



Urban development in Norway today is to a large extent a matter of how to build more housing. Soaring housing prices and a growing urban population leads to political pressure on planning authorities and developers to build more apartments in central areas. The result is often monofunctional residential areas, if lucky with a commercial ground floor and a corner cafe. This one-dimensional focus threatens the necessary complexity of the city, its internal synergy, its ability to change, and, fundamentally, its ability to be productive.

Production has always been a part of our cities. The industrial revolution was a story of urbanization. Later, the often noisy and polluting industry was moved to the periphery of the city, followed by a period of relocation to low cost countries in Asia as salaries reached high levels in the west. Now production is returning to the Western city and a combination of technological advances and focus on resource management drives the development. Robotization, for one, reduces the significance of cheap labor and 3d-technology render a future where everything can be produced everywhere. A new small scale and technology driven industry seeks to the city centers due to the need for proximity to customers, innovative networks and knowledge sharing environments. The Productive city implies activities involving all types of actors, in a changing economic reality. It has a possible fundamental democratic agenda. Part of the picture is also new forms of urban food production and local energy production that calls for a rethinking of architectural design and urban planning. The productive city is producing on all levels.

Hence, architects, planners and developers need in a larger extent to understand how cities can open for new, locally based production. European 14 is a room to investigate how these future production forms can be integrated in the urban fabric, increase innovation, cut logistics, open for social integration, and to show how they can co-exist with, and benefit of other systems of the city. European Norway is excited to have three sites this session that explores the topic of the productive city on different scales and levels.

In Alta in Northern Norway, a former storage and processing area for the local slate industry is made available to new use as the activity moves inland. The history of Alta has created a widespread urban structure with its three urban nodes that has their own historical origin and function. Bossekop, the southern node is currently undergoing a renewal process in which the European site at the harbor can play a key role. The municipality wants to use this site strategically in developing smart and innovative industries and new forms of production, but also include other aspects of town life. Hence, they want the seafront in Bossekop to become a laboratory for mixing housing, culture, sea and land based production driven forward by local entrepreneurs.

Lillestrøm is centrally located in the fast-growing Oslo region, with the second most trafficked train station in Norway. As a consequence, Lillestrøm needs to cater for a larger amount of housing. But the city wants to avoid becoming a sleeping town, and has teamed up with two leading private developers to explore how the industrial area of Nesa can be a new model for mixing production with housing and public functions. The location of the European site, next to the river and a vast nature reserve, opens up for interesting investigations into various landscape strategies, here on the border between nature and city.

In Narvik, also in Northern Norway, the European site is a city block that is situated in between the town hall and the park owned by the iron ore company, the cornerstone industry of Narvik. Narvik serves as the main port for iron ore from the mines in Kiruna. In recent years the city has found itself in need of diversifying its economy to fight depopulation. The city prepares for the 'Next Economy' by investing in knowledge-based industries and young generations. Both the university and the municipality are eager stakeholders in developing the European site, the publicly owned Technical Quarter, to become an incubator in a network of innovation, education and production.

The idea of the mixed-use city seems to be a general criteria for success. But the question is how mixed our cities really are. And to what degree they allow for a more productive programmatic repertoire. The European 14 competition will be an opportunity for architects, landscape architects and cities to show approaches to the topic of production in cities, and European Norway and its partners look forward to this important investigation.

Site Brief

Site representative
The Municipality of Alta
Actors involved
Alta Skiferbrudd SA

Team representative
Architect, urban planner, landscaper
Expected skills with regards to the site's issues and characteristics
Interdisciplinary team constellations are encouraged

Communication
Anonymous publication – online and in an exhibition – after the 1 st jury round

Jury – 1st evaluation
With the participation of the site representatives
Jury – prize selection
Ranked Selection: With Winner (12,000 euros), Runner-up (6,000 euros) and Special Mention (no reward)

Post-competition intermediate procedure
<ul style="list-style-type: none">– National workshop following the prize ceremony in Oslo with the site representatives, rewarded teams (winner, runner-up and special mentions).– Workshop on site with client, site representative and winning team (possibly also with other rewarded teams).

Mission given to the selected team(s) for the implementation
The municipality of Alta intends to commission the winning team to process their project towards a further detailed masterplan of the site and/or part of the site, to be used by the municipality as a basis for a spatial plan of the site. Alternative commissions can be developed in dialogue between Alta municipality and the winning team.

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Creating a productive and imaginative seafront



Skiferkaia, the sea and the horizon.

The slate industry is one of the corner stones of the Alta community. The industry has for decades distributed the durable and dark stone to a global market from the port facilities at Skiferkaia in Bossekop. Now change is under way. The space-consuming storing of the slate will be relocated to a new facility inland, opening for the creation of an urban, productive and imaginative seafront. In it lies the possibility for Alta to reconnect with the water and develop an urban content that can push Alta and the region into the future. Skiferkaia is a strategic site for the Alta community, and the aspiration is that it becomes a laboratory for new urban production, housing and public life.

Alta is a town in growth, even through earlier times of depopulation and stagnation elsewhere in Northern Norway, the city has been in growth. Much of the explanation is Alta's multicultural and entrepreneurial DNA. Its young population, mixed with a rapidly changing landscape in relation to politics as well as climate change, calls for a new and interesting story to emerge. At the same time, the sprawling urban structure of Alta is a challenging starting point for a sustainable development. The three, at times competing, centers of Alta and how they can form a sustainable model for Alta's growth is the urban backdrop for the European competition.

The European 14 competition will help Alta find a new strategy for the area and provide the town with a vision for a multifunctional, urban and productive seafront. Through physical plans, programming and ideas for realization, participating teams should present an idea that benefits Bossekop as a local center and Alta at large. Alta has the doers, but need a convincing vision from a smart team of architects and landscape architects to make urban synergies happen.

The Arctic Region and Finnmark



'Few people far apart' makes up a distinctive characteristic of the Finnmark region. Of all counties in Norway, Finnmark has the largest area and the fewest inhabitants. Its first settlers relied on the resources along the coast, the coastline has been inhabited both by permanent and nomadic settlements.

With borders to Russia, Finland and Sweden, Finnmark is situated in an area with strong cultural and political influences. It's due to this position, and a renewed focus on the coastal resources, that the region has went from shrinking to growing in the last decade. Finnmark is actually considered as one of the counties in Norway with the highest growth potential for several decades to come. Due to its short geographical distance to rich natural resources, many stakeholders keep an eye on the region - it has become internationally attractive. This development has been accompanied by the establishments of the Barents Region, the EEA agreement, and Finland and Sweden's entry into the EU which has changed important conditions for economic activity in the region. However, Finnmark is not only relevant to speak of in a commercial context, it also makes up an important strategic area when speaking of military and security policy. This has been proved repeatedly throughout history.



Regional context

People have lived in Finnmark for over 10.000 years and there are many traces of settlements and burial sites from old times. The first impact of Sámi culture can be traced back at least 2.000 years. The territory of the indigenous population covers an area which is now intersected by borders between Russia, Finland, Sweden and Norway. Norwegians first settled in Finnmark in the thirteenth century, it was the good conditions for fishing and trade that stimulated immigration from northern Europe. Immigrants from Finland and Sweden settled down during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Finnish culture can still be found in Finnmark to this very day, notably in the east of the county. The population of Finnmark can in several ways be described as multicultural with descendants of people from Finland, Sweden, Russia, in addition to the Sami people. The Finnish language can still be heard, and Finnish surnames are still in use.

World War II left deep scars in Finnmark. The allies bombed large parts of the towns of Kirkenes, Vadsø and Vardø. When the German forces withdrew, in the autumn of 1944, they applied the 'Scorched Earth' approach. More than ten thousand dwellings, schools, hospitals, some churches and most of the fishing boats were burned. During spring and summer of 1945, most of those who had been forced to leave moved back home, beginning the heavy process of rebuilding their homes. Though the authorities wanted to reconstruct the county, the challenging geography and the lack of investment capital made them succeed only partially. At the time, there was a lack of practically everything, but people insisted to return and to rebuild what was lost. The 'Scorched Earth' strategy have had a huge impact on the collective memory of the past, and it has strong relations to the built environment. Most of Finnmark bears the mark of post-war architecture.

Climate and landscape:

The nature of Finnmark manifests a diversity in climate, landscape and animal species. The landscape features mountains, sea, mountain plateaus, forests, glaciers and rivers. The coastal landscapes are often subarctic and with many species of birds. The Gulf Stream keeps the ice off the fjords during winter. It is however, important to realise that this landscape is vulnerable as the climate change has a fundamental effect on the Northern Hemisphere.

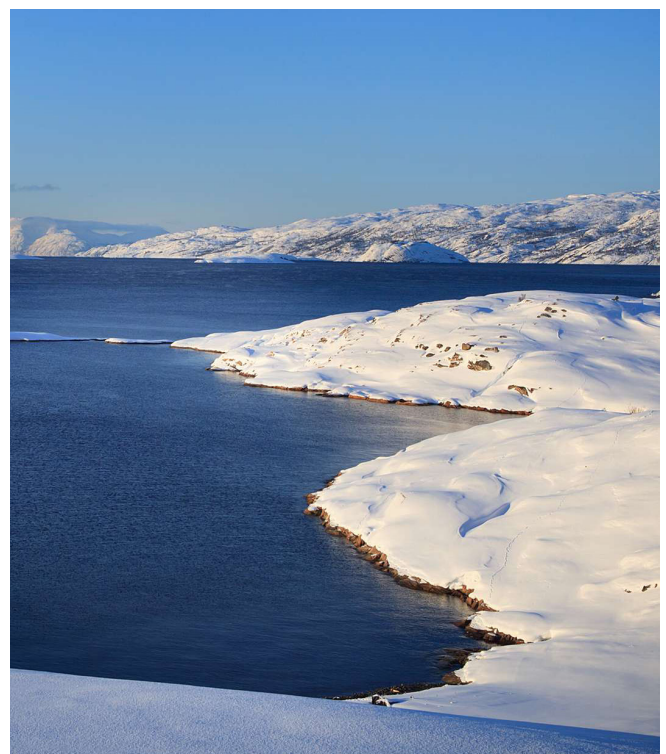
An attribute to the location on the Northern Hemisphere is the light conditions that varies with the season. During summer the sun never sets, the 'Midnight Sun' is present. This is because the earth rotates at the tilted axis relative to the sun, and during the summer months the north pole is angled towards it. In the winter the 'Dark Season' represents the opposing phenomenon, the sun gives daylight only a couple of hours during the day.



The Alta Canyon



Reindeers at Finnmarksvidda, Norway largest mountain plateau.



Tolleivika in Alta, by the Komsa Top. Photo: Municipality of Alta

Urban context

About Alta



Alta is the trading center of the Western part of Finnmark, and the main node 'City' is the magnet in this situation. Photo: Alta Municipality

Alta municipality has, with a few exceptions, had a population growth every year since the 1960s. In 2015 it passed 20,000 residents which is ¼ of the total population in Finnmark.

Statistics estimates that Alta should plan for 1% annual growth the coming years. The conditions for growth are good as there is a particular high proportion of young inhabitants, combined with knowledge-based expertise. Hence, Alta directs itself towards becoming a hub for industry and knowledge-based businesses. This development is exemplified in 'Kunnskapsparken' a private initiative that gathers businesses in aquaculture, oil, research and tourism under the same roof.

The entrepreneurial culture of Alta has historical roots starting with people that wished to settle in Alta to become a part of the slate industry. Later, when capital began to accumulate in post-war Finnmark, local entrepreneurs received contracts from all over the county during the reconstruction period. Alta remains a centre for contractors and construction business, and it has many self-employed people. It's expected that the expansion of the petroleum industry in the neighboring city Hammerfest also will have an effect on jobs in the private sector. Start-ups in new businesses are adding to the list of actors in the private sector.

The cultural sector in the municipality is large. The School of Culture is a popular public offer to 550 kids and youths. The school offers courses in music, visual arts, theater and dance. Alta has a focus on culture as a mean of creating identity and a sense of belonging, in addition

to attract new residents and tourists. Sports are also an important part of Alta's culture. Sports organizations has about 8,500 members. Alta hosts both large sports and cultural events that attracts not only nationwide interest, but also worldwide interest. 'Finnmarksløpet' is a big sleddog race having its point of departure in Alta, another one is 'Finnmark Offroad' - a mountain bike race, in addition to several cross-country skiing races. Big cultural events like music festivals connected to Sami culture, also find its natural arena in Alta.

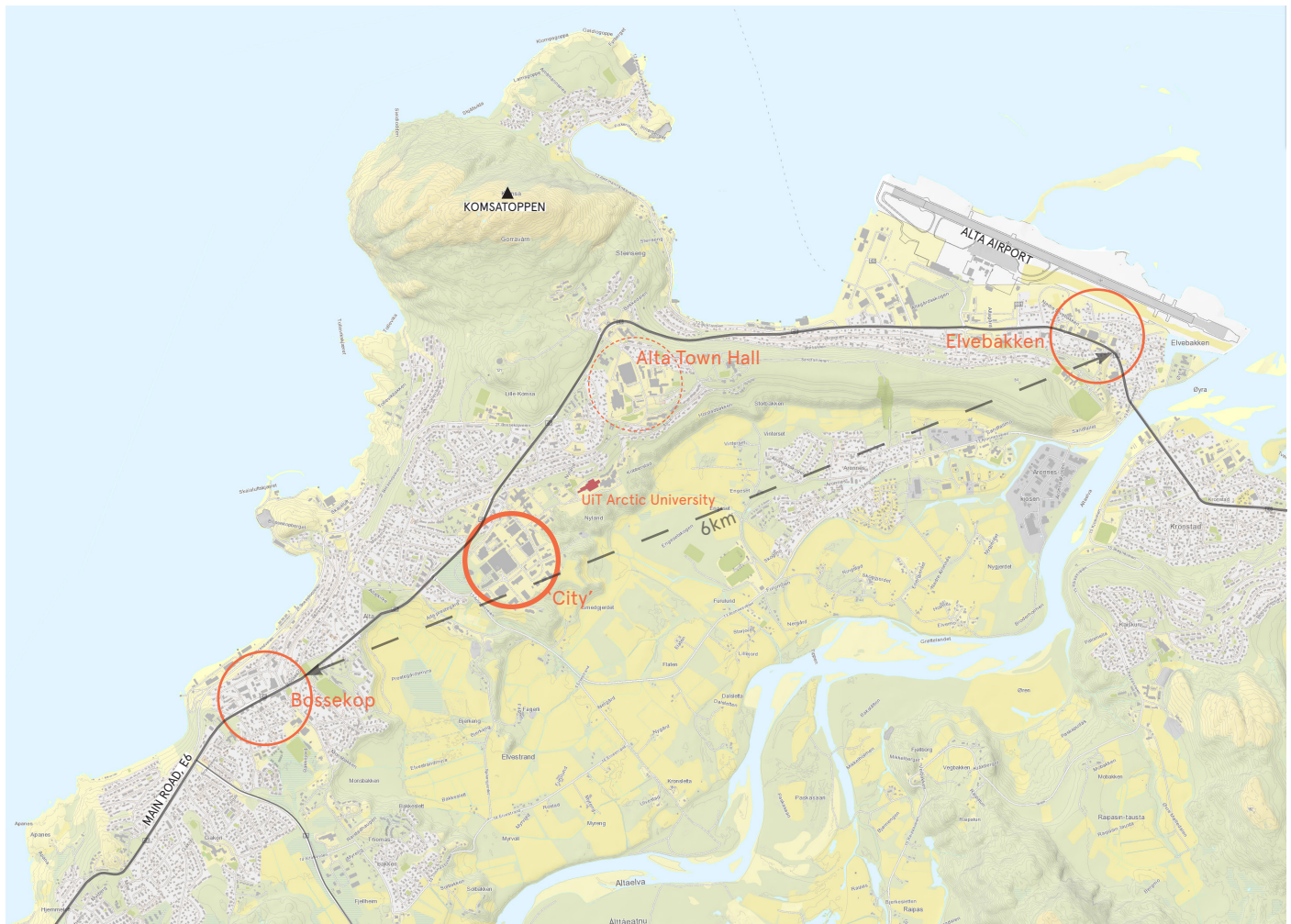
It's also because of the climate that Alta became the center of all activity when modern research on the northern lights started in the 1830s. Dry and stable climate, allowed observations, measurements and surveys. In 1899, the world's first northern lights observatory was built on Haldde mountain. Over the years, Alta has developed and branded itself as the 'City of Northern Lights'.

Essential to the understanding of Alta is the climatic conditions which are characterized as inbetween coastal and inland. The temperature varies from -25 C in winter and 25C in summer. However, the mean temperature in January is -8.7 C whilst in July it's 13.4 C. The 'Dark Season' in Alta lasts from November to January, after which the days grow gradually longer. The 'Midnight Sun' is a present light condition from May to August.

Alta has great natural areas; mountains, forests, plains, rivers, lakes and the sea. The elongated settlement provides short distance out into the wild. Good and stable climate gives an opportunity for varied outdoor activities.

Urban context

Urban structure



'City' and the two local centers.

Alta has an urban sprawl with three established nodes – causing both opportunities and challenges. The extensive use of car-based transportation is for instance a consequence. Thus, it also provides for a diversity, as each of the three centers are developed with their individual characteristics.

Before the Second World War, Alta was a mere village consisting of the areas Bossekop and Elvebakken. Bossekop was a small mining settlement of Norwegians from the southern inland. This was the administrative centre with the police and a priest. Adjacent to it was Elvebakken, consisting of people of Finnish descent. Both places were established by long distance immigrants bringing with them a culture of entrepreneurship. Samis inhabited the surrounding landscapes of Bossekop and Elvebakken, making the areas a melting pot of cultures and languages.

Like most of Finnmark, Alta was burned down at the end of World War II, and a new plan for the area was proposed by city planner Erik Lorange: a tri-centric

plan along a connecting regional road. Because of bickering between Bossekop and Elvebakken his plan was not realized and Alta continued to develop with two, at times competing, centres.

Three major incidents during the 60s changed Alta forever. The construction of the national highway (E6) turned Alta into a trade centre, a new airport connected Alta to the world, and finally the establishment of Finnmark University College (now part of the Arctic University of Norway Campus Finnmark) brought with it new knowledge and competence. This availability of valuable educational experience paved the way for the establishment of several knowledge-based businesses. The events led to an increased activity and the ideas for a new city center came up. Lorange's plan was picked up from the drawer, and the concept of a third urban node between the old centres was given another chance.

Disagreements between the Bossekop and Elvebakken 'fractions', further delayed realization of the plans,

Urban context

with both wanting to host the new centre functions. It was only in 1995, when a new regulation plan for a new area, named 'City', next to Lorange's centre was established, that things finally began to materialize.

Projects for almost 3 billion NOK have been initiated in 'City' the recent years. New hotels, shopping, housing and cultural programs have sprung up. 'City' is now emphasized as the area that is the urban core in Alta. Bossekop and Elvebakken is undergoing processes of renewal that will emphasize their respective characters as local centers. A municipal plan for Elvebakken local center was adopted in June 2003 and the principles of this plan has been implemented. A similar planning process is being derived for Bossekop.

Due to its widespread outlay, transportation in Alta is based on the use of cars. The municipal plans for centralization and transport does emphasize sustainability and public health. It consequently focuses on development of the public transport services, and improvement of infrastructures for soft mobility. Despite of this, parking lots takes up much of the area in the local centers.

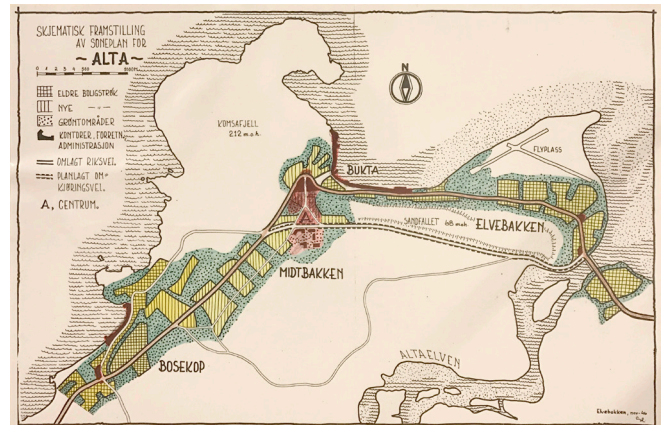
Today, Elvebakken and Bossekop are generally regarded as offering the same functions: grocery stores, pharmacy, post office, take away-restaurants, medical center, churches, gas stations and primary schools.

1) Elvebakken:

Elvebakken has since the millennium been through a renewal process. Big upgrades have been done to restructure roads and to improve the infrastructure on soft mobility. Most of the buildings in this area are from the postwar period (WW2). Alta Airport is a central hub for traffic in the western part of Finnmark, it is located near Elvebakken.

2) Alta Town Hall:

In terms of functions the area is a natural hub for the entire population. The Town Hall, the fire station, indoor sports arenas, lower secondary schools and the upper secondary school is located here. This node emerged in the beginning of the sixties; the Town Hall was finished in 1961, and the schools a couple of years earlier.



City plan from 1946: The concept of a tri-centric urban structure



E6 thorough Elvebakken



Elvebakken. Photo: Alta Municipality



Alta Town Hall, a dairy and a sports hall

3) 'City':

The city center started to materialize in the mid-nineties, and it was then based on the initial masterplan made by Erik Lorange. Almost every single building in 'City' has been built within the last three decades. The city center contains functions such as university, hospital, library, police station, tax-office, hotels, banks, post-office, liquor store, restaurants, bars, an indoor public bath, cinema and two shopping centres. The total amount of shops in the city centre is about a hundred. Presiding over the city is the Northern Lights Cathedral, a new landmark embodying the brand of the city.



City Centre

4) Bossekop:

Much of the history of Bossekop is related to the proximity to the shoreline. In fact, Bossekop is the single local center with direct access to the sea. This has however not been regarded as an asset for living in Bossekop, it has rather been regarded as a feature that makes Bossekop the windy local center. There is in general poor connections to the water and a lack of meeting points in Bossekop at large. In relation to sports however, Bossekop can offer good facilities, both indoor and outdoor. The local centre has historical characteristics, like buildings that dates to the post-war era.



The road between 'City' and Bossekop. Photo: Alta Municipality



Bossekop: E6 and crossing road. Photo: M. Bull Mathiesen

Entrepreneurship, knowledge and tourism

In the last decade businesses in Alta have experienced a strong growth, which has nurtured ambitions to further develop and increase competences. This resonates in the fields of innovation, which has let knowledge-based industries become an important part of the picture. In this Alta frame-of-production we also find the tourist industry.

The entrepreneurial culture has a strong presence in the society. Historically, people sought a good fortune in the fishing or mining industry when they immigrated to Alta. It has from the very beginning been a place with job opportunities. Today, the majority of production in Alta is related to mining, construction, aquaculture and energy production.

The discovery of oil and gas in the Barents Sea has marked a crossroad in the industrial Finnmark. The extraction of oil and gas at the Goliat-field outside Hammerfest has opened for new jobs in the private sector related to logistics, processing, support services, and administration.

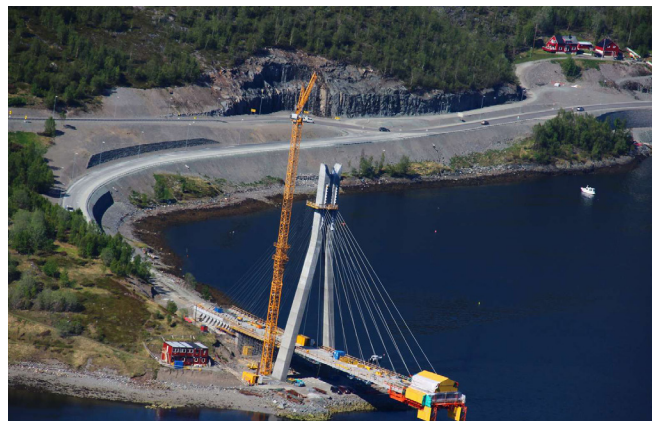
Alta is known to be "Bob the Builder" of Finnmark. This is due to its extensive construction sector with enterprises that have contracts both inside and outside Alta. There are enterprises that can take on big projects such as building tunnels and roads.

Another heavyweight sector is the slate industry. The slate from Alta is found almost in ready form in the nature, its quarried in the Alta Valley. Alta slate is a quartzite, a grey-green, shimmering silver, dense fine- to medium-grained stone with a characteristic parallel texture. The Alta quartzite has been shipped off to countries all over the world.

Alta is also a farming municipality, it has its main production in aquaculture, consisting of salmon and trout farms where activities happen both on land and at sea. The farms facilitate slaughterhouses and processing plants. Traditional agriculture and forestry is also important to Alta, this mainly consists of milk and meat production. This also implies reindeer herding. There are about 100 active farmers in the municipality.

Key actors in the knowledge-based industry in Alta is the Arctic University of Norway Campus Finnmark - Alta (UiT) and the research center 'Kunnskapsparken'. They lead out projects that investigate and adapt new technology to the industries in the region. The Arctic University, the municipality, 'Kunnskapsparken' and the local/regional industries encourage collaboration between the institutions. The knowledge-based industries probe around technology related to tools in construction. An example of one of these are: Smart Construction Cluster and Smart Construction Academy. They do research on and apply use of 3D-tools in construction, as in VR-caves.

Alta is hot destination for people who enjoy adventures in nature, even in winter. The region can offer hiking trips to summits and valleys, either by foot or sled dog, it can offer a spectacular natural phenomenon, Northern Lights, it can offer fly fishing in the big rivers and sea fishing at the fjord, and trips by kayak, on cross-country ski and snowmobile.



Road construction. Photo: Alta Municipality



Tourism: Outdoor adventures

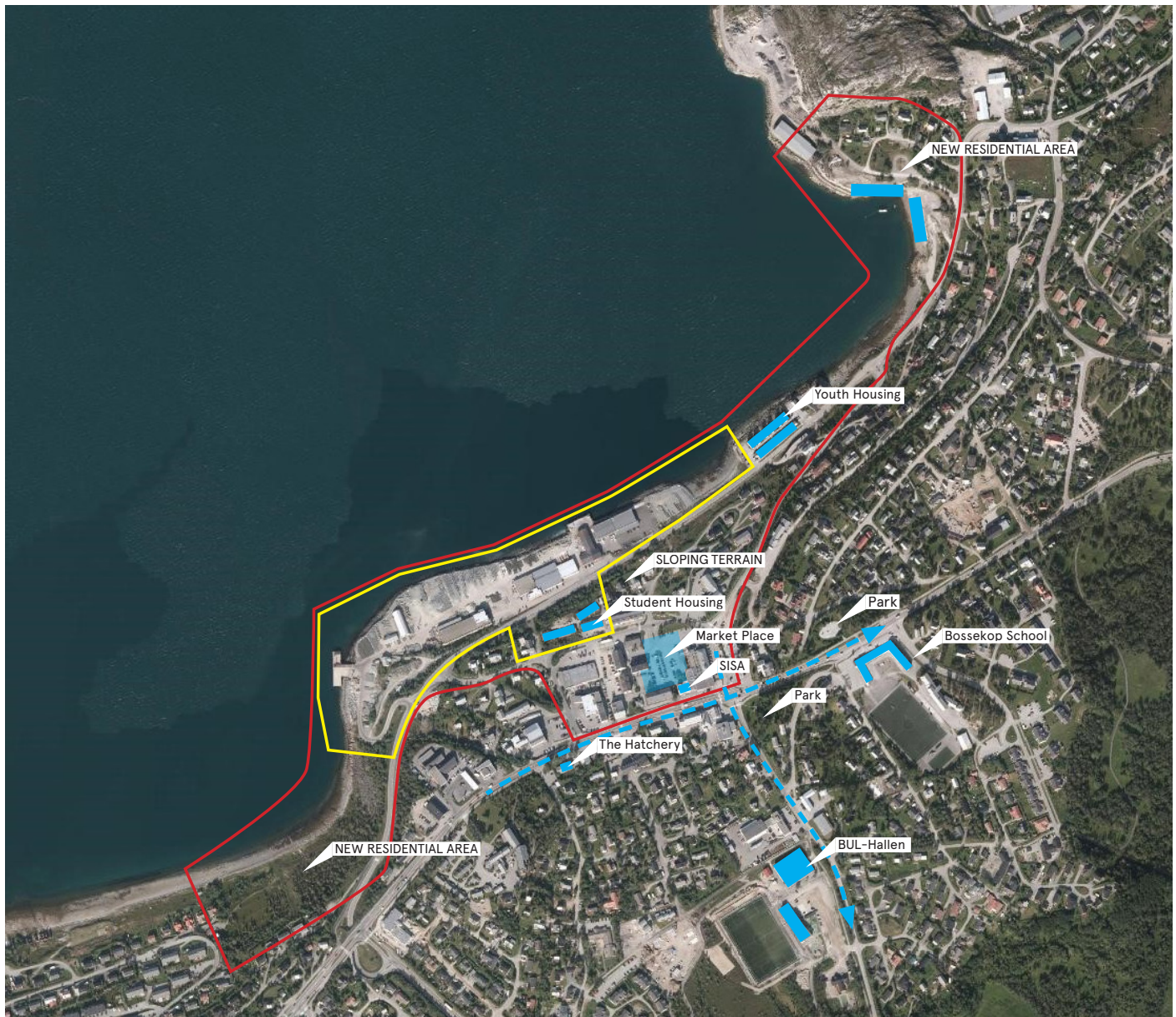


The slate industry: Cutting slate at Skiferkaia



Aquaculture: Grieg Seafood AS (Salmon)

Study area Bossekop



Project Site ———
Study Area ———

Bossekop is situated on the plateau above the natural harbor by Altafjorden. Even though the physical distance to the fjord is short, it isn't a present quality in the local centre. The dissolved block structure with interspersed parking lots is however a noticeable feature.

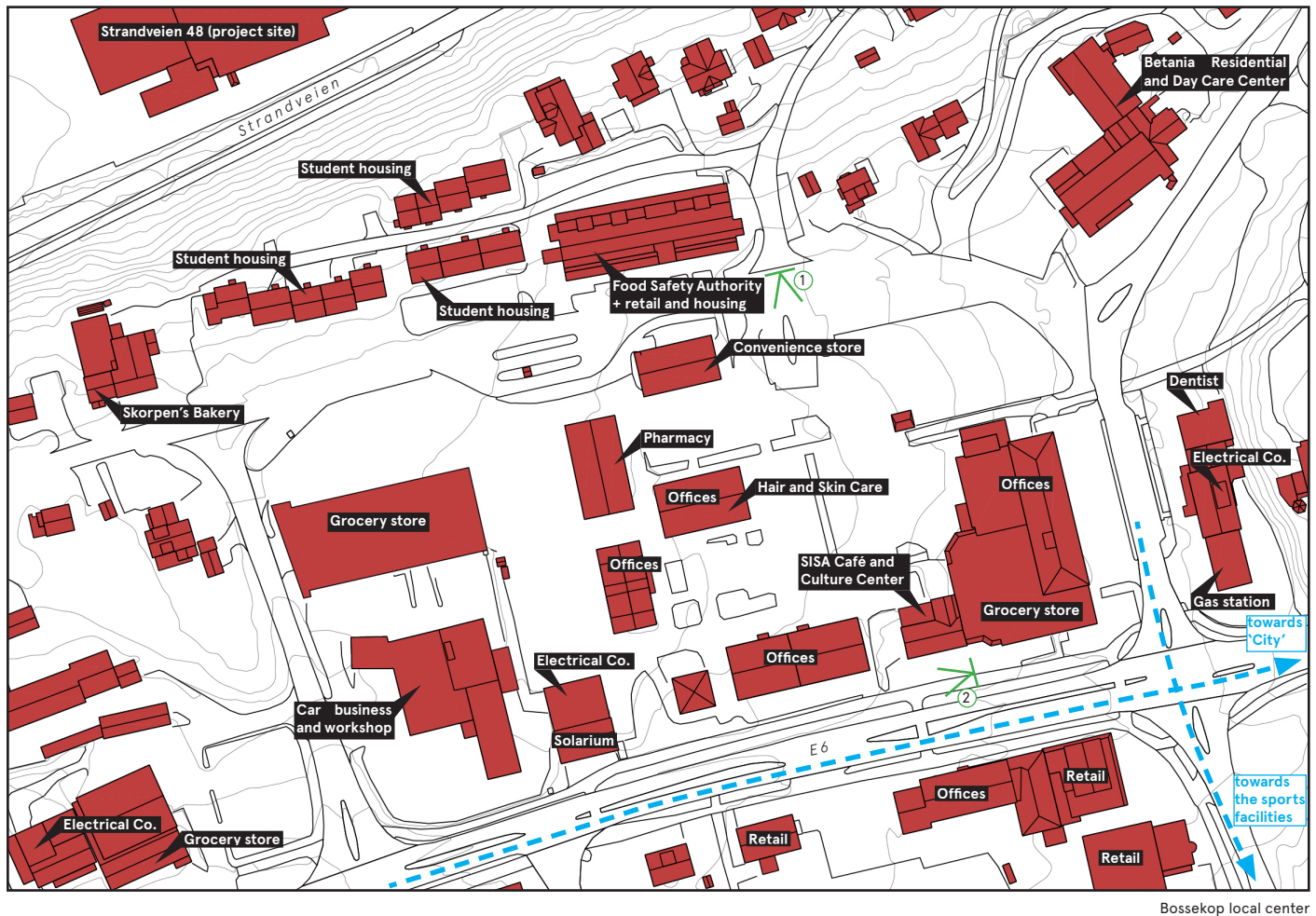
In the beginning of the 17th century Bossekop started growing, and it was the connection to the harbor that laid the foundation for settlement. Later, it developed along the road leading from the beach, Strandveien. In the post-war period new regulations made Bossekop start its second life with a structure along Altaveien (E6), and the connections to the harbor became less important. Today there are still historical buildings in Bossekop dating from the post-war period. Bossekop has several components that makes it a local center with a strong history; the presence of the slate

industry, the Northern Lights Research and the Sami-Norwegian 'Bossekopmarked'.

Today Bossekop express some signs of degradation, as there are buildings that lack maintenance and closed shops to be found. This is the trending development feature in the local center as bigger commercial warehouses in 'City' are attracting the customers. However, Bossekop must not be misinterpreted, the local center does have a vital business environment – many companies take residence here.

The municipality is in the process of making a strategy for a renewal of Bossekop, they have already arranged a parallel commission to explore the possibilities ahead. The parallel commission resulted in some guidelines that focus on improvement of public spaces and soft mobility. The municipality have ambitions to initiate a

Study area



Bossekop local center

sustainable development that is social, economic and climatic. The strategy involves usage of sustainable building materials, and re-use of buildings.

Bossekop caters to the main road, Altaveien, directed throughout the local center towards the other centers in Alta. Bossekop local center is regulated parallel to Altaveien, and it can be characterized as a dissolved block structure. A crossing road with frequent traffic is leading from the local center towards the sports areas.

The prevailing wind direction in Bossekop varies throughout the year, with cold persistent wind from southeast through the winter. Even though Bossekop local center is located close to the fjord it lacks visual contact with it when walking and driving through town.

The 'Hatchery', SISA and the Bossekop Market represents actors in an emerging cultural segment of Bossekop. The 'Hatchery' is a municipal driven co-operative office space, earmarked to cultural industries in the establishment phase. Projects that are run in this space involves for instance professional theater and music production.



1) Bossekop Market takes place here



2) Highway E6



From local center of Bossekop towards the seaside

Central to Bossekop is the SISA Cultural Center, an ideal organization with focus on cultural diversity and integration. Its located in the former building of a book shop, and it has existed since 2007. The cultural center is today facilitating a cafe, a hairdresser, a tailor, a handcraft shop, a catering firm, an art gallery and a workshop for artists. Over ten different organizations dispose the center also as a meeting place. SISA offer a space where meetings can happen and skills can be unfolded.

Bossekop is known outwards for its 'Bossekopmarked', which is a historic market place. Traditionally it worked as a spring and fall market where visiting traders and Sàmis exchanged, bought and sold goods. The spring and fall market still exists under the same name.

Along the shoreline in the study area, both south and north of the project site, construction projects for new residential buildings are underway. The project site borders on the north side to a residential care center for youths in a welfare program.



SISA Café and Culture Center. Photo: Alta Municipality



Visualization of the new residential area by the Komsa Top. (Stein Halvorsen Arkitekter AS)

Project site Skiferkaia



'Skiferkaia' is the harbor that Bossekop as a local center has grown out from. Today 'Skiferkaia' facilitates activities in the slate industry; it has areas for temporary storage, shipping and processing of slate, and administrative spaces for 'Alta Skiferlag'. In addition to the slate industry, there is a hardware store located on the site. In general, people in Bossekop relates to 'Skiferkaia' as an industrial site – not accessible to public use.

The European Project Site is comprised by the area associated to the slate industry, the road; 'Strandveien', and an area on the sloping terrain between Bossekop and Skiferkaia with student housing and the building of a former bakery.

In the future the activities connected to slate will cease to exist at 'Skiferkaia' and the harbor will need a strategy for transformation. After the relocation, the production facilities are open for suggestions on being changed or removed. As the process of renewal in Bossekop is running parallel to the relocation, a transformation of the harbor can benefit Bossekop, and Alta at large.

The view from the harbor is overlooking Altafjorden and the subarctic shoreline. The Harbor is a constructed quay, it's built up of rocks, and has a depth of about 4,5–5,5 m. The ground surface is mainly gravel and partly asphalted areas. The sloping hill behind the harbor is covered with deciduous trees and bushes.



Aerial photo of Skiferkaia 1969

Project site



View of the fjord from Strandveien 60



Strandveien 60



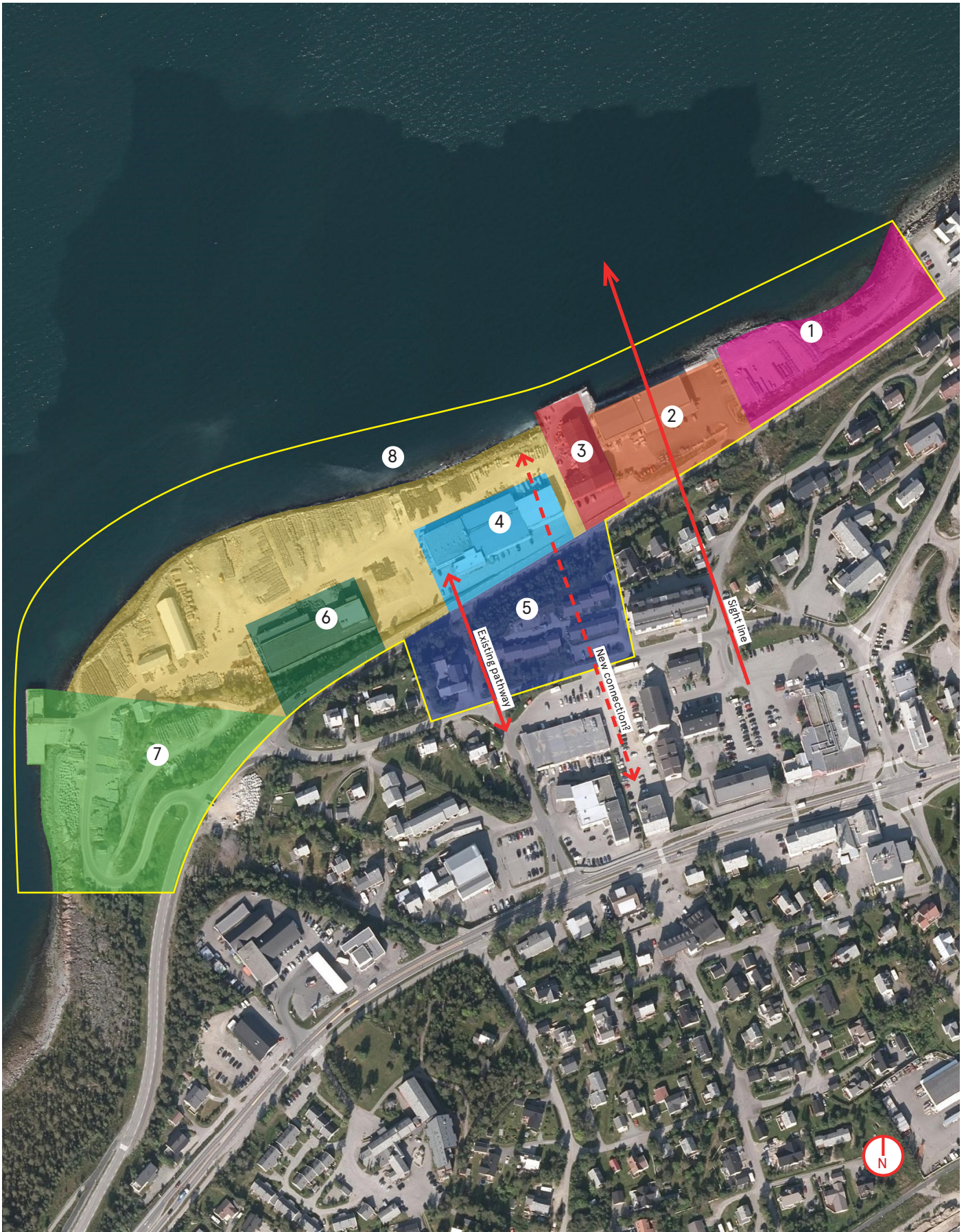
Strandveien 48



Strandveien 48

Project site

1. Natural shoreline/rocky beach
 2. Felleskjøpet (hardware shop)
 3. Strandveien 40
 4. Strandveien 48
 5. Skorpen's Bakery + Student Housing
 6. Strandveien 60
 7. Shipping port
 8. The shoreline/ fjord
- ↔ Important lines



Project site

Existing buildings

1) On the north-east end of the project site there is an area where the quay transitions to natural shoreline. The area of constructed quay on this end functions as temporary storage of slate, and the natural shoreline/rocky beach has no current function. This can be altered.

2) 'Felleskjøpet' is a store that trades products, materials and animal feedings to farmers. The area marked orange will remain functioning as a facility for 'Felleskjøpet', and thereby stay as it is in the foreseeable future.

3) Adjacent to Felleskjøpet is a factory building that have been used in the slate production, Strandveien 40. Recently it was bought by Felleskjøpet. They use the space as a workshop for repairing equipment primarily used in agriculture, such as tractors. The building can be subject to a transformation as Felleskjøpet need to upgrade the workshop and they are open to change/ rebuild the building to support an urban development with mixed-use programs.

4) Strandveien 48 (Production Facility dep. I) functions as a space for processing the slate. The building has been expanded several times, consequently it appears as three buildings. The earliest stage of this structure makes up the oldest building mass on the site. The rooms inside are spacious and have good access to daylight, the building is mainly a concrete structure. On the back side, it has been built out with a part that spans over two floors, this functions as an office space. It is considered that this building can easily be transformed to inherit new programs.

5) At 'Alma Halses Vei' 7-29 there are student housing belonging to The Student Organization of the Arctic University of Norway. These are one-story row houses, and some of the units here are earmarked students with kids. As the houses are starting to be in a bad condition, the Student Organization considers to build a new student housing complex on the site with more entities. An early suggestion of the number of units needed were about 300. Next to the student houses is a former bakery, 'Skorpen', the building is no longer in use and in a poor state. Both the student housing and 'Skorpen' are buildings that are planned to be demolished. Moreover, the area is important in connecting the local centre with Skiferkaia. A new student housing project should allow for a public connection through it. A project in this area will play a crucial role in the process of connecting Bossekop to Skiferkaia.



Natural shoreline, storage area and Felleskjøpet.



Strandveien 40



Strandveien 48 (Production Facility dep. I)



Strandveien 60 (Production Facility dep. II)

Project site

6) Strandveien 60 (Production Facility dep. II) dates to the end of the seventies. It is considered that this building can easily be transformed to inherit new programs.

7) The area around the shipping port is to some degree restricted for certain types of transformation as the area is going to continue its current operation after the relocation. A transformation of the project site should take in account noise and big vehicle's traffic. In this area, there is also a small wooden house, this building does not have any current function.

8) The shoreline in Altafjorden is diverse, there is also anadromous fish species like salmon, trout and char, this is due to the numerous rivers that culminates in the fjord. There is a lot of fishing going on. New ways of using the resources under the water surface could be explored more. Marine production can amongst other things include aquaculture, hydroponics, aquaponics and seaweed. It can include energy production, in relation to waves, the tidal and currents in the water. The ocean can be a source to recreational activities like scuba-diving and boating.



Between Strandveien, the road, and Strandveien 48 (Production Facility dep.I)



Shipping Port



The building of the former Skorpen's Bakery



Student housing

Competition assignment and guidelines

The relocation of the slate industry opens for a new understanding and use of Skiferkaia. Competitors are asked to come up with a vision for the project site as a multifunctional, urban and productive seafront, including a physical plan, programming and a process of realization that benefits Bossekop as a local centre and Alta at large. A fundamental guiding principle is that the plan should be a part of productive development of Alta and the region.

URBAN CONTEXT

The sprawling nature of the Alta urban field is a challenge hard to overcome. Competitors must show an understanding of how the three centers of Alta play different roles and how they interact. Entries should discuss how the development on site and in Bossekop supplement the other centres.

STUDY AREA (Bossekop local centre)

Competitors are not asked to make a new master plan for the study area, but to look at how Skiferkaia is connected to its surroundings and how the plateau connects to the lower Skiferkaia both physically and content wise. The municipality's ambition is to direct the development of Bossekop towards the seafront. Bossekop's existing local networks and resources should be taken into account.

PROJECT SITE

The municipality of Alta wants to transform Skiferkaia into an attractive location where economic development, social development and sustainable processes interact and reinforce one another. The participants are asked to present a proposal for the design and programming of the project site which should be based on an understanding of the site's relationship to its surroundings and resources on site. Proposals should focus on the following elements:

A new role

The site is historically significant for Alta. Its view to the landscape and access to the water are resources that should benefit the whole Alta community. How can local resources, landscape, existing buildings and local actors be included and supplemented? Underpinning the Alta identity; Culturally mixed, young and entrepreneurial. Competitors should also understand the scale of Alta and consequently the dimensions of a new development.

New content – Creating a productive and imaginative seafront

Alta municipality wants to develop Skiferkaia as a mixed-use area. Competition entries should suggest new functions for the site including concepts for small scale industry, art and culture, tourism, service, housing and public space. Competitors are asked to emphasize the existing entrepreneurial culture in Alta and show how urban integrated production can occur. Alta municipality welcomes ideas that not only position Skiferkaia in a local context but also in a larger development picture of the High North. Competitors are asked to present a new programmatic mix for the area and show how various functions can benefit from a co-location with each other. It is important to show how various users can share the same areas and functions.

Innovative reuse and historical legacy

Competitors are asked to show new ways of activating the existing industrial buildings, but can also discuss the level of building preservation on site. New and interesting approaches that can both communicate the history as well as open up for new use are asked for. The existing buildings on site represent a significant resource to build on, build in and next to, as well as affordable spaces for new sustainable industry, cultural program or tourism. Slate in Alta is a local, short-travelled material. Due to the presence of the slate industry the community, and the use of slate in the local building styles, competitors are invited to show how slate can be used in the new development. Skiferkaia could become a showroom for new and radical ways of using this material in buildings and public space.

Connections and public space

The transformation aims to make the seafront more accessible to the public as a recreational area. Competitors are asked to look at overall connections in the area and how the projects site is connected to the surroundings. This includes connecting Skiferkaia to the overall concepts for green grey and blue infrastructures. Particular attention should be given to the student housing area and how a public link between the quay and the local centre can be solved within a redevelopment of this property, including new student homes with connected services. Competitors are asked to show a solution for a new public space in Skiferkaia that includes use of water and land, summer and winter. The relation to the fjord and the landscape is key for the development of the site and one can imagine many new activities in relation to the fjord. The internal flow of the area is important as well as its connection to neighboring development areas along the shore and further connections to the world heritage site "hjemmeluft". Climate conditions must be considered carefully.

Process

Competitors should give ideas on how a process over time can contribute to the transformation of Skiferkaia into a multifunctional area. This could be proposals of a phased development as well as strategic, temporary interventions, considering different scales and programs. The competitors should take into account the various states of the site making sure existing and new activities can co-exist.

Commission for the winner



Interior photo from Strandveien 60

The municipality of Alta intends to commission the winning team to process their project towards a further detailed masterplan of the site and/or part of the site, to be used by the municipality as a basis for a spatial plan of the site. Alternative commissions can be developed in dialogue between Alta municipality and the winning team.

Competition Rules

1. ENTRY CONDITIONS

1.1. Entrants

European 14 is open to any team consisting of one architect in partnership or not with one or more professionals of the same or other disciplines of the urban-architectural field (architects, urban planners, landscapers, engineers, artists...)

Every team member, whatever his/her profession, must be under the age of 40 years old on the closing date for submission of entries.

1.2. Composition of the Teams

There is no limit to the number of participants per team. Multidisciplinary is strongly recommended with regards to the sites issues. A registered team can modify its composition on the European website until the closing date for submissions. No further change shall be accepted after this date.

Each team member (associate and collaborator) shall be registered as such on the European website before the closing date for submissions. One team can submit a project on different sites and one person can be part of different teams provided that the projects are submitted in different countries.

Associates:

Associates are considered to be authors of the project and are credited as such in all national and European publications and exhibitions. They are young professionals with a university degree recognised by the *Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 on the recognition of professional qualifications*, in any of the relevant disciplines and regardless of nationality. The compulsory requirement is to hold such a degree. Membership in a European professional body is optional, except for associates without a European degree.

Contributors:

Teams may include additional members, called contributors. Contributors may be qualified or not but none of them shall be considered as an author of the project. Just like the associates, the contributors must be under the age of 40 years old on the closing date for submission of entries.

Team Representative:

Each team names one Team Representative among the associates: the Team Representative is the sole contact with the national and European secretariats during the whole competition. Furthermore, every communication shall be done with one sole email address, which shall remain the same during the whole competition.

The Team Representative must be an architect or must have the architect status under the laws of a European country. In specific cases and when mentioned on the site definition (see Synthetic Site File), the Team Representative can be an architecture, urban or landscape professional (architect, landscaper, urban planner, architect-engineer). In this case the team shall necessarily include at least one architect among the associates.

1.3. Non-Eligibility

No competition organizer and/or member of their families are eligible to take part in the competition on a site where he/she is involved. Still, he/she can participate on another site in which he/she is not involved.

Are considered as organizers:

members of the European structures; employees and contractors working for partners with sites proposed in the current session, members of technical committees; observers; jury members and their employees.

2. REGISTRATION

Registration is done on the European website (www.european-europe.eu) and implies the acceptance of the competition rules.

In compliance with French Act #78-17 of Jan. 6th, 1978, on Information Technology, Data Files and Civil Liberties the protection of personal data communicated during registration is guaranteed.

2.1. European 14 Website

The European website for the fourteenth session of the competition is available online from the opening date of the competition, at the following url: www.european-europe.eu

It includes: the complete European rules for the European 14 competition; the session topic; the Synthetic and Complete Site Files grouped geographically or by themes; the juries compositions; and an organisational chart of all the European structures. The website also offers the possibility to register to the competition and submit the complete proposals.

2.2. Team Registration

Registration to the competition is done through the European website (Registration section) and implies the payment of a €150 fee. There shall be no refund of the registration fee. The fee includes access to one Complete Site File and the printing of the panels –necessary for the evaluation– on a rigid support by the national secretariats. Payment is automatically confirmed on the website. The team can then access a personal area and the digital entry area, and download the Complete Site File for the selected site. An additional Complete Site File costs €50 per site.

3. INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO TEAMS

3.1. Synthetic Site Files – free download

The Synthetic Site Files present a summary vision of the site. They are available for free on the site presentation pages of the European website and help the teams select their project site(s). This document is in English and sometimes also in the site language. The Synthetic Site Files provide for each site:

Good-quality iconographic documents:

- 1 map of the city or conurbation identifying the location of the study site and giving the graphic scale;
- 1 aerial picture of the study site in its context identifying the location of the study site in red and the project site in yellow;
- 1 oblique aerial picture (semi-aerial) of the study site;
- 1 oblique aerial picture (semi-aerial) of the project site;
- 1 map of the area identifying the study site and the graphic scale;
- 1 map of the area identifying the project site and the graphic scale;
- at least 3 to 6 ground-level pictures showing the site's characteristic elements (topography, natural features, existing architecture);

Written information:

- the site category;
- the profile of the team representative: architect or professional of the urban design;
- names of the town and place; population of the town and conurbation; surface area of the study and project sites; representative of the site; site owner(s); expected follow-up after the competition;
- the developer's and the city's specific objectives; strategic issues of the site; relation to the session topic: "Productive Cities".

3.2. Briefs – free download

The Brief is a 10-to-15-page illustrated document, the aim of which is to provide a better understanding of the main elements of the context through the existing elements as well as through the site's mutation issues and its environment. It is available for free on the site presentation pages of the European website and includes the following elements:

- A SUMMARY of the main elements of the site;
- The SITE SPECIFICITIES – site representative; others actors involved; function of the team representative; expected skills among the teams; post competition phase; operational mission;
- A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE REGIONAL AND URBAN CONTEXT, putting in perspective the transformations of the city and the region and including all the elements on this scale that may have a current or future influence on the site –mobility networks, ecological elements, urban structure, landscape, etc.– within the general framework of productive cities;
- A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE STUDY SITE putting in perspective the transformation of the site (the site and its environment) and illustrating how the session topic is taken into account. The following information is also provided:

Role of the study site in the city policy, with details on the goals of the planning imagined by the municipality; Programmatic framework: planned transportation networks; public and private spaces to build and/or upgrade, with assumptions about planned functions and/or dimensions; goals for public spaces and infrastructures; and

detailed explanations of the choices of the developers for each aspect of the programmes.

- A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE PROJECT SITE putting in perspective the site transformation and the way to make it productive.
- The programmatic framework is also detailed, with: the spaces to build and/or regenerate, with functions and dimensions; the precise goals for public spaces and infrastructures; detailed explanations of the developers' intentions on the parts of the programmes to be included.
- THE MAIN ELEMENTS LINKED TO THE EUROPEAN 14 TOPIC and their implication on uses and flexibility of spaces (built and public), natural elements and implementation processes of the mutation;
- A DESCRIPTION OF THE SOCIOCULTURAL CONTEXT of the site, the city and the region and its evolution to help participants better understand the local urban lifestyles and the citizens' rhythms;
- A DESCRIPTION OF THE ECONOMICAL CONTEXT of the site, the city and the region and its evolution to help participants better understand the potential productive spaces to create.

This document is in English and sometimes also in the site language.

3.3. Complete Site Files – available upon registration

The Complete Site Files include detailed visual documents on the city, the site, the context as well as drawings, pictures and any graphic document required for the design process. These Files are available on the site presentation pages of the European website after registration on the site and logging in to the website.

They include pictures, diagrams and graphics of the following scales:
Conurbation (Territorial Scale)

- 1 aerial picture of the city;
- 1 map on regional (urban geography) or urban scale (conurbation) with an appropriate graphic scale showing the major features structuring the area (buildings, networks, natural features).

Study site (Urban Scale)

- 1 aerial picture of the study site;
- at least 1 semi-aerial picture of the study site;
- at least 5 ground-level pictures showing the characteristic features of the study site: topography, natural features, existing architecture, etc.;
- plans of the study site with an appropriate scale;
- characteristic features: infrastructure, existing and future plans, etc

Project site (Local Scale)

- at least 3 semi-aerial pictures of the project site;
- at least 10 ground-level pictures showing the characteristic features of the project site: topography, natural features, existing architecture, etc.;
- map(s) of the project site with an appropriate scale, showing:
 - the project site's location within the study site;
 - the project site's plot divisions, constructions, natural elements, etc.;
- topographical map of the project site with an appropriate scale and, if necessary, characteristic features (buildings and natural features to be retained or not, etc.)

3.4. FAQ

Questions on the sites

A meeting is organised with the teams and the municipalities and/or developers on each site to give a detailed picture of the issues related to the site. The national structure of the site then publishes a report in English in a maximum of two weeks after the meeting. This report is available online on the site presentation pages of the European website. In addition to this an FAQ section is open on each site webpage on the European website for a limited period of time (see calendar). Only the registered teams can ask questions on sites.

Questions on the rules

An FAQ section on rules is open on the European website for a limited period of time (see Rules).

4. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

4.1. Digital Submission

Digital submission is compulsory. It includes the 3 A1 panels, documents proving the eligibility of the team members and documents for the communication of the project.

The complete submissions shall be submitted by midnight (Paris time) on June 30th, 2017, on the European website (Entry section).

Failure to comply with the hereunder-mentioned requirements on panel presentation may result in the disqualification of the team. The number of entries per site is available on the European website on the European map of the sites (column on the right).

4.2. Anonymity and Compulsory Content

The site name and the project title must be displayed on every A1 panel.

A specific code is automatically attributed to each project upon upload. The teams do not know this code, through which the jury members take note of the project. The teams' identities are revealed via an automatic link between the code and the team on the online projects database.

4.3. Language

The panels shall be either written in English or bilingual (English + the site language).

4.4. Items to Submit

Submissions include documents divided as follows:

- 3 vertical A1 project panels;
- Documents proving the eligibility of the team members;
- Documents for communication (3 images + a short text)

A1 Panels

CONTENT:

The 3 panels must:

- explain the urban ideas developed in the project with regards to the site issues and the themes of the session;
- develop the project as a whole, highlighting the architecture of the project, and particularly the relationship between the new developments and the site's existing context, including three-dimensional representations of the project;
- develop the method foreseen for the implementation process.

All graphic and descriptive documents must have a graphic scale.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS:

- PDF format
- Vertical A1 – L 594 mm x H 841 mm
- Maximum 20 Mb
- One box (L 60 mm x H 40 mm) is left blank in the upper left corner for the automatic insertion of the code; the name of the city must be placed next to it
- Panels numbered from 1 to 3 in the upper right corner
- The team is free to decide on the positioning of the proposal title

Documents to prove the eligibility of the team members

Documents for the disclosure of names and verification of the validity of the proposals shall be uploaded as PDF's on the European website.

Personal information include:

For the team:

the TEAM FORM and DECLARATION OF AUTHOR- AND PARTNERSHIP AND OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE COMPETITION RULES available online on the team's personal area; to be filled out and signed;

For each team member:

A copy of an ID DOCUMENT with a picture, providing evidence that they are under the age of 40 at the closing date for submission of entries (see calendar);
A copy of their European DEGREE as an architectural, urban or landscape professional (architect, landscaper, urban planner...) or proof of such a status under the law of a European country

No other document than the ones above-listed is necessary.

Attention: The personal documents must be uploaded individually for each team member. Only team members that correctly registered and submitted their eligibility documents separately shall be considered

within the team final composition. The upload of one sole document with all the required information (copies of the ID's and degrees) will not be accepted.

Documents for communication

Each project must be summered up as follows:

- One short text of 2,500 signs (spaces included, to be typed in upon submission) developing the project ideas;
- 3 separate PDF images that symbolize the project (max. 1Mb per image).

4.5. Control of the Submissions

Each team can check the upload of their projects on their online personal area. They can also –if needed– modify these documents until the deadline for submissions.

A period of 7 days is left open after the deadline for submissions (see Calendar) for the European secretariat to control the upload of each submission sent before the expiry of the deadline, as well as to correct the potential problems that might have appeared during the upload of the documents.

5. RESULTS AND PRIZES

5.1. Results

The list of the winning teams (Winners, Runners-up, Special Mentions) is available online from December 1st, 2017, on the European website (Results section).

5.2. Winners

Winners receive a reward of the equivalent of €12,000 (all taxes included) in the currency of the site's country (at the exchange rate on the date of the announcement of the results). The organizers undertake to abide by the decisions of the national juries and to pay the reward within 90 days of the announcement of the results.

5.3. Runners-Up

Runners-up receive a reward of the equivalent of €6,000 (all taxes included) in the currency of site's country (at the exchange rate on the date of the announcement of the results). The organizers undertake to abide by the decisions of the national juries and to pay the reward within 90 days of the announcement of the results.

5.4. Special Mentions

A Special Mention can be awarded to a project considered innovative although not completely adapted to the site. The authors of such proposals do not receive a reward.

6. COMMUNICATION OF THE COMPETITION

6.1 Events

- At the national scale of the organizing and associate countries: Promotion is organized about the competition launch. After the first jury round, an exhibition or online publication of all the submissions on one site can be organised, provided that it respects the teams' anonymity and it is correctly communicated beforehand. This communication shall be specified in the site brief. The results announcement is accompanied with results ceremonies and presentations and/or workshops creating a first contact between the winning teams and the site representatives.
- At the European scale: A European event called INTER-SESSIONS FORUM is the link between a finishing session and the beginning of the new one. This forum gathers the winning teams and site representatives of the finishing session and the site representatives of the new one around the results and first implementation steps of the projects awarded during the last session. A €500 compensation is granted by the National Secretaries to each winning team (winners and runner-up) participating to the Forum to cover the journey and accommodation expenses.

6.2. Publications

The competition results can be the opportunity for publications in every organizing or associate country. The European secretariat publishes a catalogue with the European results along with expert analyses. This catalogue is available either for free consultation or for sale on the European website.

6.3. Websites

Websites are open by the national and European structures to promote the current session, future events and archives (previous sessions, team portraits, etc.)

7. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

7.1. Ownership

All material submitted to the organizers becomes their property, including reproduction rights. The intellectual property rights remain the exclusive property of their author(s).

7.2. Exhibition and Publication Rights

Moratorium on Publication

Teams may not publish the documents submitted to the competition or disclose their names by using their project for any communication before the official announcement of the results. Any such publication may result in the disqualification of the team.

Publications

The organisers reserve the right to publish all the projects submitted to them after the official announcement of results. Projects are exhibited or published under the names of their authors.

7.3. Disputes

The Council of the European Association, which is empowered to arbitrate, shall hear any dispute.

8. LIST OF EUROPEAN 14 COMPETITIONS

The Contact section of the European website shows the detailed national competition conditions country by country (number of sites and prizes, conditions of construction rights, etc.) as well as the details of the national and European structures, with the names of the people working for them.

The Jury section of the European website lists the members of the national juries.

List of illustrations and documents

C-a

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C-b

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NO-Alta-PS-M6.pdf
NO-Alta-PS-M7.pdf

For further inquiries:

<https://youtu.be/ijLJ9F9C57k>

www.alta.kommune.no

www.altahavn.no

www.visitalta.no

www.uit.no

www.altaskifer.com

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www.finnmarkslopet.no

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www.aronnesrocken.no

www.altasoulogblues.no

www.kommunekart.com

www.kunnskapsparkenalta.no

www.sisa.no

www.skyfish.com/p/alta/all-files

The Jury



Anthony Engi Meacock
(GB)
Architect
Partner Assemble Studio



Catherine Mosbach
(FR)
Landscape Architect
Mosbach Paysagistes



Alexandre Theriot
(FR)
Architect
Partner Bruther



Kaye Geipel
(DE)
Architect
Editor-in-chief of 'Bauwelt'
and 'Stadtbauwelt'



Gerrit Heinz Mosebach
(NO)
Architect and Urban Planner
Project Leader and Chief
Architect in Dept. of
Planning and Building
Services, City of Oslo



Hilde Bøkestad
(NO)
Architect
Head of City Planning,
Trondheim Municipality



Gøril Forbord
(NO)
Business Developer
Business developer at
Trønderenergi

Organizers



Alta Municipality

Hallgeir Strifeldt
Head of City Planning Department

Reidar Olsen
Urban Planner, City Planning Department

Lise Amundsen
Urban Planner, City Planning Department

Nadine Ekløf
M.Arch, City Planning Department

Alta Skiferbrudd SA

Willy Hågensen
CEO (until 01.12.2016)

Marianne Nielsen Gschib
CEO (from 01.12.2016)

Jon Vegar Holten
Chairman

European Norway Secretariat

Øystein Rø
M.Arch.MNAL
Secretary

Fredrikke Frølich
M.Arch.MNAL
Secretary Assistant

Margrete Bjone Engelsen
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President of the Board
Member of the European Council and Executive Committee
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Markus Schwai
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Updates, discussions, photos from the jury process and more!