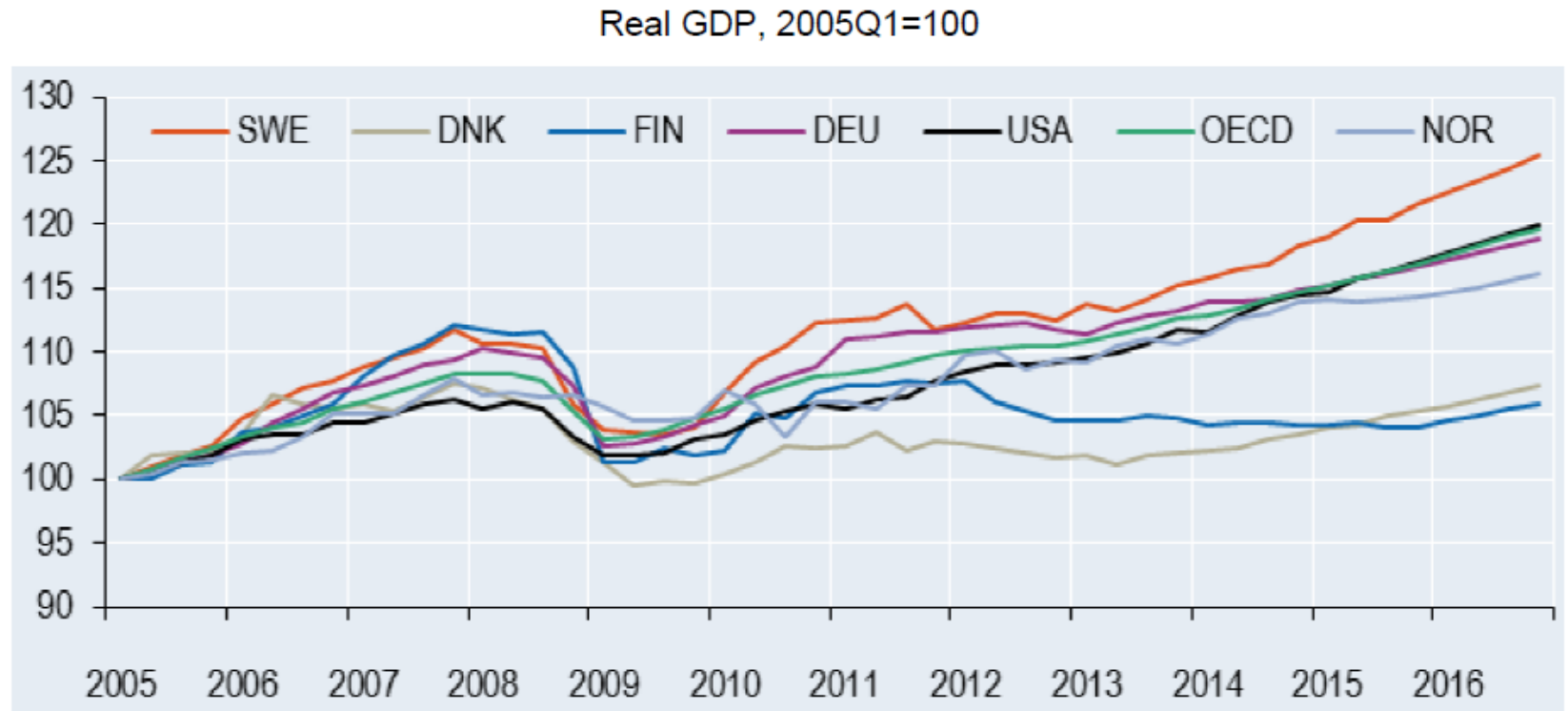


# OECD Monitoring of Territorial Review Sweden

**Sverker Lindblad, Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation**

# Sweden performs well...



Source: OECD Economic Outlook Database (2016).

# ...its regions as well

Figure 2.6. Rural regions GDP per capita and growth (2000-12), Sweden and OECD

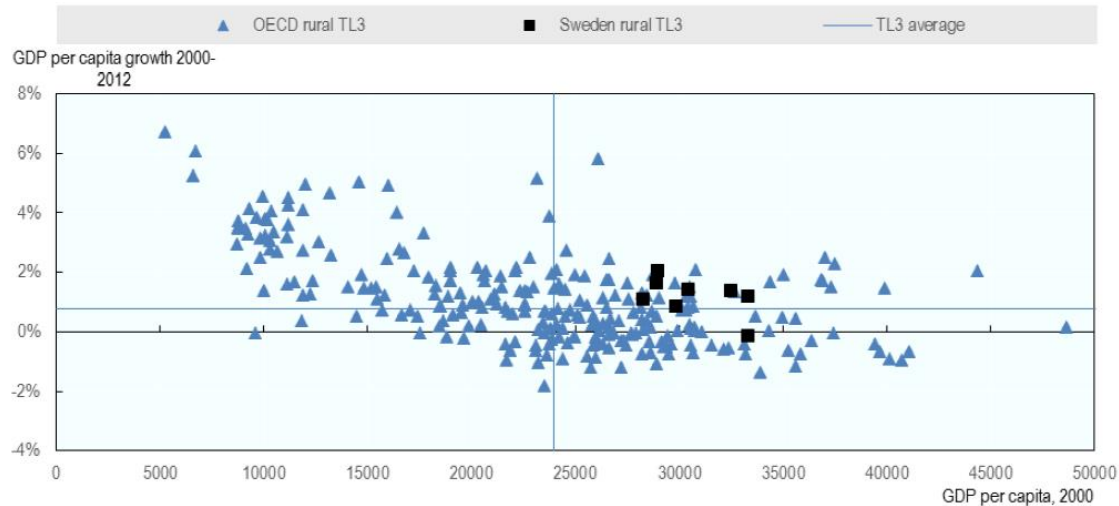
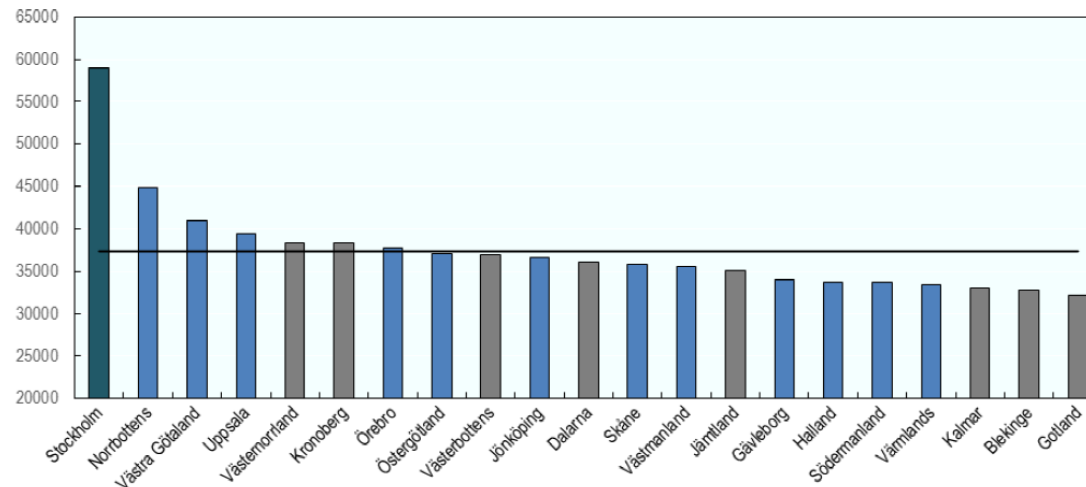


Figure 2.7. Swedish regions GDP per capita (USD 2010), 2012



Source: OECD (2016), "Regional economy", *OECD Regional Statistics* (database). Note: grey colour represents rural regions as defined by the OECD.

# Territorial disparities are low, and well-being high

Figure 1.3. Gini index of inequality of GDP per capita across TL3 regions 1995 and 2014

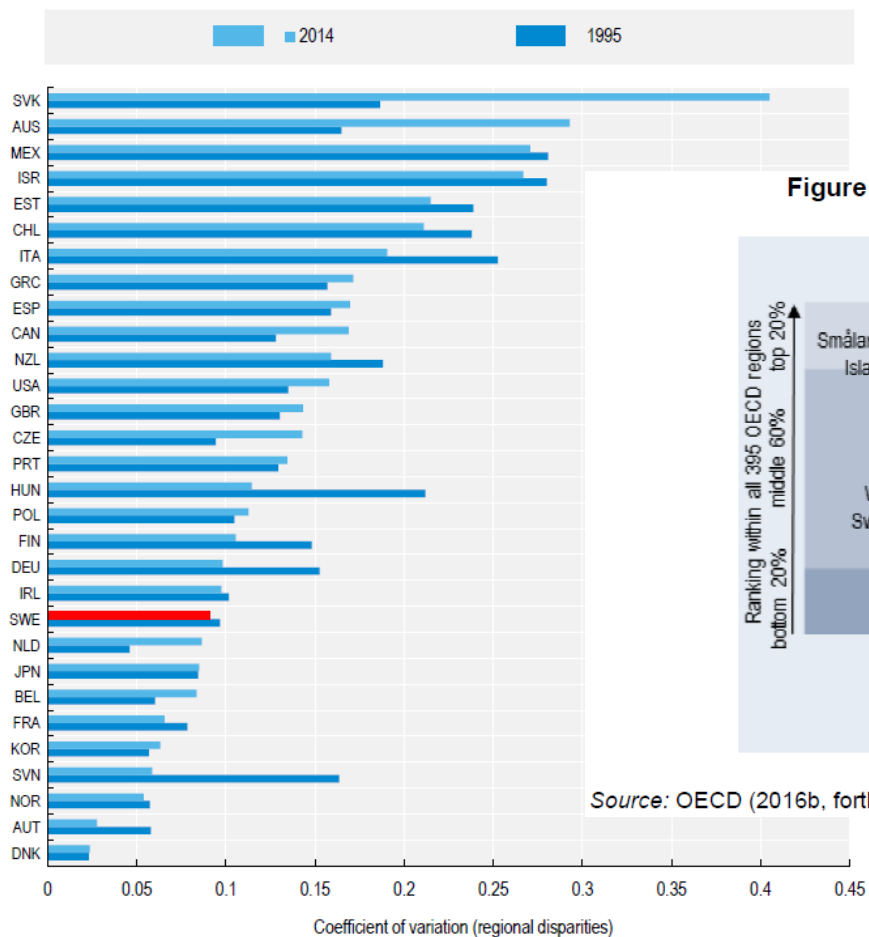
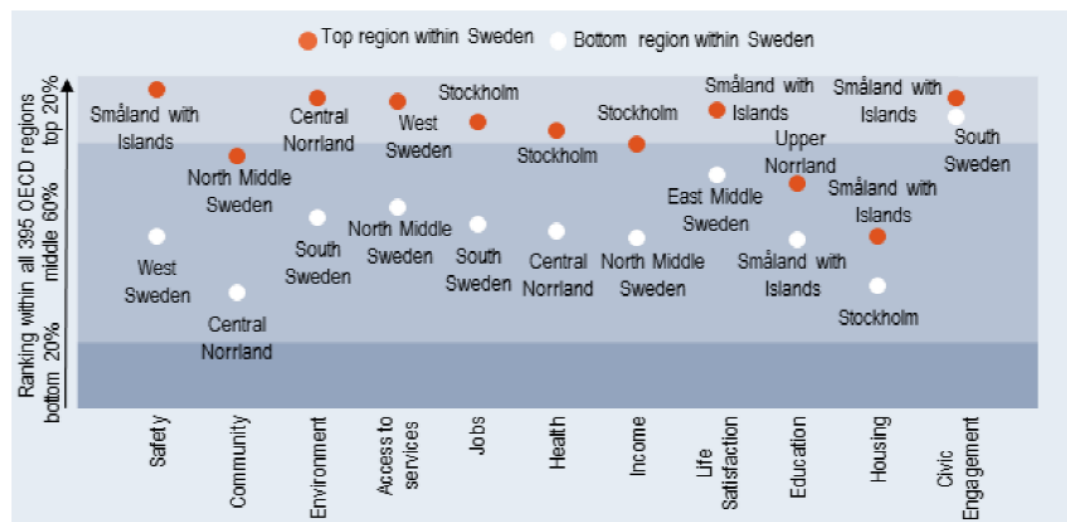


Figure 1.6. Relative performance of Swedish regions by well-being dimensions



Source: OECD (2016b, forthcoming), *Better Policies Series: Sweden*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

# Monitoring Review of Sweden – Regional Growth, Rural Development and Governance

- **Follow up on the Territorial Review Sweden from 2010 – Assessments and Recommendations**
- **Assessments on the National Strategy for Sustainable Growth and Attractiveness**
- **Input to The Rural Parliamentary Committee**
- **Input to The Committee on Regional Reform**
- **Discussions and learning with more than 100 stakeholders**

**and furthermore will come...**

# Regional Growth Policy – A & R 2010







- **50% of A &R are fully or partially implemented**
- **Doing well on greater institutional co-ordination and regional governance**
- **Less successful on integration of rural and regional development**
- **Still need better involvement of State Agencies, and better urban/rural linkages (functional regions, spatial planning)**
- **Demographic pressure by aging population (service, welfare and labour) and external migration – need for more co-ordination**
- **The “hourglass” is rounding out?**

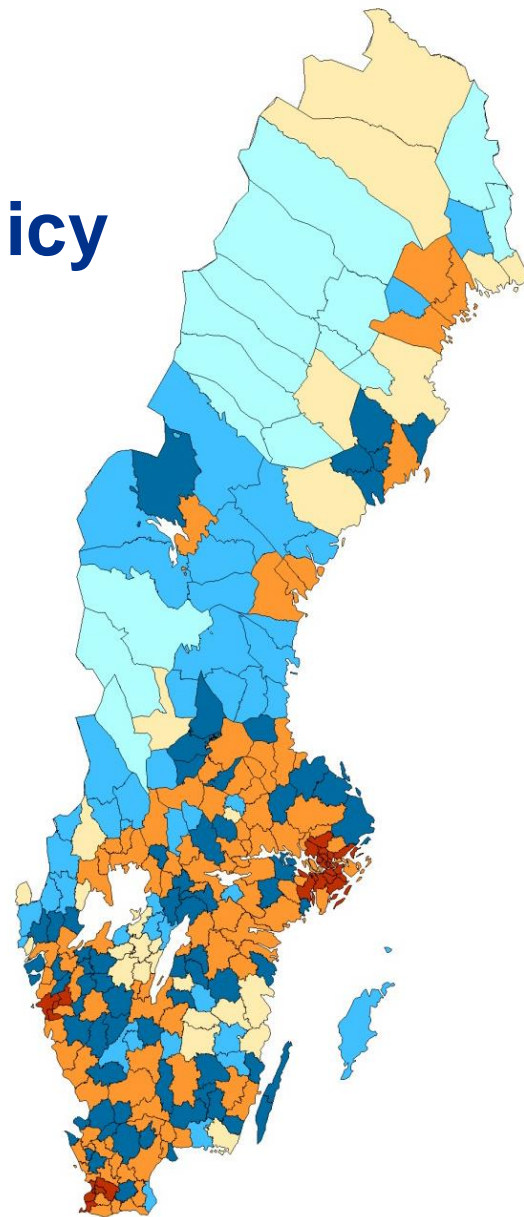
# OECD New Rural Policy

	Old Paradigm	New Rural Paradigm (2006)	New Rural Policy –Implementing the New Rural Paradigm
Objectives	Equalization and a focus on farm income	<b>Competitiveness</b> of rural areas and expanding <b>opportunities</b>	<b>Increase rural competitiveness</b> and <b>productivity</b> in order to enhance the social, economic and environmental <b>well-being of rural areas</b>
Key target sectors	Sector based	<b>Holistic</b> approach to include various sectors of rural economies	Low density economies with a focus on <b>comparative and absolute advantages</b>
Main tools	Subsidies for firms	<b>Investments</b>	<b>Integrated investments and delivery of services</b> that are adapted to the needs of rural areas and benefit from potential complementarities
Key actors	National governments, farmers' organisations	<b>Multilevel-governance</b> —horizontal and vertical coordination	Encourage <b>vertical and horizontal coordination</b> among governments (rural-urban and rural-rural partnerships) and bring <b>new stakeholders into decision making</b> (indigenous people, third sector, firms)
Approach	Top down	<b>Bottom-up</b>	<b>Building capacity at the local level</b> to encourage participation and bottom up development

# Recommendations – Rural Policy

- Apply a commonly agreed spatially differentiated definition of rural areas

	Storstadskommuner	(29)
	Täta kommuner nära en större stad	(103)
	Täta kommuner avlägset belägna	(28)
	Landsbygdskommuner nära en större stad	(70)
	Landsbygdskommuner avlägset belägna	(45)
	Landsbygdskommuner mycket avlägset belägna	(15)





# Recommendations – Rural Policy

- **Develop a rural policy framework**
  - vision and objectives
  - sectoral policies tailored and adapted
  - complementary and integrates effectively with regional growth policy

# Recommendations – Rural Policy

## **Mechanisms to facilitate and monitor implementation.**

- **responsibility at a regional level to the political body currently responsible for regional growth policy,**
- **tasking them to prepare an integrated rural and regional development strategy,**
- **ensuring these strategies are based on the identification of regional needs, priorities and assets for urban and rural areas**

# Recommendations – Rural Policy

## Mechanisms to facilitate and monitor implementation

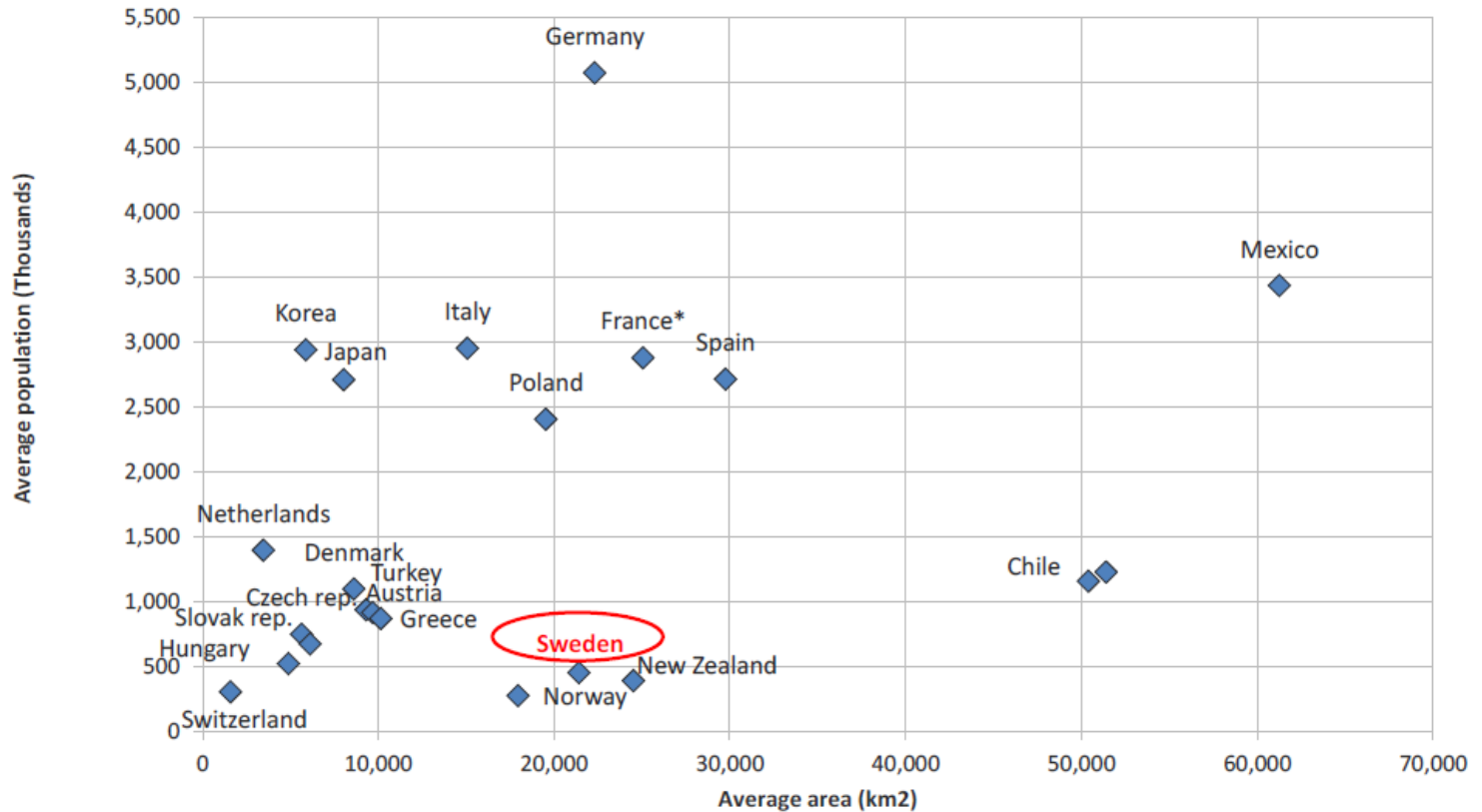
- **County Administrative Boards (CABs) to negotiate binding commitments from national sectoral ministries,**
- **Implementing improved guidance and tools for policy makers to take better account of rural needs and issues**

# Multi-level governance

- **A decentralised country in public service delivery and expenditure, calls for...**
- **better co-ordination of state agencies at regional level,**
- **an efficient and more transparent equalisation system,**
- **diversification of subnational revenue sources (property or land tax),**
- **alternative forms of investment financing (co-operation national-subnational, PPP?)**

# Regional reform?

Figure 3.14 Regional population and land area in selected OECD countries

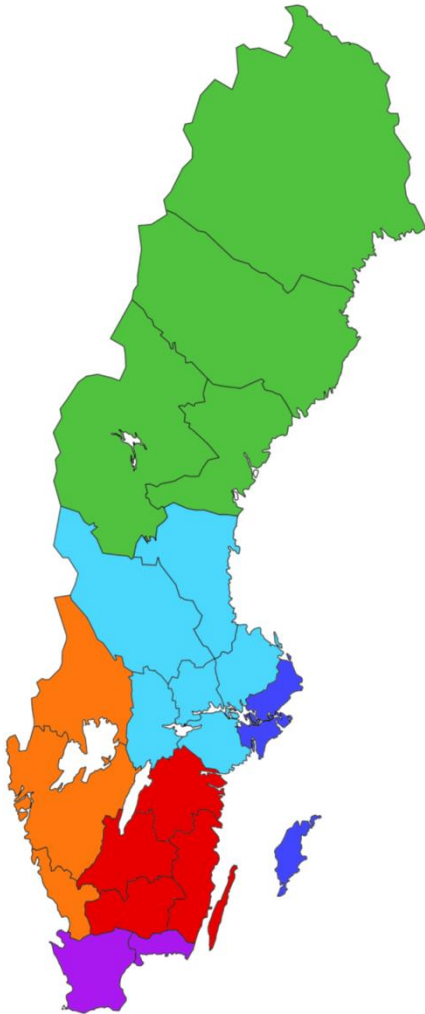


France: without overseas regions and before 2015 reform;

Regional data Belgium, United Kingdom, Canada, United States and Australia are not represented on this graph,

Source: OECD 2016.

# Regional reform?



- From 21 to 6 counties calls for...
- a functional regional perspective,
- a systematic approach to roles and responsibilities,
- discussions on future resource needs,
- directly elected county councils responsible for regional development, and rural development,
- co-ordination with state agencies at this level

**Need for municipal reform?**

**Thank you !**

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