|  |
| --- |
| **Health equity on the agenda to implement the SDGs – from words to action in Malmo** |
| **Setting**  Health inequalities are increasing worldwide, and this is the case even in a welfare country like Sweden. Malmo is the third largest city in Sweden and one of the fastest growing in Europe. The city has a vision to become a sustainable city economically, socially and environmentally. Looking at the social dimension of sustainability we see increasing socioeconomic gaps, lower education level, and lower life expectancy than average Sweden. This development is not sustainable. When the *WHO-commission on social determinants* of health, in 2008 presented the report; *Closing the gap in a generation* it inspired the city of Malmo to act.  **Intervention**  In 2010 the executive board in Malmö launched one of the first local Marmot reviews, *Commission for a socially sustainable,* with a task to work out evidence based strategies on how to reduce health inequalities.  A transdisciplinary commission was set up and 50 researchers were involved together with a broad dialogue with 2000 people from different sectors. This involvement has been a key element to an extensive partnership during implementation. The commission finalized a report in 2013: *Malmö´s path towards a sustainable future, health welfare and justice*.  Two overarching recommendations:  A social investment policy that can reduce inequalities in living conditions and make societal systems more equitable  Change processes by creating knowledge alliances and democratised governance  This put health improvement in center of valuing development with a distinct shift to investing in health. The second recommendation advocates a change in processes with lateral collaboration, involving stakeholders and emphases on leadership and governance.  The report also concludes 24 goals and 72 concrete recommendations within six areas of action: Everyday conditions of children and young people, Urban planning and Living conditions. Education, Income and work, Healthcare, Changed processes: - governance.  **Outcomes** Three follow-up reports show ongoing action within all the 72 recommendations. This involves the whole municipality in interaction with citizens, civil society, labor market and academia. This is an example on a Health in all policy. Evaluations indicates positive trends according to social determinants of health such as increased education level, youth unemployment and income inequalities are decreasing. A research based evaluation process is now set up to examine impact on health equity. |