VINNA –In-depth Master plan for VINtrosa-Latorp and Hidinge-LanNA

Geographical scope
Lekeberg, is a typical rural district with about 7 000 inhabitants. Örebro municipality has about 130 000 inhabitants, most of them living in an urban area; Örebro city with 90 000 inhabitants. The two rural areas of Örebro have been identified for NEW BRIDGES are situated close to the Lekeberg boarder. The “formal” border between these municipalities is just a line on the map. Now the idea is to “forget” the border and plan it as a one rural area. Another border between these areas is the main road between Örebro and next city Karlskoga which is also the main road between Stockholm and Oslo.

The main aim of the Pilot Action
Örebro will initiate a long-term strategy for strengthening quality of life in urban-rural regional planning. The strategy will help condense the co-operation in the area and will end up in common Master plan for two municipalities in the region. However, this process is time consuming and broad. Thus the process of Master plan will be continued also after the conclusion of NEW BRIDGES project and the project offers only one perspective to this plan.

For Örebro NEW BRIDGES project offers an appropriate tool for increasing residents’ participation to fulfil their requirements of quality of life in this planning process. One of the main questions rose up during the two first Stakeholder meetings was: “How to use and combine the knowledge and priorities of QL with the political targets and strategies for Sustainable Development?”

Two underlying Pilot Actions have developed to be important:
- A sustainable way for integrated and cross-sectoral urban-rural co-operation
- Long term strategy for dialog (citizens and policymakers)

During the project time the pilot actions will have three concrete foci-points of urban-rural planning to be considered in the strategy: housing, public transport system and local services.
The main aim is to make quality of life and the social dimension visible and equally important as the economic and ecological dimension of sustainable development when planning the society. During the Stakeholder meeting together with policymakers and politicians from the two municipalities the main aims of the co-operation was expressed as follows:

- Effective use of common resources
- Long term urban-rural co-operation on public transports, care of elderly residents and local services
- Both QL and sustainable development in mind
- Dialog with the citizens

Main problems and challenges tackled by the Pilot Action

1. Physical planners and social planners mostly work and have their professions separated from each other and don't necessarily understand each others. The challenge is to get different professionals together, share their different knowledge and find out the benefits and gains with an integrated and cross-sectoral model of planning.

2. Individual needs and feelings of having a good life depend on gender, age, culture, education, their social and economic situation. Even it is commonly accepted the planning processes is not considering it as much as it should. There is a lack of citizens' involvement of the citizens in the target areas. The dialog between politicians and the members of the society should be further developed. The challenge is to find "that" strategy!

Expected outputs/results of the Pilot Action

Two methods/tools are used for the common Master Plan. The tools will be discovered as useful tool whenever you plan for sustainable development:

- A sustainable way for integrated and cross-sectoral urban-rural co-operation.
- Long term strategy for Dialog (citizens and policymakers)