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Presentation title: Local crime prevention in particularly vulnerable areas as round table discussions

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Local crime prevention has a long tradition in Swedish policy. The world's first crime prevention council was launched in the country in 1974, and one of its missions was to support crime prevention strategies and method, nationally but also at local level. Partnership approaches aiming at community safety have since at least the 90's been translated locally into a great number of prevention assemblies working at different levels of the municipal organization and in collaboration with the police. These are in accordance with the national Swedish policy supposed to pay close attention to the fluctuations of criminogenic factors at neighborhood level, and plan for tailor-made interventions. All in a systematic fashion and guided from a pre-structured phase-divided model. In a three year long research project, the crime prevention activities, collaboration and strategy formulation were studied in four so called "particularly vulnerable areas", i.e. super-diverse and marginalized neighborhoods, in which the Police experiences an incapacity to fulfill their obligation to promote safety and uphold the role of law. These areas have been at the top of the political discussion first and foremost because of a gang rivalries and consequential lethal violence. Through close observations of the crime prevention practice at these four communities, the project reached an understanding of their activities that deviates from the systematic idea articulated in national policy. Informed by organizational and decision-making theory this deviation could be understood by looking at both the nature of the problem they are supposed to solve, and the framing of the solving community's meeting practices. The vision of a project-based managerialism was countered from other organizational logics coming from the bureaucracy, the open "square" discussion and a potential creative group explained as a bricolage.