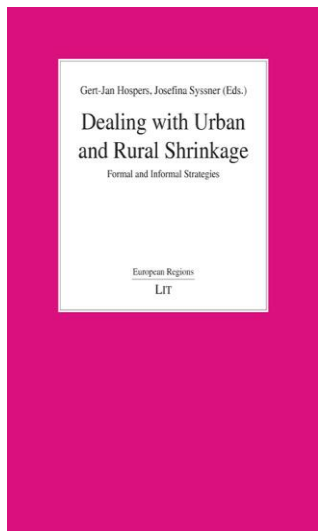
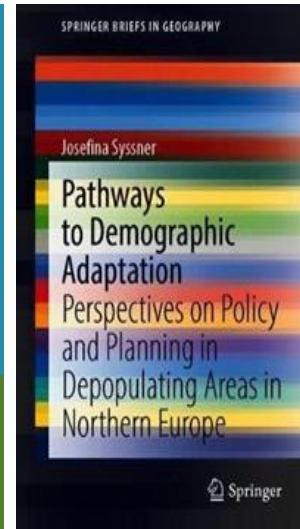
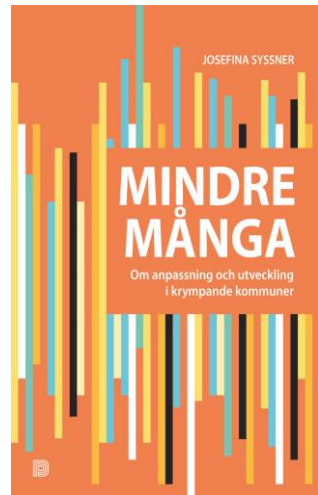
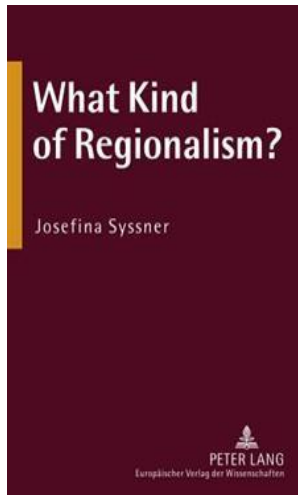


Dealing with demographic decline

- local government responses

Josefina Syssner, Ph.D. Associate Professor



Agenda


- **Argument 1.**
Demographic decline is a fact in many rural areas.
- **Argument 2.**
Demographic decline has vital consequences.
- **Argument 3.**
Local governments need to develop policies for how to cope with demographic decline (and with the (post)pandemic order).

What can research contribute with?

New responses to old questions?

New questions – and responses to them?

What can research contribute with?



How can
growth be
promoted?

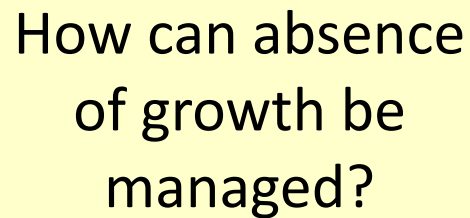
New responses to old questions?

New questions – and responses to them?

What can research contribute with?

New responses to old questions?

New questions – and responses to them?



How can absence
of growth be
managed?

Argument 1

Demographic decline is a fact in many rural areas

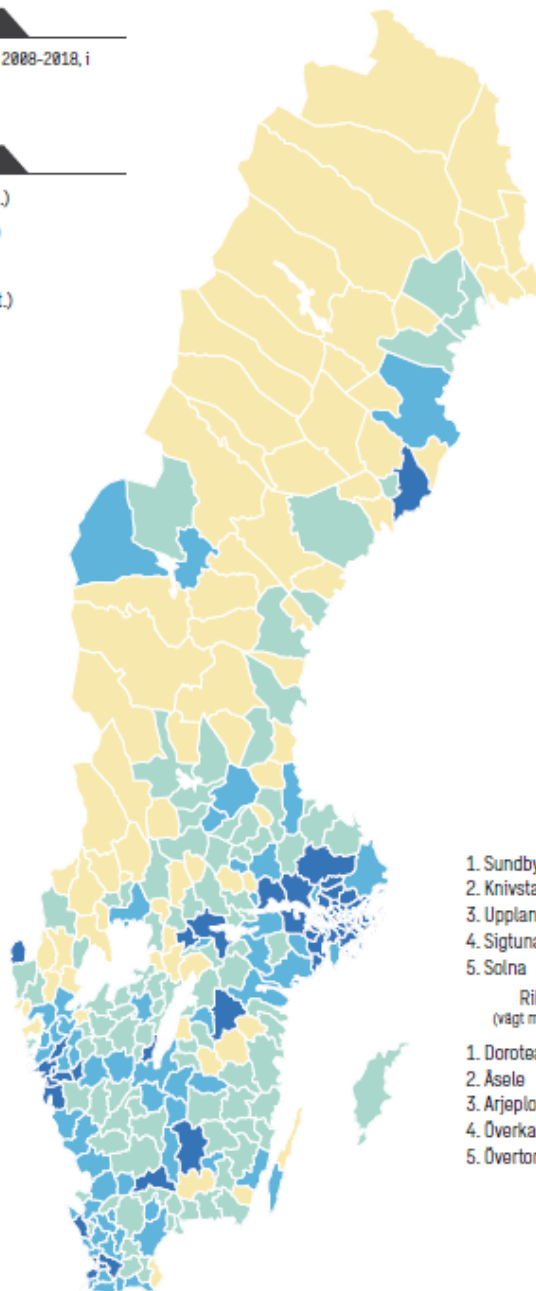
KARTAN VISAR

Befolkningsutvecklingen 2008-2018, i procent.

Datakälla: SCB.

VÄRDEN

- 12 till 40 % (57 st.)
- 6 till 11 % (77 st.)
- 0 till 5 % (94 st.)
- -12 till -1 % (62 st.)



1. Sundbyberg	40 %
2. Knivsta	31 %
3. Upplands-Bro	27 %
4. Sigtuna	25 %
5. Solna	24 %

Riket
(vägt medeltal) 11 %

1. Dorotea	-12 %
2. Åsele	-11 %
3. Arjeplog	-11 %
4. Övertorneå	-11 %
5. Övertorneå	-11 %

FEM I TOPP

FEM I BOTTEN

Källa:
Sveriges Nya Geografi 2019
Författare
Emma Andersson
Sebastian Christner
Patrik Jean-Simon
Stefan Wing

Demographic decline in Sweden

- Almost half of 290 municipalities experience long term demographic decline (1975 – 2021).
- 97 municipalities have less inhabitants 2021 than 2018.
- The majority have previous experience of demographic decline – no larger cities or regional centres among them.

Argument 2

Demographic decline has vital consequences

The Swedish example

- Depopulation has severe consequences for welfare, finances, labour market, social and cultural life.
- Constant savings, hard to meet the standards set by the central state.
- Higher tax rates than in urban growth areas.

Local government responses to demographic decline

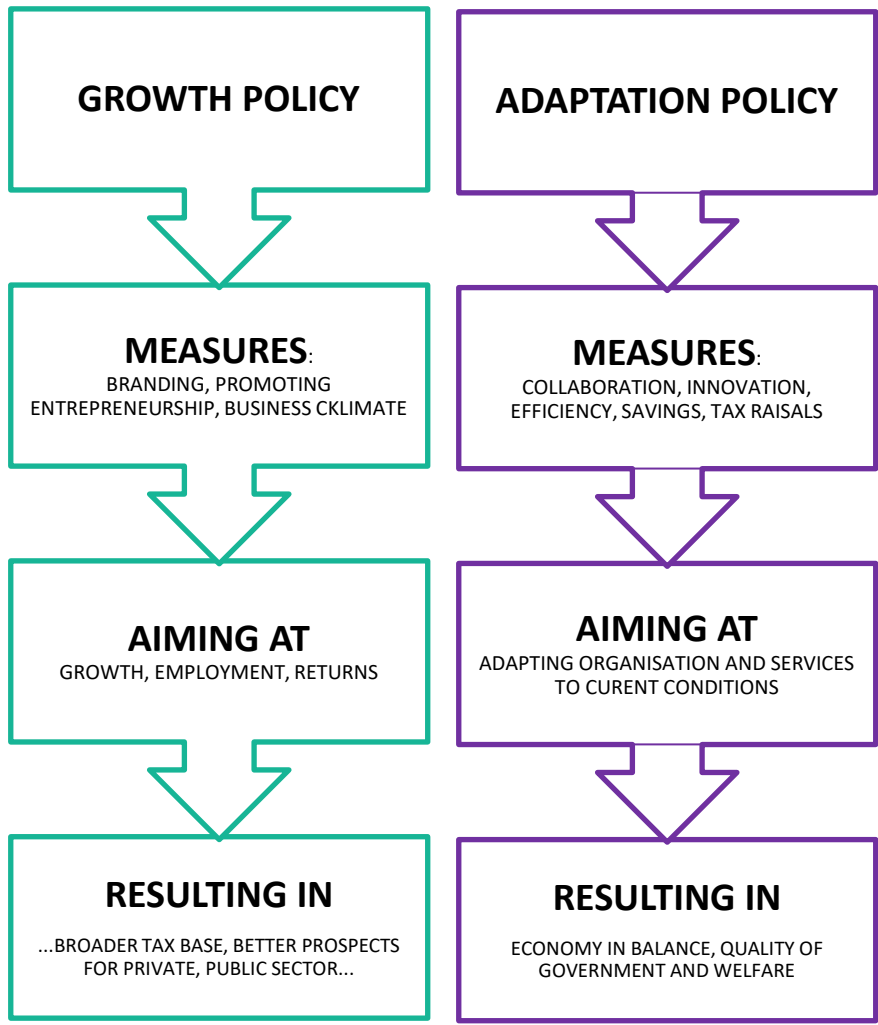
- A constant hope for growth – for reversing the trend.
- Decisions to adapt the organisation and services to a changing demography are taken – but not in a strategic manner.
- Weak public communication on depopulation and the consequences thereof.

Argument 3

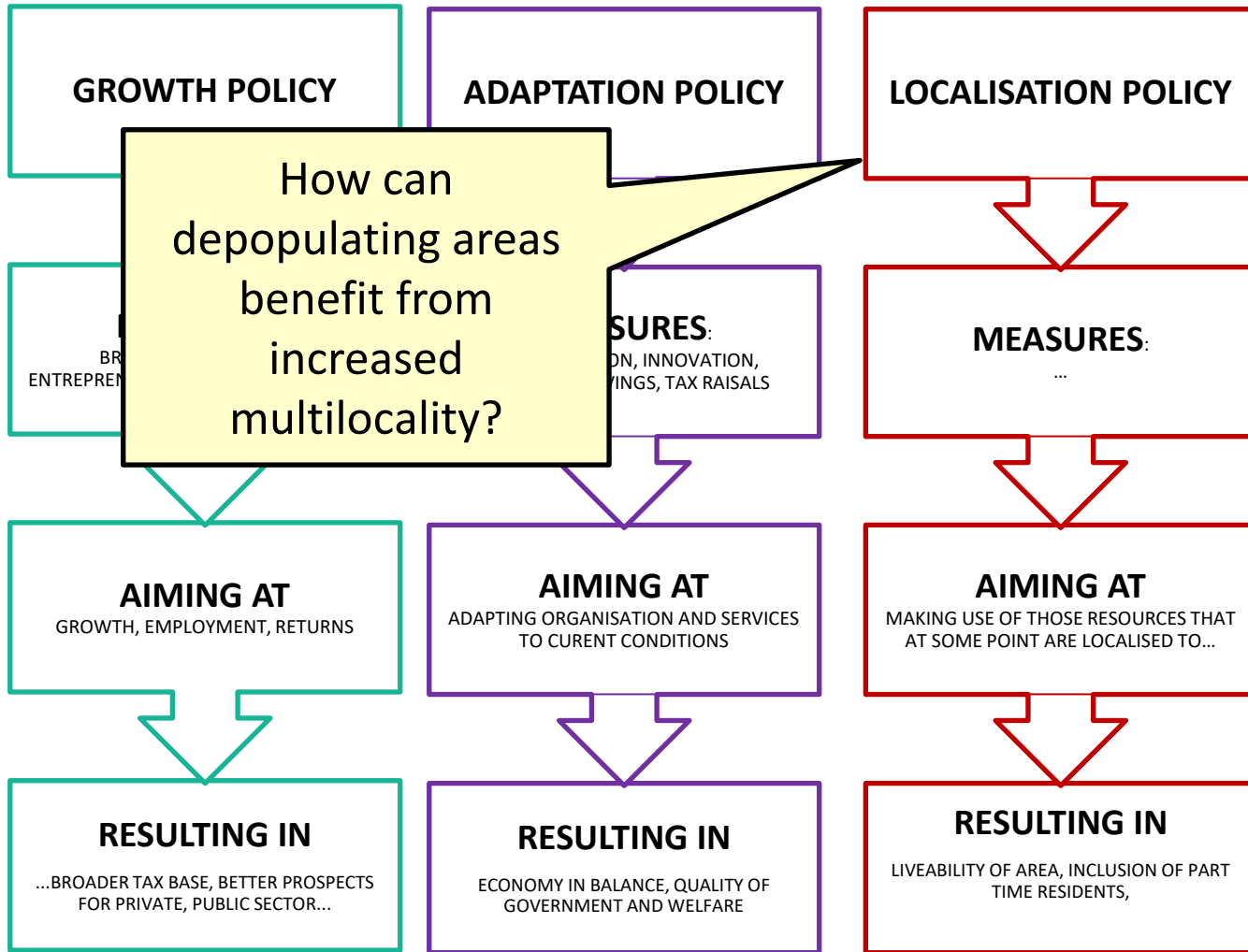
Local governments need to develop policies for how to cope with demographic decline (and with the (post)pandemic order).



How can
growth be
promoted?



How can absence of growth be managed?



Local government responses to demographic decline

- How could policies for growth, adaptation and localisation be designed – and integrated with each other?

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