

Climate City Contract 2030

Between Umeå Municipality and the government agencies the Swedish Energy Agency, Vinnova, Formas, the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth, the Swedish Transport Administration, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and Viable Cities.

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1. Purpose of the Climate City Contract 2030

The purpose of this Climate City Contract is to accelerate the pace of the climate transition in cities within the framework of the 2030 Agenda, while contributing to the recovery of the Swedish economy in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. The Climate City Contract expresses the partners' intention to raise the level of ambition in sustainable urban development and climate transition. The Climate City Contract also provides Sweden and Swedish cities with a good foundation to be international role models for climate transition in cities. This will be achieved through mutual, long-term commitment to efforts on the part of the undersigned government agencies, the Viable Cities innovation programme, and the city/municipal authority as set out below.

2. Parties

Parties in the Climate City Contract 2030 are:

- Umeå Municipality.
- The government agencies: The Swedish Energy Agency, Vinnova, Formas, the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth, the Swedish Transport Administration and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.
- The Viable Cities strategic innovation programme.¹

3. Municipal commitments

Umeå Municipality intends to be a pioneer in the transition to climate-neutral cities and municipalities – with a good life for all within planetary boundaries. As a part of that, Umeå Municipality shall:

- implement Umeå municipal group's action programme in order to achieve its adopted climate goals.
- gather strength for Umeå's climate transition together with business, civil society and academia by coordinating and pursuing the Umeå Climate Roadmap, Umeå's local climate contract.
- create power for change throughout the region by establishing Umeå as an innovation hub for sustainable and equal urban planning, partly by supporting innovation projects in collaboration with other cities in northern Sweden.

¹ Viable Cities is a strategic innovation programme funded jointly by the Swedish Energy Agency, Vinnova and Formas. The programme runs 2017–2030 and has approximately 130 members. The host organization is KTH Royal Institute of Technology.



- establish a creative hub where a variety of expertise is cross-fertilized, strengthens creativity and innovation, and plays a vital cross-sector role in the green and digital transition, in accordance with New European Bauhaus.
- strengthen Umeå as a logistics and energy hub in the region by enabling sustainable transport and logistics solutions
- develop a new energy plan for Umeå Municipality based on scenario analyses of Umeå's future energy system.
- actively contribute to the EU mission – 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030 (known as the Cities Mission).
- continue to develop “System demonstrator for a climate neutral Umeå based in the new city district Tomtebo strand” as well as system demonstrator “Roadmap for mobility hubs” together with Uppsala and Linköping.
- continue to develop forms of collaboration with civil society and residents via, for example, UMECOM – Umeå's citizens workshop.

3.1. Municipal climate goals

Umeå Municipality has established environmental goals that were decided in February 2020 by a broad majority in the Municipal Council. The climate-related environmental goals for the Umeå municipal group are:

- Umeå's consumption-based climate impact shall decrease to 2 tonnes of CO₂e per person by 2040 and to 1 tonne by 2050.
- Umeå shall be climate neutral by 2040 ², i.e. have net zero emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs).
- Umeå municipal group shall be climate neutral by 2025, i.e. have net zero emissions of GHGs
- The climate impact of transport in Umeå shall be reduced. This shall be achieved by ensuring that the fuels are fossil free by 2030 and that sustainable travel is increased.
- In 2025, at least 65% of all trips by residents within the urban area of Umeå shall be by public transport, bicycle or on foot.

² In accordance with national climate goals. The rate of reduction shall take place in such a way that Umeå Municipality's emission allowance is not exceeded. The emission allowance is based on the Paris Agreement and calculated on the basis of the best available research. Climate Neutral Umeå means that by 2040, Umeå will have no net emissions of GHGs into the atmosphere. The goal means that GHG emissions from Umeå shall be at least 85% lower in 2040 than in 1990.



3.2. Strategy

The growth of Umeå shall be achieved with social, ecological, cultural and economic sustainability, with a vision of a population of 200,000 in 2050. This has been concretized in other overall objectives:

- Umeå shall be climate neutral by 2040.
- Umeå shall grow sustainably without any vulnerable areas.
- Umeå Municipality shall create conditions for women and men to have the same power to shape society as well as their own lives.
- In order to manage the skills supply, improve the working environment and benefit citizens more, the opportunities presented by the digital transformation shall be the first choice for Umeå Municipality's operational development.

In 2021–2022, the Umeå municipal group developed a first action programme to specify which measures are to be prioritized to reduce GHG emissions during the period 2023–2025. The Municipal Council is expected to decide on the action programme in late 2022.

Digitalization is a powerful enabler for the climate transition and the emerging new working methods. Umeå Municipality's work on *Digital först/Digital First* is therefore a key part of the strategy moving forward.

The overall goals form the basis for the Municipality's planning and are specified in the Comprehensive Plan, which in turn comprises an integrated strategy where climate transition, climate adaptation and social sustainability create and enable a holistic approach to urban planning for the whole of Umeå.

Umeå Municipality is planning for a city that is cohesive, with a proximity principle that provides the conditions for services, sustainable travel and high satisfaction. The conditions for social sustainability are created by actively working with mixed types of housing and forms of tenure. New districts are being planned to enable a sustainable lifestyle, and existing districts are being supplemented with new functions and services. It is in the districts that planning, strategies and objectives are concretized in the form of technical solutions and social innovations, for example, but when investment plans and business models take shape, we look not only at the individual solution or district.

The system perspective lays the foundation for collaboration, where solutions for resource efficiency, energy supply, sustainable mobility, recycling, digitalization and social sustainability must be interwoven.



Umeå's work with social and cultural sustainability is central to achieving sustainable growth and the climate goals. As the city grows, it is important to continuously take advantage of qualities and safeguard the importance of local identity and social capital. Umeå Municipality has carried out a unique survey through extensive district dialogues that have provided a broad knowledge base to continue improving the districts based on residents' needs.

3.3. Organization and management

To achieve the climate goals, management and governance are required that can prioritize and monitor the work effectively. Umeå Municipal Council has decided on new guidelines for activating governance that creates the conditions for transition capacity throughout the municipal group. The Municipal Council has clarified responsibilities in the planning directive and budget for 2023 and the plan for 2024–2026 for implementation of the goal Climate Neutral Umeå 2040, and has adopted a programme for the objective. Using the same structure, the Municipal Council has also adopted programmes for digital transformation, social sustainability and growth. All of the programmes work together to effect systems change whereby the holistic perspectives are integrated into the Municipality's decision-making processes.

A programme serves to concretize and frame the goal and includes new or existing plans, strategies, projects, additional assignments, collaboration agreements and other agreements that are essential to achieve the goal. The programme for climate neutrality shall ensure that the entire organization, including the municipal companies, jointly steers towards achieving the goals. The financial development grant linked to the programme is being implemented in 2023. The financing shall be ramped up and support the operations' climate transition.

The Municipal Council has also decided on a number of additional assignments to accelerate the climate transition, e.g.:

- The Municipal Executive Board and Umeå Energi have been commissioned to coordinate work on reviewing the Municipality's Energy Plan. This also includes an analysis of the choices faced by the municipal group regarding energy issues in order to reduce GHG emissions.
- The Municipal Executive Board has been entrusted to work further on the European Commission's Climate City Contract initiative, with the aim of signing the contract.
- The Recreation Committee (*fritidsnämnden*) has been commissioned to carry out an analysis, in consultation with clubs and associations, of the operational consequences of future climate change, with a special focus on the leisure industry's needs and requirements regarding winter sports.



3.4. Collaboration with business, academia and citizens

The first version of the Umeå Climate Roadmap has been developed in 2022 in collaboration with the business sector, public sector, civil society and academia. The roadmap will facilitate a stronger collaboration between the Municipality and various players in order to reduce climate emissions and take responsibility for Umeå's part in implementing the Paris Agreement. In December 2022, the players are signing Umeå's first local climate contract when they sign up to the Umeå Climate Roadmap.

The roadmap is a concerted gathering of strength for Umeå's climate transition, which enables common priorities and new collaborations. To gather strength around the roadmap, Umeå Municipality is driving the development of various support functions, such as a transition function and follow-up tools that are developed jointly within the Climate Neutral Umeå 2030 initiative.

There are several existing innovation platforms in Umeå, such as Social Progress Innovation Sweden (SPIS), Digital Impact North, North Sweden Cleantech and Climate Neutral Umeå 2030, as well as investments in citizen engagement linked to the work. Umeå Municipality places a special emphasis on the development of UMECOM, Umeå's citizen workshop, a community where players in the city come together to be part of solving societal challenges.

Clubs and associations play an important role in Umeå and many residents are involved in one or more clubs or associations. Umeå Municipality has been working with the "Miljöskjutsen" concept for several years, whereby clubs and associations can apply for funding to carry out activities that promote climate neutrality and the 2030 Agenda.

Umeå Municipal Group has launched and is part of several initiatives to enable climate transition together with business, civil society and academia. Examples include:

- Strategic partnerships between Umeå Municipality, Umeå University, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) and RISE Research Institutes of Sweden, where sustainable urban planning and climate neutrality are key elements. New innovation projects are formed through the partnerships to contribute to climate transition and they are an important part of Umeå's transition function.
- Networks and committees: Umeå Municipality has a long tradition of working in networks and committees to enable cooperation with various players, such as the network for sustainable construction and management (*Nätverket för hållbart byggande och förvaltande*), the network for food and climate in the north (*Nätverket för mat och klimat i norr*), the *Industrirådet* industry council, BioFuel Region and Umeå Creative Industries Association.



- **Logistics hub:** Major investments are being made in the port of Umeå, the railway and fossil-free flights, which will enable the switch to sustainable transport solutions in the region.
- **Green industry in the Umeå region:** Umeå municipal group works with the established industry through several major investments in climate neutrality. In addition, Umeå Municipality is preparing industrial land to enable sustainable new business establishment. To enable the industrial transition, there is a broad collaboration with Umeå University, SLU and RISE Research Institutes of Sweden, which contributes to the supply of skills, innovation and new knowledge in areas such as AI and digitalization.
- **Circular economy:** Umeå municipal group collaborates widely with the business sector, the university and civil society on circular solutions. One example is RE:Umeå, where several players are collaborating to establish a circular shopping centre in Umeå. Another focus in 2023 is the establishment of a joint construction recycling scheme to reduce the waste of construction materials.
- **Digital Impact North:** A collaboration aimed at creating one of the world's leading regions when it comes to strategic digitalization and a smart sustainable society. A society that is viewed as groundbreaking in basic industry, health and spatial planning, and an international leader in a number of IT-related fields of knowledge and technology.

3.5. Climate Investment Plan

During the year, Umeå Municipality has participated in national dialogues with Viable Cities and the government agencies regarding the development of climate investment plans, and has accessed the support received via NetZeroCities as part of the EU Cities Mission. A preparatory analysis of existing investment plans has begun within the municipal group to determine how they can be used in the methodological support developed via Viable Cities and NetZeroCities. This work will continue to be developed in 2023 in collaboration with other players in the public sector, business sector and academia, both locally in Umeå and nationally.

As part of its work on the action programme for climate goals, Umeå municipal group has carried out an initial cost-impact analysis of the proposed measures. This enables the organization to prioritize the measures that have the biggest environmental and climate impact for the economic investment.

Work on climate investment plans creates the conditions to develop joint, long-term roadmaps with an economic perspective. Demonstrating the climate benefits and impacts of planned investments improves the basis for making decisions. It is also necessary to be able to better demonstrate the value of the climate transition and how the investments contribute to other sustainability goals.



3.6. Digital support for implementation

Umeå Municipality's work on digitalization is based on the fundamental ability to develop new working methods and initiatives within the organization and in partnership with other players. Digitalization has an important role to play in streamlining the Municipality's internal and external processes. Streamlining these processes helps to free up resources so they can be used to help strengthen the Municipality's ability to develop. In addition to the ongoing operational development, digitalization also has to contribute to the cultural transition and the innovation structure required in order to make the transition in a digital era and achieve the adopted climate goals. To enable this shift, structured work is taking place on the methodology for involving users and for change management.

One vital condition for the transition is access to relevant data of the right quality. Umeå Municipality's work on structuring and classifying the city's operational information will continue, as will its efforts to make as much data as possible available via Umeå's open data platform, <https://opendata.umea.se>.

In 2023, Umeå Municipality will continue to work with the provider to develop the digital ClimateOS tool, which enables follow-up and visualization of emission data and measures. Relevant measures Umeå municipal group is taking to reduce emissions shall be integrated into the tool.

SEI has developed the digital tool Consumption Compass together with Umeå and Kalmar Municipalities. The tool can now be used by Sweden's municipalities to illustrate, analyse and reduce emissions from consumption at a postcode level. Umeå Municipality is also involved in a granted project to continue developing the tool.

3.7. Innovation hub for climate-neutral municipalities

As the largest city in northern Sweden, Umeå wants to function as an innovation hub and support efforts towards climate-neutral cities and regions. By drawing on Umeå's experience of participating in innovation processes, projects and networks regionally, nationally and internationally, we can contribute to regional development. This will happen, for example, through an ongoing investment in the New European Bauhaus initiative and the national agencies' work on the Vision of the North project.

Within the framework of the EU Cities Mission, Umeå shall strive to create opportunities for northern Sweden. The N6 initiative will be an important platform for the six largest cities in northern Sweden (Luleå, Skellefteå, Umeå, Örnsköldsvik, Sundsvall and Östersund) to work on this. The work thereby supports ongoing efforts to create a common strategy for sustainable development and climate-neutral cities. Umeå also enjoys a strong collaboration with the city of Vaasa in Finland, and climate transition is an area highlighted in the joint development strategy.



3.8. Climate adaptation

Umeå Municipality's comprehensive planning is evolving and it is working to make new specializations for different areas in need of change. The focus is on working where the needs are greatest, or making additions to an issue that is not being adequately addressed. Climate adaptation is an integral part of the Comprehensive Plan and its related specializations and strategies.

However, Umeå Municipality needs to strengthen the connection and coordination between measures for climate adaptation and the transition to climate neutrality. Climate security is a growing area that requires more focus in a changing climate and where extreme weather conditions are becoming more common. It is important that the measures support each other and other strategic objectives. This could be anything from climate adaptation of buildings, to city trees and green spaces that can contribute to a socially sustainable city, climate neutrality and climate adaptation at the same time.

One concrete example is a new additional assignment from the Municipal Council whereby the Recreation Committee has been commissioned to carry out an analysis, in dialogue with clubs and associations, of the operational consequences of future climate change, with a special focus on the leisure industry's needs and requirements regarding winter sports.

3.9. Climate-smart mobility

More than half of the climate emissions in Umeå come from the area of travel and transport. It is therefore vital to effect change here if the climate goals are to be achieved. Through studies and test beds, Umeå Municipality has created a knowledge base about gender, socioeconomics, geographical differences, norms and values related to mobility. This knowledge is valuable in order to achieve permanently altered travel habits and create a sustainable mobility system throughout Umeå.

Umeå Municipality has long worked for a more efficient and climate-smart mobility system. The Comprehensive Plan and its integrated transport strategy steer towards urban planning where sustainable modes of transport are prioritized. Umeå Municipality takes as its starting point six development strategies for a city that is cohesive and where the majority of growth takes place within a five-kilometre radius, and in rural locations accessible by public transport. Conditions are created for the sustainable modes of transport (bus, cycling, walking) while former motorway routes through central Umeå can be converted into city streets.

A major travel habits survey of 30,000 randomly selected residents of Umeå was conducted in autumn 2022 using the digital tool TravelVu. The survey will provide fresh insight into the travel habits of the residents of Umeå and how they have changed



since the previous survey in 2014. The data will be compiled and analysed so that it can be presented in an updated document in 2023 to aid decision making.

Umeå Municipality is conducting investigations and innovation projects to produce good data for making decisions ahead of upcoming investments. One important initiative is Umeå's involvement in developing system demonstrators. Together with Uppsala, Linköping and Malmö, Umeå Municipality is working on the system demonstrator "Roadmap for mobility hubs" to produce guidance on preparing mobility hubs. Umeå is also developing its own location-based system demonstrator based in the district of Tomtebo strand as a way of enabling the sustainable and climate-neutral district to grow.

Umeå's geographical location, the export-intensive business community and advanced research at the three universities are important aspects when it comes to travelling to and from the region. The Umeå region is dependent on efficient and reliable transport nationally and internationally. At the same time, Umeå has above-average consumption-based emissions from aviation for Sweden. This makes aviation's climate transition an important issue. Together with Swedavia, RISE Research Institutes of Sweden and BioFuel Region, Umeå Municipality is investigating how northern Sweden can contribute to the transition of aviation through the FFFLY project (fossil-free aviation in northern Sweden), which will make its final report in 2023.

3.10. Reporting and follow-up

Umeå municipal group has established indicators for the climate goals, which will be developed and specified in more detail in the implementation and future follow-up of the municipal group-wide action programme. The signatories of the Umeå Climate Roadmap undertake to report their activities and initiatives annually for a combined summary. The digital transition and follow-up tool used by the Municipality to visualize the whole of Umeå's climate emissions (Climate View/ClimateOS) will be coordinated with the follow-up of work in the Umeå Climate Roadmap.

4. Viable Cities' commitments

The innovation programme Viable Cities is implemented in a broad collaboration in order to contribute to the transition to climate-neutral cities by 2030 as part of Sweden's commitment to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda and the aims of the Paris Agreement. This includes being international role models for climate transition in cities.

Viable Cities works with a wide range of stakeholders across disciplinary boundaries, industries and societal sectors. The programme connects centres of research



excellence with large, small and medium-sized enterprises in a range of industries, as well as with public sector and civil society organizations.

Within the framework of Viable Cities' strategic innovation role, the programme shall strive to achieve the following:

4.1. Better regulation

Viable Cities intends to create competence support with policy labs to provide the municipality with a better overview of current and proposed Swedish and European legislation, regulation and standards of relevance to the cities' climate transition. This includes process support for changing regulations and standards to facilitate the climate transition in practice. In the initial phase, this will be linked to work to develop system demonstrators (see Section 6).

4.2. Innovation

In order to make it easier for the municipality to implement innovations that can accelerate the pace of climate transition, Viable Cities will provide a competence network and process support, including by engaging other strategic innovation programmes in the ongoing development of Climate City Contract 2030, particularly in the areas of mobility, energy, built environment, the circular economy, health and digitalization. Based on the collaboration agreement on climate-smart mobility signed with the strategic innovation programme Drive Sweden, this area of collaboration will be further developed with both cities and government agencies, not least the Swedish Transport Administration.

4.3. Coordinated funding

Viable Cities will work in the following ways to support the municipality's funding needs for the climate transition and to promote collaboration and synergies between government agencies and other stakeholders that fund climate transition and sustainable urban development.

- Viable Cities shall continue to work with Climate City Contract 2030 with the 23 cities and five government agencies involved in the programme.
- Through the Council for Sustainable Cities, Viable Cities has launched a collaboration to create synergies between urban climate transition grants from government agencies and Climate City Contract 2030. The agencies are currently working to coordinate the various initiatives under way in the field of sustainable urban development, see Section 5.3 Coordinated funding.
- Viable Cities collaborates with Kommuninvest and the European Investment Bank (EIB) among others in order to develop forms for strengthening the long-term funding of municipal climate investment plans.



Viable Cities continues to develop forms for climate investment plans for cities, the aim being to support all cities in their efforts towards climate neutrality by 2030.

4.4. Cooperation with the EU Cities Mission

Viable Cities cooperates closely with the support structures built up around the EU's Cities Mission – including the NetZeroCities platform (an EU mission platform), CapaCITIES (a network of national nodes), and the Driving Urban Transitions (DUT) Partnership programme.

5. Commitments by the government agencies

The government agencies commit to collaborating within the strategic innovation programme Viable Cities. The agencies thereby contribute to the purpose of the mission-led work to transition to climate-neutral cities by 2030 with a good life for all within planetary boundaries.

Climate City Contract 2030 means that new working methods need to be developed, both between different actors and organizations, and between different levels of governance.

During 2023, the agencies will continue to develop work in the interagency innovation team. Continued dialogue with cities and regions is important in order to capture needs and contribute to systems transition. This work entails active participation in the Transition Lab Forum facilitated by Viable Cities, in which joint workshops, reflective discussions and teaching seminars are important aspects. New working methods may also entail that government agencies initiate experiments and pilot projects.

The agencies undertake to continue joint efforts to support the municipalities' climate transition in the following areas in 2023:

5.1. A learning approach in policy development

The government agencies work together to create the conditions for proactive dialogue and learning regarding policy development, and existing and proposed regulations on sustainable urban development and climate transition.

During 2023, the agencies will explore and test forms, such as policy labs, for identifying obstacles and challenges in policy and regulations for sustainable urban development and climate transition.



The agencies will continue to contribute to activities that promote the development of climate investment plans, digitalization and data sharing, system demonstrators and collaboration processes that relate to multi-level governance.

During Sweden's EU Presidency in the first half of 2023, the government agencies will be involved in several of the 150 or so EU meetings to be held in Sweden. The meetings are forums for learning and policy development, and cities and regions are important participants. Planned discussions include the EU's urban agenda on sustainable urban development and a conference on Green Cities.

5.2. Funding for research, innovation and development

The government agencies fund initiatives for research, innovation, development and systems innovation that support accelerated climate transition.

The agencies' funding focuses on different types of research, innovation, application and demonstration, and to some extent investment support. Funding is provided through open calls and other forms, such as client networks, needs-owner networks and innovation procurement.

As part of the transition process, the agencies³ and Viable Cities have launched an initiative on urban system demonstrators. During autumn 2022, an initial 'design phase' was carried out as part of the initiative. A follow-up call will be made in 2023. The purpose of the effort is to create a form of initiative that takes a clearer systems perspective to the transition process.

5.3. Coordinated funding

To create better foresight and centralized information, the government agencies continuously develop coordination of the various efforts under way in the field of sustainable urban development and climate transition. Development takes place within the framework of several of the agencies' existing tasks and assignments, such as the Council for Sustainable Cities, strategic innovation programmes, the national research programmes for climate and sustainable community building, as well as the European Regional Development Fund.

During 2022, the agencies have begun initial tests with some of the cities, in order to develop, in dialogue, a method for portfolio analysis of the agencies' collective funding for cities. The innovation work is planned to continue in 2023. The long-term goal is for the work to contribute to work on cities' climate investment plans.

Hallbarstad.se is the Council for Sustainable Cities central website. Development work on the website will continue in 2023, partly to publicize upcoming funding opportunities, and partly to make it clearer and more user-friendly.

³ Vinnova



5.4. Participation in European initiatives for sustainable cities

The government agencies are involved in and work with several different European initiatives to support the development of sustainable cities and communities.

Work to support Swedish participation in the Horizon Europe 2021–2027 research programme includes contributing to the design of calls and activities, and informing and advising actors planning to take part in applications for different European efforts. The government agencies also collaborate in the execution of the EU's Regional Development Fund 2021–2027 with efforts for sustainable urban development.

The agencies will continue to collaborate in the Driving Urban Transitions to a Sustainable Future Partnership⁴, where there will be calls and other activities in the field of sustainable urban development in the years to come, as well as the European Commission's New European Bauhaus⁵ initiative, the European Urban Initiative (EUI)⁶ and URBACT⁷.

The agencies will also contribute to develop support functions for the cities selected to participate in the Cities Mission. One example is the CapaCITIES⁸ programme. Through CapaCITIES, national change processes are initiated and strengthened to establish national networks and governance structures.

6. Strategic development projects 2023

The following strategic development projects will be conducted during 2023 within the framework of Viable Cities Transition Lab in collaboration with other municipalities, with the aim of further developing the content of the Climate City Contract 2030 during its upcoming revision.

6.1. System demonstrations

In collaboration with the involved government agencies, Viable Cities is developing a new form of initiative to drive systems innovation for transformation in line with the Cities Mission. A system demonstrator will be conducted to demonstrate the transition of entire social systems in a real-life environment. An important part of

⁴ The Swedish Energy Agency, Formas and Vinnova

⁵ New European Bauhaus highlights the significance of aesthetic, social and cultural values in the green transition.

⁶ The European Urban Initiative is a hub for sustainable urban development on an EU level. The EUI will offer funding for cities to improve and increase their capacity in designing strategies, policies and projects for sustainable urban development (urban-initiative.eu).

⁷ URBACT is a European collaboration programme for exchange and learning in sustainable urban development, Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth,

⁸ the Swedish Energy Agency and Viable Cities are taking part.



this kind of approach is a portfolio of efforts where new solutions, models, initiatives and experiments are linked to a greater whole. Many actors from different sectors are being mobilized in order to learn how to scale up. The system demonstrators start from central areas in the Climate City Contract 2030 and are intended to contribute to revisions of the contract based on insights arising from the work.

During 2022, Vinnova and Viable Cities have jointly begun a design phase to explore how system demonstrators can be a powerful tool in the transition to climate-neutral cities. In collaboration with a number of cities, six consortiums began the design phase in autumn 2022. A call is planned during 2023 for the establishment phase, with the ambition of enabling a number of system demonstrators in Sweden. In tandem, four system demonstrators are being planned Bogotá (Colombia), Bristol (UK), Curitiba (Brazil) and Makindye Ssabgabo (Uganda) within the Climate Smart Cities Challenge alongside UN-Habitat. The aim is to strengthen the exchange of experiences between system demonstrators both nationally and internationally in 2023.

6.2. Competitiveness and funding

One of the foundations of mission-oriented innovation is that the state and public organizations at different levels of society play an active role in co-creating and redesigning markets in collaboration with business and other players in society, such as academia and civil society. Concerted mobilization for the transition to climate neutrality can lay the foundation for companies in Sweden to develop new business strategies that enhance competitiveness by driving a transition to a sustainable, climate-neutral society. This is crucial to Sweden's ambition of being the world's first fossil-free welfare nation, and to our climate policy framework. During 2023, Viable Cities will further strengthen its collaboration with business in order to muster forces for transition. This will take place on several levels, particularly through collaboration in initiatives such as Fossil Free Sweden and The Green Transition Leap. In addition, there will be development to strengthen the local mobilization of companies in the Climate City Contract 2030.

A central aspect of the Climate City Contract 2030 is to create a Climate Investment Plan with a broad perspective on what investments need to be made to achieve climate transition in a city by 2030 (with broad referring to a wide range of stakeholders such as citizens, civil society, companies, academia and public organizations). The municipality is believed to have control over about 15% of the required investments on average. One crucial task is to bring together the right actors from business (including the financial sector), public bodies and civil society to bring about the necessary investment and redirect financial flows to transition to climate neutrality, while also securing auxiliary benefits from the climate transition such as jobs, improved health, inclusivity and attractive living environments. Procurement is also a pivotal issue here. Viable Cities' work will continue in 2023 in order to secure the mobilization of investments and develop methods for climate investment plans.



6.3. Citizen engagement

Various societal challenges currently exist, adding further crises to the climate crisis. For example the pandemic, the war in Ukraine, crises relating to energy, food, raw materials and critical minerals, biodiversity and demographics. This also presents a demographic challenge where a growing percentage of the population feels excluded.

This increases the need for efforts aiming at inclusivity, and at putting citizens front and centre for the transition to climate neutrality and a sustainable society, for instance through new forms for citizen involvement (e.g. citizens' councils) and the development of attractive living environments (e.g. New European Bauhaus). During 2023, Viable Cities will further develop collaboration with cities, government agencies and other actors in order to create conditions for citizen engagement in the climate transition. This will be done primarily by developing new forms for citizen involvement in local climate city contracts and collaboration with European efforts in the area.

6.4. International Cities Mission 2030

In October 2021, the EU launched five missions as a new and innovative approach to working together to improve the lives of people in Europe and beyond. The five missions are intended to tackle major societal challenges such as health, climate and the environment and to formulate ambitious goals and deliver solutions by 2030. One of these missions is 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030 – by and for the citizens (known as the Cities Mission), an important element of the delivery of the European Green Deal and a climate-neutral continent by 2050. This will considerably strengthen Swedish efforts to achieve climate-neutral cities by 2030 and to utilize the Climate City Contract 2030 as a tool to do so.

During 2023, work will be done to further strengthen links between Swedish and joint European efforts to achieve climate-neutral cities by 2030. This will take place within a range of initiatives involving cities, government agencies and the Viable Cities programme; for example, NetZeroCities (a platform for the implementation of the Cities Mission which will be developing e.g. an EU Climate City Contract and climate investment plans), the Driving Urban Transition Partnership, CapaCITIES, New European Bauhaus and others. Launched by the European Commission in January 2021, the New European Bauhaus initiative connects the European Green Deal to our built environment. In the implementation plan for the Cities Mission, the European Commission highlights that the EU Climate City Contract will also enable participating cities to integrate and promote the values and the principles of the New European Bauhaus initiative in their plans for climate neutrality. The Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning (through the Council for Sustainable Cities) has been tasked by the Government with coordinating Swedish participation in New European Bauhaus.



Work on achieving climate-neutral cities by 2030 will continue to be developed globally. This will primarily be based on several already ongoing projects, e.g. linked to Sweden's EU Presidency in the first half of 2023, and the continuation of the Climate Smart Cities Challenge in the four cities outside of the EU in association with UN-Habitat.

7. Joint monitoring, evaluation and updating

Viable Cities and the municipality agree to conduct an annual review of the municipality's results within the framework of Climate City Contract 2030. Viable Cities shall prepare documentation for annual follow-up at municipal and national levels

7.1. Most important updates for the municipality

The Municipal Council has launched the new model for active governance and programmes for a Climate Neutral Umeå 2040, which describe responsibilities for the climate transition within the municipal group, in the planning directive for 2023 and the plan for 2024–2026. A financial development grant has been linked to the programme, which will make it possible to increase the organization's transition ability in order to achieve the climate goals and carry out the action programme.

During the year, Umeå Municipality was selected to participate in the EU Cities Mission. The mission is an important initiative to facilitate the transition at a local level through various innovation projects and targeted initiatives in future years. Umeå will also strive to ensure that the mission has an impact throughout the region, and to increase collaboration both in northern Sweden and with Vaasa in Finland.

During the year, Umeå has also worked with the New European Bauhaus initiative and the national Designed Living Environment initiative. We have linked together major national and EU initiatives during the year in order to create sustainable planning at a local level.

The Umeå Climate Roadmap has been developed further during the year with a focus on the impact of the business sector. So-called roadmap workshops have been held along with several meetings and seminars. In late 2022, Umeå signed its first local climate contract whereby a series of players officially signed up to the Umeå Climate Roadmap.

Umeå's recycling/re-use shopping centre ReVolt was launched during the year, giving various creatives an opportunity to run a business in central Umeå. Together with the development of UMECOM, it gives more people an opportunity to be involved in the climate transition. UMECOM is Umeå's citizen workshop where people can turn their



ideas into a reality. By collecting, creating and being creative, ideas can be put into practice to make Umeå a more enjoyable, better and more sustainable place to live.

7.2. Most urgent experiences to share for the municipality

- UMECOM, Umeå's citizen workshop, is a model for engagement by citizens and civil society.
- Open data platform: Lessons about how open data can be structured and managed, as well as collaboration with other players to enable more open data.
- Umeå's first local climate contract, in the form of signing players up to Umeå Climate Roadmap, was launched in December 2022. This has required an anchoring process spanning several years that resulted in broad consensus and a high level of engagement among companies, organizations, academia and public operations.
- Concrete initiatives have been started to accelerate a circular economy/create business benefits from recycling and reuse in Umeå (RE:Umeå) and the recycling and reuse of construction materials in Umeå.

7.3. Most important updates regarding Viable Cities

During 2022, far-reaching efforts have been made to lay a good foundation for all 23 signatory cities to deepen their work on the Cities Mission, as 14 cities were added in October 2021. The platform for faster learning has been evolved through the Viable Cities Transition Lab Forum, City Labs, Climate Breakfasts and a range of other formats for meetings between cities, government agencies and other actors. The collaboration with the signatory government agencies has been enhanced so as to further hone the Climate City Contract 2030 process. Viable Cities has also provided documentation for the government's task relating to local and regional climate transition, which is one of the foundations for the government's upcoming climate policy action plan.

During the year, efforts to develop practical, research-based tools and methods for climate investment plans have intensified. An initial prototype of a calculation tool has been available to all 23 signatory cities since October. Development of the system demonstrator concept also continued during the year, and in the autumn a design phase for a brand new effort was launched in a partnership between Vinnova and Viable Cities, which involves several cities.

During 2022, Viable Cities has had responsibility for a government assignment, Thriving North (support for innovation work for sustainable urban and community development in Norrbotten and Västerbotten). An initial prototype of a regional



climate contract has been developed with a working group of representatives from the regions and county administrative boards in Västerbotten and Norrbotten. Moreover, a platform for regional societal transition has been initiated in northern Sweden. The platform is called Thriving North, and is now being carried forward by several players in Sweden's four northern regions.

The EU's work on the Cities Mission has been intensified during the year. September 2021 saw the launch of the Cities Mission, one of five EU missions. Cities across Europe were invited to register their interest in becoming forerunners in the transition to climate neutrality. As many as 377 cities applied. In June 2022, 112 cities were chosen to be pioneers in the climate transition, 100 in the EU and 12 in associated nations. These 112 include seven of the Swedish cities that are among the 23 signatories of the Climate City Contract 2030.

Over the past year, the European platform NetZeroCities has begun efforts to support implementation of the Cities Mission within the EU, primarily to facilitate the transition in the 112 cities. Viable Cities is also involved in this work. NetZeroCities is currently designing a Climate City Contract for cities throughout the EU as a tool for accelerated climate transition. Climate investments are an important aspect of this.

Two new complementary initiatives were begun during 2022 to support the Cities Mission in the EU. The first is the Driving Urban Transitions Partnership, in which Viable Cities is taking part together with Swedish organizations Vinnova, the Swedish Energy Agency and Formas. The partnership is a collaboration between national bodies from a large number of nations. The focus is on funding international efforts in three sectors that can help accelerate the climate transition: Positive Energy Districts, Circular Urban Economies and 15-minute City. The other is the CapaCITIES initiative. This EU collaboration aims to facilitate the establishment of national structures to enable climate transition in cities similar to Viable Cities in Sweden and CitiES2030 in Spain.

The Climate Smart Cities Challenge, a global innovation competition, has entered a new phase during the year, and teams of companies and organizations are now working in the four cities outside the EU in association with UN-Habitat.

7.4. Most important updates regarding government agencies

Work in the interagency innovation team

During 2022, the government agencies in the Climate City Contract have continued to develop work in their interagency innovation team. For instance, the team has compiled a summary of the government agencies' various forms of funding and financing instruments, and helped in ensuring that calls related to climate transition and sustainable cities are continually published on the hallbarstad.se website.



The innovation team has participated in Viable Cities Transition Labs, as well as workshops and meetings, in order to learn more about cities' climate investment plans and the agencies' role in the process. Alongside some of the cities, the innovation team has tested developing support and forms for analysing the government agencies' joint funding (including various research and innovation (R&I) programmes, city environment contracts) over the past five years. The aim in the longer term is that this work should contribute to commitments regarding coordinated funding and the cities' work on planning climate investments.

The government agencies' ongoing work includes many measures and initiatives that are of significance to the cities' work on climate transition. Compiling and providing information about these are important tasks for the government agencies. Below is a selection that relate to the cities in some way.

Funding for research, innovation and development

During the year, the government agencies have announced several calls aiming to facilitate the transition in cities.

Vinnova has worked with Viable Cities to publish a call for a design phase for urban system demonstrators, for instance. A follow-up call will be published in spring 2023. Other examples from Vinnova include Sustainable accessibility across Sweden, on mobility in sparsely populated areas, in association with Drive Sweden and Viable Cities, Civil society's solutions for climate transition, and Innovations to reduce electricity consumption in cooperation with the Swedish Energy Agency.

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth has had calls from the European Regional Development Fund: Produce a local strategy for sustainable urban development and Drive a platform for collaboration and experience exchange. The city as a hub for green and digital transition is an initiative within The Green Transition Leap which is also financed by the Regional Development Fund. The initiative aims to develop practical new working methods for working with system innovation for local green transition.

Formas has published the call Climate-neutral and inclusive municipalities to increase the capacity and ability of municipalities to accelerate transition work towards climate neutrality which is characterized by social inclusion and equal living conditions. Within the national research programme for sustainable community building, Formas has published a call for Research schools for sustainable community building. The aim of the research schools is to bolster skills and knowledge development, and they are all distinctly interdisciplinary, practically oriented and challenge driven. Several municipalities are included in the research schools. Formas also funds many R&I projects every year in the fields of environment, community building and areal industries in many national and international calls.



In the Swedish Transport Administration's calls for City Environment Contracts, municipalities and regions can apply for funding that leads to a higher proportion of passenger transit by public transport or cycling and sustainable freight solutions.

The Swedish Energy Agency has published calls in the following programmes that are relevant to sustainable cities and communities: Humans, Energy Systems and Society (MESAM), Energy efficiency in cultural heritage buildings, Design for Everyday Energy Efficiency, Transport-Efficient Society and E2B2 (energy-efficient building and living), Graduate School in Energy Systems, and Bio+ (biobased society).

For many years, the Energy Agency has funded client groups and networks to create a platform for close collaboration between business operators and the state, with the aim of reducing energy use in buildings. The Energy Agency also finances the municipal and energy/climate advice service intended for households and private players.

Impact Innovation is the name of the next-generation strategic innovation programme. A call for preparatory projects was opened during the year. One of the three focus areas is Attractive, functioning communities, with cities being a particularly important target group.

On an international level, Formas, the Swedish Energy Agency and Vinnova jointly publish calls for funds enabling bodies active in Sweden to take part in international R&I projects tackling urban challenges in the European Driving Urban Transition (DUT) Partnership. The first call includes 27 nations. On a general level, the partnership addresses issues relating to energy, mobility and use of resources in an urban context.

Government agency work and special government assignments

The Swedish Energy Agency has worked alongside the Swedish Agency for Growth Policy Analysis, Transport Analysis and the Uppsala County Administrative Board to draft supporting documentation for the government's next Climate Action Plan. The assignment regarding local and regional climate transition involved a great many dialogues with municipalities, regions, government agencies, research bodies, business and other relevant players, which form the basis for the barrier analysis, and the proposed means of control or suggested actions that were presented. Many assignments are under way at the Energy Agency related to the electrification strategy, energy efficiency and secure energy supply, as well as the establishment of a national centre for carbon capture and storage (CCS).

The Climate City Contract agencies are also five of the 14 members on the government's Council for Sustainable Cities. In March 2022, the council was given an extended and modified remit, with more of a focus on working towards the 2030 Agenda's Sustainable Development Goal 11, Sustainable Cities and Communities. Several of the agencies have been involved in the National Board of Housing, Building and Planning's coordination assignment as part of New European Bauhaus (NEB).



One example is the call Ideas for future habitats in Kiruna, Gällivare, Boden, Luleå, Skellefteå and Umeå – idea sketches ready in the project *Visioner: i norr – Hållbar Stad* (hallbarstad.se).

The Swedish Transport Agency's knowledge forum – Arena for Transport-Efficient Urban Environment – is part of a government assignment (2019–2022) to carry out communication and knowledge-enhancing measures for the transport sector's transition to fossil freedom. An R&I programme for geofencing, financed by the Swedish Transport Administration and run by Closer at Lindholmen, brings together the necessary players in society, business and academia to jointly develop solutions to promote the use of geofencing in controlling the transport system.

Some of the projects related to the development of systems innovation are Evolved working methods and processes for greater synergies between regional, national and international innovation efforts, Systems innovation in cities (Vinnova), Strengthening the regional work on sustainable development (various government agencies), Contributing to upcoming discussions on the EU's urban agenda (Formas), and Vinnova's initiative to support cities' ability to lead and organize innovation, for instance through the companion researcher network which for nearly ten years has been following the development of the Innovation Platforms for Sustainable Cities initiative, and the *Accelerera* project, which is developing and offering funding for innovation management in municipalities to ISO standard.

New signatory agency

The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency decided to sign the Climate City Contract 2030 in December 2022, and will therefore participate in the process moving forward.

8. The contract

The parties agree that their joint commitments as formulated above shall apply for 2023. The first version of Climate City Contract 2030 was signed in 2020. The Climate City Contract shall be updated and renewed prior to each new year.

Climate City Contract 2030

Between Umeå Municipality, the government agencies the Swedish Energy Agency, Vinnova, Formas, the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth, the Swedish Transport Administration, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and Viable Cities.

Stockholm, 8 December 2022. The parties agree that their joint commitments as formulated above shall apply for 2023. The first version of Climate City Contract 2030 was signed in 2020. The Climate City Contract shall be updated and renewed prior to each new year.

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Appendix 1 – document links

Below are links to the most relevant documents in relation to Climate City Contract 2030 for Umeå.

Links to relevant documents

[Umeå Municipality Climate City Contract 2030 \(version 2021\)](#)

[Action Programme for the Climate Goals \(2022, in Swedish\)](#)

[Umeå's Local Environmental Goals 2020 \(2020, in Swedish\)](#)

[Umeå Climate Road Map \(2022, in Swedish\)](#)

[Planning Prerequisites 2023 and Plan for 2023–2025 \(2022, in Swedish\)](#)

[Comprehensive Plan for Umeå Municipality \(in Swedish\)](#)

[Business Strategy \(2019, in Swedish\)](#)

[Miljöskjutsen \(in Swedish\)](#)

[Action Programme for Cleaner Air \(2015, in Swedish\)](#)

[Cycle Traffic Programme \(2018, in Swedish\)](#)

[Pedestrian Programme \(2019, in Swedish\)](#)

[Strategic Plan for Umeå Municipality 2016–2028 \(2016, in Swedish\)](#)

[Strategies for Sustainable Growth \(in Swedish\)](#)

[N6 initiative \(in Swedish\)](#)

[Waste Plan for the Umeå Region \(2021, in Swedish\)](#)

[Parking Programme \(2013, in Swedish\)](#)

[Freight Transport Programme \(2018, in Swedish\)](#)

[Public Transport Programme \(2021, in Swedish\)](#)