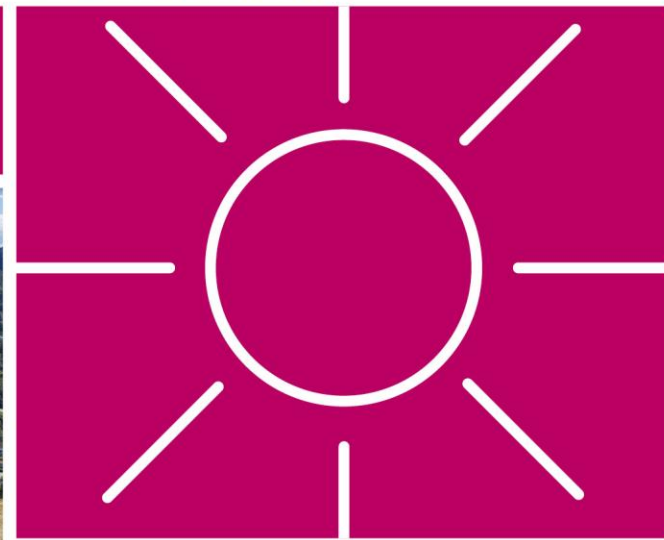




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# **Social sustainability as a new driving force in local community development (SOSLOCAL)**

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**Local politician, City of Kristiansand, Norway**



# A need for innovation and knowledge at the local level

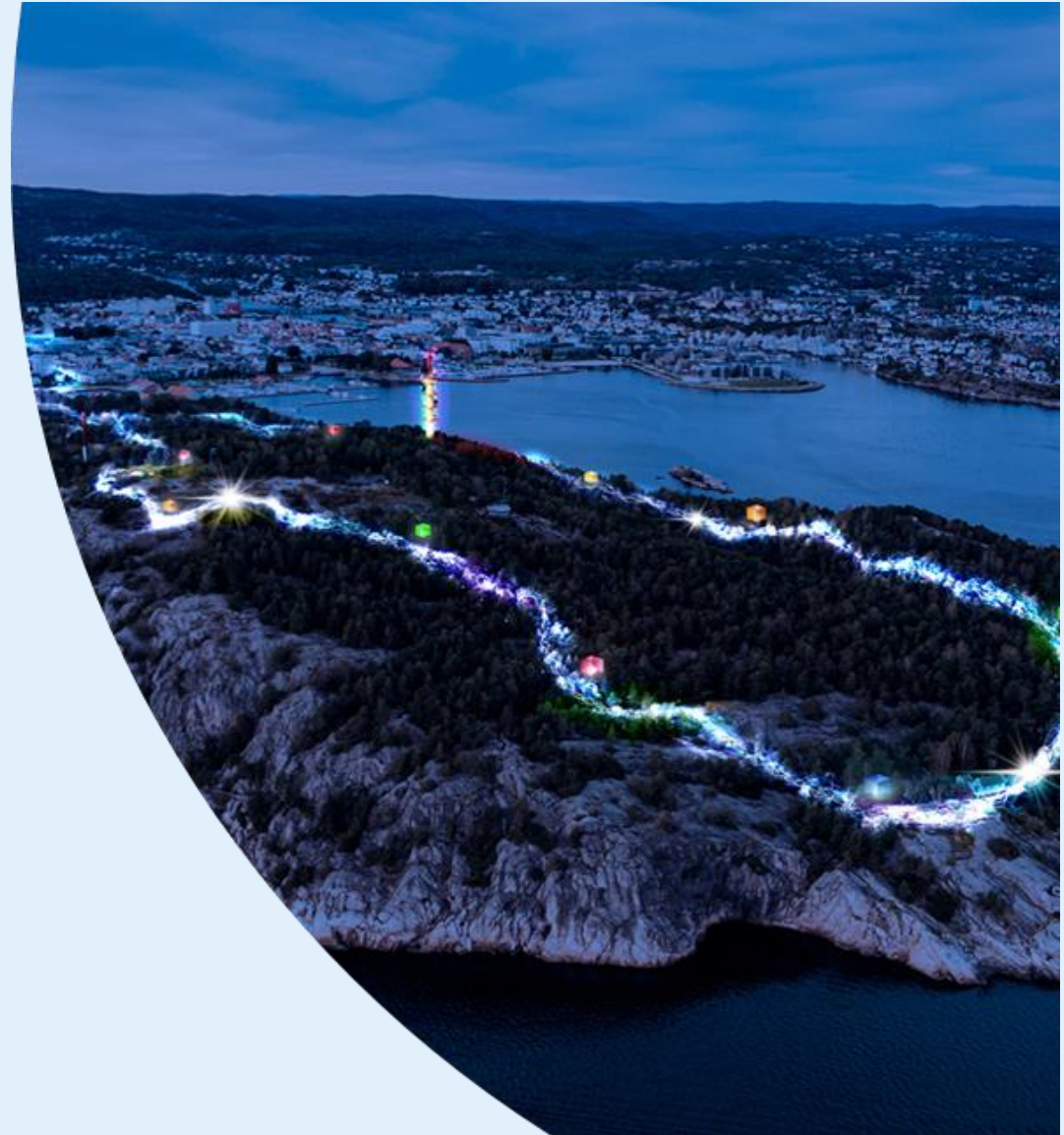
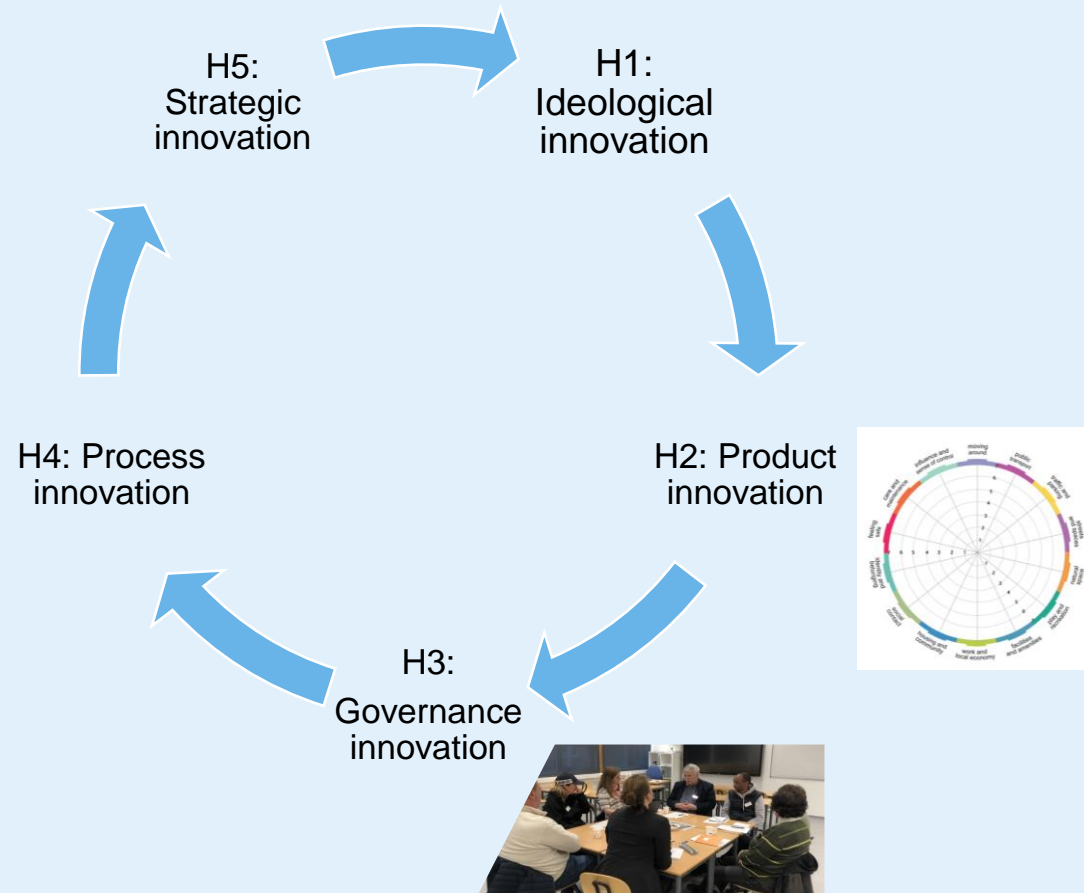


- Translating the global sustainability agenda to local settings
  - Lacking the perspective of social sustainability in local urban planning
- 

- What is social sustainability?
- Leaving no one behind - how do we mobilize local resources?
- Long-time sustainable changes – how to make social sustainability relevant for the political level and decision makers when planning the city?

# Social sustainability as a new driving force in local community development

The project *aims to develop social sustainability as a core value and reference point for community development* through 5 innovations:



<i>Dimensions</i>	<i>Categories</i>
<b>Equal and fair access to</b>	<b>Benefits and (absence of) burdens</b>
<i>Social infrastructure</i>	<i>Housing, community center, schools, kindergartens, working places etc.</i>
<i>Physical infrastructure &amp; transportation</i>	<i>Public transportation, biking routes, walkable areas</i>
<i>Public spaces</i>	<i>Open spaces, parks and green recreational places</i>
<i>Quality of the local environment</i>	<i>Health, quality of life, disruptive activity; noise, pollution of air, water and earth.</i>
<i>Political participation</i>	<i>Political election and political processes</i>
<b>Socially robust local communities</b>	<b>Function</b>
<i>Social interaction/social network</i>	<i>Building relations between citizens</i>
<i>Stability</i>	<i>Creating activity and participation</i>
<i>Safety and security</i>	<i>Balance between moving in and out of the area</i>
<i>Pride and a sense of belonging</i>	<i>Creating norms, identity, “a right to belong”</i>

# The Place Standard Tool

## A framework

- Discuss and evaluate physical and social aspects of places, neighborhoods, and districts.
- 14 main themes – rated from a score 1 to 7 (best)
- Identifying strengths and weaknesses of places
- Ideas on how to address challenges can be initiated.

## The application of the tool in aims at:

- mobilizing residents to participate in local development processes.
- providing input on social sustainability and potential improvements in the area.

**In the project** we assessed local social sustainability through a mixed-methods approach:

- as a survey tool
- as a dialogue and co-creation tool

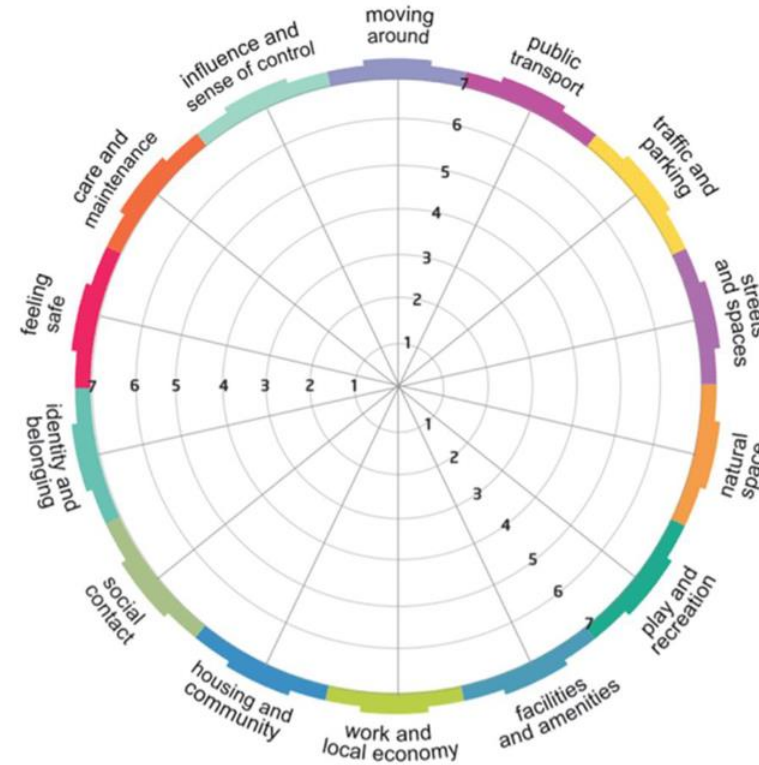


Figure 2. Place Standard Tool. Source: NHS Health Scotland.

- **Groups of 3-5 persons for 1.5 hour**
- Immigrant background
- Older adults (68 y +)
- Young adults (18-20 y)
- Families with children
- Mixed groups



# City lab - co-creation workshop



**Method** World café

**Participants:** Residents, local builders, local business, voluntary sector, public administration, local politicians

**Themes of the city lab:** Town square  
The local park  
The local community

Theme	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
Local community – cooperation, arena needed?	Grp 1	Grp 3	Grp 2
Premises for more lively area?	Grp2	Grp 1	Grp 3
Local community - municipality, cooperation?	Grp 3	Grp 2	Grp 1

## Rounds

- 1:** The challenges?
- 2:** The resources to build on?
- 3:** How are we implementing / who?

**Core values  
for  
social  
sustainability**

Safety, sense of  
belonging,  
close relationship

Proximity to basic  
services

Attractive, accessible,  
activity-promoting  
surroundings

Vibrant, social  
meeting places



# Political workshop (case study of Fredrikstad)



- **Participants:** Local politicians + public administrasjon
- **Goal:** Communicate local social sustainability + mobilize decisionmaker in line with
- **Method: Presentation with dialogue:**
  - Living conditions
  - Findings the place standard tool
  - Findings city lab
- **Exercise:** Resolutions
- Politicians - action
- Administration - process

Ways of seeing

Going there, walk'n'talk

Ways of meeting

Roundtables. Citizens connected!

Ways of acting

Delayed response?

Follow-up,  
continued dialogue?

How to engage politicians?



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# Thank you!

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