


ABRIDGED VERSION

Regional Development Programme for Skåne 2009–2016





Published by Region Skåne 2010, ISBN 978-91-7261-189-4
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Printers: AM-tryck. Circulation: 1 000 copies
For more information visit: www.skane.se/utvecklingsprogrammet

Foreword

It is necessary for Skåne to describe a common vision for tomorrow that can be used as a blueprint for planning and development in Skåne. An important function of the Regional Development Programme is to establish and incorporate the intentions of all the parties involved. Working life, accommodation, research and development, communications, the arts and culture, education, the environment and climate, public health and the business sector are all important spheres of activity. By organising a programme that incorporates pertinent topics and questions it is possible to highlight possible conflicts and exploit potential synergy effects. The cross-section dimension also gives added value to social planning and encourages innovation. The Regional Development Programme that was adopted in 2004 has been accepted as the basis for this updated Development Programme that looks towards 2016.

Skåne and Sweden were not spared the effects of the 2008 world recession, a collapse that came at about the same time as the Regional Development Programme was updated. The Programme, which has set its sights on 2016, will no doubt see more swings in the economy and although this recession is more severe than many others, it can be seen as a natural part of the economic cycle. The Programme's long-term view means that fluctuations in the economy become less significant.

The key targets for the Regional Development Programme are those organisations that work with the development of Skåne, in other words the municipalities, region, national authorities, the business community, non-governmental organisations, associations etc. The participation of these parties is critical if the Programme is to be a joint effort and if we are to succeed in attaining our vision of a dynamic Skåne that wishes to secure the agreed objectives of profitable growth, attractiveness, sustainability and balance. By establishing a development programme that is well supported within Skåne we have created the necessary conditions for harnessing all the potential energy, a factor that will make the development work more effective and efficient. The underlying hope and ambition is that the Programme inspires and promotes contributions that will have a positive effect on constructive developments in Skåne. Realising the Programme will vitalise the development work and be an exciting challenge for all involved.

Skåne has enormous potential; this is something we must exploit and benefit from!

Skåne, June 2009



Annika Annerby Jansson
President of the Regional Council



1. The Regional Council approves the proposed Regional Development Programme.
2. The Regional Council encourages increased collaboration between the Development Programme and Regional Sector Programmes so as to promote unity
3. There will be a dialogue between all parties involved to ensure the realisation of the Programme
4. Region Skåne will apply the vision and overall objectives of the Programme in its internal control document and work to achieve the Programme's aims
5. Implementation and follow-up will be achieved with the use of reports, such as 'Hur har det gått i Skåne?' «How have things gone in Skåne?», and at meetings, such as 'skånska utvecklingsdagen' «Skåne Development Day».

A dynamic Skåne – vision 2016

The vision of a dynamic Skåne is characterised by the will to succeed. The key is to create an achievable picture of a future that inspires, challenges and energises sustainable development work throughout the region. The vision must provide advantageous guidelines for residents and businesses, and encourage outsiders to visit – again and again. Looking back: the 2016 perspective...

Skåne is at the heart of the southern Baltic

Skåne is Sweden's gateway to the Continent. Its proximity to Copenhagen and the major markets of the southern Baltic Rim such as northern Germany and Poland has clear advantages. The upcoming Fehmarn Belt Link (Germany/Denmark) and the fixed link between Helsingborg and Helsingör (Sweden/Denmark) will further improve the road/rail network of southern Scandinavia and northern Europe.

The benefits of the Öresund integration

Approximately 20,000 people commuted over the Öresund in 2008, today (2016) the number has more than doubled. Cross-border obstacles are a thing of the past and travel is environmentally clean and efficient. Our choice of employment, study, residency, shopping and accommodation are determined by what suits us best.

Variety and opportunity

A kaleidoscope of nationalities rubs shoulders and the region is characterised by openness and tolerance – a community that has opened its doors to new cultures and life styles. The streets are alive and commerce is flourishing. Getting around in Skåne is easy thanks to the well developed transport system. There is a harmonious symbiosis between rural and urban communities. Skåne is known for its beautiful countryside, creative arts, state-of-the-art research and development, and successful global companies. The woodlands,



open countryside, rich cultural heritage and nearness to the Continent have opened the door to a wide variety of interests.

Skåne is flourishing

Skåne is unique; its multiplicity of urban centres is relatively compact and there is a close relationship between town and country. The attractions of country life and small communities are enjoying a well-earned renaissance and the food industry that is so important for Skåne is thriving as never before. A comprehensive, environment-friendly public transport network embraces every corner of the region, a factor that allows people to live and work where they feel happiest.

Exciting job opportunities

Skåne is becoming an increasingly interesting place to live. A dynamic business sector, highly respected universities, state-of-the-art research companies and a booming tourist and visitor industry have heralded the arrival of many exciting job opportunities. The public sector provides excellent services and successfully competes for qualified personnel, factors

that allow Skåne to maintain a high standard of healthcare.

A magnet for creativity

Skåne's closeness to Denmark together with the many cultures of residents born outside Scandinavia has established an environment that is infused with new potential and sub-cultures. The meeting of peoples encourages understanding and paves the way for new forms of creativity, particularly amongst the young. Bio-medicine, IT, film and music are just a few of the business sectors that have gained from the pioneering spirit of the new entrepreneurs who have developed and launched innovative products and services on the world.

Global research centres

The 2009 decision to establish the MAX IV and ESS facilities in Lund has strengthened the importance of Sweden and Denmark's research and development competence throughout the world. The imminent start-ups have already led to significant spin-off effects throughout

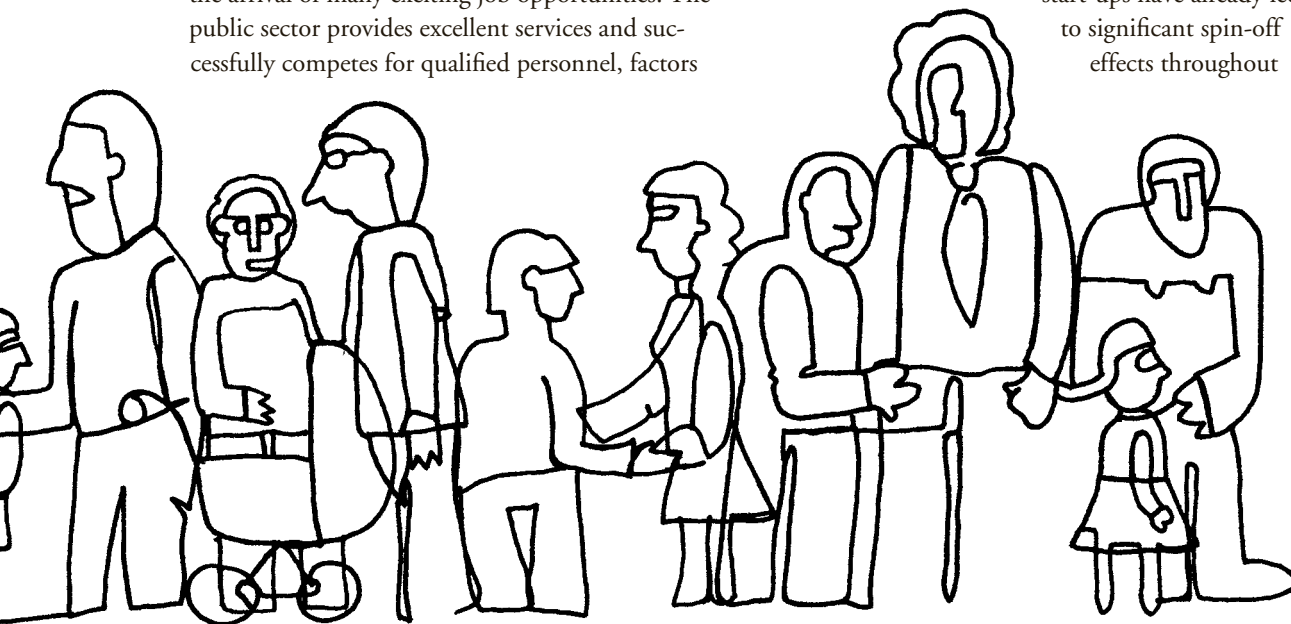


ILLUSTRATION: © MARIA BORGELÖV

Skåne. Areas of world-class research include nano-technology, clean-tech, food and medicine.

A leading player in matters related to changes in the climate and the environment

The atmosphere in Skåne is clean, air and noise pollution are minimal, and the region is environment conscious. The EU's improved climate objectives have been reached and Skåne plays a leading role in climate awareness; this includes promoting cutting edge research and supporting world-class companies in their efforts to export know-how and technology. Skåne is also considered a model for environment-friendly public transport both nationally and internationally. Rail-bound public transport helps improve the environments in Skåne's larger cities as well as dramatically reducing Skåne's impact on the climate. The Baltic Sea is now a far cleaner sea with a sustainable fish population and fishing industry.

A diversity of dwellings for all needs and wishes

The construction of new dwellings is on the up and all groups of society are able to find their ideal home in multi-cultural residential areas where the quality of life is enhanced through community spirit and tolerance. Access to nature and recreation areas is good throughout Skåne. Reliable and sustainable commuting communications also open the door to a wide range of job and education opportunities and services.

A fascinating cultural heritage

Skåne has an exciting cultural heritage that has at various times sent ripples across Europe. Ancient

monuments, a varied countryside, a long coastline, manor houses and concerts with international stars are just some of the aspects of the region that delight visitors and residents alike.

Harmony and trust are watchwords

The people of Skåne are known to be sociable and open. Many are members of one or more associations; these include sports clubs and study circles. They trust their friends and neighbours and easily make contact with visitors and strangers.

Collaboration is the key word

The various geographic and geopolitical parts of Skåne are keen to work together and complement each other – qualities that benefit all parties. Collaboration between the region's universities, colleges, businesses, research centres, non-government organisations and the public sector has resulted in a synergy effect that is very productive and established a wider base on which to build, a characteristic that attracts national and foreign research investments and companies. This collaboration also benefits the region's welfare and strengthens its democracy, features that support the business community and long-term social progress. The collaboration that is evident throughout southern Sweden, the Öresund Region and the southern Baltic Rim also promote developments in Skåne.



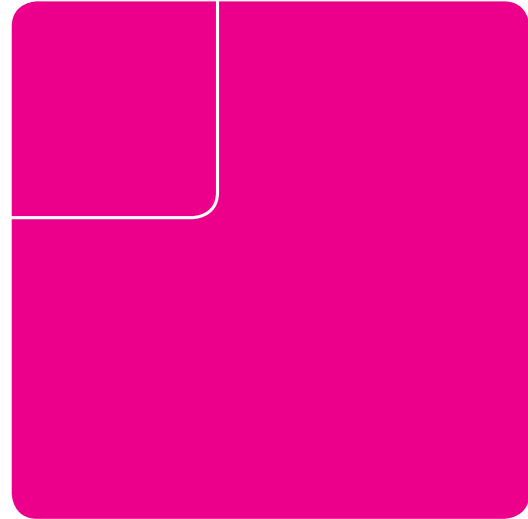
PHOTO: © KASPER DUDZIK



PHOTO: © JENS CHRISTIAN



TEA MÄKIPÄÄ & HALLDÓR ULFARSSON, ATLANTIS, 2007. COURTESY THE ARTISTS
PHOTO: © ANDERS NORRSÉLL



Overall objectives and challenges

... looking forward: the 2009 perspective. The overall objectives of growth, attractiveness, sustainability and balance are all incorporated in the vision of a dynamic Skåne – a sustainable society. The overall objectives for Skåne correspond to the economical, social and ecological dimensions of the concept of sustainable development.

Profitable growth

In economic terms, Skåne is a vital part of the Öresund Region; it is also a profitable growth centre for Sweden and the southern Baltic Rim. As a welfare state it is important that Sweden, and this includes Skåne, is and remains competitive. In short, what is good for Skåne is good for Sweden.

Attractiveness

As a dynamic border region with a high standard of living, Skåne attracts people of every age and from all walks of life. And as part of southern Sweden and the Öresund Region, Skåne must be and remain an attractive region to visit and live in as well as be an interesting option for investors, conferences, exhibitions, shows and other activities.

Sustainability

Diversity is seen as a social, cultural and environmental asset; together they cultivate a sustainable society.

Balance

The development of each part of the region is determined by the prevailing conditions. Divergence is

enriching and supports the dynamic that is required to stimulate Skåne's development. It is important that all areas of Skåne are equally motivated and as such it is beneficial to support a multiplicity of centres. The development of one area shall not be at the expense of another. From an Öresund and southern Swedish perspective, every part of Skåne plays an important role.

The challenges

In order to achieve our vision and goal, Skåne must rise to meet a number of challenges. The most important of these have been identified as:

- **Skåne must be a leading knowledge region**
- **Participation must increase and alienation must decrease.**
- **Our impact on the environment and climate must be reduced**
- **Skåne must be more accessible in every sense of the word**
- **Integration in the Öresund Region must be encouraged at every level.**



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CHALLENGE:

Knowledge

Skåne must uphold its reputation as a leading knowledge region. As the world economy becomes more global, the competitive aspects of knowledge grow in importance. In order to meet the challenges and participate in Skåne's growth, the need for a higher level of basic education becomes more important as does access to information and education in a life-long perspective. Meaningful research is conducted in universities and other centres of higher education, and it is through good junior, intermediate and senior high schools that the latter can be fed with suitable candidates; these are people who burn with the desire to further their studies and learn more. It is important to encourage potential entrepreneurs. Long-term forecasts that can help predict the future needs of the labour-market are also a key ingredient. To strengthen the international competitive edge, universities, colleges, research organisations and the business sector must strengthen their bonds and put emphasis on collaboration and investments in knowledge-intensive business sectors that foster work-related competences and skill development.

In order to create a leading knowledge region that attracts world-class researchers, it is necessary

to increase investments in research and research facilities. By collaborating and creating a distinctive image, the universities and colleges of Skåne, the public sector and business sectors will increase their chances of success. Skåne's closeness to Copenhagen and the Continent gives us comparative advantages with respect to knowledge. Collaborative research in the Öresund Region has come a long way; amongst other things this has manifested itself in the Öresund Science Region. In addition it is important to support and promote commercialisation of the results of the research, for example from medical and clinical research, two areas where Skåne has an excellent national and international reputation. Medicon Valley is a clear and successful example that can be used as a template for other activities where the expansion and development of clusters and innovation systems are judged to have beneficial potential.



CHALLENGE:

Participation and integration

Participation must increase and alienation must decrease. The encouragement and lubrication of social integration is a prerequisite for the development of Skåne. Participation will be advanced by ensuring that more people have employment, their own home and a good education as well as by encouraging residents to participate in democratic elections etc. Involvement means that the residents of Skåne feel that they belong, are safe, have faith in the future, feel that they have a say and see how all aspects of society interact. Access to good healthcare is fundamental to the feeling of security. Prioritised contributions to promote participation and sustainability in Skåne means creating a supportive environment; this includes offering stimulating, high-quality schools, good living standards, creative employment and playing an active role in social activities.

It is also important to create conditions and opportunities for all groups in society and allow them to live their lives as they wish and, not least, have access to information and be given the opportunity to have their say. Culture has a unique capacity to support

the development of the individual, help create identities, promote participation and social regeneration, and thereby support Skåne's growth and attractiveness.

The point of departure for employment in Skåne is that everyone who can and wants to work has the opportunity to get a job for which they are qualified. Because the conditions change and competition hardens, globalisation requires increased flexibility. One priority is to improve candidate/job matching as this means that the available resources can be invested in educating those people that are least qualified for the vacancies. It is very important to identify a candidate's qualification needs early and support employers, particularly SMEs, in their job matching work.



PHOTO: © BENGT OLOF OLSSON/BILDHUSET

CHALLENGE:

The environment and the climate

Despite considerable efforts, the discharge of toxic substances into the atmosphere, soil and water, and eutrophication in Skåne are still unacceptably high; this is primarily because Skåne is a major farming region. Road traffic also generates toxic substances that find their way into the atmosphere, soil and water, and causes eutrophication. Skåne is a relatively densely populated region that also has considerable transit traffic and is thereby particularly vulnerable to excessive discharges by road traffic and shipping along the coast. Both the Region's biological diversity and cultural environment are threatened by the untenable exploitation and structural transformations that are taking place in the farming, forestry and fishing industries. The expansion of the infrastructure and urban areas is consuming fertile land; this not only threatens long-term local food supplies but also access to recreational areas.

There are a number of ways of meeting climate challenges and achieving the overall sustainable goal. Through the development of products and knowledge and by applying climate friendly purchasing methods in the public sector, it is possible to grasp

the opportunities offered by technical, biological and marketing developments such as plant breeding, the prevention and management of flooding and climate-smart temperature control during heat waves. There is a need for an all-out attempt to switch power supplies to sustainable forms of energy and in the transport sector a transition to, in the first place, bio-gas, preferably in combination with electric hybrids. A sustainable urban development that includes investments in public transport and improved insulation of buildings that are constructed in a sustainable manner is another area to be given priority. In order to combat emissions from, for example, the long-distance transportation of foodstuffs it is necessary to invest in nutritious local foods.



PHOTO: © KASPER DUDZIK

CHALLENGE:

Accessibility

If the right conditions for growth and balance in Skåne are to be created, it is important to ensure that the doors and gateways to Skåne are open and welcoming, and that any remaining internal obstacles to mobility are removed. Accessibility is important if Skåne is to be an attractive region for visitors, residents and businesses. Unlike many conurbations, Skåne has a multiplicity of centres where various types of urban area complement each other. In the context of the outside world, Skåne is also an integral part of a number of dynamic geographic areas; these include the Öresund Region, Southern Sweden as a whole and the Baltic Rim. The increasing integration of the housing and labour markets in Skåne and the Öresund Region offers a unique opportunity to increase the critical mass of labour and skills for the business sector. The expansion of the region and accessibility does not necessarily lead to additional and longer journeys; indeed it can mean that journey times are cut, the choice of transport is more efficient and there are fewer impacts on the environment. A shortage of dwellings can arrest growth in Skåne and although house building must be encouraged everywhere, this must be achieved in a manner that meets the expectations of the prospective residents and stimulates turnover in the property market. Currently east Skåne offers very attractive homes in locations that are often difficult to reach by good quality public transport but this situation is being dealt with.

In order to achieve the goals of sustainability and balance, the focus of the regional transport sector is on developing public transport and investments in rail-bound transport. The transport sector is charged with satisfying three key functions: travel to and from work, travel to and from school/college and travel for recreational purposes. Busses are a lifeline for many municipalities in Skåne and the immediate emphasis must continue to be on increased frequency and competitiveness vis-à-vis private cars; it is also necessary to promote environment-friendly propulsion. In a national and international perspective improved rail-bound traffic is important. Rail connections to the Stockholm area, the west coast of Sweden (Gothenburg area) and the Continent are being upgraded and there are plans to introduce high-speed trains. An additional Öresund link between Helsingborg (Sweden) and Helsingör (Denmark) is desirable from an environmental, accessibility and capacity point of view. This applies to both the transport of goods and passengers. The private car will continue to be an important mode of transport for the foreseeable future. By applying technical developments related to vehicles, fuels, transport systems and traffic management the available resources can be better exploited. This will lead to improvements related to the environment and safety and ensure that the needs of the passengers and businesses are satisfied. Cyclists are also being better cared for thereby encouraging people to use bikes for work, recreation and tourism.



PHOTO: © KASPER DUDZIK

CHALLENGE:

Öresund integration

Integration in the Öresund Region must continue to be encouraged as there are many economic, social and cultural gains to be made. The Öresund Region can become a growth driver in Europe and thereby attract businesses, investments, manpower and tourists. The challenges described above such as knowledge, participation, the climate and accessibility should be managed from an Öresund perspective. By working together the parties involved can develop an internationally competitive edge, increase visibility and knowledge about the Öresund Region, and advance the Öresund Region brand. Grassroots integration should be promoted by encouraging contacts between non-governmental organisations, associations and the arts; these goals can be achieved through cultural events on both sides of the Öresund, media coverage of events etc in the region and promoting intra-Öresund trade.

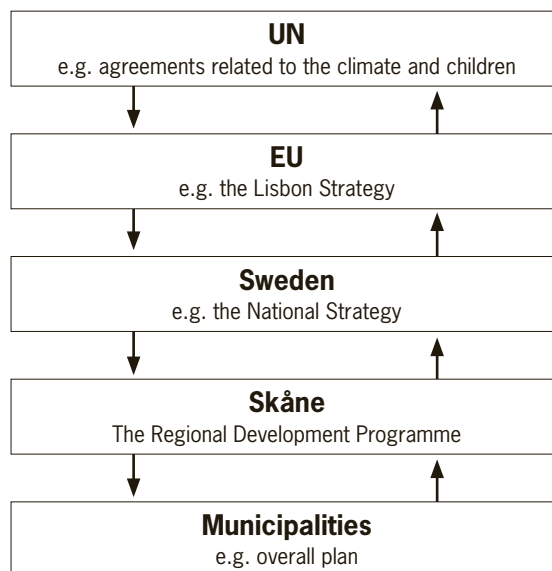
To encourage integration, promote growth and the attractiveness of Skåne, cross-border obstacles must be removed; these include taxation discrepancies, national insurance matters and labour market legislation, in doing this it will be easier to integrate the housing, labour and education markets. Collaboration across the Swedish/Danish border will strengthen the quality of research and increase the

Öresund Region's credibility. A good example of such collaboration is the Øresund Science Region. It can be added that the Öresund Region has the potential to be Scandinavia's largest employer of people involved in high-tech production and research. The labour market authorities in Skåne (Sweden) and Sjælland (Denmark) should work to integrate their forecasts and planning as well as their procurement of staff. Joint development contributions related to vocational training/education should be stimulated. In the field of education, the Öresund University should work harder for the Öresund Region by promoting an integrated educational region for higher education. The creation of a cohesive transport system that effectively and efficiently links all areas of the region and opens the gates to the rest of the Continent is considered a high priority.

Realisation and follow-up

Regional development is all about working towards a common vision and having an overall objective for development work. The realisation of a Development Programme is totally dependent upon the efforts of all the parties involved. In Skåne these include the 33 municipalities, local authorities, the business sector, universities and colleges, non-government organisations and the residents. The role of Region Skåne is to coordinate the work of the Programme, to be a source of inspiration and energy for the Development Programme and be a participating party in some of the activities. An important task is to initiate meetings that encourage inter-sector dialogues. From its unique starting point each municipality can help realise the objectives of various projects and contributions by using their position in society and, where necessary, working with other players. The County Administrative Board is responsible for seeing how other state authorities apply the Development Programme as well as encourage and coordinate the regional development contributions made by other authorities in the Region. It is vital that all players feel involved in the work of the Programme and contribute to its successful conclusion. There are 24 sub-objectives that sum up the goals laid out in separate sector programmes.

The Development Programme embraces the planning processes that are important for sustainable development and simplifies collaboration between the counties. The Swedish Government Regulation 2007:713 decrees that the Regional Development Programme is the foundation of the Regional Structure Programme, Territorial Programme, Regional Growth Programme and other relevant programmes

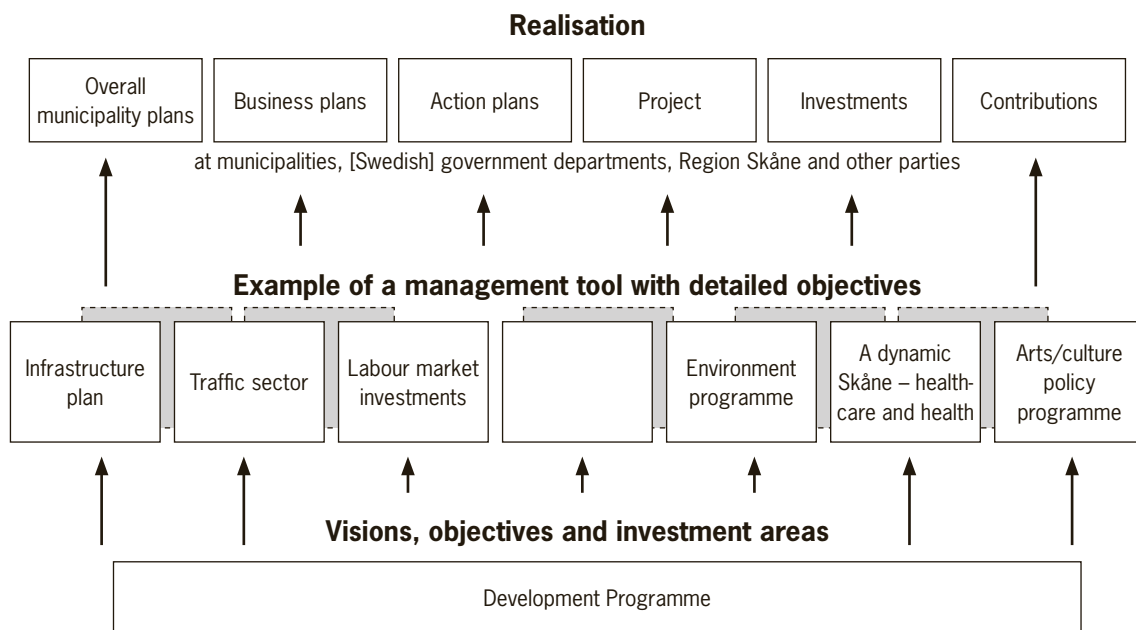


The connection between the agreements, strategies, development programmes and plans of the UN, EU, Sweden, Skåne and the municipalities of Skåne.

and contributions. Government contributions are important for the development of Skåne and it is therefore important that the business plans of the various authorities complement the goals of the Regional Development Programme. EU programmes and other financing opportunities can be seen as tools to realise the ambitions of the Development Programme and Sector Programmes.

This Development Programme for Skåne includes the overall vision, objectives and important challenges.

Sub-objectives and actions are included in the Sector Programmes, for example the infrastructure, traffic provisions, business, rural development, public health, the environment and matters related to the arts and culture. Realisation is achieved through investments in the day-to-day work via projects, contributions and other actions taken by various parties. The follow-up of objectives is published annually in a publication dedicated to developments in Skåne, 'Hur har det gått i Skåne?' «How have things gone in Skåne?». The realisation and follow-up of the Development Programme as well as regional development in general is also discussed at 'Skånska utvecklingsdagen' «Skåne Development Day» – a forum where all parties that work for the development of Skåne can meet for discussion.



Realisation of the vision and objectives based on the Regional Development Programme





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