



LUND  
UNIVERSITY



# Innovation and Co-design for Sustainable, Resilient and Inclusive Public Spaces and Services (CIPSS) 2023–2024

---

The programme aims to increase the capacity of municipal officials to co-design inclusive public services and physical and digital spaces through improved municipal service provisions and social innovation. The programme is given by Lund University in collaboration with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (RWI) and is being carried out with financial support from the Swedish Institute within the framework of the Public Sector Innovation Programme.

## **BACKGROUND AND PROGRAMME CONTENT**

In a world where more than 50% of the world's population lives in cities and periurban areas, it is central to strengthen the processes, that in various ways, can improve the living conditions for especially women, children and vulnerable groups (e.g. elderly disabled and refugees). A well-functioning public environment is consequently central in a democratic society and its basis is well-functioning community services.

In recent years, there has been a reinterpretation of the role of municipal officials and local politicians in the creation and delivery of services. Local level administration are central to much of the future change work, not least in relation to the adjustment for a changed climate as changes has to be made where emissions are generated and effects are felt which is at the local scale. Service delivery can as a consequence of this change no longer

seen as a top-down process but rather as a negotiation between many collaborating actors.

Most cities are growing with little urban planning, expanding into hazard prone areas exposing urban residents particular vulnerable families and groups to the impact of climate change. Moreover, traditional notions of planning and development of municipal services are seen as outdated and voices are raised to give more space to co-design, as an integrative mechanism and incentive for increased ownership, better utilization of local capacity, ideas and resources in our future cities.

It is also important to bear in mind that deficient and outdated infrastructure systems and their inability to cope with the impacts of climate change hinder cities' long-term development and take a disproportionate toll on vulnerable groups, especially women.

By mainstreaming gender-inclusion and climate resilience into infrastructure development, cities can help address these differential vulnerabilities and gender disparity. Doing so will help improve quality of life in an inclusive manner while paving the way for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The programme focuses on processes for co-design of public services and we are especially focusing on the availability of the provision of those services used by

vulnerable groups, older people, women, children, and people with disabilities.

Codesign is about the design of municipal services where professionals and service users or different groups of citizens, non-profit organizations, families, neighborhoods, etcetera, actively contribute and take joint responsibility for service development through regular and long-term partnerships within the frame of inclusive and a more democratic society. We will adopt human rights-based approach as a method to achieve the change. Such an approach also includes the involvement of more organizations than just municipalities (local business, NGOs as well as academia).

### **PROGRAMME STRUCTURE**

The training programme consists of a pre-module which introduces the programme, Five online educational modules create a common knowledge base. Each module lasts for 3 weeks. The first week is theoretical with shorter online lectures, the second week focuses on reading and individual tasks, third week on how the new knowledge can be applied to the change project.

Mentor visits and midterm workshop: Mentor visits are carried out in the home countries at an early phase of the program. The three-day midterm workshops including work on the change projects, study visits, and lectures, take place just after the online modules. Finalization of the change projects includes the completion of the change projects and presenting them to the local decision makers at the final online conference.

### **Change project**

Change projects are at the centre of the programme. The change projects will have one mentor from Lund University / RWI and one from the participant country, who will interact online with the teams from the start of the programme and will visit the teams twice. The change project will focus on socio-technical innovations for improved municipal services and spaces in relation to the creation of an inclusive public and digital environment. The task of the local mentors is to support teams and mentors with knowledge of the local context and language.

### **BLOCK 1: Pre-module (16 Aug–15 Sept 2023)**

The programme begins with an online pre-module which introduces the programme Introduction month, online.

### **BLOCK 2: Educational online modules (16 September 2023–15 January 2024)**

This part is structured around five online modules (see below), the first mentors visit and development and guidance of the change project. The online modules aim to together create a common knowledge base. Development and discussions around the change project are an integral part of each module. Each module lasts for 3 weeks. The first week is theoretical with shorter online lectures, the second focuses on individual tasks and the third week focuses on how the new knowledge can be applied to the change project to support practical applicability at an early stage.

#### **Online Modules**

Module 1: Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Cities.

Module 2: Inclusive Public Space and Service Design.

Module 3: Networking, Stakeholder mapping and change management.

Module 4: Physical and Digital Urban Environment.

Module 5: Co-design.

### **BLOCK 3: Mentors visit and Mid-term workshop (16 January–14 Feb 2024)**

This part is carried out in the home country in connection with the second mentor visit and consists of 2 days of mentor visits and a three-day live workshop that include study visits (live/online), exercises, and work on the change project.

### **BLOCK 4: Completion of change projects (15 Feb–29 March 2024)**

In this part of the training programme, the participants complete their change project with the support of the mentors' guidance. The interaction during this period takes place in the same way as in the online modules. The project is presented to the City council aimed at the municipal management and leading officials but also relevant NGOs.

The presentation aims to spread knowledge about work methodology and project content to relevant people in their own municipality. People who should be invited will be identified during the first mentor visit. This conference is organised by the teams themselves in order to strengthen the ownership of the change projects. Where relevant, the local teacher teams can participate during the conference itself. The program will end with a joint online conference.

## TARGET GROUP

The programme focuses on sustainability goal 11. Main targeted applicants are therefore municipal officials and experts from: social administration (which includes, for example, those who work with particularly vulnerable groups; women, children, older people, people with functional variations), environmental management, sustainability, strategic municipal planning and people who work with gender and equality issues.

Complementary target groups are local politicians and representatives of NGOs, as well as researchers working with municipal services and public spaces, especially in relations to the rights of the programme's main target groups (people with functional variation, the elderly, women, and children).

You will work with a change project in a team. Therefore, you should apply as a team, consisting of 3–5 people from the same locality/municipality.\* Team members can be from different sectors. Women are encouraged to apply since we strive to obtain an equal gender distribution.

## TEACHING AND COORDINATING STAFF

The programme is a collaboration between Lund University's [Centre for Environmental and Climate Science \(CEC\)](#), the [Raoul Wallenberg Institute \(RWI\)](#) and [SKL International](#). Responsible for the programme at

the university is Senior Lecturer Johanna Alkan Olsson, working in the Centre for Environmental and Climate Science (CEC).

The programme is to be delivered with the support of [Lund University Commissioned Education \(LUCE\)](#), the department at the university focusing on professional development and capacity development programmes.



\*Application is still done individually. In the application, you state the name of your team as well as the names of the other team members.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

**Total period of the programme:** September 2023–April 2024

**Number of participants:** 28

**Costs:** Participation in this programme is free of charge. It includes meals and accommodation during mentors visits and workshop in home country.

**Language of instruction:** English and mother tongue for parts of the mentoring activities

## APPLICATION

Application period: 15 Feb –28 April 2023

[APPLY HERE](#)

## YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY IF YOU

- are a municipal official, politician, NGO expert, local business, or researcher working with sustainability, equality, gender, planning, and social issues related to municipal services and public spaces
- have at least two years' work experience in the area
- are from Cambodia, Indonesia, North Macedonia or Turkey.
- have some knowledge in English

## CONTACT

Questions about the programme and the application process: [codesign@education.lu.se](mailto:codesign@education.lu.se)