

# Mistra Urban Futures

## Minutes Board Meeting No. 25

13 September, 2017

### Participants:

Thomas Rosswall (Chair)  
Roberto Sánchez-Rodríguez (Vice-Chair)  
Olivia Bina  
Lyla Mehta  
Hans Ristner  
John Robinson  
Caroline Wanjiku Kihato

### Ex officio:

Johan Edman, Mistra  
Mats Viberg, Chalmers  
Nayoka Martinez-Bäckström, Sida  
David Simon, Director  
Stephen Agong, KLIP  
Margareta Forsberg, GOLIP  
Magnus Johansson, SKLIP  
Beth Perry, SMLIP

### Invited participants:

Jan Riise, Secretariat  
Viveka Blomgren, Secretariat  
Henrietta Palmer, Deputy Scientific Director

### Apologies:

Katarina Pelin  
Warren Smit, CTLIP

#### 1. **Opening of the meeting**

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

#### 2. **Approval of the agenda and potential conflicts of interest**

The Chair invited members to review the agenda and to suggest any additional issues that might be discussed under Any Other Business, and to inform the meeting about any potential conflict of interest.

The Chair suggested to delete item 6, the update on Steve Williams' work on societal impact, since the final report will be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Decisions:**

To approve the agenda as circulated, with deletion of item 6 and with the addition of a brief update on new partners under Any Other Business; and  
To note that there were no conflicts of interest to be declared.

### 3. Minutes from previous meeting and matters arising

Minutes from the meeting on 13 June 2017 were circulated and approved by the Board electronically.

Matters arising.

The updated expenditure plan for use of the surplus 2016 and strategic reserve 2017 was also circulated and approved in principle electronically.

Skåne: Magnus Johansson will step down as LIP Director and hopefully be succeeded by Barry Ness, Associate Professor at LUCSUS, Lund University. Magnus will still be involved but mostly in research.

The autumn semester curriculum for the research school in Gothenburg is ready and enclosed as requested in the previous meeting. The Spring semester curriculum will be finalised within a month.

The situation in Kenya is uncertain due to the re-run Presidential election planned for 17 October. Consultations will continue and a final decision regarding the Annual Conference and next Board meeting in November will be made within a couple of weeks.

**Decision:**

To note the previously approved minutes from the Board meeting on 13 June 2017 and to approve the revised expenditure plan for the 2016 surplus and 2017 strategic reserve (Annex 1).

### 4. Outline COP 2018

The Centre Operational Plan, COP 2018, follows the same structure as in 2016 and 2017, with one significant exception. Comparative projects, with more than one LIP involved, are found under D, following the logic of the comparative theme and project matrix discussed at the June Board meeting, while LIP-specific activities appear in section E.

The evolution will be explained in the text. Understanding this logic is especially important when new nodes and projects are connected to Mistra Urban Futures. A follow-up plan is being implemented for each comparative project to log progress and ensure continuity in the plans for 2018. The secretariat will now hold follow-up meetings every 6-8 weeks with the project leaders, to build a closer relationship as well as gain better insight into budget, time plan and progress. The LIP-specific projects are being updated.

The outline of COP 2018 was considered to be much clearer than previous versions. It was noted that it also fits well with the SDGs.

**Decision:**

To note with appreciation the outline of the Centre Operational Plan to be discussed at next Board meeting.

## 5. Developing a post-2019 Vision and Mission

The development of a post-2019 Vision and Mission has continued, with the objective to finalise the document for the November Board meeting.

After discussions and consultations, the Gothenburg Consortium has come to the conclusion that its primary interest in a post-2019 scenario is to support the GOLIP and not, as during Phases 1 and 2, have responsibility for the entire Centre. This was discussed in a meeting early September with Thomas Rosswall, David Simon and the chair of the Council, Anna Ledin.

The LIP Directors' meeting at Royal Holloway on 29 August discussed the potential scenarios and all LIPs agreed that a programme funding model is preferable (i.e. scenario A or D) but the level of dependency between LIPs and between LIPs and Centre needs to be discussed further.

The board discussed the new input and raised some issues to be taken into account:

- There are considerable differences, but also similarities, among the LIPs – not only between GOLIP and the other LIPs, in terms of partners, external funding, organisation and local context.
- Hence, it is important to acknowledge these differences and similarities, and to build an appropriate organisation and governance structure on that basis.
- It is also important to consider the rapidly changing landscapes and take funding opportunities as well as trends and directions of intellectual content into account, e.g. on a five-year term. Some benchmarking studies are relevant to this end: how do other research centres meet such challenges?
- Finally, the development of other Mistra-funded programmes after the end of the funding period was discussed, and Johan Edman offered to present some examples at the Kisumu meeting. This was welcomed and it will be added to the agenda for November.

Not all pieces of the post-2019 plan will be in place by late October. For instance, the funding strategy can only be developed after approval of the Vision and Mission. Johan Edman suggested that many other potential funders would welcome engagement during the process of formulating a strategic plan, not just once the latter had been completed.

### **Decision**

The final Vision and Mission document for post-2019 will be approved at the next meeting.

## 6. Financial update and budget 2018

The total view of the outcome for August 2017 is not ready, since the 2<sup>nd</sup> four-month accounting period ended only on 31<sup>st</sup> August. The expenditure has increased considerably, both absolutely and relative to target, during the first eight months 2017 compared to the same period in 2016.

**Decision:**

To request a budget update and full report at the next meeting.

**7. Next meetings**

#26: 16 November – physical meeting in Kisumu, in conjunction with the second Annual International Conference, to approve the COP and budget 2018. This will be preceded by a closed meeting for appointed Board members only on 14 November.

The conference starts on Sunday evening with dinner. The Board is welcome to join from Sunday until Thursday.

**Decision**

The closed session will be on Tuesday 14 November at 2-4 pm, with the main meeting on 16 November.

**8. Any other business**

An agreement with the Indian NGO Nagrika has been completed primarily for the SDG project, but also for trans-disciplinary training and development. The city of Shimla will be part of the SDG project and a second city by the end of the year.

A Latin American agreement is expected to be finalised shortly, bringing the city of Buenos Aires into the SDG project. This agreement is organised through and in partnership with the New School in New York, USA,

The Stockholm Node will have a coordinator, Sophie Pandis Iveroth, from 15 October. Currently she works at the City of Stockholm.

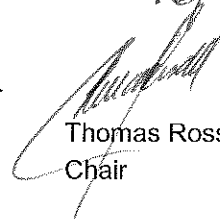
In response to a question, David Simon assured the Board that the capacity of the Centre for co-ordinating the new partners is satisfactory; the agreements concerning India and Latin America are not complete LIPs, but partnerships for specific purposes. The SDG coordination will be handled by Sandra Valencia, lead researcher for the project.

Date: 3/10/17



David Simon  
Director

Date: 16/10 2017



Thomas Rosswall  
Chair

Annex 1: Expenditure plan for the 2016 surplus and 2017 strategic reserve

Annex 1

**Expenditure Plan – Unallocated reserves and carried over underspend**

1. At its March meeting, the Board decided as follows (Item 5):

To note the surplus in the financial outcome of 2016; and  
 To approve in principle the suggested four activities for additional allocation of resources, asking the Director to provide a budget for these activities for the next meeting.

2. Accordingly, the Secretariat and LIPs have developed their plans as follows in order to utilise the unallocated reserves and carried over underspend for 2017. Each item is specified as closely as possible. Some of the activities will be launched during 2017 and continue over the next 2 years. The accurate figures below is reserved for activities and actions during 2017 as of today. Since the last circulation, the Chair requested that only funds planned for expenditure until 31 December 2017 be included at this stage. The balance of the sums previously circulated will be expended during calendar 2018. The timing, practicability and format of some events is receiving careful assessment at the appropriate times.

**Table 1 LIP Plans for using carried forward funds**

| ACTIVITIES | ACTIVITIES/ACTIONS                                                                                                                                   | COST        |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| CTLIP      | Extending postdoctoral fellowship to December 2017 to work on CTLIP Socio-Cultural Transformation TRACK project                                      | SEK 35 000  |
|            | Hiring additional research assistant to work on land audit component of CTLIP Socio-Spatial Transformation TRACK project, August – November 2017     | SEK 50 000  |
| GOLIP      | -                                                                                                                                                    | -           |
| KLIP       | Capacity building and training of the newly recruited PhD and Post Docs to improve research capacity at KLIP will be an area of priority during 2017 | SEK 60 000  |
|            | The continued engagement of the four Post-Doctoral Researcher until 2017                                                                             | SEK 162 000 |
|            | Inter-LIP Urban food security workshops in Kisumu, Cape Town and Gothenburg.                                                                         | SEK 25 000  |

|              |                                                                                                                  |                      |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
|              | Participation in international congresses/symposia/conferences                                                   | SEK 30 000           |
|              | Urban railways communities' joint seminars                                                                       | SEK 40 000           |
| SKLIP        | -                                                                                                                |                      |
| SMLIP        | Costs for new PhD students, from September 2017, allocated to SMLIP's projects                                   | SEK 1 298 927        |
|              | Increased time for internal resources (two persons) with an additional day per week from September-December 2017 | SEK 83 000           |
| SNode        | -                                                                                                                |                      |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                                                                                                                  | <b>SEK 1 698 927</b> |

**Table 2 Proposed actions using unallocated funds**

| ACTIVITIES                         | ACTIONS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | ADDITIONAL FUNDING |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Increasing research capacity       | CTLIP: Additional transit-oriented development (TOD) researcher to be embedded in the City of Cape Town from October 2017 to work on the issue of cultural planning in TOD. This will form part of the CTLIP Socio-cultural Transformations project                                                 | SEK 92 000         |
|                                    | CTLIP: Part-time researcher to work on inception phase of Urban SDG project in Cape Town, July to November 2017                                                                                                                                                                                     | SEK 50 000         |
|                                    | GOLIP: An extra resource (research coordinator) from early autumn 2017<br><u>Costs:</u> wage, travels and three workshops)                                                                                                                                                                          | SEK 280 000        |
|                                    | SMLIP: Requires a part time researcher to support the housing alternatives projects under the socio-spatial transformations                                                                                                                                                                         | SEK 100 000        |
| Extra LIP Directors' meeting       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | SEK 150 000        |
| Participation in Kisumu conference | Making it possible for more delegates to participate in the conference by paying for expenses<br><br>SMLIP: Six additional persons. This would allow participation of non-academics in the food, socially sustainable neighbourhoods and participatory city discussions, as well as PhD researchers | SEK 500 000        |

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|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>2 Workshops during 2017 to start comparative projects</p> | <p>Find out which projects and what could be relevant and engaging. Establish a format for these workshops and set dates and places for them, including a template for the workshop. Find out if more than one workshop can be arranged at the same time at the same place, to save time, resources and effort. Average of five participants, including travels, venue and documentation</p> <p>1. Realising Just Cities workshop in Cape Town, late 2017. We will consolidate the baseline data on current perceptions of the concept and processes relating to this in the different contexts, and will finalize the methods to be used in the various context for the remainder of the project</p> <p>2. Proposed workshop on the comparative urban public finance work, in Cape Town in October 2017. We will bring together researchers and practitioners from Kisumu and Cape Town to consolidate and reflect on the findings of the role of urban public finance in shaping transformation in Kisumu and Cape Town. This will overlap strongly with the Realising Just Cities and Urban SDGs projects, and will provide a platform for developing a broader comparative project on urban public finance</p> <p>3. The main focus in Kisumu is centred around the Socio-Ecological TRACK with biases on waste management and urban food security issues. To this end, KLIP will channel the unused funds to the following areas:</p> <p><b>Urban Food:</b><br/>     Increasing research capacity</p> | <p>SEK 150 000<br/>     Five participants (average SEK 75 000/ Workshop, in total 2, travels and venue + documentation)</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



|                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                       | <p>with Post Docs and PhDs, four of each. From September 2017 until December 2017.<br/>         Capacity Building and Training</p> <p>Formal training and workshop in November 2017</p> <p>SMLIP: Comparative workshop on socially sustainable neighbourhoods</p> <p>Transit Oriented Development Workshop during the conference in Kisumu, November 2017. Local team in Kisumu will have follow-up meetings as well as Focus Group Discussions culminating in a document that can be used for comparative analysis with other participating cities as Cape Town. Second major workshop in Cape Town</p> | <p>SEK 50 000</p>                                                              |
| <p>STN PROPOSAL, exchange between SKLIP and CTLIP</p> | <p>The aim for the Swedish visit would be to get knowledge and inspiration from CTLIP's work with City Labs, embedded researchers and similar work. From Sweden, we would like to bring our experience from the work with municipal PhDs (Per, Thomas and Roland).<br/>         Participants (7 persons in total):<br/>         One visit in 2017</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>SEK 80 000<br/>         7 persons, Flights, Accomodation and allowances</p> |
| <p>TOTAL</p>                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>SEK 1 452 000</p>                                                           |

2016: SEK 2 550 000

2017: SEK 2 000 000

