

Digital Platforms for Citizen Engagement and Innovation

The City of Gothenburg created *Min Stad* (My City)¹ in 2012 as a platform where planned urban development projects can be presented and where citizens can comment and make suggestions. The tool is a cloud service with a web portal built around a 3D map as well as a mobile app. The City is now thinking of the next step of the digital platform *Min Stad* and this Masters thesis project is related to that work.

Research on *Min Stad* and other initiatives in Gothenburg is included in an EU-funded project, spread across six different cities, about co-creation in sustainable cities.² We invite a pair of Masters students to carry out a study in Gothenburg that connects to research into how to encourage greater citizen participation through further developing *Min Stad* as a dialogue tool, particularly in line with the goals of *Jämlikt Göteborg* (Equal Gothenburg).³ The thesis project will contribute to the overall research aims of: 1) disseminating information more efficiently in a new digital channel, 2) reaching new user groups and 3) improving the dialogue between the municipality and citizens as much as possible within the constraints of the current legislative framework.

Project details

We're looking for two students to carry out a 30 ECTS Master's thesis project together during HT19 (2019-09-02 - 2020-01-19). The students would undertake the work as TEKX08, the Master's thesis course arranged by the Department of Technology Management and Economics.

The students will design the study in detail according to their own interests, and in consultation with the supervisor and managers in the City municipality. However, we expect the project to touch on research areas such as: **smart cities, digitalisation, citizen innovation, user innovation, citizen dialogue and citizen engagement**. In addition to a literature review, the main data collection method is interviews with citizens around the digital platform *Min Stad*. Other potential methods are observations of events and activities, and document analysis. The interviews will mainly be conducted in Swedish.

Supervisor and will be *Susanne Ollila*, Professor at Entrepreneurship & Strategy Division, Department of Technology Management and Economics at Chalmers University of Technology.

Contact information

For more information, you are very welcome to contact Susanne: Susanne.ollila@chalmers.se

Do reach out as soon as possible if you are interested in the project. This would allow starting to plan the research asap, so you are off to a flying start after the summer.

¹ www.minstad.goteborg.se

² <http://irissmartcities.eu/content/iris-transition-track-5-citizen-engagement-and-co-creation>
<http://irissmartcities.eu/>

³ <https://goteborg.se/jamlikt>