits, maintenance benefits; place-based system demonstrator innovation funding

Stockholms stad; Helsingborg stad; Umeå stad; Umeå Region; Climate-KIC

Policy

Parking space policy; street planning policy; local real estate policy; participative design and planning policy; smart city policy; arts and culture policy; licensing policies

ArkDes; Rådet för hållbara städer; Boverket; Volvo M; RISE; Stockholm Region

Law

Parking space law, traffic speed limits, vehicle definitions, municipal and regional governance and financing law

Transportstyrelsen (national regulatory authority)



# Culture: Civic, cared-for, well-designed, adaptive



**Regulation: No on-street parking since 1965, for ex.**



# Cosplaying the possible organisation

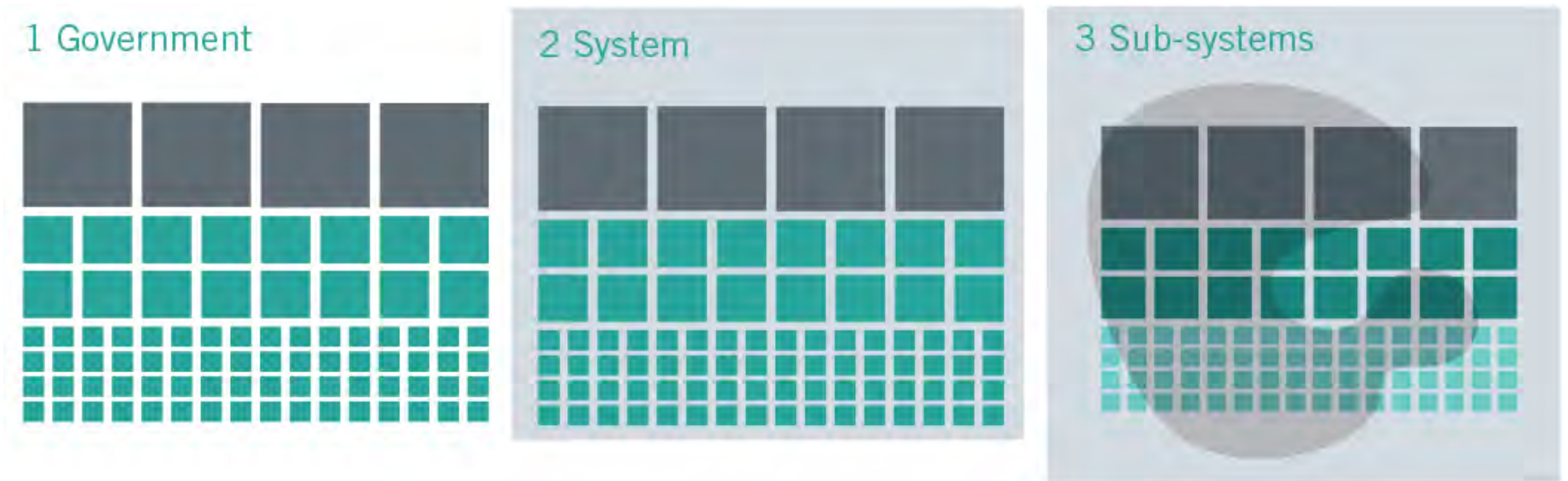




Cement between the bricks

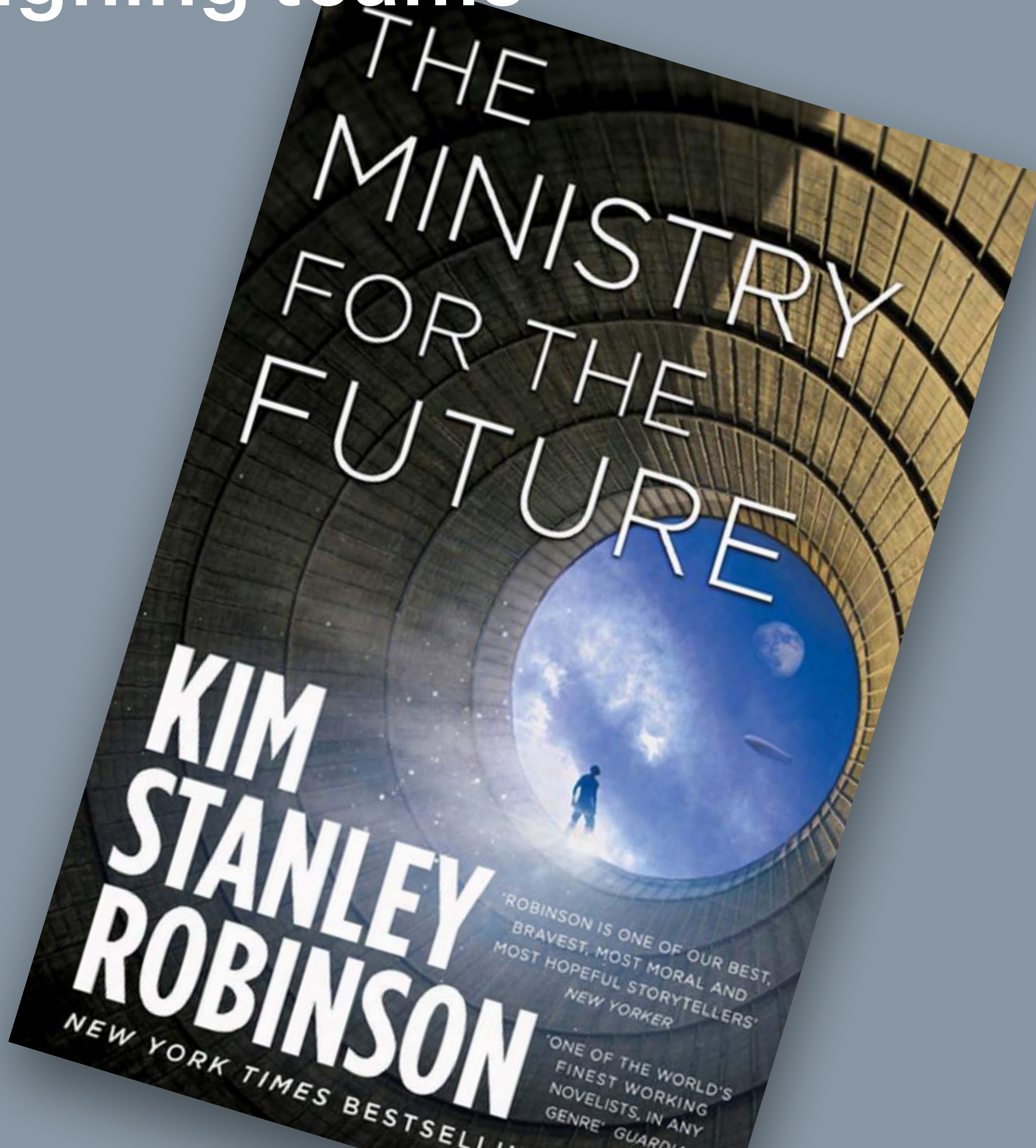
*Or, an organisation for the gaps*

*Or, working in the shape of the system itself*





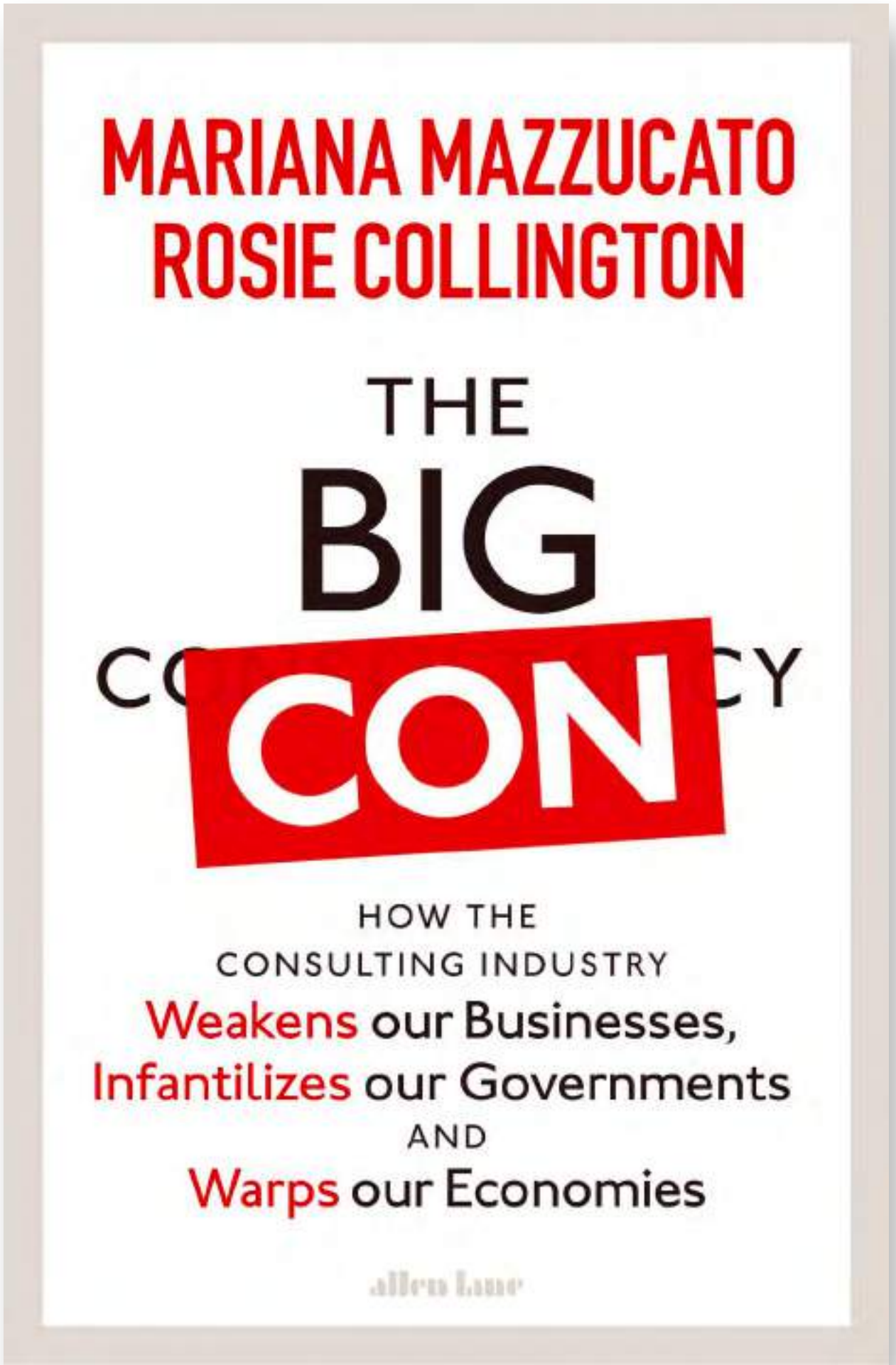
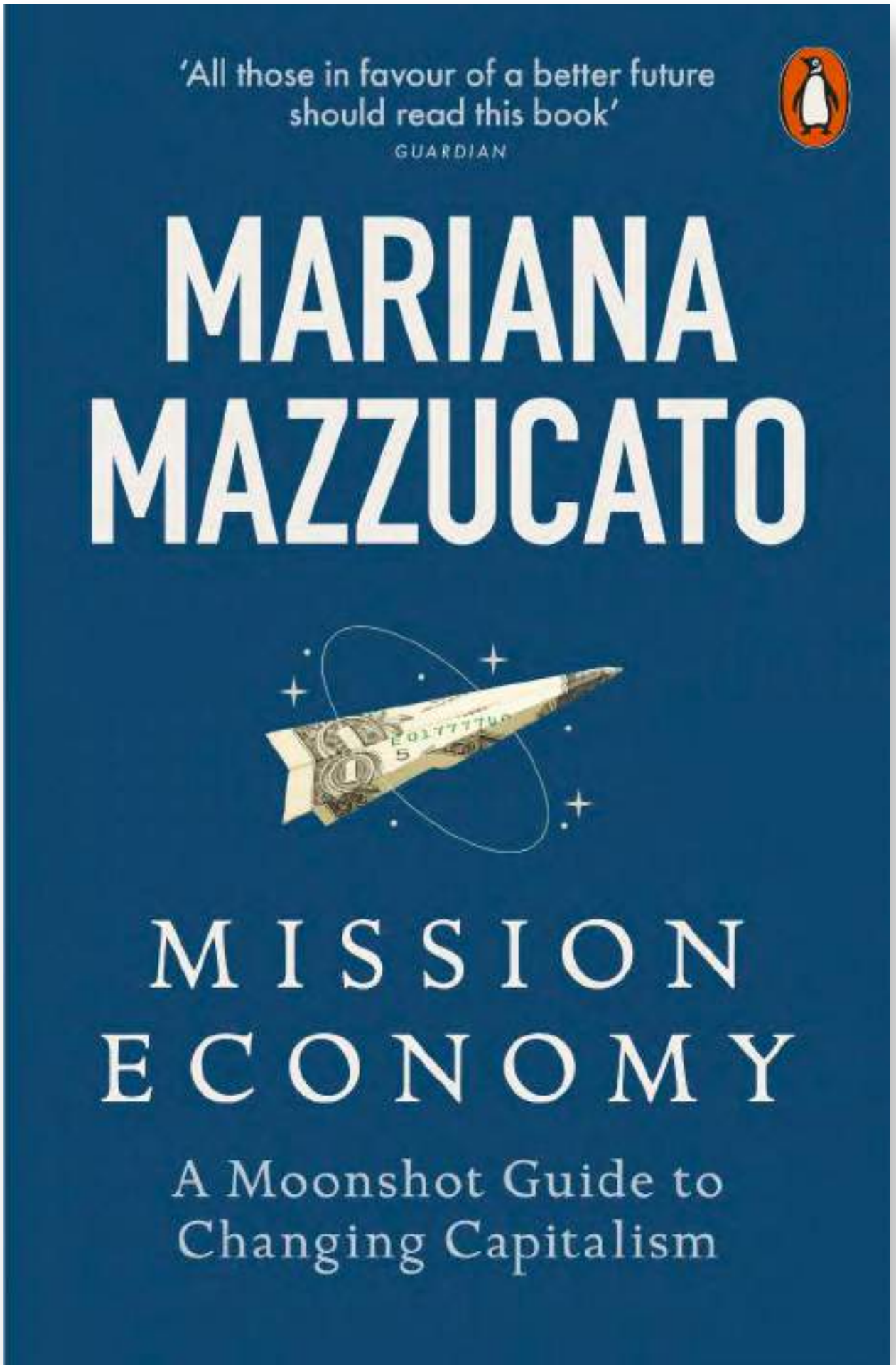
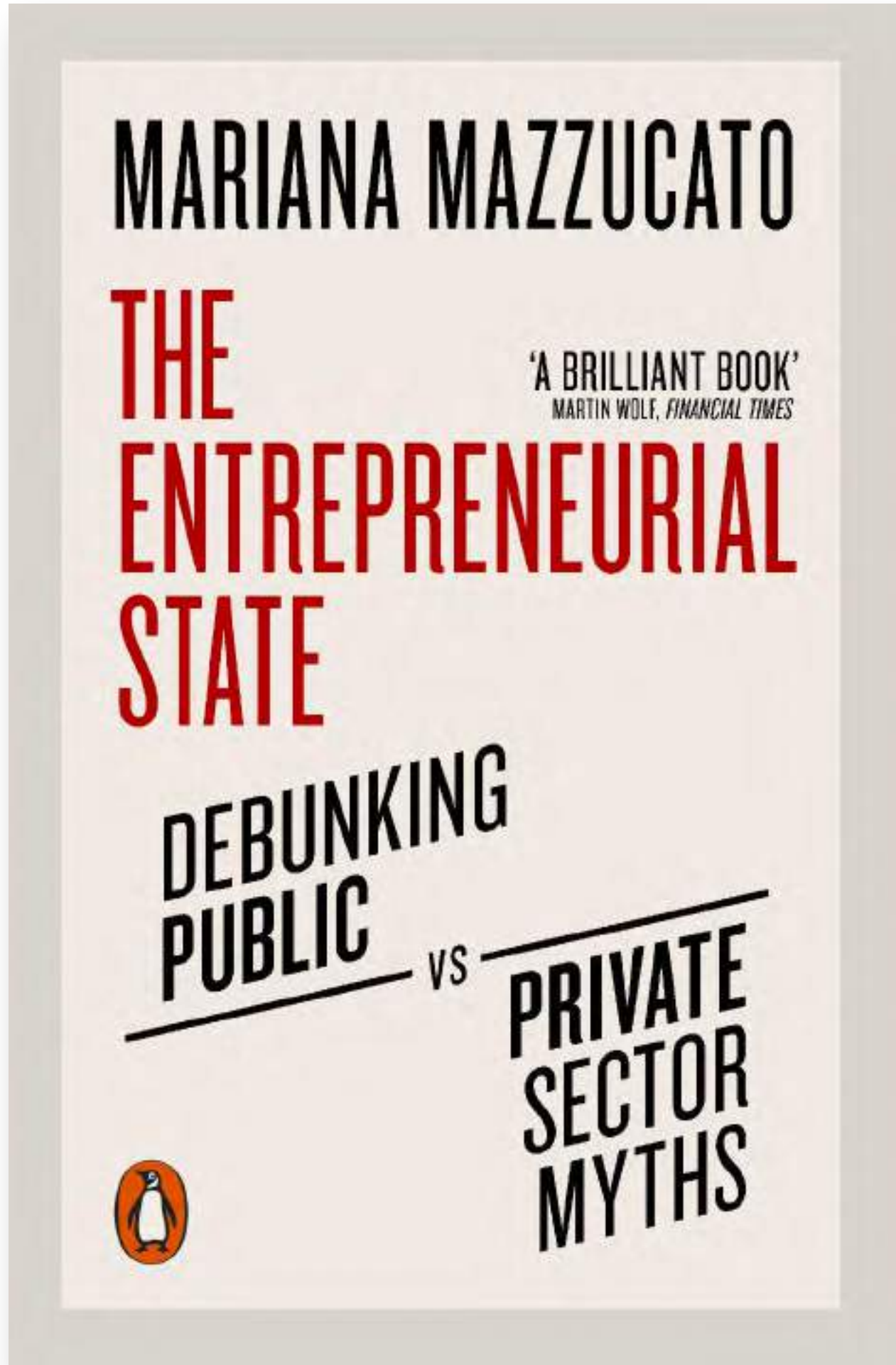
# Designing teams



- Leader (ex- lawyer, ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs)
- Legal
- Infrastructure (ex-oil company)
- Climate science (glaciologist)
- Ecologist (migration and adaptation)
- Ecologist (biosphere studies, habitat restoration)
- Ecologist (oceans)
- Agriculture
- Geoengineering
- Insurance
- Economist (taxes and political economy)
- AI/Internet
- Refugees
- Indigenous peoples



# The return of public purpose





‘Don’t privatise railways; don’t nationalise sandwiches’



After Tony Judt



① The private sector can't do the public sector's job. Is this discussed enough?

Equally, how do we bring together public, private and third sector, in deep collaboration?



# Curating attention via The One-minute City



Collaborators in the mission team—in this case Volvo M—also used their publicity muscle around the project.



Following the design principles (Tangible), do not talk about something before one has something to talk about. The mission is not announced during 2019. The first media starts emerging in the Swedish press, from both Framtidsgator and Street Moves projects, only in August and September 2020, to promote the launch of the first retrofitted street. This makes the resulting discussion more meaningful, by pinning it around an experience that many people can actually visit.



The mission was picked by the European Commission programme EIT Urban Mobility, which featured both Framtidsgator and Street Moves projects on its YouTube channel. These videos do not get many views, but they help—and also provide useful assets for presentations. Video is the key media for missions.

The trigger for most media attention, however, was an in-depth feature in *Bloomberg CityLab*. Vinnova project team member pitched a journalist contact at *Bloomberg* in October 2020, and the story finally emerged in early January 2021. This coverage was not only high-profile; it also lent the project credibility with key audiences, stimulating much of the attention that followed. A key addition here is the creation of a clear and topical hook—the *'One-Minute City'*, riffing off Paris's 15 Minute City. This helped land the story with the journalist, and fuel its dissemination. The story also featured ArkDes director, spreading the attention across the mission's multiple partners. It is also essential to open up the projects to critical discourse, given a mission's likely complexity.



The *Bloomberg* article leads to *The Guardian* picking it up, which is crucial, as this moves it into more mainstream US media. An hour-long conversation with a Malmö-based 'stringer' leads to a February 2021 article foregrounding the Gothenburg prototype.



Images of the prototypes began to spread rapidly across social media. As well as media created by mission teams, the prototypes being situated in everyday life means, of course, that people can make their own media, their own discourse.

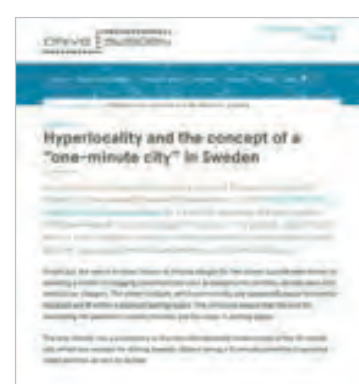


Also following the publication at *Bloomberg CityLab*, as well as further discussion of the One Minute City thinking behind the project outlined on a team member Dan Hill's personal blog at Medium, *Fast Company* write an expansive feature, locating the project under 'World-Changing Ideas'. This helps make the case that the mission is taking an innovative approach, a case that still needs to be made in the context of innovation policy environments that are typically attuned to the lab rather than the street. *Fast Company* picking it up also implicitly suggests the project's business value, as well its social and cultural aspects.

Good quality photos, drawings and video are necessary to feed media outlets, trigger social media reaction, and communicate the essence of the project. Visualisations commissioned from Utopia Arkitekter were key to describing the mission trajectory, whilst ArkDes produced several videos designed for the internet. A short documentary-style feature captures project team/Mission board members talking about the project, whereas other short in situ clips, formatted for social media, helped capture and convey user reactions to the prototypes.



Ideas for Good, Japan, January 2021



Ultimately the discussion returns to Sweden. Technology aspects are picked up in related innovation programmes *Drive Sweden* and *Smart City Sweden*.



Architectural Digest, Mexico, February 2021



Built environment and urban development aspects are discussed by the likes of *Hållbart Samhällsbyggande* (sustainable society-building) and the *Ecowatch* website.



World Economic Forum, February 2021



The project also appeals to Swedish tourism websites.







① What skills do we need for this?

How does this relate to *'decide-and-provide'*?

How might working with public discourse speed missions up, make them more effective, or equitable?





Now engaging  
approximately 25  
municipalities  
across Sweden

Gothenburg prototypes

LundbergD



Also,  
Normandy



Also,  
San José



## Make our streets healthy, sustainable and full of life.

Street Moves is a solution to a larger national mission of driving the transformation of our street environments. By utilizing temporary interactive solutions designed to address the specific needs of each street, municipalities or residents can create space for play, gardening, outdoor fitness, social hubs, or anything else that brings the street to life.