

Partners' presentation

***SLU – Swedish University of  
Agricultural Sciences  
Department of Urban and Rural Development***

***Open days; commercial local urban districts' project (CLUD), 7 FP MARIE CURIE IRSES  
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# *Department of Urban and Rural Development*

1. For information on the department, see <http://www.slu.se/en/faculties/nl/about-the-faculty/departments/urd/about/>
2. The department encompasses the Division of Landscape Architecture, Division of Rural Development, Division of Environmental Communication, the Swedish EIA Centre and the Swedish Centre for Nature Interpretation
3. The staff consists of altogether some 120 persons (7 full professors)

# Research related to CLUD

1. Local economy concerning land related economic sectors: food, building, transport and energy: See Bengs, C: *Local economy* (paper); Bengs, C. et al, 2011: Paikallistalous kolmessa seutukaupungissa (local economy in three towns), from Eskelinen (ed.): *Seutukaupungit aluerakenteessa ja sektoripolitiikassa*, p. 66-87
2. Urban-rural interaction in spatial planning: See Bengs, C. & Schmidt-Thomé, K. 2004. *Urban-Rural Relations in Europe*.  
[http://www.espon.eu/main/Menu\\_Projects/Menu\\_ESPON2006Projects/Menu\\_ThematicProjects/urbanrural.html](http://www.espon.eu/main/Menu_Projects/Menu_ESPON2006Projects/Menu_ThematicProjects/urbanrural.html)
3. To what extent do Swedish municipalities work with urban-rural interactions in a **localisation perspective**. Localisation concerns the transition of municipalities to sustainable modes of production, distribution, and the consumption of goods and services. Research in urban-rural interactions in a localisation perspective with regard to comprehensive planning, climate work, climate strategies, energy plans and food strategies. See Granvik, M. 2009. *National study on Swedish municipalities interest in locally grown food*; Granvik, M. 2009. *A text analytic study on 45 Swedish Climate municipalities regarding localisation processes in food and energy*; Granvik, M. 2011. *A national survey on the role of rural areas in spatial planning with focus on agricultural land, local energy production and co-operation between different planning levels*. Ministry of Rural Affairs; Granvik, M. & Hallberg, I. 2011. *A study of the Counties of Stockholm and Uppsala regarding the food sector with focus on locally produced food*.
4. A series of studies concerning wind power and planning. Ulf Sandström, Christer Bengs
5. Research on planning and sustainable development. Per Berg, Madeleine Granvik, Christer Bengs

# *Survey on Swedish municipalities interest in localisation*

- 75% (218) of the 290 municipalities were asked: 52% of these worked actively in practice to support locally produced food.
- 12% had a policy regarding local food, 38% procurement of local food, 31% communication efforts targeting local producers and 8% logistics – local distribution systems.
- Localisation energy: Local Climate Strategies and Energy Plans in 45 municipalities show that localisation of energy is common – wind power, bio gas, solar energy, energy crops etc. Goals were fossil fuel free municipality within a period of 15 years and the increase of locally produced renewable energy.
- Spatial planning and arable land: How do Swedish municipalities handle the issue on exploitation versus conservation of arable land? Have municipalities designed a policy with the intention to protect arable land? How important do municipalities consider preservation of arable land to be, and the reasons for that. What factors are important for the value of arable land?
- National survey (160 municipalities): 59% considered it being very important/important to preserve arable land. The most important factors for the value of arable land were food production and to support agricultural enterprises. Exploit for housing and infrastructure was not nearly as important as a factor.

# *Locally produced food*

## *- the Counties of Stockholm and Uppsala*

- Stockholm and Uppsala is a food cluster, and are populated by 25% of the Swedish population.
- 10% employed in the food chain
- Farm shops: 28 in Stockholm County, 22 in Uppsala County
- Farmers' market, farmers primary- and processed products (250 km radius = locally produced) in Uppsala, Sala and Stockholm (Södermalm and Östermalm).
- Other trading: subscription systems of food from farms, online stores, groceries, etc.
- The greatest interest in local foods in the categories meat, vegetables, potatoes, eggs and bread.
- 40% of merchants believe that it is profitable to offer local products and an equal number believe that the demand will increase
- Most are reluctant to producers' business skills and believes that there are problems concerning supply and logistics.
- Wholesalers themselves actively search for local producers, print and distribute information and organise activities for producers and restaurateurs to meet.

# Public-private partnership

*a cooperation between SLU and Maria Mårtensson, Mälardalen University*

- **The Social Contract** is a co-operation between the Mälardalen University and the municipalities of Västerås and Eskilstuna.
- The Social contract focusing on schools, social services and the workforce of tomorrow - for the region's best!
- The vision of the Social contract is to constitute a strong region, which creates value for individuals, organisations and companies through **active learning** in an innovative trusting interplay.

