

Posters

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## **Ways of measuring and interpreting the air quality**

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### **Abstract**

#### Ways of measuring and interpreting the air quality

Different qualitative methods have been used to reveal the process of how the physical environment is interpreted on the city arena. The city in focus is Stockholm, the capital of Sweden. In this paper environment is not only viewed as a thing, the physical environment, but also as an idea, our many different ways of apprehending and interpreting the physical environment. This idea is translated into the local context; the city. The study includes analyses of the actions taken by both professionals, who generate numbers and words describing the environment, and other actors who in their actions and argumentations are using these numbers and words. When describing the process different concepts such as boundary objects are used.

The importance of having interest in both humans and non-humans in the search of organising phenomena is obvious in the case of interpreting the air quality in Stockholm. The instruments play a crucial part in the organising of monitoring and interpreting the air quality. By calculating and doing illustrations of measured data the creation of e.g. boundary objects, i.e. representations of the air, is possible. Reports to the municipality and to customers elsewhere are created and spread. In this paper I demonstrate how these reports can be used and be part of other action taken in the city.

The presentation will include both photos and texts, describing the translation of the air quality into the city arena.

This study is a part of the research program Managing Big Cities at GRI, Goteborg University. The focus of the program is to reveal the processes of organising the city.