Sharing Digital Platforms

A strategic project by Sharing Cities Sweden on creating and testing user-centred digital sharing platforms tailored for Sweden.

“The purpose of this strategic project is to investigate whether digital sharing platforms that are based on a more user-centered sharing philosophy can solve the problems of the earlier platforms which tended to be more resource-centered.”

– Per Levén, strategic project coordinator

Sharing Cities Sweden aims to put Sweden on the map as a country that actively and critically works with the sharing economy in cities.

We will develop world-leading test-beds for the sharing economy in Stockholm, Gothenburg, Malmö and Umeå.

We will develop a national node to significantly improve national and international cooperation and promote an exchange of experience on sharing cities.
The way we share products and services is changing. Sharing economies is the umbrella term that has come to symbolize a paradigm shift in that we have gone from borrowing two eggs from a neighbor to sharing car trips with strangers and finding accommodation in an unknown city.

All it takes is a quick search on a mobile phone, and in fact one of the contributing factors to the new types of sharing is the emergence of digital platforms for sharing. However, while many of the platforms have achieved major commercial successes in world metropolitan areas, they find it difficult to get the same impact in other cities. It is therefore challenging to realise the opportunities that sharing holds for a more sustainable society.

The purpose of this strategic project is to investigate whether digital sharing platforms that are based on a more user-centered sharing philosophy can solve the problems of the earlier platforms which tended to be more resource-centered. To test this idea, a prototype for a more user-centered distribution platform has been developed.

The strategic project goal is to increase knowledge about the design of sustainable digital sharing platforms and to contribute to a longer-term proliferation of sharing as a natural part of sustainable lifestyles through pilot tests on the platform prototype.

The strategic value for Sharing Cities Sweden is developing user-centred digital sharing platforms tailored for Sweden.

The lead partners include Lund University, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, City of Malmö, City of Umeå, and City of Göteborg. The program is carried out within Viable Cities, a Swedish Innovation Programme for smart sustainable cities, jointly funded by the Swedish Innovation Agency (VINNOVA), the Swedish Energy Agency and the Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (FORMAS).