Advances in Spatial Science

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Preface

The “Fyrstad region” (Region of four towns) is located on the west coast of Sweden about 100 kilometers north of Göteborg, the second largest metropolitan region of Sweden. In this region a series of development activities have been initiated in the second half of the 1990s, to a large extent supported by EU’s structural fund program for regional revitalization. In 1997 a supporting research activity was established in the form of a collaboration between the University College of Trollhättan-Uddevalla (HTU) and Jönköping International Business School (JIBS). A major approach in this project, called “New Economic Life in the Fyrstad Region”, is a systematic effort to learn from comparisons of the development patterns and policies in the Swedish region and similar regions in a global outlook. This is manifested by an annual international workshop.

The first of these meetings took place in the town of Uddevalla 1998 and the outcome is documented in this book Endogenous Regional Development and Policy. In four parts the book presents a contemporary view of theories and models to analyze and guide policies for regional renewal and development in a new economic regime of interacting regions in a global world economy. The workshop was organized by E. Bergman, B. Johansson, C. Karlsson and R. Stough.

The workshop has received financial as well as other forms of support from the Swedish Institute for Regional Research (SIR), Sparbanksstiftelsen Väst, the European Union, Länsstyrelsen i Västra Götalands Län, the Institute of Public Policy and the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University, JIBS and HTU. These contributions are gratefully acknowledged.

Uddevalla and Jönköping, November 2000

Börje Johansson, Charlie Karlsson and Roger Stough
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