



The UBC Commission on Urban Planning and UBC Commission on Gender Equality are happy to invite you to a collaborative seminar in the city of Umeå in 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> may.



# Building the Inclusive City

## City Planning seminar with Focus on Gender Equality and Children's Perspective

**Welcome to Umeå, Sweden 2013 05 26-2013 05 29**

Umeå is one of the fastest and most steady growing municipalities in Sweden and the biggest city in northern Sweden. The city has about 120 000 inhabitants and has experienced strong expansion since the 1950's when the university was located to Umeå. In 2008 the municipality decided a new target for population growth aiming at 200 000 citizens by 2050. Umeå is working ambitiously with several masterplans for different areas to plan for the expansion. Because of the steady growth, 67% of the inhabitants today are "immigrants" not born in the city. That's one reason why Umeå today is described as a very tolerant and inclusive city.

Umeå has a long tradition of involving gender issues in the physical and social planning and the university of Umeå has a Center for gender studies which is appointed as one of three "Centers of Gender Excellence" in Sweden. At this seminar we also include a focus on accessibility issues and children's perspective, and integrate a gender equality perspective.

One challenge that Umeå has. Probably shared by all cities that are trying to densify the city centers, are how to plan for good environments for children to grow up in.

The seminar will involve practical work, discussions and presentations illustrating good examples. We will also participate in a guided bus tour and visit interesting places in Umeå with a focus on gender equality and a child's perspective. The old railway terminal and an old cavalry (military) area are suggested as workshop areas. Both located very central and in question for planning and rebuilding. The city center will also be in focus in the perspective of children.

Instead of sectoral planning, this is a unique opportunity to engage in integrated planning in Umeå. Warmly welcome to Umeå in spring 2013. Until then we ask you to save the dates so that you will have the chance to experience the most northern dimension of the UBC.

**/ Isabella Forsgren, head of the planning department, City of Umeå and Linda Gustafsson, gender equality office**