

# “Towards a new normal”

## *How to nourish resilient communities?*

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The proposal has been formulated within the framework of ISU, Institute for Sustainable Urban Development. ISU is a platform which supports and initiates collaboration between the City of Malmö and Malmö University, in order to strengthen knowledge and learning for sustainable urban development.

*“In a resilient society cultural diversity and creativity must flourish. Indeed, cultural diversity and creativity must be an integral part of any scenarios of resilient society” (Manzini and Till 2015)*

*“Just as biodiversity is an essential component of ecological sustainability, so is cultural diversity essential to social sustainability. Diverse values should not be respected just because we are tolerant folk, but because we must have a pool of diverse perspectives in order to survive, to adapt to changing conditions, to embrace the future” (Hawkes 2001)*

### **Why/Purpose**

Corona crisis is strongly affecting cultural life in its different dimensions and we don't know at the moment when and if this crisis will end. The current crisis is highlighting strengths and limits of our current ways of living and organizing life in cities when it comes to long-term sustainability. It is a unique opportunity to learn about what are the key values that inform the cultural life of a society and which practices can nurture resilient communities.

This crisis demands quick responses to emerging needs and challenges, but it also calls for long-term strategies to deal with the consequences of the crisis in the long run. There is no given answer about how to address this crisis, but rather there is the need to learn together from what is happening and the actions which are driven by different actors in the society. The crisis also raises questions relating to the current arrangements and principles by which the public sector supports independent and institutional cultural actors.

We want to learn together with other actors who are at the moment trying to address this crisis about the following:

- What is the role of culture and cultural activities in a resilient society?
- Which values are central for fostering resilient cultural life and communities?
- Which practices can nurture cultures of resilience among citizens and other actors? And who is driving/can drive these (cultural) practices?
- What kind of support is needed for these (cultural) practices (and the actors driving them) to thrive?

### **How/The process**

We propose as ISU to organize a design research process focusing on supporting learning and further action/experimentation about the topic of “cultures and resilience”. More specifically the process will (1) document responses/activities emerging as a reaction to the Corona crises; (2) use the collected data to further refine questions and focuses for a (3) co-learning and co-design process that will involve

representatives from different sectors in reflecting, ideating and testing possible new practices and ways to support and nurture resilience in Malmö.

### 1. Document ongoing initiatives

Carrying out interviews with different actors who are driving activities in this very moment and/or have somehow reacted to the current situation by bringing up ideas, critique to the current situation. The aim is to involve both from municipal as well as independent actors and try to reach for different geographical areas in Malmö

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If/how is the corona crises affecting your work/organization?</li> <li>2. Were you ready to meet a crisis? Have you been in a crises before and what did you learn from that?</li> <li>3. har ni ställt om eller funderat på att ställa om er verksamhet för att bidra till samhället eller för att klara er bättre själva?</li> <li>4. What are you doing right now and how did it start?</li> <li>5. Which resources are using from your previous experiences and work/organization?</li> <li>6. Who is involved and are you collaborating with someone? How did the collaboration started?</li> <li>7. Which challenges and possibilities do you see in the current situation? Which are your current needs?</li> <li>8. How are you thinking to continue?</li> <li>9. Are you documenting what are you doing? If yes how? Are you reflecting/evaluating what you are doing? If yes how?</li> <li>10. What are you learning at the moment about your ordinary work/organization? (is it something you want to bring/continue in the future and/or are things you want to leave behind?)</li> <li>11. How do you experience your interactions with the City of Malmö and other funders/regulators during this crisis (where applicable)? How adequate/appropriate has their response been?</li> <li>12. Which are important learnings that the city and the cultural department, other funders/regulators should take with them in the future?</li> </ol> <p>(someone else we should talk to?)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Om/ Hur har corona krisen påverkat er/din verksamhet?</li> <li>2. var du/ni förberedd på en kris?/ har ni varit i kris förut och vad har ni lärt er från det?</li> <li>3. har ni ställt om eller funderat på att ställa om er verksamhet för att bidra till samhället eller för att klara er bättre själva?</li> <li>4. vad gör du/ni just nu och hur startades det?</li> <li>5. vad har ni för resurser som ni kan använda nu från era tidigare erfarenheter och verksamhet?</li> <li>6. vem är involverad/ samarbetar ni med någon? Hur blev samarbetet till?</li> <li>7. utmaningar och möjligheter i nuvarande situation? nuvarande behov?</li> <li>8. hur tänker ni fortsätta?</li> <li>9. om/hur dokumenterar ni vad ni gör? Och hur reflekterar/utvärdera ni vad ni gör?</li> <li>10. vad lär ni själva kring er egna "normala verksamhet"? (erfarenheter som man vill ta vidare in i framtiden och lärdomar om det som inte fungerar och man inte vill ha i framtiden)</li> <li>11. Hur upplever du dina interaktioner med Malmö stad och andra finansiärer / tillsynsmyndigheter under denna kris (i förekommande fall)? Hur adekvat / lämpligt har deras respons varit?</li> <li>12. vad ni önskar att Malmö Stad/KFv/övriga tillsynsinsatser lär sig från vad som händer nu?</li> </ol> <p>(- någon annan som vi borde prata med?)</p>
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### Interviewees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Swop Shop - Green Meeting place	info@swopshop.se
Plan B	Via facebook
Culturestream- Lokställarna	jonna@in-discourse.com
Malmöfestivalen - projektledare	david.ostberg@malmö.se
Central library	Anders fixar
Garaget	karin-karuchka.kristiansen@malmö.se, Barns och ungdoms bibliotekarie, ansvarig för kreativ verkstad
Jonas Jarl	jonas@sodracommunity.se
Inkonst, Chris Schenlaer	chris@inkonst.com
Malmö Dockteater	<u><a href="mailto:malmodockteater@gmail.com">malmodockteater@gmail.com</a></u>
Informationscentralen på Lindängen (Returen, red cross, Framtidens hus, Margareta Rängård)	jorgen.andersson@malmö.se, marika sandgren (röda korset)-> kontakt to hälsofrämjare Nouh
Hela Malmö	Nicolas malba003@helamalmö.com
Malmö Live	<u><a href="mailto:karin.karlsson@malmolive.se">karin.karlsson@malmolive.se</a></u> , <u><a href="mailto:per.hedberg@malmolive.se">per.hedberg@malmolive.se</a></u> (MSO)
Folkets Hus Rosengård	munafolketshus@gmail.com
ABF	Åsa Sandström
Jennie Järvå, Enhetschef Kulturanalys och stöd, KFV	jennie.jarva@malmö.se

## 2. Analysis of interviews: map of themes and focuses

Analyse the preliminary data collected through the interviews to define themes and possible focuses for the co-learning and co- design process. Discuss the mapping also together with representatives from UCLG cities, DESIS Lab, Ann Light University of Sussex, in order to confront what is specific from Malmö and what we can learn from other cities.

## 3. A reflection and design process

Use empirical data collected during the spring as a starting point to reflect and design together with different actors about the following:

- What is the role of culture/cultural life in a resilient society?
- Which values are central for fostering resilient communities?

- Which practices can nurture a culture of resilience among citizens and other actors? And who is driving/can drive these (cultural) practices?
- What kind of support is needed for these (cultural) practices (and the actors driving them) to thrive?

### **What/Outcome**

This process will generate:

*For the city of Malmö....*

The process can support the cultural department in evaluating/further developing their current actions as well as their long-term strategy to deal with the “new normal” and support resilience through cultural activities;

*For Malmö University/ISU....*

A design research process focusing on culture and resilience that starting by studying current and emerging practices aims at informing future ways of supporting/nurturing culture in the city;

*For other actors involved...*

Possibility to reflect on their own activities and learn from others.