

SLU Landscape PhD Forum as “Researchers in Residence” in island community Træna, northern Norway



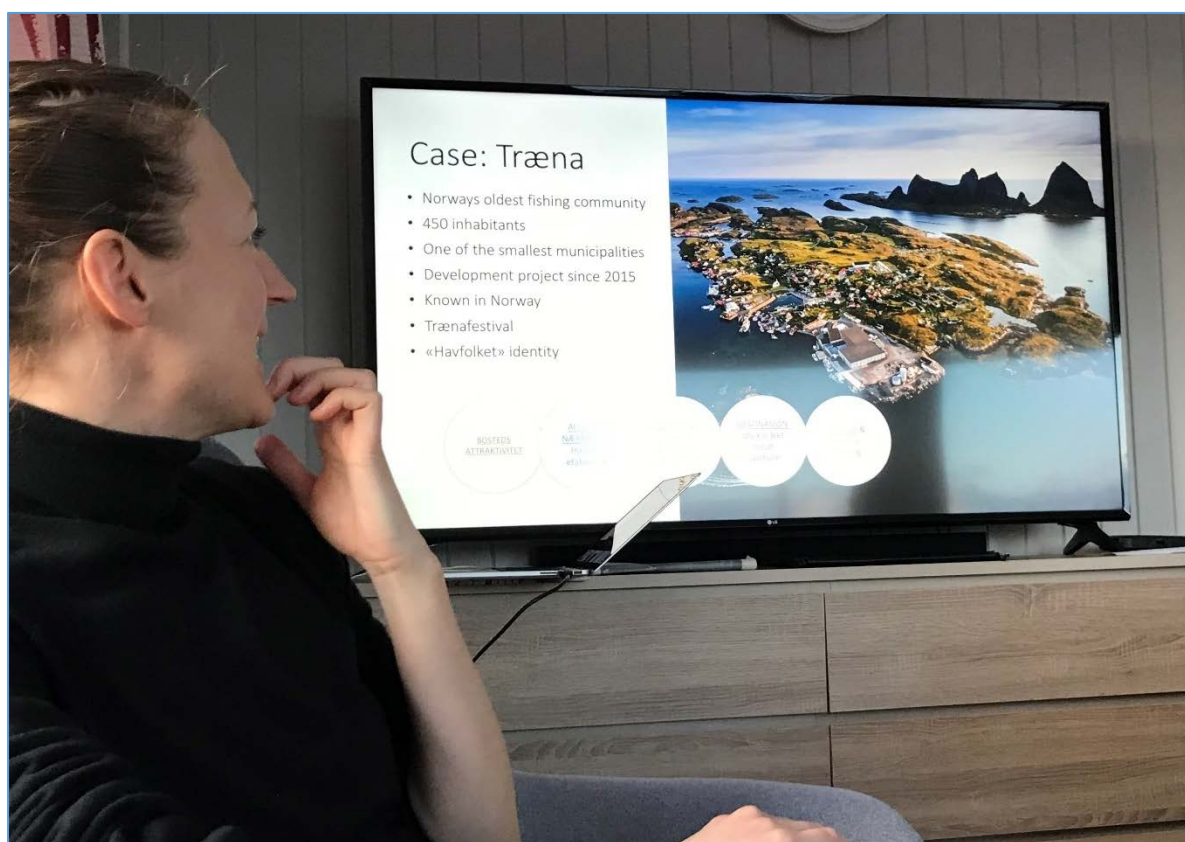
February 2-6, 2020, Johan Wirdelöv, Caroline Dahl, Mark Wales, Amalia Engström, Melissa Cate Christ and Mia Ågren from the SLU Landscape PhD's forum (from LAPF, AEM and SOL) “retreated” on the small island community of Træna of the coast of Northern Norway.



The small island community, located *on* the actual polar circle, has less than 500 inhabitants and is one of Norway's smallest municipalities (and yes, we saw northern lights!).



A few years back however, the Municipality was anticipating depopulation and stagnation. To address this early on, Moa Björnson (our contact person) was hired as head of development on the Island.



Many projects have been developed and revitalized, such as the [Træna summer festival](#), [artists in residence](#), [Træna bygdemuseum](#), local coffee roastery, at home restaurant, local café to mention a few).



The forum was invited by Moa to try the “researchers in residence” concept aiming to increase collaboration between researchers and the island community (since earlier it exist, for example, artists in residence, chefs in residence and business in residence). We were lucky enough to fill our working days not only with our own work, but visiting many of these amazing initiatives and excursing in the vivid landscapes.



We spend our days writing, meeting with inhabitants, city officials, and enjoying the amazing and vivid landscape guided by Moa.



The trip ended with a visit at Bodö municipality with Kristoffer L. Seivåg who generously presented us the recent urban development projects in Bodö.



We send our greatest thanks to especially Moa and everyone else who gilded our stay, and recommend anyone reading a visit, and soon hope to return ourselves.

Landscape PhD Forum,
Through Mia Ågren



(Pictures by Amalia Engström and Mia Ågren)