

# teaching åstol to fish, again

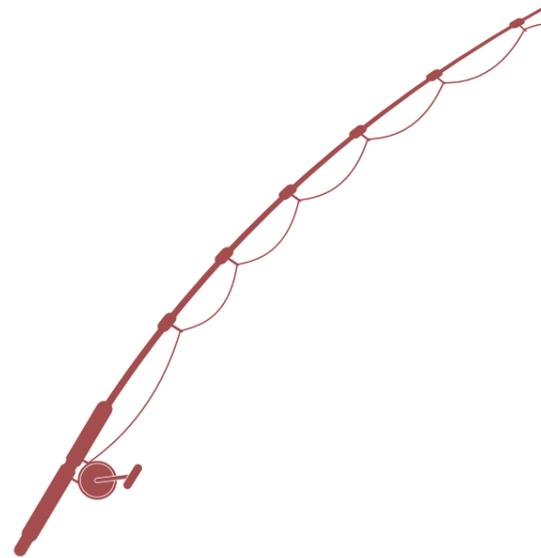
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**CHALMERS**

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Design and Planning for Sustainable Development in a Local Context  
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*give a man a fish and you feed him for a day,  
teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.*



## *abstract*

Teaching Åstol to fish is an in-depth project in the studio: Planning and Design for Sustainable Development in a Local Context. The aim of the studio is to deepen the knowledge about smaller sized communities, their relations to the larger geographical context, highlight opportunities and challenges and develop an in-depth project that addresses some of these. This year the studio collaborated with Västra Götaland region with focus on four different sites, Hällekis, Fåglavik, Dyrön and Åstol. This in-depth project takes place on Åstol and addresses some of their challenges such as demographic imbalance and space scarcity.

The overall goal of this project is to make Åstol a resilient community. To clearly define the term resilience and apply it to our project with a vision of what Åstol will look like in the future.

We have worked on developing five interventions scattered around the island, each introducing a new function which we believe would be beneficial to the resilience of the community, with special emphasis on the reinvention of the boathouses. This intervention works on developing the existing boat houses into multi-functional adaptable spaces using the existing structures on the island and thereby developing the harbor. The other interventions include an Intergenerational living space, a neutral gathering space, a sauna and an activity house.

The title is a reference to the history of a strong fishing community on the island that ended in the 1970s. This project is about understanding what makes a community self sustaining and applying those principles to Åstol. This is the modern fishing rod, and we want to teach Åstol how to use it.



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**background**

## *introduction of us*

We who have worked together on this project come from different academic backgrounds. Ida holds a Bachelor degree in Architecture and Engineering from Chalmers University of Technology, Linus a Bachelor degree in Architecture from The University of Liverpool, and Shayan a Bachelor of Fine Arts and Architecture degree from Umeå University.

Our common interest in the resilience of the small society brought us together, and by combining our diverse backgrounds we were given new ways to meet the challenges of the topic. This has not only strengthened the project as a whole but has also been a very insightful process personally for each of us.



## course information

The course “Design and Planning for Sustainable Development in a local context” is part of the Master’s Programme Architecture and Planning Beyond Sustainability at Chalmers institute of Technology. The setting for the course is usually mid-sized municipalities in western Sweden. This year, the course collaborated with three different places, Åstol and Dyrön in Tjörn municipality, Fåglavik in Herrljunga municipality and Hällekis in Götene municipality.

During the first half of the semester each site was discussed and analyzed, through site-visits, research and consultation with stake-holders. This created a common understanding of their local situations, their relations to the larger geographical context, and the challenges of each site. For the second part of the course, in-depth projects were conducted in smaller groups, dealing with issues and proposing solutions for one or a few of the sites.

This is an in-depth project focusing on improving the resilience of Åstol.

## background for the project

Small societies are in many ways more vulnerable to external changes. Often, they are slower to adapt to societal changes in comparison to larger cities and are heavily reliant on the municipality and other institutions to provide support. Public services are often out of reach, and they are required to solve many of their problems independently. On the other hand, strong communities are often formed in these small societies allowing them to tackle smaller scale problems more effectively.

Åstol possesses many of these qualities, but also faces their own unique challenges. The inability to build on the island, the sensitivity to climate change, limited transportation infrastructure, high number of part-time inhabitants, gentrification and aging demography are some examples.

Our goal is to make Åstol more resilient through adaptive reuse of existing buildings and introduce new building functions with a social and economical long-term perspective. With this, we want to prepare Åstol and allow them the possibility for swift adaptation to future societal and environmental changes. With all these qualities combined, we envision Åstol to be a thriving and attractive island for all future generations.

### Guiding questions

- How can we by using architecture improve the resilience of Åstol?
- How can existing buildings on the island be transformed to improve quality of life and attractiveness on the island?
- How will this effect Åstol in a long-term perspective?

## history of åstol

Åstol is a small island located in the south side of Tjörns municipality. Åstol began to be populated in the middle of the 18th century in connection with one of the great herring periods. The fishing industry then continued to be the mainstay of the island, the community flourished and at most the island was populated by more than 500 people. In the 1960s, more than 20 large steel trawlers had Åstol as their home port. During the 1970s, fishing slowed down and many moved from the island, while new residents arrived, some just to enjoy the magic of the place during the summer. (Tjörns kommun, 2021). Today, 180 people live on the island all year round and new challenges have arisen if Åstol is to stay a strong lasting community (Åstol året runt, 2021). Some of these challenges include an aging population, lack of permanent residents, lack of economic income and vulnerability to climate change. The swot-analysis on the next page present the current conditions for the island.



### Location

- Åstol has an attractive location, offering calm and scenic surroundings and the closeness to the ocean.

### Culture

- The history of the built environment as well as the longterm economical changes contribute to a rich cultural heritage and historic value to Åstol.

### Infrastructure

- High speed internet and a good connection to transportation networks help people to remote work and commute, leading to people staying longterm on Åstol.

### Community

- There is an ambition and interest from the community to further develop Åstol in what it offers not only for tourists, but also for the residents them self.

### Spatial opportunity

- Buildings that are empty for most of the year due to seasonal tourism could be used and transformed in their function for certain time during the year.
- The development of the connection between the islands Dyrön and Åstol can be seen as a spatial opportunity e.g. creating exchange, "learning from each other".

### Digitalization

- Digitalization and remote work possibilities open up new opportunities to live and work on the island since these aspects offer a much more flexible work environment.
- Digitalization make possible for the development of shared work spaces.

### Natural resources for sustainable development

- Due to its location Åstol offers opportunities to further develop sustainable energy use and production through wind and water.
- The access to the ocean could provide opportunities for further expansion of floating structures.
- Green innovations such as aqua farming/ using the water as agricultural land could be a source to provide food for the island in the future.
- Strengthening the shoreline and developing the harbor create opportunities to help Åstol to become more resilient.
- An increase in local agriculture, aquaculture and food production in circular ways could create new job opportunities and a way to generate income beyond tourism.

### Seasonal tourism

- Åstol is strongly dependent/ economically reliant on the income generated from the tourism sector posing a challenges for the island since the tourism season in summer is quite short.

### Housing

- There are many part time residents on Åstol in the summer month and housing prices get increasingly expensive.
- In the future there may be lacking opportunities to further develop housing on the island due to limited space.

### Space scarcity

- Most of the available land is built upon and there are only a few free plots left. The shoreline protection adds another challenge in regard to the existing lack of space. It is not much land left for agricultural land use.

### Demographic imbalance

- The imbalance of full time and part time residents threatens local services. The aging population raises several challenges for Åstol.

### Small island geographic / environment

- The small island geographic and environment bring along several difficulties.
- Geographically Åstol has the sea as a barrier and since it is an island is quite dependent on the mainland.
- Åstol is exposed to a vulnerable climate and due to its location offers only few job opportunities close to island.

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### Centralization

- Over-tourism prevents change by understanding the local identity as a narrative based on the past.

### Private interests

- Business monopoly for the private stakeholders on the island, changes made by them creates major changes on island.
- Increasing part-time inhabitants creates more crowded summers and deserted winters.

### Climate change and resilience

- Climate change influences the rise of sea levels and leads to more extreme weather conditions that can pose a threat to the existing houses and infrastructure on Åstol.
- Climate change could lead to the island being dependent on imported food and it will be hard to rebuild the local food supply, since there is not much space for farming left on Åstol which makes it hard to adapt and makes the island more dependent on mainland.

### Gentrification

- The lack of housing opportunities is pushing prices up which leads to gentrification with more part-time inhabitants and an older demographic. If continued this poses a great threat to local services and functions.
- The rise in housing prices will reduce diversity on Åstol. Due to the rise of house prices, the islands will become even more exclusive instead of being inclusive towards a broader range of incomes.

# resilience

/rɪˈzɪljəns/

noun

the ability of a substance to return to its usual shape after being bent, stretched, or pressed.

(Merriam - Webster, 2021)

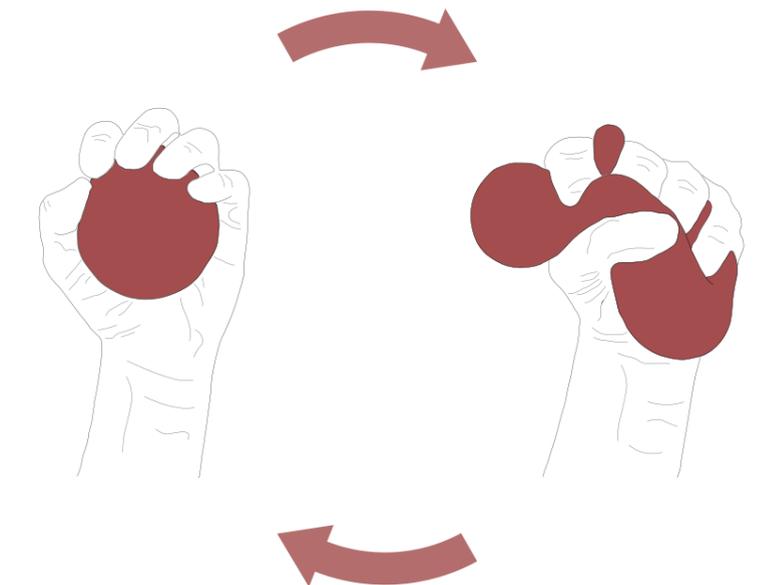
## what is resilience

Resilience is the ability to adapt and rearrange to external changes, and remain successful afterwards. In "Complexity theory for a sustainable future" (Norberg & Cumming, 2008) resilience is described with three key sentences:

1. *The amount of disturbance a system can absorb while still remaining within the same state or domain of attraction.*
2. *The degree to which the system is capable of self-organization (versus lack of organization or organization forced by external factors)*
3. *The degree to which the system can build and increase its capacity for learning and adaptation.*

Think of a piece of clay for kids. When squeezing the clay it forms by the hand and stays in this new shape even after the pressure releases. Compare this to a stressball. When squeezing a stressball it changes its shape but will return to its original shape after. A society as the piece of clay get disturbed and affected by external changes, and do not return to its originally state of attraction, while a society as the stressball handle these changes more effectively and gets back to its original state of function and structure.

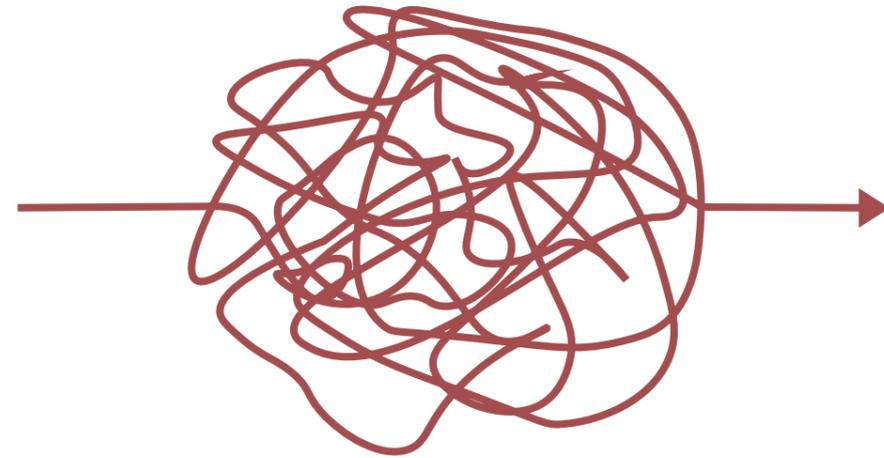
Resilience on Åstol could thus be described as the ability to cope with future changes. It will do so through understanding the new prerequisites, self organizing and undergoing change to remain strong, and continue to flourish and thrive in the new arranged state.



## why aim for resilience

By making Åstol more resilient we strengthen its ability to cope with future changes and create a society that can withstand adversity, recover from it and then develop in a sustainable way. Small societies are often more vulnerable to external changes, highlighting the importance of resilience on the island. On Åstol this is primarily due to their location and isolation. External changes on Åstol could be an aging population, economic changes, environmental changes, infrastructure changes, pandemics, public and private services changes, extreme weather events, global market demands and governmental policies.

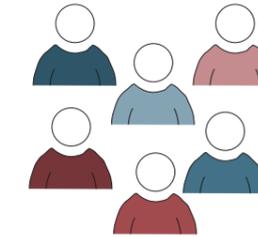
The Pandemic is the most recent example of large external changes effecting the world. It has lead to new possibilities on the island with more people on the island due to the home-working trend, but also some challenges. The high proportion of old people on the island made them extra vulnerable to the disease and they also become even more isolated. A resilient Åstol would cope this external change in a effective way, take advantage of the new conditions and adapt to the new future when the pandemic has calmed down.



## how to achieve resilience

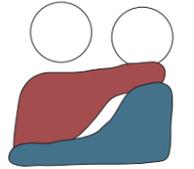
### Diversity

A key requirement for long-term sustainable functioning of social, economical and environmental systems is diversity (Norberg & Cumming, 2008). This means a variety in population, skills, building types, technical systems, public and private services, etc. The adaptive capacity is fundamental for a resilient society and strengthens by diversity. Options and alternatives are requirements for change and make it possible to find the best solution for the certain situation and in the future re-adapt in relation to how well they perform.



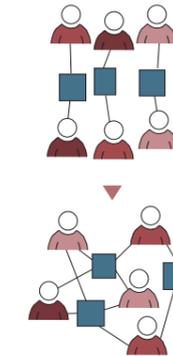
### Complementarity

When different functions in the network or in the society are contributing and helping each other, complementarity occurs (Norberg & Cumming, 2008). For example, schools in a society complement the immediate housing areas by improved road safety.



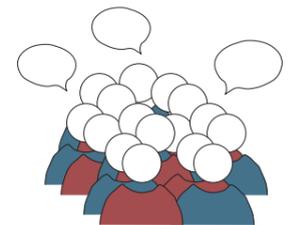
### Redundancy

Redundancy can be described as achieving the same things in different ways. Identical systems are vulnerable to the same external changes and could therefore collapse at the same time, proving the importance of redundancy. (Norberg & Cumming, 2008) . Redundancy contributes to resilience by ensuring that the society can maintain a stable state during times of multiple external changes. This is due to several different social, economical and ecological systems supporting each other and functioning as backup in case one or more systems fail.



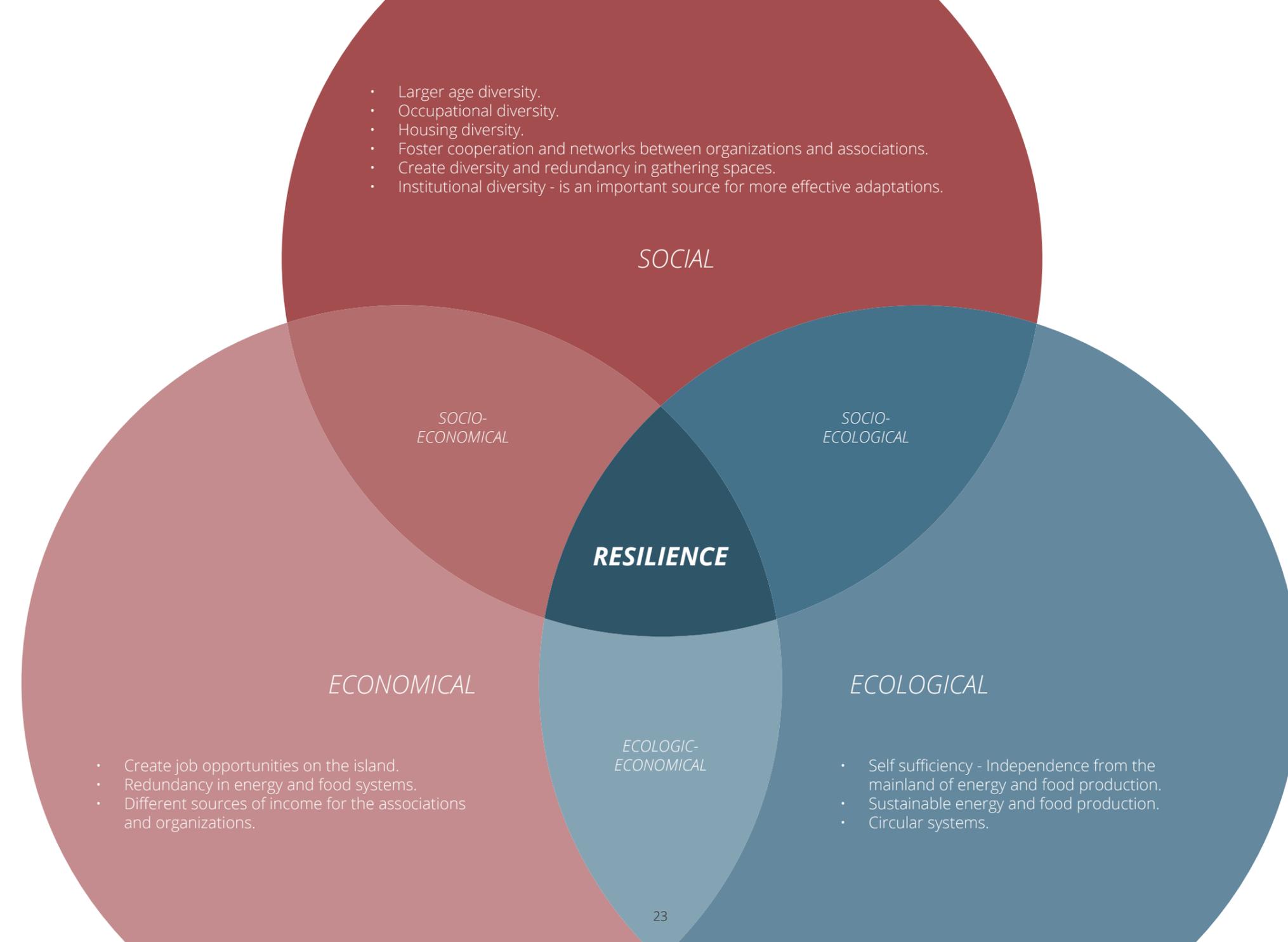
### Networks

The adaptive capacity and the ability to self-organize is related to the existence of social networks (Norberg & Cumming, 2008). Networks provides bridges between people from different organizations or stakeholder groups. Networks can be useful for knowledge generation, mobilizing people, act on the current situation, identifying common interests and starting projects.



### *different types of resilience*

Resilience could be divided into three subcategories: social, economical and ecological resilience. Our keywords: diversity, redundancy, complementarity and networks are shown in different ways in the respective categories. All these three categories are important to reach a resilient society but requires different interventions. Here we give examples of how resilience, in all three categories, could be fulfilled on the island. In this project we focus on developing the social and economical resilience on Åstol.





### *aim and objectives for the project*

The aim of the project is to gain a clear understanding of the definition for resilience and develop several interventions utilizing existing structures on Åstol that work together harmoniously to help make the island community more resilient. We have focused on the socio-economic impacts of the projects. We also aim to make Åstol more attractive to inspire new people to move to the island and introduce more diversity, complementarity and redundancy to their population and built environment. However we also want to understand the needs, wants and routines of the current inhabitants and their daily life to ensure our proposal does not deduct the Island's existing charm.

#### *Aim*

- Gain a clear understanding for the definition of resilience and how to achieve it.
- Develop clear strategies on how to connect our interventions with resilience.
- Develop several architectural interventions to help increase Åstols resilience utilizing existing structures, as much as possible.
- Focus on socio-economic resilience and impacts.
- Introduce more diversity, complementarity and redundancy to the islands population and built environment.
- Make Åstol more attractive to motivate new people to become residents.
- Preserve Åstols existing charm.



## methodology



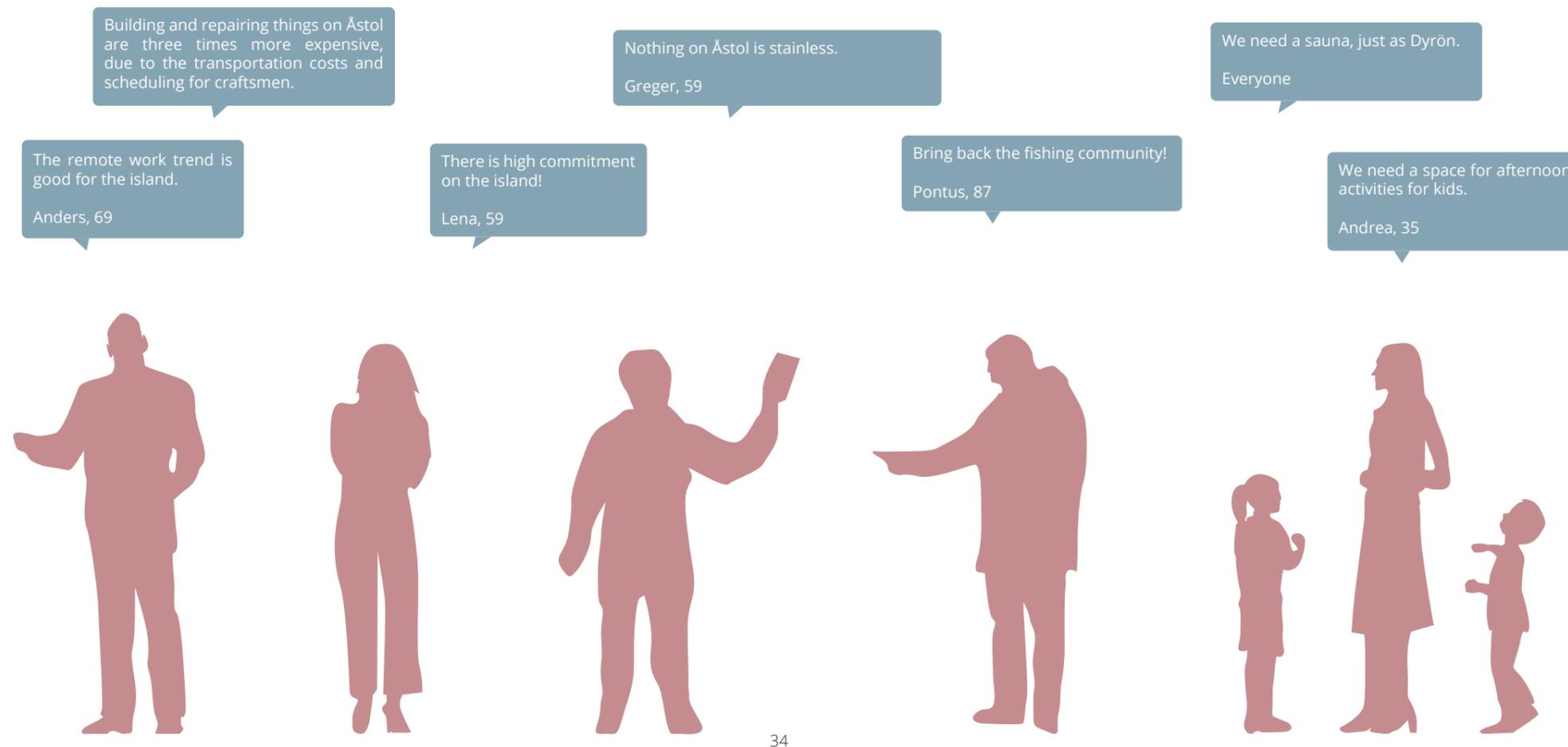
*resilience on Åstol through time*

Åstol has historically proven to be quite resilient. The island has survived until now and has been a major fishing community until the 1970s but has since struggled. There is now less diversity, complementarity and redundancy on the island compared to the previous fishing community. However there is much potential to raise Åstol's resilience again and the first step towards this we believe is to target and improve the island's socio-economical resilience.



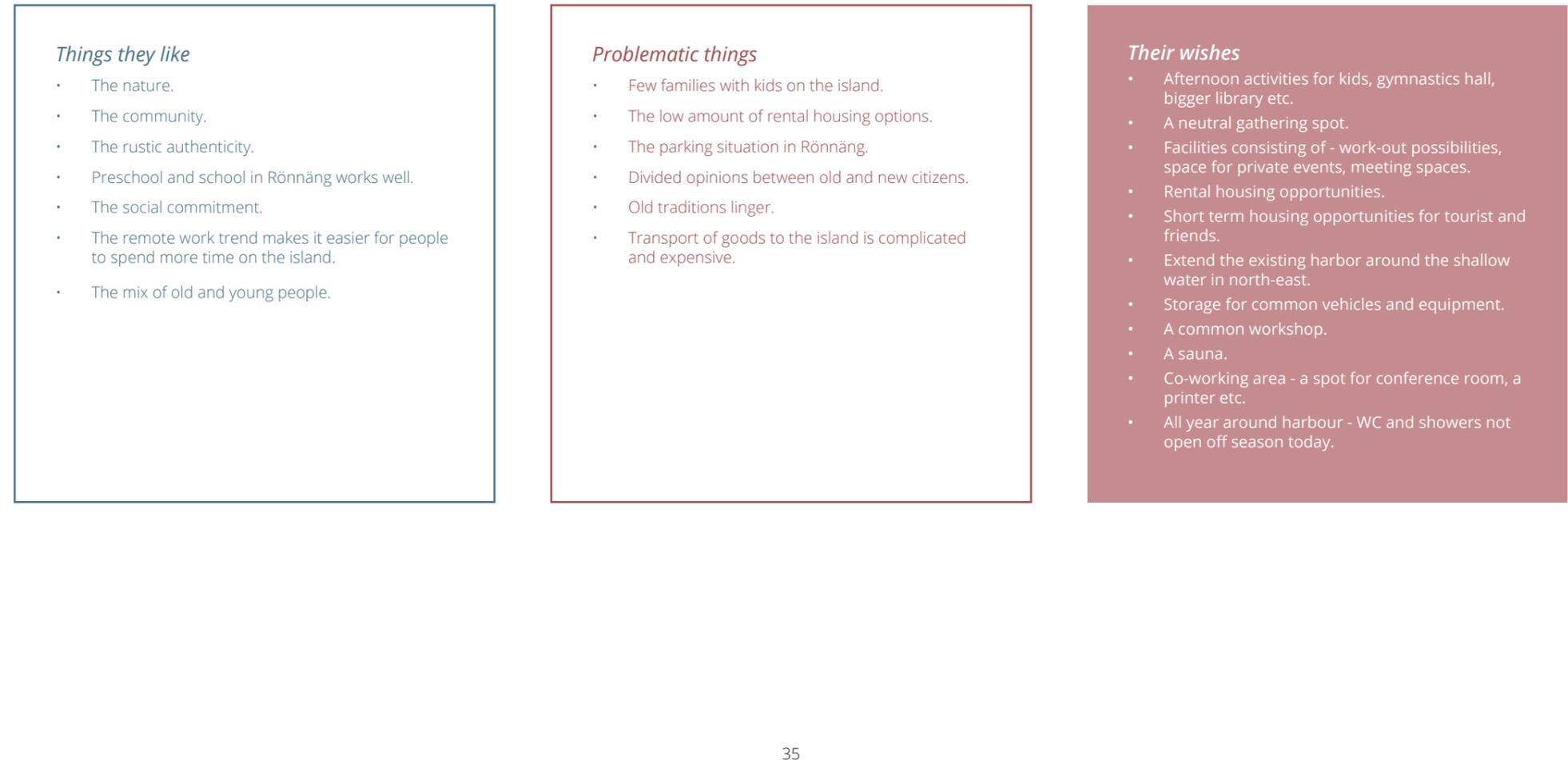
## meeting the inhabitants

One important step in our process were interviewing the inhabitants on Åstol. Their wishes, desires and thoughts were one of the foundations in our work with the design proposals for how to make Åstol more resilient. We met up with people in different stages in life, a mix of full-time and part-time citizens, people with different genders, age and hobbies. Our own observations and spontaneous meetings made us also gain important knowledge.



## compilation of interviews

The result from the interviews is presented below. We divided the information in 3 parts, what people like with Åstol today, what they think are problematic and their wishes and ideas on what would contribute to an even better Åstol.



## *building typology on Åstol*

At the moment Åstol is comprised of mainly large privately owned houses and couple apartment buildings. A new apartment building is currently under construction located at the old school site, designed by Wingårdh's architects. The docks are surrounded by boathouses used mostly for storage. There is also a cafe run by the church, a small museum and a couple of stores around the harbor. There is one grocery store on the island, which is highly valued. A sports field is located in the western parts with a soccer and a volleyball field, outdoor gym and a small club house (Idrottssällskapshuset). Two churches are also located on the island, which are rarely used. A high end restaurant mostly for tourists called Rökeriet is located in the north harbor. "Röda huset" up on the western hill occasionally used for community organized events and the water tower close by are other buildings on the island today.



## *potential buildings for reuse*



Boathouses



Röda huset



Idrottssällskap huset



Water tower



Elim church



Chapel

### *summary*

The research, SWOT-analysis and the interviews gave us a clear picture of Åstol and their needs. Åstol has a strong community and the commitment is high, making Åstol an uplifting place to work with. The deep rooted traditions and experiences is a part of the society but the will for development is also strong and prominent.

By focusing on the theme resilience we defined some aspects Åstol would benefit from such as diversity in population, different types of gathering spaces, housing types and different functions on the island. This will contribute to diversity, redundancy, complementarity and strengthening of networks on the island.

The research for unused buildings gave us 6 possible locations. We have designed proposals for five of these, leaving the chapel free for other ideas.



SCALE  
1:3000

- HOUSE
- APARTMENT
- COMMERCIAL/PRIVATE SPACE
- STORAGE
- PATH
- TRAIL
- DESIGN PROPOSAL
- FUTURE PATH

### reinvention of boathouses

The boathouses are located by the docks and will be converted into adaptable/multi functional spaces.

### activity house

The activity house will be located at the sports field and hold an inside gym and a sports hall. The project will attract people in all ages, especially kids and those who like to work-out. The flexible space could also be used for social gatherings.

### social hub

The social hub located in old Elim church. Will be transformed into a neutral social space with possibility to a variety of gatherings.

### intergenerational living

Located by Röda stugan. Today used as senior housing, for the high amount of old people on the island. In the future the building complex could be used as rental apartments if the needs changes.

### community sauna

The sauna located on top of the water tower is a function that could be used all year around and could generate a good income for the community association.

## overview

Here we are introducing a few of the pieces in the complex puzzle to make Åstol more resilient. The intergenerational living, the reinvention of the harbor, the social hub, the activity house and the sauna are all contributing in different ways. It will lead to more diversity in both population, skills, housing forms and functions around the island. They are redundant to the existing built structure, and to each other, by implementing same functions in different ways and forms. They complement each other and by introducing more gathering spaces in various sizes and forms, we aim to improve the social networks and circulation around the island. The interventions will lead to higher accessibility in the south western part of the island, making it accessible all year round. The reinvention of the harbor has gotten most focus in this project because of its strong connection to resilience and their endless opportunities.

The interventions could be developed separately and in different times. Our suggestion is to start with the intergenerational living due to its chain reactions in improving the resilience on the island. In the next phase, the reinvention of the harbor could be implemented closely followed by the other proposals. The sauna has many economical effects and could be one way to get finances for the rest of the projects.

Our design proposals focuses on increasing the social-economical resilience on Åstol. We hope these projects could be the catalyst for future interventions focusing on environmental resilience and improving the social and economical resilience even more. "Teaching Åstol how to fish, again" is the start to solve the complex puzzle to make Åstol more resilient.



Attracts people and leads to **diversity** in population and functions on the island.



**Redundant** to housing, social and storage spaces.



**Complementary** to different buildings in different times, depending on function.



**Diversity** in population age, housing forms and job opportunities on the island.



**Redundant** to other housing forms.



**Complement** to other housing options, social spaces and the improved accessibility on the island.



Creates new **networks**.



### reinvention of boathouses

The Boat houses located down by the docks will be transformed from the current use of storage spaces to adaptable multi functional spaces. The idea is that the residents of the island can easily and quickly change the function of the boathouses according to their needs at the time. We have implemented some details into the architecture such as foldable/retractable walls to help the simplify that process. Some of our proposed functions for present day Åstol include co-working spaces, workshops and affordable housing. We suggest a mix of public and private functions, and their location might change depending on the current need. By applying hypothetical regulations we aim to keep the harbor public and open for everyone and still introduce private functions.

We believe these functions would have a positive social-economic impact for the current situation of Åstol and they aim at attracting new citizens to move to the island.

### intergenerational living

The Inter-generation living spaces located by Röda stugan will act as a catalyst for the rest of the interventions by allowing the current aging population to leave their houses and move into a a new more social and practical living situation. This in turn frees up existing houses that can be used as for example collective housing, allowing new people to move onto the island, introducing more diversity amongst the population and buildings and providing more incentive for developing the other interventions. New job opportunities to care for the elderly will be a direct result providing more reason for new potential residents to move to Åstol. The intergenerational living space will also lead to the development of better infrastructure around the south-west side of the island allowing for full year access for walks and views. Currently this section of the island can only be used during the warmer seasons.

The new building will complement the rest of the housing/apartment buildings as well as the social spaces on the island. It will also be redundant to the rest of the housing on the island and help in the creation of new networks within the community.

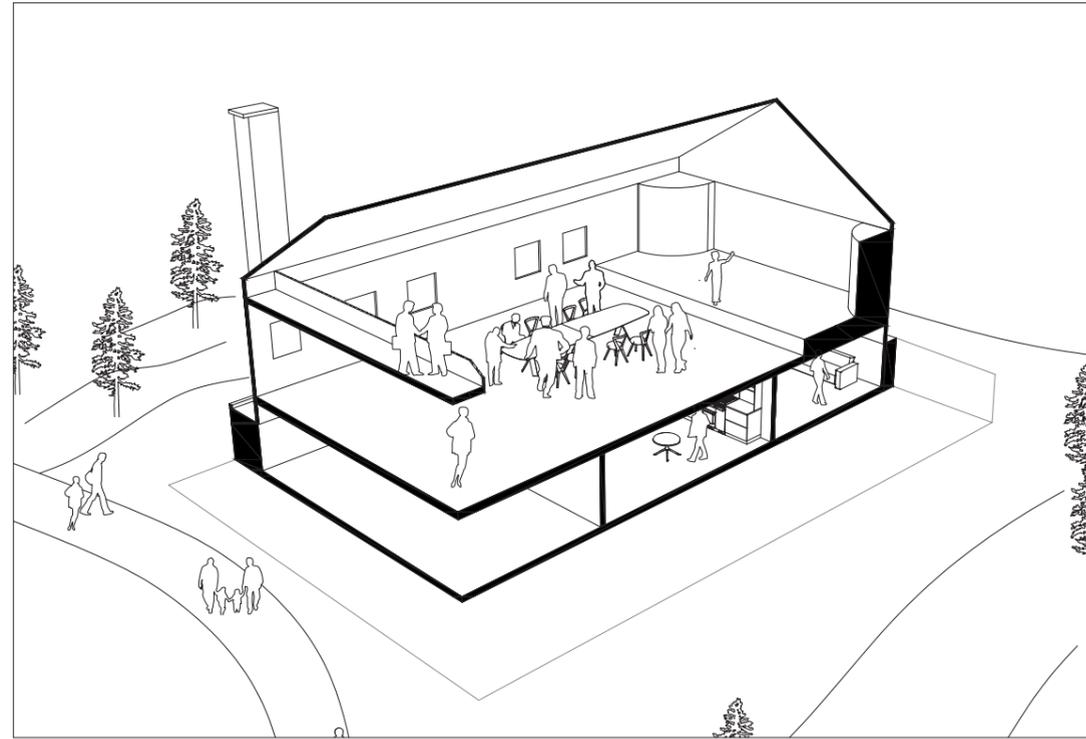
Overall we predict the implementation of the project will lead to vast positive social economical impacts and begin the raising of resilience on the island. In the future we believe the intergenerational living space can be transformed with a new function (e.g a regular apartments, school, new social hub) depending on the needs and wants of the future island residents.

Leads to **diversity** of gathering spaces.

**Redundant** to other social spaces.

**Complement** to the café and the restaurant.

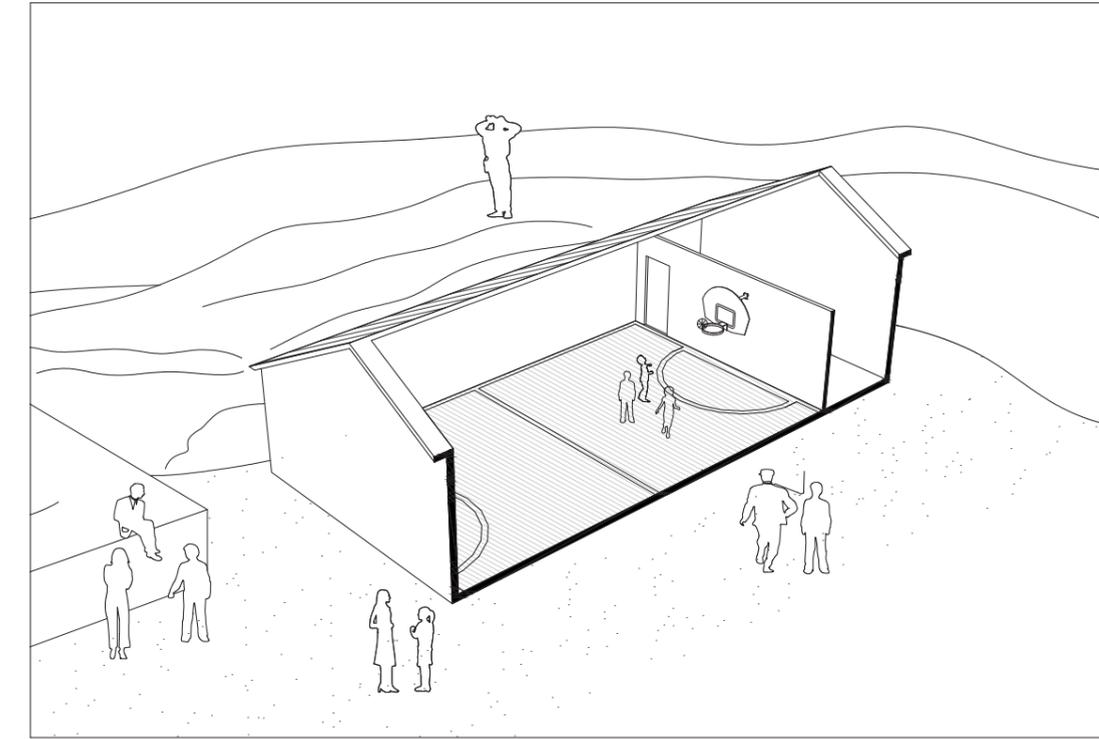
Strengthens existing **networks** and creates new ones.



Attracts families with kids and leads to **diversity** in population and functions on the island.

**Redundant** to other social spaces.

Creates **networks** among the people, all year around.



## social hub

The social hub will be located in Elimkyrkan, one of the biggest buildings on the island. The church will be transformed into a neutral gathering spot, perfect for social gatherings, performances, private events and could fit all people on Åstol.

Currently the building is owned by the church and rarely used. The idea is to break the association of the space with the church allowing all people to feel welcome there and use the space for social events. This strengthens the already existing networks but also builds new networks with the new future residents of Åstol.

The building will be redundant to the rest of the social spaces on Åstol and complement the café and restaurant. A neutral gathering space will help attract new people offering them a place to mingle, giving them a space to improve and create new networks and introduce more diversity.

## activity house

The activity house is located at the sports field in the western part of the island. The current building will be extended and consist of an inside gym, a sports hall and storage for the equipment.

The function could be used of all people in all ages and have many good social impacts. The inside gym will make it possible to work out all year around and even on rainy and windy days. Afternoon activities for kids could be arranged, making Åstol even more attractive for families with kids leading to a diversity in both population and functions on the island. The building with its big room is very flexible and will act as another type of meeting space, making it redundant to the social hub, the boathouses, the café and Rökeriet. An activity house is a function asked for by the citizens.

The activity house is an already going on project on the island but has at the moment stalled. By paying attention to its positive effects for the people and the relation to resilience, we hope to encourage to the continuation of the project.



**Redundant** to other social spaces.



**Complementarity** to other gathering spots.



Strengthens **networks**.



## *community sauna*

The Sauna is a project highly desired on the island. Our suggestion is to place the sauna on top of the existing water tower, giving it one of the best views on the island and connection to the water. This would be a great economic exploit for the island and benefit it in several socio-economic ways. It will bring redundancy to other gathering spots and be complementary to them as well. It will also be complementary to the new intergenerational living space and its improved surrounding infrastructure. The sauna will increase activity on the island especially during winter, strengthening the social networks and increasing Åstol's overall attractiveness.

**reinventing the boathouse**

## introduction

When looking at potential buildings to work with on the island, the abundance of space in the boat houses was an obvious opportunity to develop a project, since today they are used for storage and trash. Relating it to the socio-economical resilience factors mentioned before we had to make sure that the design held up to that criteria. We decided that a flexible / adaptable building design which can change functions based on the island's needs was the best way to meet the functions needed on the island and possible in such a space. Such a building is also easily linked to the factors of diversity, complementarity and redundancy needed to achieve resilience. We believe the project would have positive social-economical impacts by helping the building of networks, introducing more diversity and being complementary and redundant to other buildings on the island.

Although current regulations of boathouses would make it difficult to implement some of our proposed functions in reality we have chosen to show these proposals anyways. To justify this we have created a list of future regulations, which allow for new certain functions but still stop privatization of the boathouses.



past

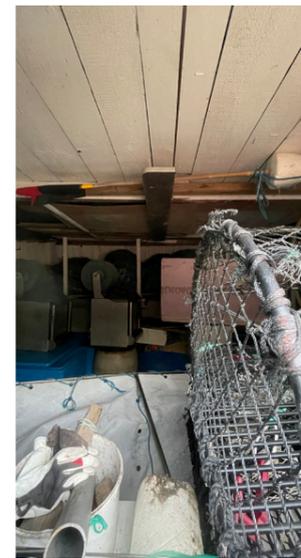
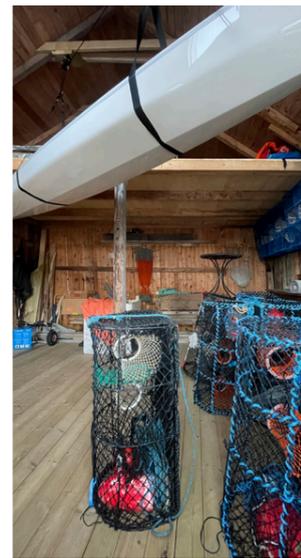
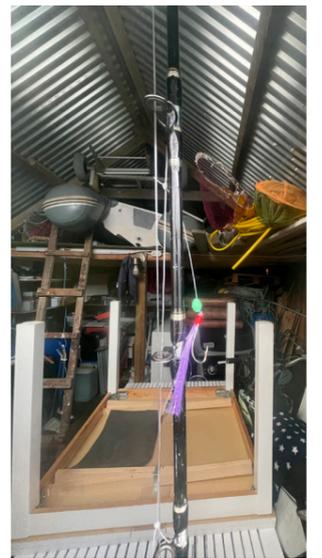


present

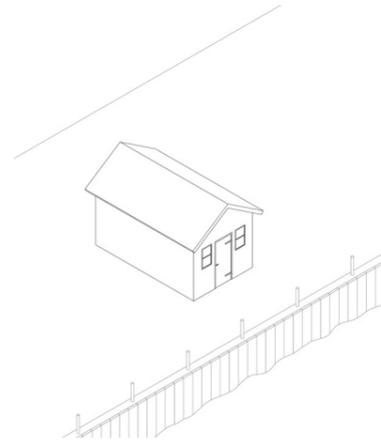


future

current use

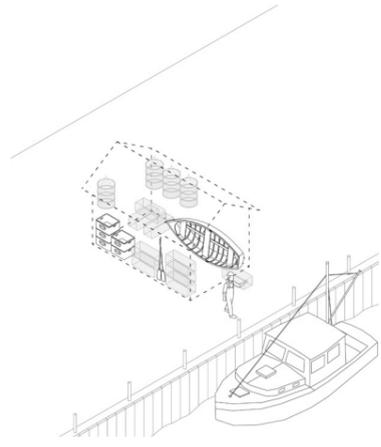


concept



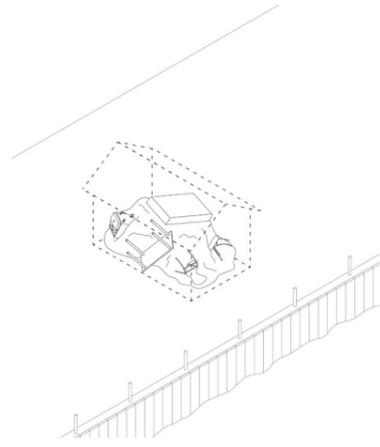
**boathouse**

A boathouse is a small cottage out of wood. Non-residential. Located around Åstol's harbour.



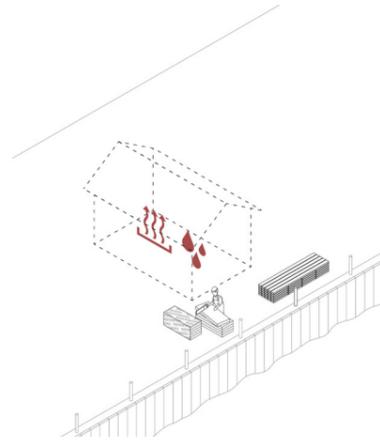
**function**

Originally created to store fish and fishing equipment for the fishermen but has since lost its purpose due to Åstol no longer being a fishing community.



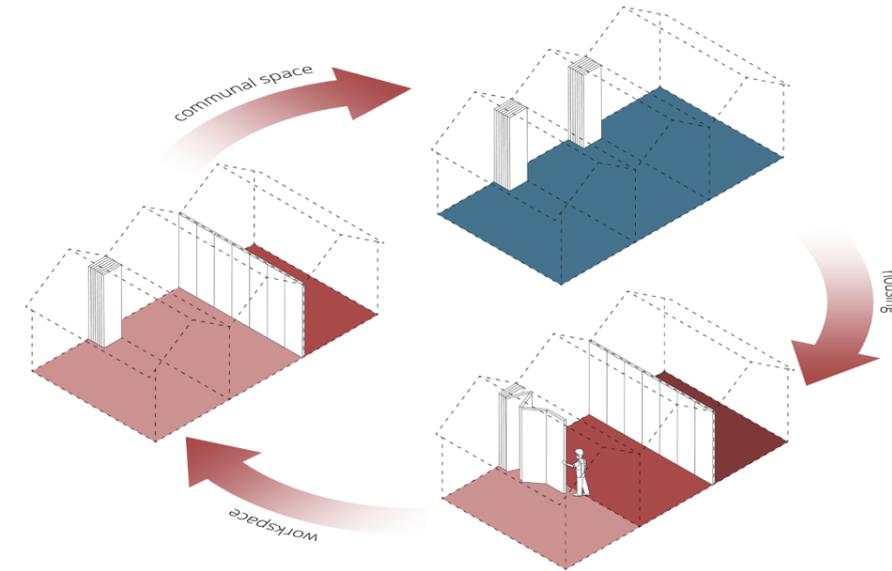
**lost purpose**

Currently primarily used for private storage.



**refurbish**

Potential to insulate and equip with water and energy for re-function.



**Adaptability**

The boat houses are designed to be flexible so that the inhabitants might change the function to something more unexpected, adhering to the needs of their time. In times where there is a lack of housing, the spaces can become housing. When they need more social spaces, they adapt to this. Flexible walls make it possible to make the rooms bigger or smaller depending on current situation.

**Technical information**

All boathouses will be equipped with electricity and plumbing, though only some will utilize it to begin with. The boathouses are owned by the municipality but the community association will be managing the buildings. A percentage of the income goes to the community association to use for reparation and adaption.



### **Flexible spaces**

Flexible walls make it possible to make the rooms bigger or smaller depending on current situation.



### **Heating and plumbing**

Some of the boathouses are fitted with heating, plumbing and electricity.



### **Staying public**

The harbour is meant to be a public area. When the boathouses are using a private program, its limited to the inside only.



### **Minimal refurbishment**

Some of the boathouses are left almost as is, as some programs do not need refurbished buildings, but also to keep costs down.

## *Regulations*

The current regulations for the use of boathouses are written by Tjörn municipality. Today functions as commercial activities, workshops and storage are allowed, while accommodation and insulation of the houses are not. This brings complications to our project. Therefore we introduce hypothetical future regulations that deal with these conflicts and make the use of the boathouses more efficient and sustainable. We assume that regulations will change in the future and thereby make the reinvention of the boathouses possible.

### **Regulations for boathouses today**

- You are registered in the population register in Tjörn municipality.
- Accommodation and overnight stays in boathouses are not allowed.
- The shed must be used for storage purposes.
- The boathouse must be marked with a unique designation.
- The land around the shed must be free for passage for the public. Balconies, bridges, railings and other privatization around the shed must not take place.

*(Tjörns Kommun, 2021)*



### **Future hypothetical regulations for the boathouses**

- The boathouses must be used with the benefit of the community of mind.
- Accommodation and overnight stays in boathouses must remain affordable and for shorter periods.
- Privatization around the shed must not take place.
- A percentage of the income goes to the community association who manages the boathouses.
- The boat houses are free to be used in a variety of different functions.



SCALE  
1:1500

#### Commercial activity

- Pop-up stores, AirBnB, self service stores, make your own pancake cafe etc.
- Leads to **diversity** of functions and economical income.
- **Complementary** to social spaces, café, rökeriet etc.
- Creating of **networks**.
- Public spaces.

#### Short-term housing

- Cheaper apartments, attracts younger people and visitors.
- Leads to **diversity** in both housing forms, functions and population age.
- **Redundant** to existing houses.
- **Complementary** to co-working spaces.
- Private spaces.

#### Remote/co-working spaces

- Builds **networks**. People meet on a daily basis.
- Leads to **diversity** on the island, in both population and functions.
- **Complementary** to new affordable housing.
- **Redundant** to neutral meeting spots. The chairs and tables could easily be rearranged for various gatherings.
- Public spaces.

#### Gathering space

- Neutral gathering space.
- **Complementary** to other gathering spaces including the social hub.
- Creation of **networks**.
- **Redundant** to other gather spaces.
- Public spaces.

#### Workshops

- A function asked for by the citizens.
- Renovating and building common things on the island, benches, stairs etc.
- Creates **networks**.
- **Diversity** in functions.
- **Redundant** to people's existing storages/boat houses.
- Public spaces.

#### Other uses

- The idea is that the boathouses can be freely and easily transformed in terms of function in the future depending on the needs of Åstol's inhabitants.



users

**Johan, 42**  
 Runs a newly opened store selling a variation of things. Attracts many tourists during summer, and also the Åstol citizens. Here spontaneous meetings occurs and strengthens the community.

**Elias, 29**  
 Elias just moved to Åstol due to his new job were working from home is as common as Fika-rast. He currently lives in one of the Prova-bo houses on top of the island.

**Amanda, 35**  
 Grew up on Åstol and has recently moved back. Enjoys working in the workshop building her own furniture. She has been involved in the renovation of the activity house.

**Lina, 24**  
 Recently moved to Åstol to get away from the loud city noises. Rents one of the apartments in the boathouses. She likes to take walks around the island on the newly improved infrastructure, even in the winter.

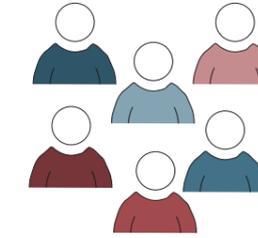
**Matti, 60**  
 Matti just turned 60 and has rented three of the boathouses to throw a party for his friends. Tomorrow he moves in to the intergenerational living. A younger family plans to move in to the his house.



## achieving resilience

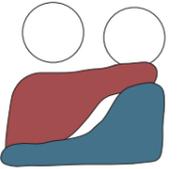
### Diversity

The introduction of new functions to the island and especially the introduction of co-working spaces and affordable housing in our current time provides incentive and reason for new, younger people to move to the island and also allows the current residents to stay there for longer. This results in diversity amongst the population in age, professions and skill. A diversity of building functions is also important to the resilience of the island.



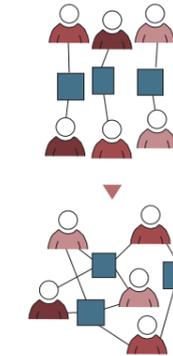
### Complementarity

As adaptable buildings with different functions that are changeable, the boat houses will be complementary to different buildings during different times. Because of their adaptable design they can be complementary to whatever other buildings the residents of the island deem appropriate. An example would be co-working places are complementary to affordable housing due to their lack of space and need for work/hangout spaces.



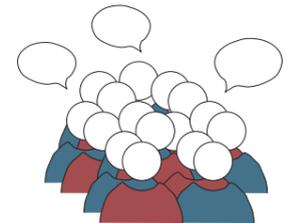
### Redundancy

With the current plan of function the boat houses can be redundant to housing, social spaces and storage spaces. However with the adaptability factor within the design, the buildings will act as redundancy to most existing functions on the island and will continually do so with new future building functions.



### Networks

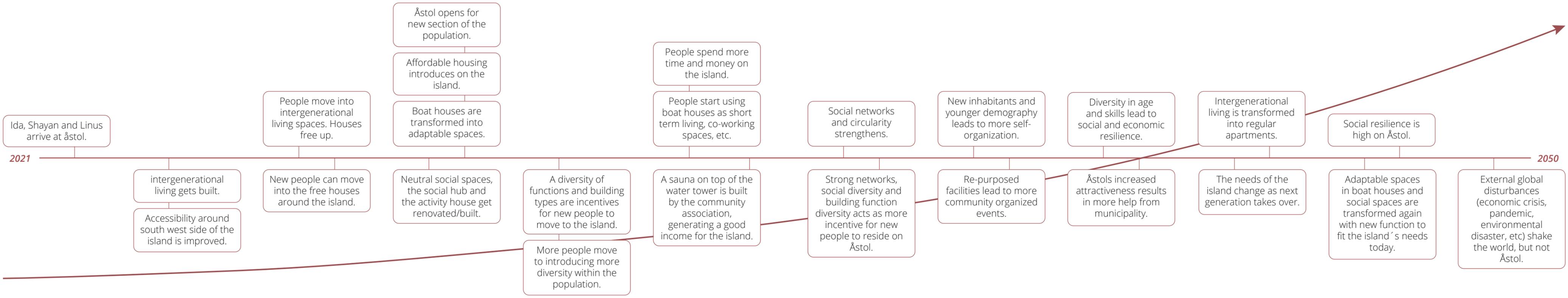
The variable spaces strengthens networks in many ways. Co-working spaces leads to everyday contact between a click of people. Arranged meetings in the flexible spaces for the different associations strengthens the self-organization ability and the community. The variation of different functions in the boathouses leads to spontaneous meetings between all ages, all year around.

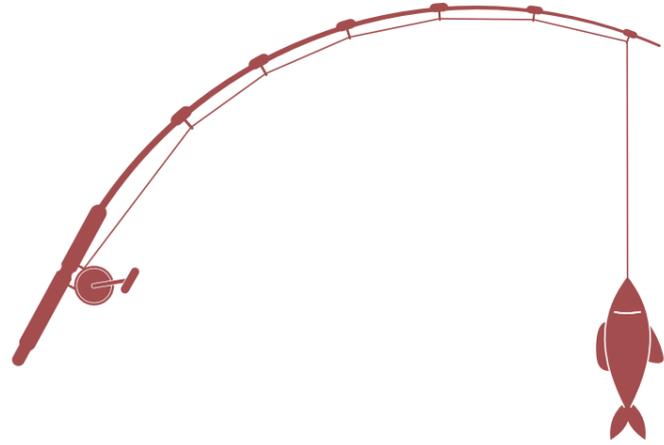




timeline

A prediction of the chain events set off by our interventions.  
The red arrow represents the rising resilience on Åstol.





### *conclusion*

In conclusion, with these projects we believe Åstol will become more resilient and be able to handle and adapt to external changes more efficiently. Referring back to the project title "Teaching Åstol how to fish, again" implies teaching the island community on how to thrive and continue during periods of vast external change and influence. This is the fishing rod in the analogy. By doing this we believe we can help Åstol become a stronger, longer lasting society and return some of what it may have lost since its prime as a solid fishing community. This is what the modern fish represents, a strong resilient community.





## *reflections*

In conclusion “Teaching Åstol how the fish, again” is about increasing Åstols lifespan by increasing its reliance. We believe our proposals will help in taking the first steps towards this increase by starting a chain reaction of events that will eventually lead to a fully resilient and self sustaining Åstol.

Through out this course we have learned a lot about not only resilience but also working and observing the local context. By finding the answers to our questions regarding how to achieve our goals, our knowledge on the vast, complex topic has increased. But perhaps more importantly we have learned how to apply such theories into practice. Learning to work with smaller communities is a skill to be valued. It is through this research and knowledge our proposals stem. However we have found that with answers to the right questions more questions arise.

Our goal has been to find practical solutions to the islands problems but given its limited circumstances the options were not always obvious. We have capitalized on our identified opportunities to a large extent, excluding those focusing on socio-ecological impacts. Our interventions have challenges of their own and leave more to be desired, but are all created upon a rational foundation of what is possible on the island. A deeper dive into the non-physical spaces, the in-between spaces and the economical models would also be needed to fully develop the project.

We believe that in order for our solutions to achieve our goal effectively they need to be connected instead of serving a function independently. We have focused a lot on the “Boat houses” project but in reality, to truly design a method to reach resilience on Åstol such detail for rest of the proposals would be needed as well. Projects such as the “Boat houses” project also bend the rules slightly and may not be possible at least the current state of affairs.

The foundation of our project still lies in how to nurture a rural community. Teaching them about resilience and what makes up a self sustaining community by showing them some of the steps. We hope this provides them with some of the tools they need to become more self sustaining and resilient. We believe our proposals provide a good holistic example on how architecture can be utilized to strengthen a community and guide it towards a more self sustaining future.

*special thanks to*

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