



SCALE: L – urban and architectural
LOCATION: TornioHaparanda
SITE FAMILY: From Functionalist Infrastructures to Productive City
POPULATION: 32 500
STUDY SITE: 60 ha **PROJECT SITE:** 24 ha
SITE PROPOSED BY: TornioHaparanda twin city
ACTORS INVOLVED: City of Tornio, City of Haparanda
OWNERS OF THE SITE: City of Tornio, ELY center of Lapland, Orthodox parish of Lapland, City of Haparanda, IKEA
POST COMPETITION PHASE: Post-competition seminar, selection of one winning team for an implementation process
COMMISSION: Commission at the level of urban planning
TEAM REPRESENTATIVE: Architect

HOW CAN THE SITE CONTRIBUTE TO THE PRODUCTIVE CITY?
Tornio in Finland and Haparanda in Sweden are developing their city centers to become one commercial and functional entity. The project site at the south end of Suensaari island and the north end of Haparanda downtown is important and visible in the urban structure. It holds potential to unite the two cities, yet it is mainly unbuilt and underutilised at the moment. The busy highway E4 runs through the area separating parts of the site from Tornio and Haparanda city centers. The objective is to find both functional and urban ideas to connect the project site to the city centers and their urban structures. Also, the scale and nature of the highway needs to be studied – how to make it a productive street.

CITY STRATEGY
TornioHaparanda is located at the north end of the Bothnian Bay in Lapland. Tornio in Finland and Haparanda in Sweden make up an international twin city that has 32 500 inhabitants. The TornioHaparanda area is a centre of cross-border trade and known for its steel industry. The development for building one joint center for the two cities started already 20 year ago and the process continues with European 14.

European 14 – TornioHaparanda (Finland Sweden)



SITE DEFINITION

The project site is situated by the Tornio river between Haparanda and Tornio city centres. It is a flat and open area with parks, recreational fields and large open parking lots. The site is mainly unbuilt. There is a small orthodox church and a commercial building which will remain, and a couple of service buildings and warehouses that will be demolished. Tornio Lyseo school building is currently vacant and will need a new use. On the Haparanda side there is an old customs building which can be demolished.

The site is split in half by the highway E4. It is an extremely busy border crossing between Finland and Sweden with 14 million annual crossings. The whole area is currently affected by the noise and traffic of the highway.

HOW IS PRODUCTION CONSIDERED IN THE URBAN DIVERSITY PROGRAM ?

The task of the competition is to propose both functional and urban ideas for the area such as buildings for travel, recreational uses as well as housing. Productive themes will be addressed by asking:

- How to use the site to connect the two centers, Tornio and Haparanda?
- How to utilise the exquisite location by the river?
- How to convert the highway to a productive street?
- How to unlock the potential of the passing traffic?
- How to deal with the traffic noise and pollution?
- How to illustrate possibilities for leisure and recreation?
- How to provide good conditions to promote business and its visibility in the area?



Project area from the east

European 14 – TornioHaparanda (Finland Sweden)



View to Haparanda from the border



Public art in Haparanda



View from the site towards Tornio city center



Border between Finland and Sweden