



MISTRA SWECIA
CLIMATE, IMPACTS & ADAPTATION

Is adaptation to climate change addressed in municipal planning?

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- Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute



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- Department of Meteorology
- Institute for International Economic Studies



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Swecia studying the adaptation process

Three main components:

1. Climate risk perceptions among stakeholders
2. Adaptation and social learning
3. Policy integration

2008-09 Stockholm region

2009-10 Forestry sector

+ June 2009: Water utilities study



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Planning context

- Climate change "new" to municipal planning
- Sweden a late starter
- Swedish comprehensive planning not binding
- Climate change risks "small", but sea level rise an unknown



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Context *cont'd*

Questions regarding:

- supply of knowledge and guidelines from national level
- dealing with uncertainty
- the extent to which risks should be reduced (cost & benefits)



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Research question(s)

Is adaptation to climate change addressed in municipal comprehensive planning ?

- How do municipalities differ?
- What factors can help explain the differences?
- What changes are needed for adaptation to be addressed more appropriately?



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Frameworks

Comprehensive planning as *policy formulation*

- Environmental Policy Integration +
- Organisational learning

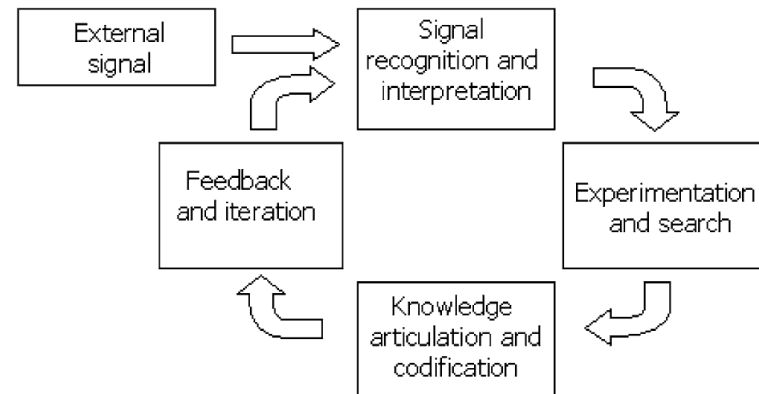


Figure 1. Schematic of learning cycle (adapted from Zollo and Winter, 2002: 345).



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Early observations

- Acknowledged problem (?)
- Case 1: building restrictions motivated by expected sea level rise
- Case 2: climate scenarios to be used for risk assessments
- Case 3: no signs of recognition



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Swecia contributions

Conclusions regarding:

- *the municipality as an actor and planning as an instrument when addressing adaptation to climate change*
- *Local adaptation in a national context*



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Thanks!

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