



GROWING TOGETHER

creating a sustainable future through food

SÖDERTÄLJE AGRI-URBAN INTEGRATED ACTION PLAN



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

URBACT
Driving change for
better cities



**Södertälje
kommun**

“Among the basic essentials for life — air, water, shelter and food — planners have traditionally addressed them all with the conspicuous exception of *food*.”

– Kevin Morgan.

(2009) Feeding the City: The Challenge of Urban Food Planning.
International Planning Studies 14:4, pp. 341–348.

Eko-odlarna i Telge grow organic vegetables on marginal land between the commuter train and a medicine factory. Image: Fredrik Sederholm





Södertälje Transnational Conference, May 2017. Foto: Fredrik Sederholm

A message from our political leadership

Food connects us all to our city, our land and our future.

As Södertälje looks to the future, it is our commitment to sustainability that will guide us. From our decades long history of local organic and biodynamic farming practices in Järna, to sustainable technical production in the city centre, from the organic meals served in our schools to the ecosystem services that sustain our landscapes, from solar panels and green roofs to pollinator friendly parks, Södertälje has the potential to become a municipality permeated by sustainability.

Here in Södertälje municipality we have worked with public food as a tool for sustainable development for nearly two decades. We have achieved many milestones, but know we have a lot more work to do. By participating in AGRI-URBAN, we have been inspired by good practices from our partner cities, shared our knowledge and expertise and created a strong plan for the future.

This integrated action plan presents concrete actions - some of which are already in place, coupled with long term strategic visions for the future. represents the culmination of two years of exchange and learning, inspiration and innovation.

Our vision is that Södertälje will become a regional node for sustainable food production, consumption, research, planning and innovation. Södertälje municipality is a pioneer for sustainable food systems, and we will continue to share our knowledge with other cities. In doing so we can grow a sustainable future with a thriving local economy, high quality of life and diverse, beautiful landscapes to enjoy.

It is time to get to work.

Contents

1. Introduction	10
2. Södertälje & AGRI-URBAN	14
3. Local Policy Context	16
4. Local Project Context	20
5. Södertälje Urbact Local Group	22
6. Local Challenges & Policy Focus Areas	24
7. Vision & Local Change	26
8. Södertälje AGRI-URBAN Actions	28
9. Process of building the IAP	50
10. Financial Resources	52
11. How food connects all the SDGs	54
12. The future...	56





Some quick facts...



URBACT

URBACT

The URBACT programme is the European Territorial Cooperation programme that aims to foster sustainable integrated urban development in cities across Europe. URBACT's mission is to enable cities to work together and develop integrated solutions to common urban challenges, by networking, learning from one another's experiences, drawing lessons and identifying good practices to improve urban policies.

AGRI-URBAN

AGRI-URBAN is an action planning network within the URBACT programme. The network consists of 11 European cities working towards sustainable food systems. The cities are:

Baena - Spain (Lead Partner)

Fundão - Portugal

Monmouthshire County Council - United Kingdom

LAG Pays des Condruces - Belgium

Södertälje - Sweden

Jelgava LM - Latvia

Petrinja - Croatia

Pyli - Greece

Cesena - Italy

Mouans-Sartoux - France

Mollet Del Vallès - Spain



SÖDERTÄLJE

URBACT LOCAL GROUP (ULG)

Every city partner in an URBACT network is required to set up an URBACT Local Support Group (ULG). The main objective of the ULG is to gather relevant stakeholders and bring together different perspectives in order to frame problems and design concrete actions related to the focus themes. Södertäljes ULG has focused strongly on the link between food systems and urban development.

INTEGRATED ACTION PLAN (IAP)

Each city partner in an URBACT network is required to develop an Integrated Action Plan. The IAP is not an administrative exercise, it is a strategic tool that combines short term actions with long term visions in response to the themes of the network. Each IAP is unique, in terms of local context, theme and coverage.

BUDGET – ACTION PLANNING NETWORKS

Action-planning networks budgets are reserved for learning, exchange and planning activities, not investment purposes.

Södertälje AGRI-URBAN budget - 59 165.00 €

URBACT Contribution (70%) - 41 150.50 €

SÖDERTÄLJE Contribution (30%) - 17 749.50 €

If you only have time to read one page

Acknowledging that many of us read in different ways & most of us have less time for reading than we would like, this page offers a an abbreviated path through this integrated action plan (IAP).

This IAP documents Södertälje municipality's two year journey as a partner city within the URBACT AGRI-URBAN project. The central focus for AGRI-URBAN is re-thinking agri-food production in small and medium sized European cities. In the case of Södertälje, with long experience working with the public plate, wide municipal ownership of agricultural land, history of organic and biodynamic farming, unique range of educational institutions in farming and gardening, and current rapid urban growth, we have explored this theme primarily through an 'urban food planning' perspective.

The aim of this IAP is to highlight short term actions that can be implemented in conjunction with Södertälje's long term goals - to create a deliberate, phased approach that combines the urgency of the now with the potential of the future. *How can we integrate urban development and increase local food production? How can we create jobs and strengthen the green economies through innovative municipal initiatives? How can we work with integration and job-training? How can we ensure a sustainable local food supply for the future? How do we grow and build a sustainable future together?*

If you would like to know more about Södertälje's journey thus far, start with chapters 1-4. If you are familiar with the history, or just want to focus on the actions described in this IAP, jump over to the ACTION PLANNING section. For more information about the process behind building this IAP, start with chapter 6.

For a holistic understanding of food in Södertälje, this IAP should be read in conjunction with multiple other strategic documents - *Comprehensive Plan, Farming Strategy, Structural Plan, Development Plan, Pollination Plan, Food System Strategy etc.*

This document is a seed for a sustainable future. A plan that is set to grow, evolve and adapt as we move towards a sustainable and resilient future for Södertälje.

You should only plant a seed where it will grow. Södertälje has all the conditions needed to help this seed for a sustainable food system grow and thrive.



READ ME!

THE FOCUS OF THIS INTEGRATED ACTION PLAN IS...

- To inspire Södertälje municipality and its citizens to grow a sustainable future together through food.
- To provide reference information and inspiration to other strategic documents within Södertälje municipality. (With specific focus on the **Farming Strategy, Structural Plans, Development Plan, Pollination Plan, Food System Strategy**).
- To propose integrated actions that can be adopted and implemented in Södertälje. Nine actions linked to sustainable food systems have been identified, ranging in scale, focus and complexity. They are explored in the ACTION PLANNING section.

4 TYPES OF ACTIONS:



9 INTEGRATED ACTIONS:



VISION:

Our vision is that Södertälje will become a regional node for sustainable food production, consumption, research, planning and innovation in the Mälars Valley Region. Södertälje municipality is a pioneer for sustainable food systems, and we will continue to share our knowledge with other cities. In doing so we can grow a sustainable future with a thriving local economy, high quality of life and diverse, beautiful landscapes to enjoy.



Food is the place,
where you begin.

– Vandana Shiva



Spring seedlings in the greenhouse at Under Tallarna Image: Fredrik Sederholm

1. Introduction

1.1. City Profile

Södertälje is no ordinary Swedish city.

Södertälje is a place where worlds meet, where infrastructure intersects and where global companies meet small businesses. Located between the Stockholm metropolitan region and the rural landscape of Sörmland, Södertälje is a place where urban and rural systems overlap and intertwine as one. With a varied landscape of Baltic archipelago, lakes and islands, forests and meadows, a historic city centre and some of the highest grade agricultural land in the Stockholm region, Södertälje is a place of great potential. For many generations, people have found their way to Södertälje from all over the world to create a future for themselves. Södertälje regards itself as the international capital of Sweden due to the diverse backgrounds of the citizens, and the variety of cultures, beliefs and values living in the municipality.

Södertälje is regarded as a strong industrial city, being home to two large multinational companies, AstraZeneca and Scania who account for almost one third of all jobs in the municipality. Södertälje is also well known for organic agriculture, being home to a biodynamic training centre, a research centre for ecological regenerative agriculture, a number of educational institutions in farming and gardening and many organic farms and food processing or retail/distribution companies. Due to its favorable location, Södertälje is well connected by highways, harbours and railways and two airports within an hours commute.

Södertälje is currently undergoing a period of rapid development. Guided by a political vision to build 20,000 new homes by 2030, the municipality is drafting numerous strategic documents, to ensure future development aligns with the vision of a sustainable future for all. Decisions made now will influence the city for generations to come. With a strong focus on urban development, how can we ensure we strengthen the qualities that make Södertälje a unique, competitive and attractive place to visit, work and live in? How can we best integrate urban and rural ecosystems? How can we elevate the potential of our residents - both new and old - and support their dreams? Can we combine thriving natural landscapes, productive landscapes and recreational landscapes? Can we create a thriving local economy with meaningful employment, quality of life and beautiful landscapes to enjoy. We believe we can.

1.2. Speed-dating Södertälje

THE PLACE

- Södertälje municipality has 96,032 inhabitants, 53% of which have foreign background (as of 31.12.2017)
- 80 different languages are spoken in Södertälje
- Södertälje is 694 km² in area
- 14.6% of agricultural land is in organic production (1379 hectares of 9451 hectares)
- In Södertälje there are 23 nature reserves, 707 islands and 86 lakes
- Södertälje is Sweden's 20th largest city
- Södertälje is a Fairtrade City.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

- There are 48,758 jobs in Södertälje
- Scania and Astra Zeneca account for 16,000 jobs.
- Each weekday, 21,599 people travel to Södertälje to work, while 15,071 travel from Södertälje to work
- There were 7402 businesses registered in Södertälje in 2016
- 2.3 million people can reach Södertälje in less than 1 hour
- 14.7% unemployment in 2016 (6.1% in Stockholm)

FOOD

- Södertälje was awarded 'School Food Municipality of the year' in 2014 by [White Guide Junior](#)
- 57% organic food is used in municipal activities, this is the 4th highest in Sweden.
- [Södertälje Science Park](#) is a creative meeting space focused on sustainable production systems (including the food sector)
- Södertälje's Diet Policy was successfully transferred to 3 European cities through the [URBACT Diet for a Green Planet](#) project.
- [Saltå kvarn](#) was awarded Sweden's most sustainable brand in 2015
- Södertälje was a lead partner in [BERAS Implementation](#), an international food and agriculture project in the Baltic Sea Region (2010-13)
- Södertälje was the 4th municipality in Sweden to purchase food from a [CSA - Under Tallarna](#).

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

- Södertälje plans to build 20,000 new homes by 2030
- During 2016, there were 1442 building permission applications received by the municipality.

1.3. SWOT analysis – Sustainable food systems & Södertälje

STRENGTHS

- Some of the highest quality agricultural land in Stockholm County.
- The municipality owns a lot of agricultural land.
- Proximity to Sweden's largest food market –Stockholm.
- Active LRF group
- Long tradition of organic farming and research in the municipality, especially in Järna district.
- Well known food companies –Lantmännen Cerealia, Saltå Mill, Järna Dairy, Svenska Lantchips, Scandinavian Bulgur, Il forno dela pita
- Unique range of education in gardening and farming– Järna Naturbruksgymnasium, Vackstanäs Gymnasium, Skillebyholm Biodynamic Training Centre, Vårdinge Folk högskola
- Complementary farming concepts such as Norrbyvälle ([read the case study here](#))
- Over 50 years of research on organic farming and food quality
- Over 15 years of experience working with public plate as a tool for sustainable development.
- Strong political support and consensus
- MatLust (ERDF) and Map2020 (ESF) are ongoing and focuses on food and green nutrition in Södertälje
- Regional node for sustainable food connected to Södertälje Science Park.

WEAKNESSES

- Food has not been a prioritised area in the City Planning Department – there is a need to raise the level of general knowledge and expertise.
- Low level of dialogue and communication with existing farmers and growers
- History of conflict connected to allotment gardens.
- Communication regarding food and farming is not consistent
- No one is responsible or 'owns' the topic of food and farming in the municipality
- Difficult for new farmers and growers to gain access to land

OPPORTUNITIES

- Food production, both professional and recreational can create an attractive city. It provides a greener city, more places to buy nutritional vegetables, and the opportunity for citizens to grow their own food.
- There is a lack of locally grown vegetables, but there are people who want to grow if they can gain access to land, both trained gardeners and, for example newly arrived immigrants.
- Complementary farming is growing in popularity – therapeutic, educational, social, cultural.
- Include food production in the early stages of the planning process.
- Increasing the amount of grazing animals to manage landscapes and increase biodiversity.
- Creating Sweden's first 'agricultural park'
- Södertälje can become a regional node for sustainable food systems – strengthening the identity of the city.
- Favorable budget 2018–2020 with 12 million SEK to food and farming strategy
- AGRI-URBAN network is a resource for innovation

THREATS

- The current rapid pace of development in Södertälje (housing, infrastructure & industry) can risk exploiting valuable agricultural land for other uses, thus destroying the opportunity to increase local grown food.
- Difficulty in including food in early stages of planning processes – we can not plan for food production as an afterthought.
- Rental fees for municipal agricultural land are not transparent – many groups feel they are paying too much creating mistrust and friction
- 'Business as usual' approach is not enough to innovate and build the potential future of AGRI-URBAN
- High amount of public servants leaving Södertälje municipality, especially within the City Planning Department.
- high unemployment levels especially amongst youth and new migrants
- competition with imported produce

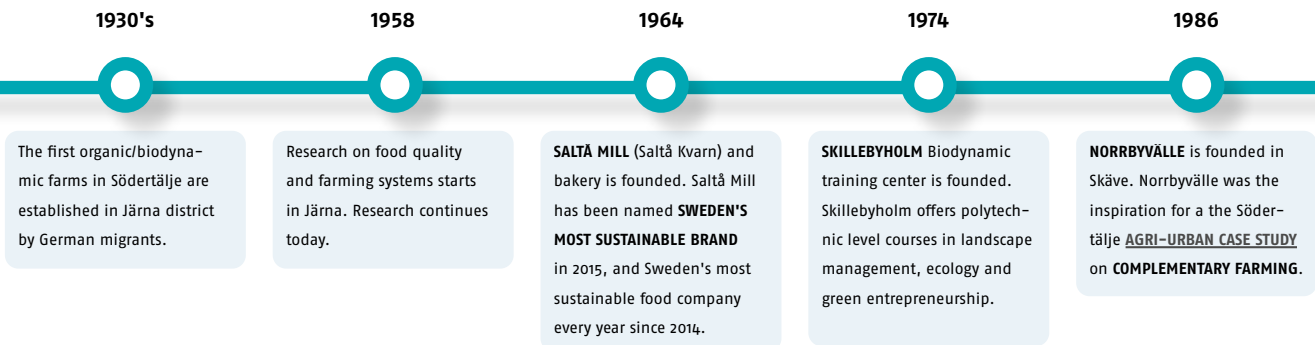


“Agricultural sustainability doesn't depend on agritechnology. To believe it does is to put the emphasis on the wrong bit of 'agriculture.' What sustainability depends on isn't agri- so much as culture.”

– Raj Patel.



AGRI-URBAN Transnational Conference in Södertälje - Dinner in the Under Tallarna Greenhouse. Image: Fredrik Sederholm



2. Södertälje & AGRI-URBAN

2.1. A short history

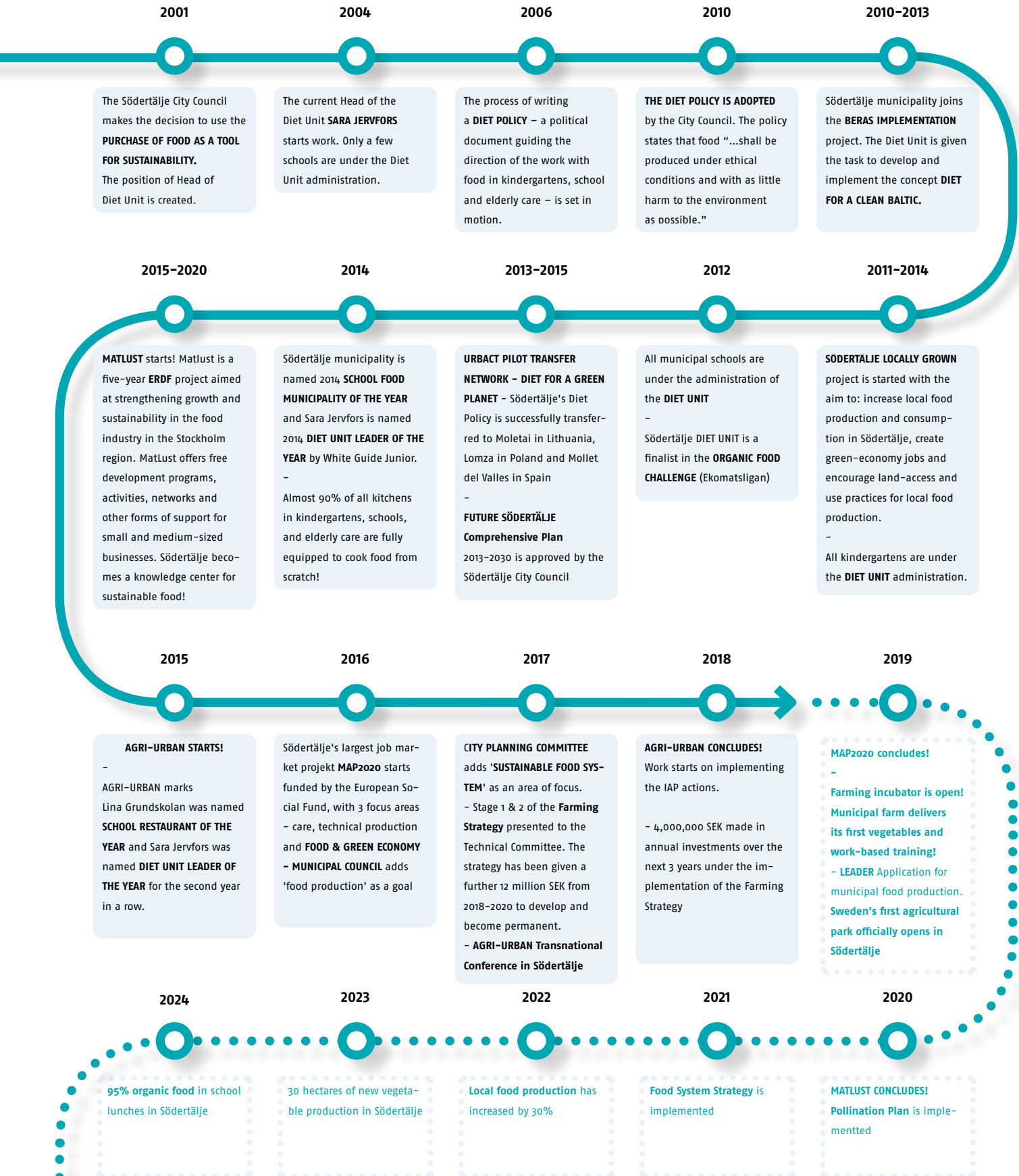
Food connects us all. Since 2001, Södertälje municipality has worked towards a sustainable and resilient food system, spearheaded by the prize winning work of the Södertälje Diet Unit. Starting by utilising the municipal public meals program as a tool for sustainable development, Södertälje has built upon this knowledge with learnings from successful projects such as BERAS Implementation, URBACT Diet for a Green Planet and Södertälje Locally Grown. This experience has enabled Södertälje to establish a local, national and international profile linked to food, sustainability and innovation.

A critical point in this journey was the 2012 project 'Södertälje Locally Grown,' which highlighted the potential to increase the availability of locally produced food in Södertälje and the critical role the municipality and especially the City Planning Department would play in this process. While no municipal department or community organization is solely responsible for delivering a sustainable local food system, many different factions are responsible for important elements of it. It was clear from the onset of AGRI-URBAN that the City Planning Department (being responsible for managing municipal agricultural land, public space and strategic development of the city) would be critical to the success of AGRI-URBAN and vital in fostering a sustainable food system.

In 2016, following the first phase of AGRI-URBAN and a political commission to write a Farming Strategy, the City Planning Committee added '**Food Production**' for the first time as an area of focus to the annual operational plan. In 2017, 'food production' had developed into the focus area - '**Sustainable Food System**' with the motivation "*in the face of climate change and increasing demand, local food production must increase. To ensure the availability of nutritious food, agricultural land shall be protected in accordance with the comprehensive plan. A farming and growing strategy for urban and rural production shall be completed and implemented.*" This was a critical step in the process from food being a theme addressed in external 'projects' to sustainable food systems becoming a prioritised focus area throughout the municipality.

AGRI-URBAN has not operated in isolation. Throughout the duration of the project, AGRI-URBAN has collaborated with a range of ongoing processes and projects within Södertälje. Flanked by two longer term EU level projects - Matlust (ERDF) and Map2020 (ESF), AGRI-URBAN has always been discussed as 'one element in a wider, dynamic and more complex system'.

Food connects us all to our city, our land and our future.



3. Local Policy Context

"...no famine has ever taken place in the history of the world in a functioning democracy." - Amartya Sen

One of the first activities undertaken by the Södertälje AGRI-URBAN team was an investigation of existing policy documents with links to the central themes of AGRI-URBAN. The findings of this investigation informed the foundation of our IAP and provided an overview through which we were able to identify strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for the project. (The Base-Line Policy Context Investigation can be found in the [appendices and supporting volumes](#).)

Once an understanding of the existing policy context was established, it was important to position AGRI-URBAN strategically within the municipality. It was clear from previous project experience and the understanding of the policy context that the City Planning Department being responsible for the municipality's land reserve and the future development of the municipality would be central to the success of AGRI-URBAN in Södertälje. The importance of the City Planning Department is also reflected in the high amount of members represented in the ULG.

As food naturally segues into other areas of public policy - health, recreation, environment, business etc, it was important to highlight the close links between AGRI-URBAN and other parallel projects, establish open channels of communication and work towards common goals. (See the blue field on the opposite page). Once all ongoing processes were identified and collaboration established, our focus turned to the future - what were the missing links? Where should we focus first? How do we ensure our ideas and actions transition from 'project' to 'implementation?'

Finally, the planned section of the diagram shows actions, projects and policy documents which are currently in the pipeline. Some of these actions have their origin in this IAP. Through collaboration with the parallel processes, AGRI-URBAN has been able to inform and give inspiration to multiple planned projects and documents within the municipality.

The diagram on the opposite page illustrates the process AGRI-URBAN has undergone from pre-existing, parallel and planned policy contexts.



PRE-EXISTING, PARALLEL & PLANNED

Below is a list of documents, policies and projects which have been useful in establishing, navigating and influencing the policy context for AGRI-URBAN.

PRE-EXISTING

GLOBAL

- UNDP Global Goals

EUROPEAN

- EU 2020 strategy

NATIONAL

- Swedish Environmental Goals
- Swedish Food System Strategy

REGIONAL

- Regional Development Plan (RUFs)

MUNICIPAL

- Future Södertälje 2030 - Comprehensive plan
- Södertälje Diet Policy
- Södertälje Environment and Climate Program
- Södertälje Vision and Budget (updated annually)
- Södertälje Locally Grown Project
- Diet for a Green Planet Project
- BERAS Implementation
- Eskilstuna Food System Strategy

PARALLEL – ACTIVE DURING AGRI-URBAN PERIOD

REGIONAL

- Matlust ERDF Project
- Map2020 ESF Project
- Stockholm Regional Food System Strategy

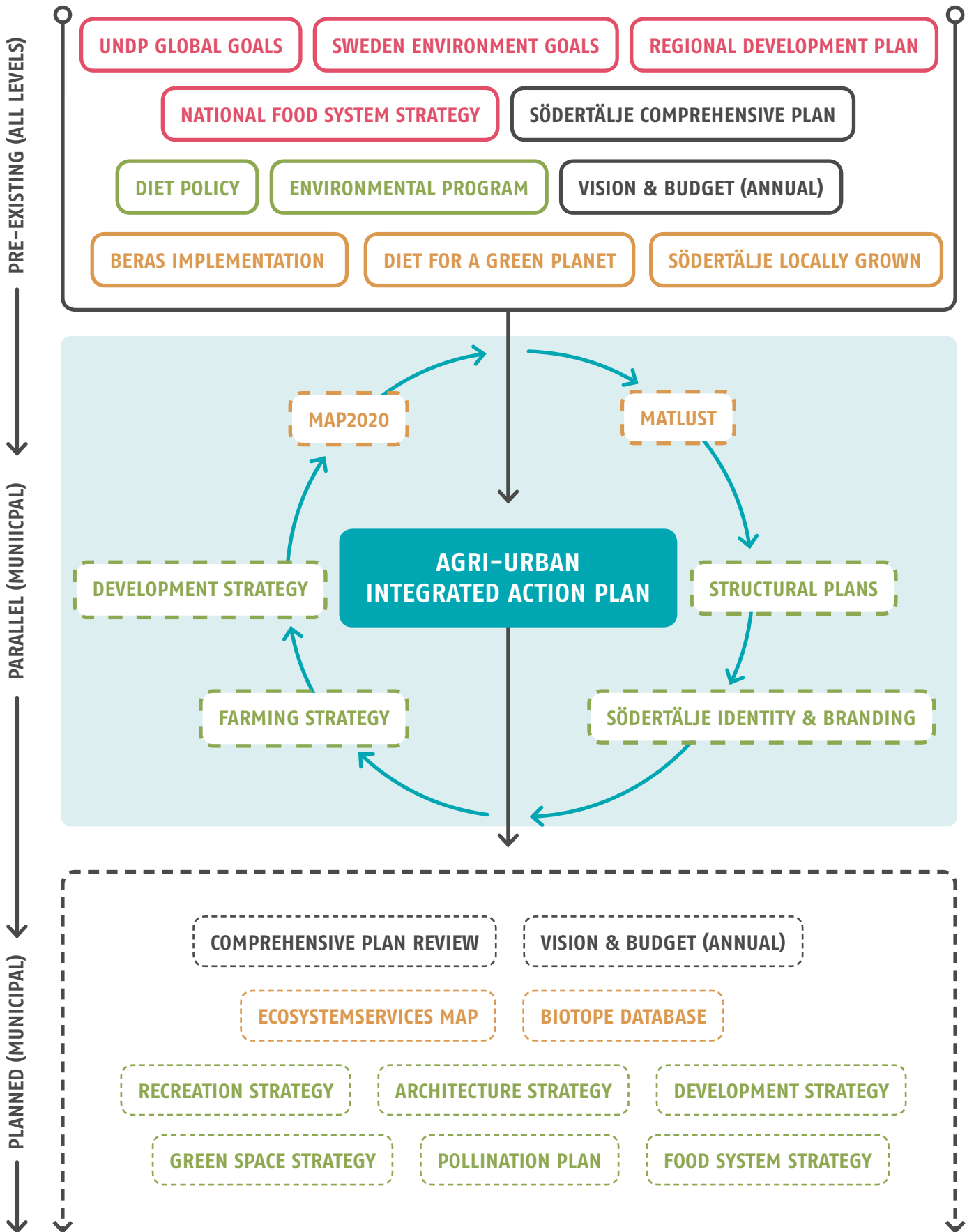
MUNICIPAL

- Södertälje Farming Strategy (ongoing)
- Structural Plans (ongoing)
- Södertälje Development Strategy (ongoing)
- Södertälje Identity and Branding (ongoing)

PLANNED – UNDER PLANNING OR STARTING SOON

MUNICIPAL

- Södertälje Food System Strategy
- Södertälje Pollination Plan
- Södertälje Green Space Strategy
- Biotope Database & Ecosystem services map
- Wildlife & Recreation Strategy
- Södertälje Architecture Strategy
- Structural Plans (future plans)
- Södertälje Vision & Budget (updated annually)







You don't have a snail problem,
you have a duck deficiency.

– Bill Mollison

Which problem are you really trying to solve? Image: Under Tallarna



4. Local Project Context

Understanding the local context and being able to communicate the role of AGRI-URBAN has been critical to the success of the project. As mentioned in chapter 3, food permeates almost all areas of public policy - health, recreation, environment, business and industry to name just a few. It is therefore important to position a project like AGRI-URBAN *in relation to* other projects and processes, in order to highlight the interconnections, establish open channels of communication, divide tasks and work towards common goals. The coloured circles in the diagram above represent six parallel processes that AGRI-URBAN has been closely linked to. *(The projects are described in more detail on the following page.)*

AGRI-URBAN has been actively formed by some processes, while influencing and providing inspiration to others. Information has flown in both directions. Having multiple projects actively addressing different parts of the food system simultaneously, has made it easier to prioritise the topics of food, farming and gardening at a municipal level.

Discussing AGRI-URBAN in relation to these parallel processes builds a holistic overview, making it easier to see connections and opportunities.

FARMING STRATEGY

The farming strategy shows how the municipality, in its different capacities can stimulate local food production, protect valuable agricultural land and develop Södertälje as a regional node for sustainable food.

The strategy focuses on 4 themes: **agriculture, horticulture, complementary farming, hobby & recreational farming**

AGRI-URBAN provides inspiration and ideas to the farming strategy. The farming strategy has received 12 million SEK in funding over the next 3 years.

CITY BRANDING

Destination Södertälje is part of the municipality and responsible for increasing the attractiveness of Södertälje as a place to work, visit and live.

Destination Södertälje is the project owner of AGRI-URBAN in Södertälje. Themes related to AGRI-URBAN are incredibly important to the identity and vision of Södertälje. Destination Södertälje will play a crucial role in the implementation of the actions in this IAP.

MATLUST

MatLust is a five-year ERDF project which encourages the sustainable growth of SME's within the food sector in Stockholm region. Through MatLust, Södertälje municipality collaborates with KTH and food companies, by offering access to networks and development programs in innovation, business and process development. In addition, there is a test bed for developing new food products and innovations.

AGRI-URBAN has collaborated with MatLust, through networking activities with ULG members. The two projects complement each other as they focus on different stages in the food system.

STRUCTURAL PLANS

Structural plans illustrate potential land-use at a neighbourhood scale. This scale is a critical level between the overview of the comprehensive plan and the exactness of a detail plan. Structural plans are visionary in nature and are exempt from Swedish planning law. Structural plans shall be used as a basis for future detail plans.

AGRI-URBAN has collaborated closely with the Lina Structural Plan with special focus on the development of an agricultural park.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The development plan shows the municipality's intentions for densification and priorities for the development in the city. This document has been developed as a guide to how the municipality will act in order to meet the general plan's objectives for community building and to meet the short and long term housing needs.

The development plan, in conjunction with the farming strategy will provide valuable background information to the proposed 'Food System Strategy'.

MAP2020

MAP2020 aims to create conditions for people to become self-reliant. To support themselves through work, study or become closer to the employment market. MAP2020 aims to develop methods and models for industry-related skills with focus on three areas; health care, industrial production and technical services, sustainable food sector.

AGRI-URBAN has collaborated with MAP2020, discussing ideas such as a municipal vegetable production, farming incubator and employment opportunities in the food sector.

5. Södertälje Urbact Local Group

Södertälje Urbact Local Group (ULG)

The Södertälje Urbact Local Group represents local actors and stakeholders that have been involved with AGRI-URBAN during the project period. The level of involvement is as diverse as the group itself, with some stakeholders assuming a very active role with other remained content to be informed of the development of the project. Building upon previous experience, it was decided early in the project that the Södertälje ULG would have a strong focus internally within the municipality.

During the baseline study phase of AGRI-URBAN, 5 main categories were established:

- **Municipal** - organisations and public servants within Södertälje municipality - while almost all departments within the municipality were involved in the project, there was a specific focus from the City Planning Department (SBK)
- **Political** - relevant political committees - Due to the diverse nature of the themes explored in the project, AGRI-URBAN has been presented to multiple political committees throughout the project period.
- **Educational** - local educational institutions - Södertälje boasts a unique range of educational institutions offering courses and programs within the fields of organic farming, landscape management, gardening and cooking at different levels of education from high-school to polytechnic level. There has also been a wealth of interest in food related research from university level institutions.
- **Private** - local actors in Södertälje active in the project - our local heroes, producing local food.
- **External Expertise** - experts - during the project we have drawn upon external expertise.



SÖDERTÄLJE ULG

The diagram on the opposite page shows the Södertälje ULG structure. The size of the circles represent both the amount of members from a certain organisation and the level of involvement in the project.

MUNICIPAL

- SBK - City Planning Department
- MK - Environmental Department
- UK - Educational Department
- AK - Employment Department
- KSK - City Council Department
- KOF - Cultural Department
- SK - Social Department
- TELGE - Municipal Company Group
- MATLUST - ERDF Project
- DESTINATION SÖDERTÄLJE

POLITICAL

- TN - Technical Committee
- SBN - City Planning Committee
- HU - Sustainability Committee
- MN - Environmental Committee
- KS - City Council

EDUCATION

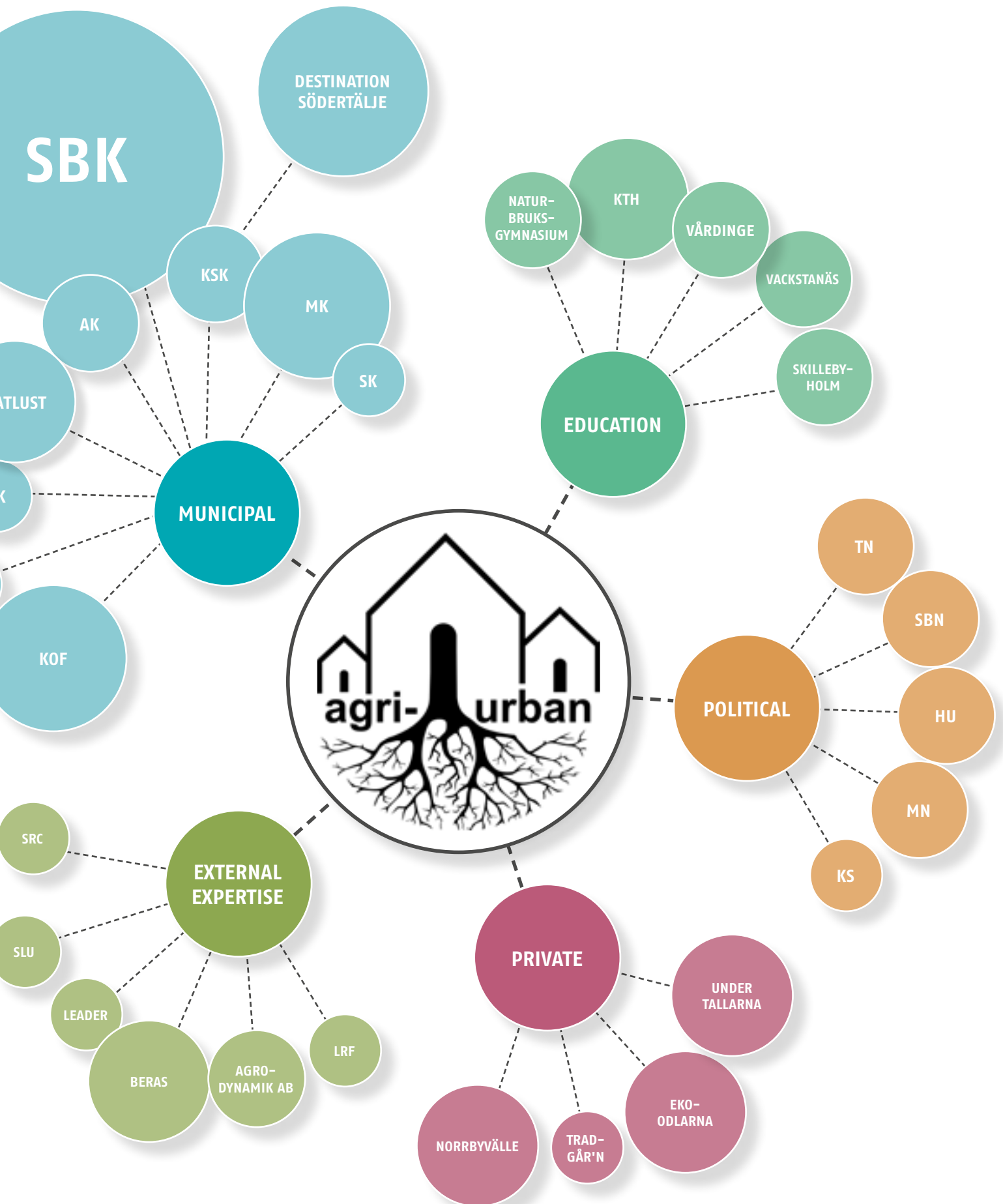
- NATURBRUKSGYMNASIUM - Agri- High School
- KTH - Royal Institute of Technology
- VÅRDINGE - Folk High School
- VACKSTANÄS - High School
- SKILLEBYHOLM - Biodynamic Training Centre

EXTERNAL EXPERTISE

- BERAS - BERAS International
- AGRODYNAMIK - Agricultural Advisor
- LRF - Federation of Swedish Farmers
- LEADER - Leader Sörmlands Coast
- SRC - Stockholm Resilience Centre
- SLU - Swedish University of Agricultural Science

PRIVATE

- UNDER TALLARNA - Growing Cooperative
- EKO-ODLARNA - Organic Vegetable Producer
- TRÄDGÅR'N - Organic Vegetable Producer
- NORRBYVÄLLE - Daily activities Provider



6. Local Challenges & Policy Focus Areas

6.1. Local challenges

AGRI-URBAN identified eight policy focus areas common to all city project partners. These policy areas span almost all municipal administrations and illustrate the need for an integrated approach when working with food related policy.

1. Land access policies

Strategy: Promote local policies aimed at facilitating access to land and the entrance of more farmers

2. Short circuits of production and consumption

Strategy: Increase the added value of local production by encouraging the creation of short channels to reduce middlemen and allow fair pricing for farmers and access to quality products at a good price for consumers.

3. Training and improved capabilities in farming

Strategy: Provide appropriate training to potential entrepreneurs, small farmers, people with social needs and citizens committed to a sustainable agro-ecological system.

4. Creation of productive and employment spaces

Strategy: Encourage local agro-ecological productive activities which are labour-intensive and create jobs.

5. Land use and protection of agricultural areas

Strategy: Promote sustainable land management, based on the protection of land suited for agricultural uses, as well as on facilitating a balanced connection between the urban and rural areas.

6. Social and cultural policies.

Strategy: Promote the empowerment and organisation of the community, facilitating an instrument for participation, management and communication between stakeholders.

7. Environmental sustainability

Strategy: local policies aimed at achieving the sustainability of the food production systems within the municipal limits, ensuring the conservation of natural resources.

8. SMEs policy connected to agri-food.

Strategy: Create the political basis for the implementation of agro-ecological Integrated Action Plans aimed at improving the sustainability of the social and productive system as well as job creation.

Below is a list of local challenges identified by the Södertälje project group in the baseline study. Each challenge is paired with the relevant policy areas illustrated to the right.

Local challenges in Södertälje linked to policy areas

- high unemployment levels, especially amongst youth and migrant populations (*Policy areas 1,3,4,5,6*)
- difficulties in land access for unestablished farmers (*Policy areas 3,4,6*)
- competition with imported produce - both international and domestic (*Policy areas 2, 7,8*)
- pressure to build new dwellings – risk that agricultural land is exploited (*Policy areas 1,7*)
- protection of agricultural land from activities other than food production (*Policy areas 1,7*)
- high average age of active farmers/difficulties in attracting young people to farming (*Policy areas 1,3,4,5,6*)
- making locally grown food attractive - local identity and branding (*Policy areas 5,6*)
- insufficient communication about farming and gardening in the municipality. (*Policy area 7*)

Local focus areas in Södertälje

- Mapping of existing resources – land, people, activities, companies etc. (*Policy areas 1,5,6*)
- A plan for agriculture and horticulture production on municipal land. (*Policy areas 1,5,6*)
- Examine the possibilities for creating an Agricultural park in Södertälje (*Policy area 1,2,5,7*)
- Structures for creating a flow between producers and consumers in logistics, local markets, subscribing vegetable boxes, gardens connected to institutions etc. (*Policy area 2,3,4,8*)
- How to create better environments in deprived urban areas through green mosaics with grazing animals, vegetable gardens, areas for leisure etc. These green mosaics can also bind the different green spaces of the city together. (*Policy area 6*)
- Feasibility study for the creation of a AGRI-URBAN focused Social Incubator for new 'farming' initiatives (*Policy area 2,3,4*)



8 Policy Areas identified by the AGRI-URBAN Baseline Study

“Once confined to a narrow range of producer interests — like agri-business, farmers and the state — food policy is slowly but surely being prised open by food planners in the broadest sense of the term.”

- Kevin Morgan (2009)

7. Vision & Local Change

7.1. Vision & Budget

Each year a 'Vision & Budget' document is prepared by the political majority in Södertälje. This document describes the political vision and allocated budget for all municipal committees (each committee has an administration in which public officials work on planning and carrying out what the committee has decided) for the following three year period. The Vision & Budget document informs all operational plans and activities for the various administrations. In other words - it is a **an annual action plan** for the entire municipality and critical to the strategic vision at a local level. In order for a topic, action or project to be prioritised at an administrative level, it must be first prioritised in the Vision & Budget document.

Below is a passage from the Vision and Budget 2018-2020 document which was approved by the Södertälje Municipal Council on 27th November 2017.

VISION & BUDGET 2018-2020

A SUSTAINABLE & RESILIENT FUTURE

As Södertälje looks to the future, it is our work with sustainability and resilience that will unite us all. From our decades long history with organic and biodynamic practices in Järna, to sustainable technical production in the city centre, from the organic meals served in our schools to the ecosystem services that sustain our landscapes, from solar panels and green roofs to toxic-free environments, Södertälje will be a municipality which is permeated by sustainability.

In order to become sustainable and resilient, a careful balance must be achieved between people, the environment and society. We need to ensure the demands of the future can be met with renewable resources at the same time as we foster biodiversity, protect habitats and develop our city towards a sustainable future.

*Ecosystem services are critical to the health of the city. In order to address this in practical terms, a **pollination plan** will be developed, mapping the potential for beneficial plants and habitats for pollinators throughout the municipality. Agricultural land shall be protected to ensure the supply and availability of locally produced food. In order to continue this work a **Food System Strategy** shall be written. The **Farming Strategy** will be made permanent and implemented through further investment.*





7.2. Vision Areas

The City Council's Vision Areas

During the most recent Vision & Budget process (2018-2020), six focus areas were decided upon to build the long term vision for the municipality. These focus areas will also guide how Södertälje will meet and implement the Agenda 2030 Global Goals - at a local level.

These six focus areas (*illustrated to the left*) are a departure from the traditional 'department-centric' vision and budget process - which created goals and allocated budget for each administration. This resulted in a long list of individual goals at an departmental level, which unintentionally made it quite difficult to pool resources together between departments when working with projects of a more complex and integrated manner.

AGRI-URBAN Vision

Our vision is that Södertälje will become a regional node for sustainable food production, consumption, research, planning and innovation in the Mälars Valley Region. Södertälje municipality will become a pioneer for sustainable food systems, and we will continue to share our knowledge with other cities. In doing so we can grow a sustainable future with a thriving local economy, high quality of life and diverse, beautiful landscapes to enjoy.

8. Södertälje AGRI-URBAN Actions

During the first phase AGRI-URBAN (2015), the Södertälje project group created a short list of desired changes at local level as a result of implementing potential IAP actions .

Local changes – Baseline Study

- Increase of activity and diversity in the food production sector in Södertälje
- The establishment of an agricultural park in Södertälje
- A plan for agriculture and horticulture production on municipal land and a land bank for interested new growers.
- A functioning Social Incubator Program for new 'farming' initiatives
- Strong integration with MATLUST and MAP2020 projects, and Södertälje Science Park
- Sustainable food societies where different actors of all kinds cooperate to ecological regenerative agriculture and the food concept Diet for a Green planet.

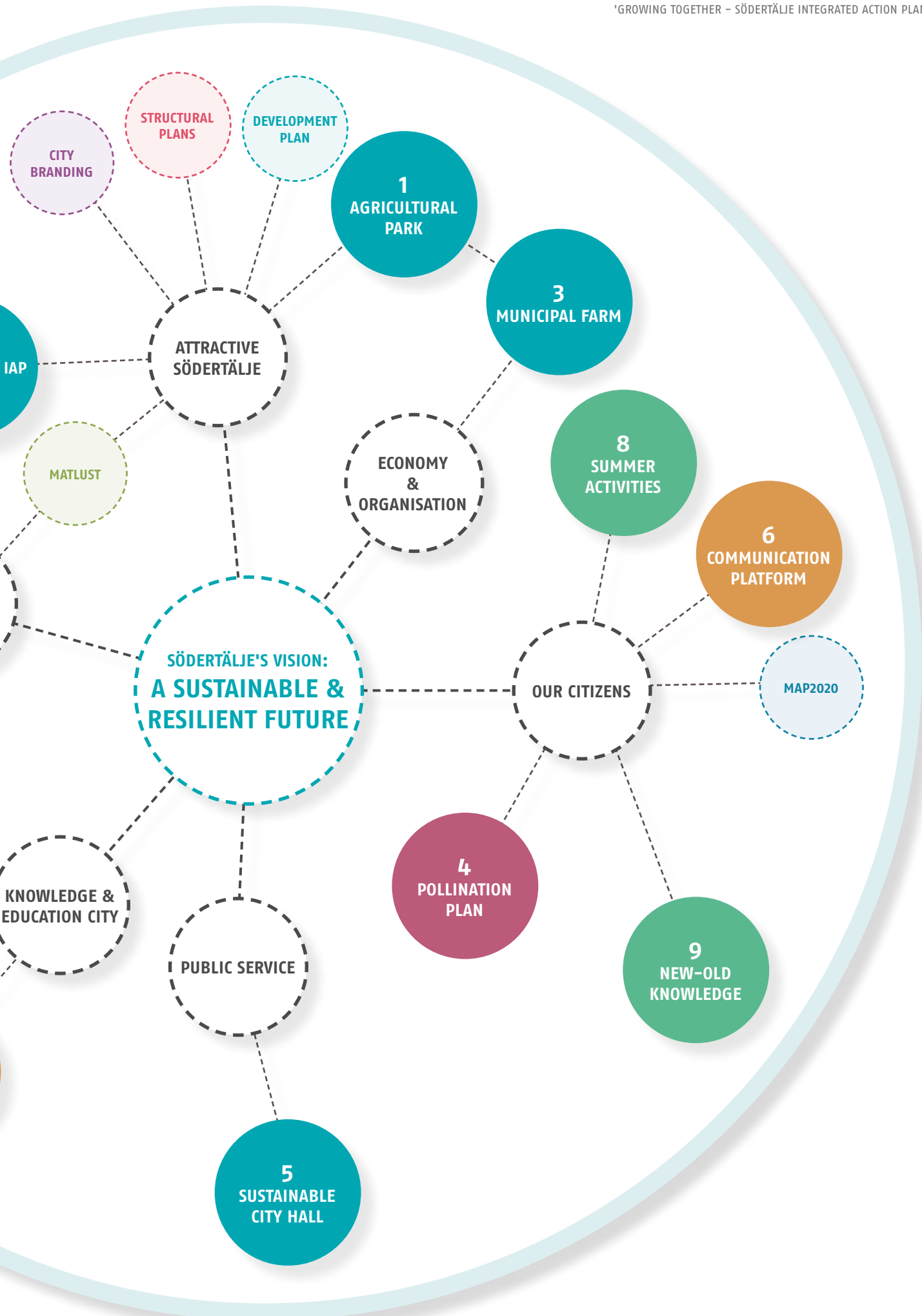
Two years on, Södertälje proposes nine actions (organised into four categories) that can be adopted and implemented. These nine actions address multiple aspects of the sustainable food system, ranging in scale, focus and complexity. Implemented alone, they are interesting, however implemented together they present a holistic system for sustainable change.

4 TYPES OF ACTIONS:



9 INTEGRATED ACTIONS:





Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.

- Arthur Ashe.





Tools of the trade at Norrvyälle Image: Fredrik Sederholm



Greenhouse at Eko-odlarna. Image: Fredrik Sederholm

IDEA	AGRICULTURAL PARKS
MAIN OBJECTIVE	To establish agricultural parks in Södertälje.
VISION	To become the first city in Sweden to establish agricultural parks.
BACKGROUND	The 'Agricultural Park' concept forms the basis for an instrument to ensure agricultural land is protected from exploitation and utilised in a sustainable manner, at the same time as recreational activities are encouraged and biodiversity is enhanced. Södertälje has the potential to establish agricultural parks and in doing so pioneer the future of conservation, local food production and landscape management in Sweden. Currently an area within the Lina Nature Reserve has been identified as a potential place for an agricultural park.
LEAD ORGANISATION	Södertälje Municipality
KEY PARTNERS	City Planning Office, Destination Södertälje, Environmental Office, Citizens
MEASUREABLE GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect peri-urban agricultural land • increase amount of locally produced food • employment opportunities • strengthen the eco-profile of Södertälje • amount of visitors – increase in tourism
CITY COUNCIL FOCUS AREAS	Eco- municipality, Attractive Södertälje
RESOURCES & ASSETS	A share of 12 million SEK in municipal funding 2018–2020 in conjunction with the Farming Strategy
TIMESCALE	2018–2020 – implementation
STATUS	Planning phase
INSPIRATION	Gallecs. Mollet del Valles, SPAIN Municipal Guide to agricultural land – A tool box – Jordbruksverket (SWE) Municipal Opportunities to protect and enhance agricultural land – Jordbruksverket (SWE)

1

AGRICULTURAL PARKS

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON / ORGANISATION	KEY PARTNERS	TIMESCALE	RESOURCES
1. Identify potential areas for agricultural parks within Södertälje. Currently Södertälje municipality has identified land within the Lina Nature Reserve that has the potential to be an agricultural park.	Farming Strategy	City Planning Office	ASAP	Farming Strategy
2. Conduct a "land assessment" for the potential areas. The assessment should show the potential for the area and outline the steps to build the agricultural park on the specific site.	Agricultural Consultant	Södertälje municipality, Farming Strategy	1-3 months	Farming Strategy
3. Form project group and reference group with necessary competence	Södertälje municipality	-	-	Farming Strategy
EACH PROPOSED AREA WILL PRESENT ITS OWN UNIQUE QUALITIES, POTENTIAL AND CHALLENGES. THEREFORE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE GENERAL AND COULD BE APPLIED TO ALL POTENTIAL AREAS.				
4. Soil improvements	Farming Strategy work group	Lina Nature reserve	2018	Farming Strategy, LONA program
5. Create organisational and management structure	Farming Strateg work group		2018	Farming Strategy
6. Collect expressions of interest from potential producers	Farming Strategy work group		2018	Farming Strategy
7. Build infrastructure – greenhouses, connect water, electricity etc.	Farming Strategy work group	City planning office, Telge	2018-19	Farming Strategy
8. Communication and information sharing – informing citizens	Farming Strategy work group	Destination Södertälje	2018-20	Farming Strategy
9. Collaborate with researchers and academia	Matlust project	Universities and research institutes	2018-20	The Matlust project, Farming Strategy
10. Explore potential to integrate a farming incubator or municipal farm within the agricultural park	Farming Strategy work group	Training centres in gardening, i.e. Skillebyholm, Vacksta-näs, Gardening advisors	2018	Farming Strategy



AGRI-URBAN visits the no dig garden beds at Under Tallarna. Image: Fredrik Sederholm

IDEA	FARMING INCUBATOR
MAIN OBJECTIVE	To lower the threshold for commercial farming in Södertälje & stimulate more locally grown produce.
VISION	A greater number of farming and gardening entrepreneurs in Södertälje producing local food
BACKGROUND	It is often difficult to start farming. A Farming Incubator lowers the threshold for people who want to try to farm commercially within a risk-managed environment. The potential market for vegetables grown in Södertälje is very large due to a range of factors.
LEAD ORGANISATION	Södertälje Municipality
KEY PARTNERS	City Planning Office, Destination Södertälje, Environmental Office, Citizens
MEASUREABLE GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase in amount of locally grown vegetables • increase in number of vegetable producers • increase in area of farmland actively
CITY COUNCIL FOCUS AREA	Eco- municipality
RESOURCES & ASSETS	A share of 12 million SEK in municipal funding 2018–2020 in conjunction with the Farming Strategy
TIMESCALE	2018–2020
STATUS	Idea phase
INSPIRATION	Point Vert Farming Incubator PAYS de Condruces, BELGIUM Göteborg City Farming Incubator



Students visiting MEAD municipal farm in Mouans-Sartoux, France. Image: Mouans-Sartoux

IDEA	MUNICIPAL VEGETABLE FARM
MAIN OBJECTIVE	To establish a municipal farm in Södertälje.
VISION	To be able to serve meals in Södertälje's schools, kindergartens and elderly care homes with a majority of the produce grown in Södertälje while providing work-based training and rehabilitation opportunities.
BACKGROUND	The Södertälje Diet Unit has current difficulties in securing local produce for its kitchens, and a great number of unemployed people are interested in trainee jobs in the green sector. By combining these two challenges and establishing a municipal farm we can ensure access to locally grown food whilst also creating meaningful work-based training and attractive landscapes in Södertälje.
LEAD ORGANISATION	Södertälje Municipality
KEY PARTNERS	Diet Unit, City Planning Office, Destination Södertälje, Environmental Office, Eko-odlarna, Skillebhyholm, Leader Sörmlandskusten
MEASUREABLE GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The amount of locally grown vegetables served by Diet Unit • The number of persons who receive trainee jobs at the municipal growing activities • The number of pupils that get pedagogic activities at the municipal vegetable farm.
CITY COUNCIL FOCUS AREA	Eco- municipality,
RESOURCES & ASSETS	Leader Sörmlandskusten – funding opportunity A share of 12 million SEK in municipal funding 2018–2020 in conjunction with the Farming Strategy
TIMESCALE	2018–2020
STATUS	Idea Phase
INSPIRATION	MEAD Centre for Sustainable Food Education – Mouans Sartoux, FRANCE Väckstanäs Kitchen Garden – Södertälje, SWEDEN

3

MUNICIPAL VEGETABLE FARM

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON / ORGANISATION	KEY PARTNERS	TIMESCALE	RESOURCES
1. Transnational meeting in - Mouans-Sartoux Collective School garden and Catering	AGRI-URBAN project team	Labourmarket project MAP2020	February 2018	AGRI-URBAN budget
2. Study the Mouans-Sartoux example	AGRI-URBAN project team	Farming strategy work group	Spring 2018	AGRI-URBAN , Farming strategy
3. Bilateral visit to Mouans-Sartoux. Collective School garden and Catering	Diet Unit, Matlust project	Diet Unit	April 2018	AGRI-URBAN budget
4. Planning permission from Södertälje municipality	Farming strategy coordinator	Diet Unit, Labour Unit, City council office (Ksk)	Spring 2018	Farming strategy
5. Define required competence and organisation for a municipal driven vegetable farm & garden	Farming strategy coordinator	Farming strategy work group	2018	Farming strategy
6. Define the potential (quantity of produce) that could be cultivated in accordance with the Diet Units needs.	Farming strategy coordinator	Diet Unit	2018	Farming strategy, Diet Unit employees
7. Define the suitable area in hectares needed and point out where this area can be found.	Farming strategy coordinator	Gardening advisors, Gardening training centres	2018	Farming strategy
8. Form Search competent persons for leading a professional vegetable production	Farming strategy work group	Gardening advisors, Gardening training centres	2018	Farming strategy
9. Search for possible cooperation with local entrepreneurs	Farming strategy work group	Gardening advisors, Gardening training centres, Diet Unit, Matlust project	2018	Farming strategy
10. Decide which farmland will be used and prepare it for the season start in 2019	Farming strategy work group	Gardening advisors, Gardening training centres	2018	Farming strategy

THE PROPOSED SITE FOR THE MUNICIPAL VEGETABLE FARM WILL INFORM ALL FUTURE ACTIONS. ACTIONS 1-10 MUST FIRST BE COMPLETED BEFORE ADDING FURTHER ACTIONS



Bumblebees sharing a flower in a suburban garden . Image: Jordan Lane

IDEA	POLLINATION PLAN
MAIN OBJECTIVE	Strategic Document – Södertälje Municipality Pollination Plan
VISION	To actively lower the threat against pollinators and engage both farmers, companies, the municipality and its citizens. Södertälje is the first municipality in Sweden to write a dedicated pollination plan
BACKGROUND	The Technical Committee is commissioned to develop a pollination plan. The pollination plan aims to ensure biodiversity by focusing on ecosystem services related to pollination. The mission is to map and develop a plan for what is needed to improve habitat and living conditions for pollinators and what the municipality can do by controlling, inter alia, what is planted and where.
LEAD ORGANISATION	Södertälje Technical Committee
KEY PARTNERS	City Planning Office, Destination Södertälje, Environmental Office, Citizens
MEASUREABLE GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Pollination Plan • Study Visits to Södertälje which inspire other municipalities to write similar strategic documents • Increase in pollinator numbers and habitat in Södertälje • Increased awareness of pollinators and other ecosystem services among officials and citizens • Chapter in Technical Handbook – Pollinator Landscape Management • Future commissions to work with other ecosystem services, such as grazing animals
CITY COUNCIL FOCUS AREA	Eco– municipality, Attractive Södertälje
RESOURCES & ASSETS	2,000,000 SEK in municipal funding 2018–2020
TIMESCALE	2018–2020
STATUS	Ongoing and funded – Vision & Budget 2018–2020
INSPIRATION	Green Infrastructure Action Plan for Pollinators – South-East Wales Auckland City Council – Plant for Pollination

4

POLLINATION PLAN

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON / ORGANISATION	KEY PARTNERS	TIMESCALE	RESOURCES
1. Communication Plan & Activities -	Project Coordinator & Communication Dept.		Spring 2018	Pollination plan budget
2. Sync with ongoing strategic work and documents - bio-topo database, green space strategy, farming strategy, structure plans and building strategy	Project coordinator	City planning office, Environmental office, Environmental strategists	Continuously	Pollination plan budget, Farming strategy budget
3. Inventory of Green Structure in Urban Areas and dissemination possibilities (including landscape perspective)	Project Coordinator & Consultant.	City Planning Office/Project Group	Autumn 2018	Pollination plan budget
4. Action plan - Green structure design /habitat reinforcement / plant selection	Project Coordinator & Consultant.	City planning office - Parks	Completed winter 2018/2019	Pollination plan budget
5. Transforming lawn to meadows in urban areas	City planning office - park	City Planning Office - Parks	spring-summer 2018	City office budget - Park
6. Pollination Plan in the City Hall - examine possibilities for installing bee hives on the roof of City Hall, planting a meadow.	Project Coordinator	Project Group	Spring 2018	Pollination plan budget, Farming strategy budget
7. Test sites with annual seed mixes	Landscape Architects - Park	Citizens	Completed 2018	City office budget - Park
8. Collaborate with Vårdinge Folkhögskola bee-keeping course	Project Coordinator/Farming strategy work group	Vårdinge Folkhögskola	Spring-summer 2018	External resource

THE POLLINATION PLAN IS ALREADY FUNDED BY THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2018-2020 - FURTHER ACTIONS WILL BE DESCRIBED AND DOCUMENTED THROUGH THAT PROCESS



Södertälje City Hall as seen from the canal. Image: Södertälje Municipality

IDEA	SUSTAINABLE CITY HALL
MAIN OBJECTIVE	To convert Södertälje City Hall into a flagship for sustainability. To 'walk the walk' and not just 'talk the talk' about sustainability.
VISION	Södertälje City Hall becomes well known for its sustainable profile, attracting study-visits from other cities and inspiring the sustainable renovation of other public buildings.
BACKGROUND	Södertälje City Hall is the physical embodiment of the Södertälje local government. How can we talk about sustainability if the very place where the 'local government' meets its citizens does not embody sustainable principles. With a range of actions, the city hall could become a place of inspiration to politicians, public servants, citizens and visitors alike.
LEAD ORGANISATION	Södertälje Municipality – Culture and Recreation Department
KEY PARTNERS	Telge Fastigheter, Södertälje municipality, Waste Coordinator
MEASUREABLE GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • energy consumption • amount of sick leave taken by building occupants • number of visitors to city hall • number of news articles
CITY COUNCIL FOCUS AREA	Eco- municipality, Attractive Södertälje, Public Service
RESOURCES & ASSETS	Municipal budget
TIMESCALE	Winter 2017 – Summer 2018
STATUS	Idea phase
INSPIRATION	Sveavägen 44 Roof top Park Lund City Hall 'the greenest city hall in Sweden'

5

SUSTAINABLE CITY HALL

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON / ORGANISATION	KEY PARTNERS	TIMESCALE	RESOURCES
1. Beehives on the roof. Fornhöjden Youth Centre has expressed interest in keeping two beehives on the roof of City Hall	Fornhöjden Youth Centre, Telge Fastigheter	City Hall Staff	2018	Pollination Plan Budget
2. Pollinator meadow on the roof.	Telge Fastigheter	City Hall Staff, Södertälje HR	2018	Pollination Plan Budget
3. Greenhouse on the roof. The greenhouse can be used a bookable meeting room (due to the shortage of meeting rooms in the City Hall) and as a place for growing some crops for the restaurant or for recreation.	Telge Fastigheter	Södertälje HR	2018	-
4. Remove all disposable items from City Hall	Waste Resource Coordinator		ASAP	-
5. Grow oyster mushrooms on coffee waste produces in City Hall. Mushrooms can then be used in the restaurant and exhausted coffee waste can be used in the plantings on the roof.	City Hall Restaurant	Waste Resource Coordinator	2018	-
6. Growing beds on the roof - allow staff to use their one hour of 'health-time' to tend to gardens on the roof.	Södertälje Municipality	Södertälje HR	2018	-
7. Electric Bicycles for public servants & secure bicycle storage	Södertälje Municipality	Environmental Department	2018	-
8. Circular Economy Strategy - energy, resources - climate neutral city hall	Södertälje Municipality	Waste Resource Coordinator	2018	-
9. Measure waste from the city Hall	Södertälje Municipality	Waste Resource Coordinator	ASAP	-

THESE ACTIONS REPRESENT A RANGE OF IDEAS, PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES THAT COULD LIFT THE PROFILE AND IDENTITY OF SÖDERTÄLJE



6

SÖDERTÄLJE LOCALLY GROWN – COMMUNICATION PLATFORM

Sharing is caring. Image: Jordan Lane

IDEA	SÖDERTÄLJE LOCALLY GROWN – COMMUNICATION PLATFORM
MAIN OBJECTIVE	To create a communication platform – both online and organisational within the municipality – for all types of farming and food related (from professional, organisational and recreational) activities in Södertälje.
VISION	A one-stop shop for all your growing needs in Södertälje. This is the place where you can find out everything you need to know about growing in Södertälje, find inspiration, information and the right contact person.
BACKGROUND	Farming and food is a fantastic catalyst for social activity, sustainable change and integration. Throughout the project period many interested citizens have contacted the municipality requesting more information about various 'farming' related activities. Currently the services related to farming are split up in different departments and units within the municipality. An organised website and online service is an excellent solution.
LEAD ORGANISATION	Södertälje Municipality
KEY PARTNERS	City Planning Office, Destination Södertälje,
MEASUREABLE GOALS	• interaction with citizens through website – visits, comments, information received
CITY COUNCIL FOCUS AREA	Eco- municipality
RESOURCES & ASSETS	A share of 12 million SEK in municipal funding from the Farming Strategy 2018–2020
TIMESCALE	2018–2020
STATUS	Idea phase
INSPIRATION	Göteborg City – Stadsnäraodling Auckland Design Manual – Auckland City Council

6

SÖDERTÄLJE LOCALLY GROWN – COMMUNICATION PLATFORM

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON / ORGANISATION	KEY PARTNERS	TIMESCALE	FUNDING
1. Make an agreement with Destination Södertälje to start a communication platform	Farming strategy work group	Destination Södertälje	2018	Farming strategy budget
2. Develop the structure and basic content of such a platform	Farming strategy work group, Destination Södertälje communication responsible	Destination Södertälje	2018	Farming strategy budget
3. Get the contracted graphic designers to give it a format	Destination Södertälje	Communications specialists	2018	Farming strategy budget
4. Launch the communication platform with an event together with the local actors and citizens	Farming strategy work group, Destination Södertälje communication responsible	Destination Södertälje, Farming and gardening education institutions, Tom Tits	2018	Farming strategy budget
THE COMMUNICATION SHOULD BE CREATED AND ITERATED WITH FAST FEEDBACK LOOPS – THE USERS AND CITIZENS WILL GUIDE ITS PROGRESS BEYOND THE 4 ACTIONS LISTED ABOVE				



Sharing is caring. Image: Jordan Lane

IDEA	FOOD, FARMING & EDUCATION
MAIN OBJECTIVE	To strengthen the links between Södertälje municipality and the educational institutions working within the green economy, especially the fields of organic farming, landscape management, gardening and cooking.
VISION	To attract a new generation of farming and gardening entrepreneurs, and to attract more students in these areas to Södertälje.
BACKGROUND	Södertälje is home to a unique combination of educational institutions offering courses and programs at different levels within the fields of organic farming, landscape management, gardening and cooking. Programs are offered at high-school, adult-education and polytechnic levels. This combination is unique in Sweden.
LEAD ORGANISATION	Södertälje Municipality & Educational Institutions – Skillebyholm, Järna Naturbruksgymnasium, Vackstanäs Gymanasiet, Vårdinge Folkhögskola
KEY PARTNERS	Destination Södertälje, City Planning Office, Cultural Office, Education Office
MEASUREABLE GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase in the number of student places offered within the 'green-economy' programs • increase in the number of internships offered at the municipality with landscape management • increase in the number of new green-economy producers/companies • educational institutions • attractive Södertälje – people moving to Södertälje to attend the educational institutions
CITY COUNCIL FOCUS AREA	Smart Södertälje – Quality education
RESOURCES & ASSETS	Municipal website and media channels, internship positions, Financed by Growing and Farming Strategy
TIMESCALE	Should become a permanent function and service
STATUS	Ongoing

7

NEXT GENERATION – FOOD, FARMING & EDUCATION

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON / ORGANISATION	KEY PARTNERS	TIMESCALE	RESOURCES
1. Event(s) with focus on farming and food education in Södertälje Municipality	Destination Södertälje (DS)	Food-, Farming and gardening-Education Institutions, Farming strategy work team	2018	Communication budget (DS)
2. Communication – inform food and farming students about Södertäljes work with farming, ecosystem services, etc through lectures & presentations	City Planning Office, Environmental Office, Cultural Office, Destination Södertälje	Farming and gardening education Institutions	Start 2018	Farming strategy budget
3. Communication – inform pupils in primary and secondary schools about future professions in the food and farming sector.	Destination Södertälje	All schools		
4. Use 'Naturkolans' facilities in Lima as a resource for future farming activities	Natur Centrum	Farming strategy work group	Start 2018	Existing facilities
5. Access to land for new graduates to assist them in starting to farm. Land rental agreements for new graduates to assist them in starting to farm for themselves	City Planning Office	Farming strategy work group Farming and gardening education Institutions	Start 2018	
6. Business development support for producers and farming startups (see action 2 – farming incubator)	Farming strategy work group	Farming and gardening education Institutions	-	Farming strategy budget
7. Communication – strengthen the profile of Södertälje as a hub for the green economy through a contact person, communication platform and organisation for farming	Farming strategy work team	Destination Södertälje	See Action 6	Farming strategy budget
8. Start-up price for land rental – use a sliding scale for land rental price. Free first year, 25% year 2, 50% year 3, 75% year 4, 110% year 5.	City Planning Office	-	-	-
9. Beekeeping course – collaboration between pollination plan and Vårdinge Folkhögskola's planned bee-keeping course.	Vårdinge Folkhögskola	City Planning Office	2018	Internal resources

THIS ACTION IS AN ONGOING COLLABORATION – IT WILL CONTINUE TO EVOLVE



Early season harvest at Under Tallarna. Image: Fredrik Sederholm

IDEA	SUSTAINABLE SUMMER ACTIVITIES
MAIN OBJECTIVE	Organise summer activities for youth with a focus on sustainable food production
VISION	Young people inspired by a range of sustainable summer activities.
BACKGROUND	Södertälje municipality organises annual summer activities for youth. The themes for the activities change annually. After a discussion with between the AGRI-URBAN project group and representatives from the Culture and Recreation department it was decided to propose a series of activities aimed at youth in Södertälje which focus on sustainability and food.
LEAD ORGANISATION	Sodertälje Municipality – Culture and Recreation Department
KEY PARTNERS	City Planning Office, Destination Södertälje, Under Tallarna, TIP, Local residents
MEASUREABLE GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • number of youth involved in the summer activities • new growing spaces and initiatives
CITY COUNCIL FOCUS AREA	Eco- municipality
RESOURCES & ASSETS	Culture & Recreation Office annual budget, plus possible funding from national government
TIMESCALE	Summer 2018
STATUS	Planning phase
INSPIRATION	Under Tallarna Theory into Practice Raumlabor Berlin – Osthang Project Summer School Bee Urban



Torekällberget Open-air Museum. Image: Fredrik Sederholm

IDEA	NEW-OLD KNOWLEDGE
MAIN OBJECTIVE	Increase knowledge of sustainable food amongst citizens and visitors to Södertälje.
VISION	A range of courses open to the public which focus on sustainable food production, homesteading and animal husbandry at Torekällberget.
BACKGROUND	Torekällberget is an open air museum which exhibits life in 19th century Södertälje. It has a large potential to invite professionals to host classes, courses and workshops related to sustainable food production. This could be a very interactive way to raise awareness and knowledge of sustainable food.
LEAD ORGANISATION	Södertälje Municipality – Torekällberget
KEY PARTNERS	Culture and Recreation Department, citizens
MEASUREABLE GOALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • revenue from courses and activities • number of people attending the activities • number of visitors to the museum
CITY COUNCIL FOCUS AREA	Attractive Södertälje, Knowledge and Education City, Our Citizens, Eco-municipality
RESOURCES & ASSETS	Torekällberget
TIMESCALE	Annual
STATUS	Ideas Phase
INSPIRATION	Work-Shop Australia Trade School – London

9. Process of building the IAP

9.1. Strategies for our IAP

THE FOCUS OF THIS INTEGRATED ACTION PLAN IS...

- To inspire Södertälje municipality and its citizens to grow a sustainable future together through food.
- To provide reference information and inspiration to other strategic documents within Södertälje municipality. (With specific focus on the Farming Strategy, Structural Plans, Development Plan, Pollination Plan, Food System Strategy).
- To propose integrated actions that can be adopted and implemented in Södertälje.

9.2. Sharing at EU level

Through the transnational meetings, Södertälje municipality has gathered a wide range of ideas and initiatives. An exchange project between cities and municipalities like AGRI-URBAN is very valuable for spreading good practices. It is much easier to provoke change in your own city when you have functioning examples to point at, than just "ideas in the air". The AGRI-URBAN partner cities have given us concrete and experienced knowledge of how to take new, innovative steps towards a green future. It is on local level things happen!

We are very grateful to all our AGRI-URBAN partners for sharing their good practices, and we especially want to mention the four practices we have picked up for Södertälje's Integrated Action Plan.

Agricultural Park – Mollet del Valles – Spain

We already knew Mollet del Valles from a former URBACT project in which we got to know about their agricultural park Gallecs. When it was decided that Mollet del Valles would join the AGRI-URBAN network it was immediately clear that we wanted to take further the idea about creating an agricultural park in Södertälje. With inspiration from Gallecs, where professional food production, leisure and hobby-growing as well as protection of natural resources are combined, we believe that an agricultural park in Södertälje could be a wonderful asset for our citizens.

Farming Incubator – Pays des Condruces – Belgium

Already in 2011, when our Leader project Södertälje Locally Grown started, it became clear that there existed people who wanted to try to make their living out of

vegetable growing, but they didn't have access to land. Therefore a discussion started with the planning office about possible areas for new vegetable growers on municipal land. But it was obvious that many would also need professional support and a kind of protected context where they could build up their enterprises until they had become strong enough to stand on their own. In Huy, Belgium we found an existing example creating exactly these protected conditions, were the new entrepreneurs also got possibilities to borrow equipment and share experiences with each other and with specialists. In Södertälje there are many immigrants with gardening skills and we have several training centers for farming and gardening. We believe, both for new Swedes and for garden students, a farming incubator could become a first step on their way to form their own enterprises.

Municipal Vegetable Farm – Mouans Sartoux – France

The Diet unit in Södertälje has a goal to increase the amount of local produce to their canteens, but there is until now not enough vegetable production in the region. To organize vegetable production under municipal ownership has been discussed, but it hasn't seemed realistic until now. As we have got to know Mouans-Sartoux through AGRI-URBAN there is a great opportunity to learn how a municipal vegetable garden can be organized. Mouans-Sartoux gets 85% of their public canteen vegetable consumption from their own garden, and many unemployed people get an occupation there. Additionally it also functions as a pedagogic garden for the pupils. We can now learn from Mouans-Sartoux and hopefully create an efficient municipal vegetable production that also includes pedagogical and social activities.

Pollination Plan – Monmouthshire – Wales

The worry for our pollinators is growing everywhere over the globe. When our AGRI-URBAN team came to Abergavenny and Monmouthshire we all fell in love with their Pollination Policy. This policy includes both the internal work of the county; what flowers adorns the municipal gardens and parks and what plants are cultivated along the roads. But it also includes an important information and advocacy work towards farmers, private gardeners and all citizens. How can we help the pollinators to survive and continue offering us their important services as pollinators? We went home and presented this initiative to our politicians in the Sustainability Committee, and - believe it or not – only two months later it was decided that Södertälje also will create its own Pollination Plan.



1
**AGRICULTURAL
PARK**
Mollet del Valles



2
**FARMING
INCUBATOR**
Pays des Condruces



3
**MUNICIPAL
FARM**
Mouans Sartoux



4
**POLLINATION
PLAN**
Abergavenny

10. Financial Resources

MUNICIPAL

Vision & Budget

How do you go from 'action planning' to implementation? This is possibly the greatest challenge facing any 'action planning network' city partner is the transition from action planning with project funding to implementation with municipal budget.

Södertälje has already succeeded in this transition with a number of actions!

Södertälje Municipality has already made decisions to undertake actions listed in this IAP. The Food System Strategy and the Pollination Plan have already received political support and municipal funding in the Vision & Budget 2018-2020 document. This is a great success for AGRI-URBAN. Combining this with an extra 12 million SEK over three years allocated to the implementation of the Farming Strategy, most of the actions listed in this IAP have the possibility to be funded at the municipal level.

LOCAL

LONA Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (Naturvårdsverket)

The local nature conservation initiative (LONA) aims to stimulate long-term conservation projects at municipal level. Key words for the LONA initiative are nature conservation, local initiatives and local energy, outdoor recreation, interaction, public health, urban nature and accessibility. Projects in the following categories can be supported:

- knowledge building
- development of policy documents, for example municipal nature conservation programs
- conservation
- care and management of areas, habitats and species (including measures that promote outdoor life in the natural and cultural environment)
- habitat restoration and species stocking
- information, education and other dissemination of knowledge

REGIONAL

Leader Sörmlandskusten

Södertälje Municipality is a member of LEADER Sörmlandskusten (Sörmlands coast).

- Create more jobs by developing the green and blue industries and local food production
- Seek the development that can be achieved by taking on the diversity of our area, different cultural and ethnic backgrounds, young and old, men and women.
- Develop models for housing and rural service
- Create more jobs by developing tourism

NATIONAL

Green City (Grön Stad)

The Swedish government is currently establishing a council for sustainable cities as well as a new support program for municipalities' work on urban nature and ecosystem services. The program will be called Green City (Grön Stad). The application period opens in January 2018 with a total of 100 million SEK available to municipalities during 2018. During 2019 (after the election) there will be 500 million SEK available, and finally 550 million in 2020. Applications will be accepted from municipalities that can demonstrate an integrated approach to working with urban nature and ecosystem services. Successful applications require co-financing of at least 50 percent.

EUROPEAN

A wide range of programmes and funding provide financial support to hundreds of thousands of people and organisations such as farmers, students, scientists, NGOs, businesses, towns, regions and many others. EU funding is available on local, regional, national, interregional and EU level. These schemes are grouped into 45 different categories, 9 of which are directly linked to innovation in agriculture, food and forestry. The most relevant AGRI-URBAN are presented below on the following page.

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

BUDGET: Approximately €200 billion

AIMS: Strengthen economic, social and territorial cohesion in the European Union by correcting imbalances between its regions.

FOCUS: Research and innovation; digital agenda; SME competitiveness; low-carbon economy.

WHAT TYPE OF FUNDING? Grants and other types of financial support provided by regions implementing their Operational Programmes.

WHO FOR? SMEs, research centres, universities, local and regional authorities, training centres, non-profit organisations.

European Social Fund (ESF)

BUDGET: Minimum €80 billion

AIMS: Investing in human capital to improve job opportunities for all EU citizens.

FOCUS: Improving skills and jobs, favouring employment, mobility and social inclusion, fighting poverty.

WHAT TYPE OF FUNDING: Grants and other forms of support provided by regions and Member States.

WHO FOR? Businesses, public bodies, schools and training centres, universities and non-profit organisations.

European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

BUDGET: €95 billion

AIMS: Improve competitiveness for farming and forestry, protect the environment and the countryside, improve the quality of life and diversification of the rural economy, and support locally based approaches to rural development.

WHAT TYPE OF FUNDING? Grants and subsidies for projects and contractual commitments provided by regions or countries implementing their rural development programmes.

WHO FOR? Farmers, foresters, rural businesses, groups, organisations.

Erasmus+

BUDGET: €14.77 billion

FOCUS: Education, training, youth and sport.

WHAT TYPE OF FUNDING: Scholarships, grants for small projects, loan guarantees for students...

WHO FOR? Educational institutions, training centres, universities, different sorts of organisations.

INTERREG: Cooperating between regions

ERDF also provides funding for several European territorial cooperation activities including the Interregional cooperation programmes known as 'INTERREG'. There are three types of INTERREG programmes: interregional cooperation between crossborder regions, between states in a given part of Europe, and between regions throughout the whole of Europe. The interregional cooperation programme for 2014-2020 'INTERREG EUROPE' is open to all regions and supports mainly the exchange of practices at regional policy level. Cross-border and transnational cooperation programmes may support investments more widely, including in the agri-food chain. The cooperation programmes are currently being defined by managing authorities.

EUROSTARS

BUDGET: €1.14 billion

FOCUS: Innovation in all sectors.

WHAT TYPE OF FUNDING? Grants for development of new products, services or processes provided on a country-by-country basis.

WHO FOR? Consortia must include at least one research and development performing small or medium sized enterprise (SME). Other participants can be of any kind (industries, universities and research institutes).

LIFE+

BUDGET: €3.4 billion

FOCUS: Environment and climate action.

WHAT TYPE OF FUNDING: Grants for environmental projects provided through yearly calls for proposals.

WHO FOR? Private companies, NGOs, public bodies.

H2020

The main opportunities for agriculture and forestry can be found in two main H2020 calls:

- Sustainable Food Security (SFS)
- Rural Renaissance (RUR)

With these calls, we search support to:

- improve the management of resources and ecosystems to provide healthier and more diverse food to people while safeguarding the environment and adapting to climate change;
- develop smarter, greener and more circular rural economies through modernised policies, generation renewal, more innovative value chains and enhanced uptake of digital opportunities.

11. How food connects all the SDGs

"all the sustainable development goals are directly or indirectly connected to sustainable and healthy food"

Speaking at the Stockholm EAT Food Forum 13 June 2016, centre director Johan Rockström and board member Pavav Sukhdev, pushed for a new way of viewing the economic, social and ecological aspects of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The new illustration is based on one of the iconic figures of the Stockholm Resilience Centre, "the wedding cake", developed by centre science director Carl Folke and others. It implies that economies and societies are seen as embedded parts of the biosphere.

This model changes our paradigm for development, moving away from the current sectorial approach where social, economic, and ecological development are seen as separate parts. Now, we must transition toward a world logic where the economy serves society so that it evolves within the safe operating space of the planet.

Johan and Pavan concluded that actually *all the sustainable development goals are directly or indirectly connected to sustainable and healthy food*. They also put forward that goals on eradicating poverty (SDG 1) and zero hunger (SDG 2) requires gender equality (SDG 5), decent jobs (SDG 8) and reduced inequality (SDG 10).

Johan Rockström is Chairman of the EAT Advisory Board. Together with Pavan Sukhdev, Founder and CEO of Gist Advisory, he presented the new view of the SDGs in the opening key note speech at the 2016 EAT Forum.

Text and image sourced from:

"How Food Connects All the SDGs." How Food Connects All the SDGs – Stockholm Resilience Centre, 14 June 2016, www.stockholmresilience.org/research/research-news/2016-06-14-how-food-connects-all-the-sdgs.html.

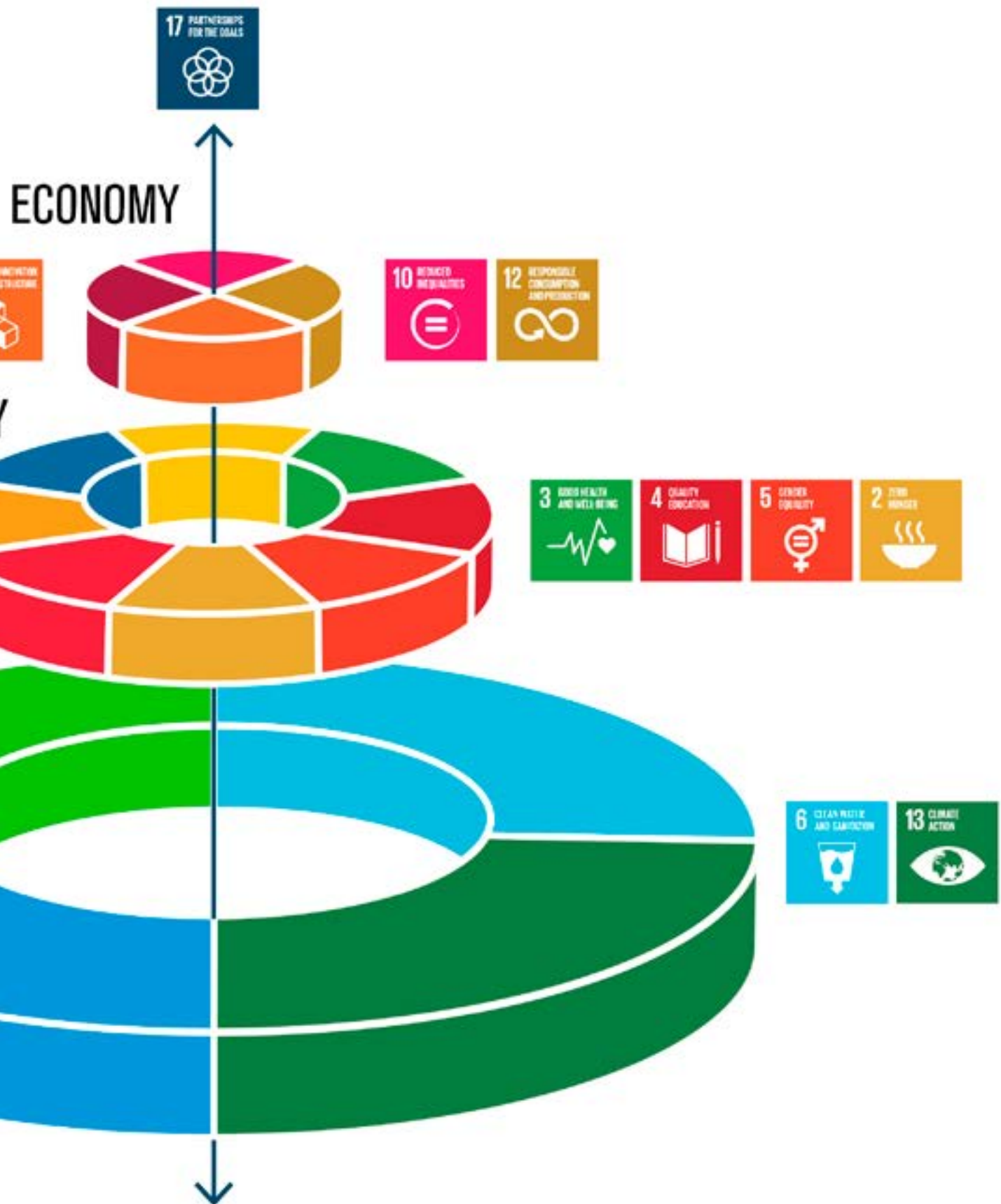


SOCIETY



BIOSPHERE





12. The future...

Once upon a time Södertälje and the wider Mälaren Valley region was the pantry of Stockholm, producing not only cereals, milk and meat, but also vegetables, fruits and berries.

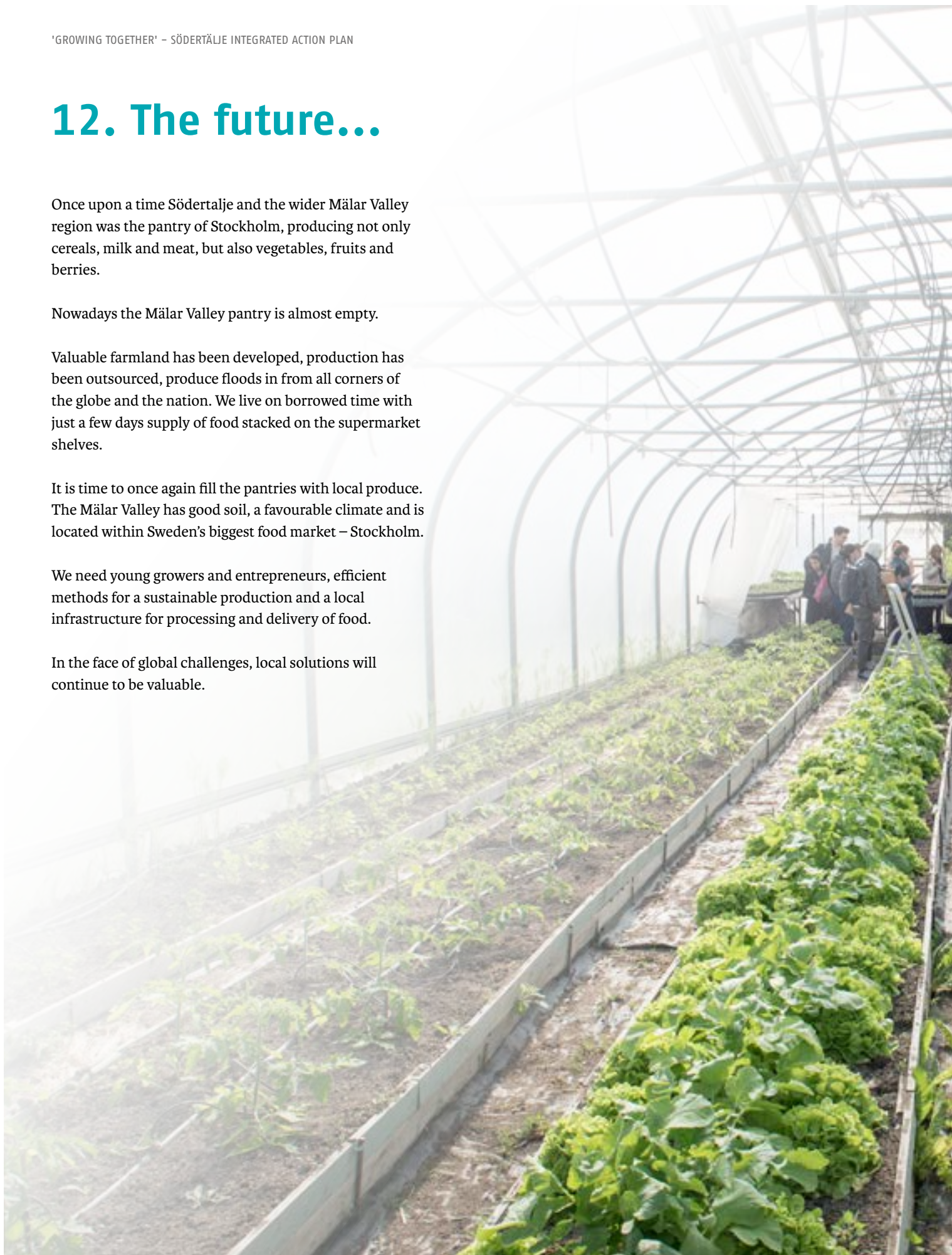
Nowadays the Mälaren Valley pantry is almost empty.

Valuable farmland has been developed, production has been outsourced, produce floods in from all corners of the globe and the nation. We live on borrowed time with just a few days supply of food stacked on the supermarket shelves.

It is time to once again fill the pantries with local produce. The Mälaren Valley has good soil, a favourable climate and is located within Sweden's biggest food market – Stockholm.

We need young growers and entrepreneurs, efficient methods for a sustainable production and a local infrastructure for processing and delivery of food.

In the face of global challenges, local solutions will continue to be valuable.





Early Spring in the greenhouse at Norrvyälle Image: Fredrik Sederholm



AGRI-URBAN Transnational Meeting in Södertälje May 2017 Image: Fredrik Sederholm





TACK!

The Södertälje AGRI-URBAN team would like to thank the AGRI-URBAN family for their support, inspiration, friendship and willingness to share throughout the entire project. To all our project partners, thank you. We would also like to extend a special token of our gratitude to our lead partners from Baena for their tireless energy, emails and enthusiasm and for creating the AGRI-URBAN project. To our lead expert Miguel Sousa, thank you for guidance and support.

It is a privilege to be a part of an URBACT network and we are very thankful for the opportunity. We would also like to thank our local politicians, colleagues, Urbact Local Group members and the citizens of Södertälje.

We are all in this together.

Thank you.

Sara Jervfors, Helena Nordlund, Jordan Lane & Christine Strandberg
Södertälje AGRI-URBAN project team.



**Södertälje
kommun**

Södertälje Municipality

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