

Climate City Contract 2030

Between Skellefteå municipality, 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.

VERSION 2023



Climate City Contract 2030

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Climate City Contract 2030

Major changes are needed throughout society in order to meet climate goals and save our planet. Doing things the way we have always done them is no longer possible, we have to work in entirely new ways. Together, we are building a movement involving many societal stakeholders in order to achieve our mission: Climate neutral cities by 2030, offering a good life for all within the boundaries of our planet.

Climate City Contract 2030 is a tool that will help us to achieve this. This is a long-term commitment ensuring a developed cooperation between cities and the government level. The starting point for the work is that an increasing number of Swedish municipalities and communities are bringing together a wide range of stakeholders and mobilising at many levels – locally, regionally, nationally and internationally – to pave the way for a faster transition to climate neutrality and sustainability in Sweden, Europe and the world. The cities and agencies working on Climate City Contract 2030 with Viable Cities are pioneers, and thus their ambition is to pave the way for a broader transition involving many more people.

Climate City Contract 2030 is a tool for collaboration in respect of governance and is used to work together beyond the direct control of stakeholders in order to realise a common goal, and it represents a systemic shift towards a holistic approach in public administration

Climate City Contract 2030 provides a context as a catalyst for new, innovative forms of cooperation between cities, the business sector, the academic community, research institutes and civil society. This strengthens the conditions for mobilising and driving joint development in a present and a society that are becoming increasingly complex. Climate City Contract 2030 meets a need for developed governance, a governance process (mobilising on multiple levels) for the climate transition. Climate City Contract 2030 is a way of working to enable stakeholders at different levels of governance to go beyond what they are directly able to control as individual stakeholders in order to realise goals and missions that involve systemic shifts. In particular, it involves moving from piecemeal operations to a holistic approach.

Together, we are building capacity step by step so that we can speed up the transition.



1. Purpose of the Climate City Contract 2030

The purpose of this Climate City Contract is to accelerate the climate transition in cities within the framework of the 2030 Agenda while also contributing to the continued recovery and evolution of the Swedish economy at a time shaped by a number of several interlinked crises.

The Climate City Contract expresses the parties' intention to raise the level of ambition in the field of sustainable urban development and climate transition. The Climate City Contract also places Sweden and Swedish cities in a favourable position to act as international pioneers in the urban climate transition. This is to be achieved by means of mutual, long-term commitments to initiatives by the signatory national agencies, the Viable Cities innovation programme and the municipality.

2. Parties

Parties to the Climate City Contract 2030 are:

- Skellefteå municipality.
- The agencies: Swedish Energy Agency, Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems (Vinnova), Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning (Formas), Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth, Swedish Transport Administration and Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.
- The Viable Cities strategic innovation programme¹.

3. Municipal commitments

3.1. Municipal climate goals

The Environment and Climate Change Programme links the municipality's environmental and climate action.

This programme focuses on the primary environmental and climate challenges that face the municipality's activities. This will involve major reductions in emissions that impact on climate, sustainable transport, sustainable construction, energy efficiency and contributing to sustainable nature.

¹ Viable Cities is a strategic innovation program funded by the Swedish Energy Agency, Vinnova and Formas. The program runs until 2030 and has approximately 130 member organisations. Host organisation is KTH.



The Environment and Climate Change Programme presents the environmental and climate goals of Skellefteå municipality and a roadmap indicating how they will be achieved. The programme describes the environmental and climate goals for Skellefteå municipality.

On a general level, Skellefteå has three environmental and climate goals that focus on nature, climate and people. These goals are based on Skellefteå's overall vision, "A sustainable place for better everyday living".



Figure 1. Summary illustration of the environmental and climate goals (Swedish).

Naturen	Människan	Klimatet
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bedömningar om biologisk mångfald integreras i kommunenkongcernens processer och att verksamheter arbetar för att uppnå nettopositiv (NoNetLoss NNL) inverkan på biologisk mångfald inom ramen för sin verksamhet.• Skellefteå har tillräckliga arealer av naturtyper och livsmiljöer med rätt skötsel för att bevara de arter som finns i kommunen och ge förutsättningar för att utveckla ekosystemtjänster.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invånare och besökares hälsa och välbefinnande ska främjas genom att planering, förvaltning, och byggande sker resurseffektivt och klimatanpassat samt bidrar till en god och hälsosam livsmiljö, bättre luftkvalitet och ljudmiljö samt minskad användning av skadliga ämnen.• Skellefteå ska vara en grön och robust kommun där ekosystemtjänster nyttjas för att tillgodose människors behov, nu och i framtiden. Ekosystemtjänster i den byggda miljön värnas och utvecklas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Växthusgasutsläppen ska minska i den takt som krävs för att ligga i linje med Parisavtalets åtagande för att nå målet om högst 1,5 graders uppvärmning.• Netto-Noll enligt Science Based Target Initiative definition gällande växthusgasutsläpp ska nås senast år 2030 inom kommunenkongcernens verksamhet, och som geografisk plats till 2040.

Figure 2. Clarifying illustration of the environmental and climate goals (Swedish).

See more in the complete programme for explanations and focus areas.

The climate goals for climate-neutral Skellefteå support and contribute to the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the Paris Agreement and Sweden's national environmental goals.



The approach to achieving the goals includes many areas covering aspects such as energy, transport, construction, mobility and innovation. How the work will be conducted is described in the strategies developed within the municipality.

3.2. Strategy

In 2022, Skellefteå municipality updated its development strategy, Skellefteå 2030, which was produced in 2015. This strategy will remain valid until 2030 and is adapted to meet the rapid pace of development currently taking place in Skellefteå. The transformation of Skellefteå is part of a larger movement that is taking place in our region and driven by global megatrends. These include the impact of climate change, digitalisation, electrification and the connected society.

There are four general areas that describe the priorities and directions for development work. These are:

- A place where people can enjoy living
- Knowledge and creativity for life
- Growing site for sustainable and global footprints
- Proximity to everyday living and the world

There is emphasis on climate and the environment throughout the strategy, and for some parts there are in-depth programmes with targets and action plans that all support and contribute to the general climate action with the goal of eliminating our fossil carbon emissions. The development strategy will serve as an umbrella for the holistic approach, but there are a few underlying, more subject-specific strategies and programmes that address climate action in greater depth. These are and will remain an important part of our endeavour to achieve a climate-neutral Skellefteå.

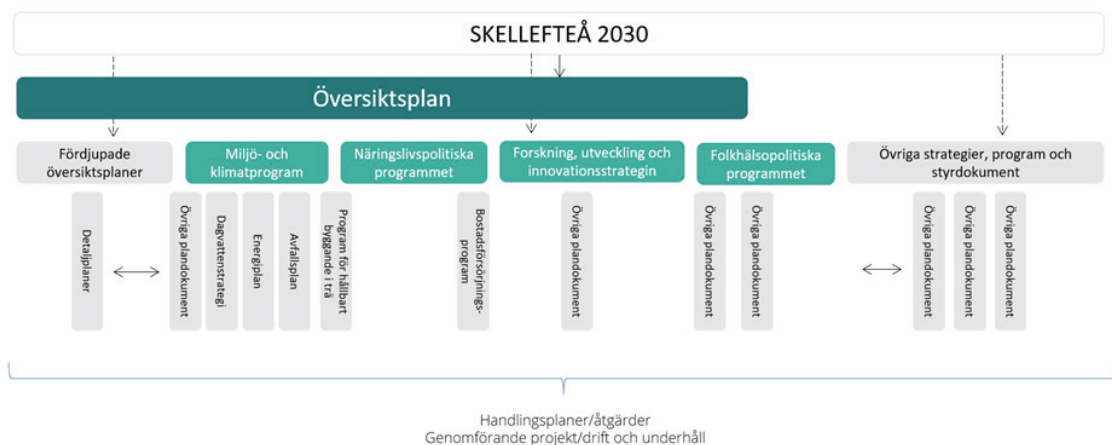


Figure 3. Relation between strategies and plans, from Skellefteå 2030 to implementation and measures (Swedish).



3.2.1 Environment and Climate Change Programme

The Environment and Climate Change Programme is based on the UN's global agenda for sustainable development (the 2030 Agenda), Sweden's national environmental goal system, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Paris Agreement and the challenges faced by Skellefteå as a society and Skellefteå municipality as an organisation in order to cope with the transition to a society sustainable in terms of the environment and climate.

The Environment and Climate Change Programme links the municipality's environmental and climate action

and clarifies the ecological dimension, which is a fundamental criterion for achieving sustainability within the economic and social dimensions.

This programme will be adopted by the municipal council in the late winter/early spring of 2024.

3.2.2 Energy plan

The energy plan will be adopted by the municipal council in the late winter/early spring of 2024, and it will form an important part of the climate action for the municipality and the business sector.

The energy plan aims to inspire and motivate residents and businesses to go on working with energy issues, as the municipal group does. The aim of the energy plan is to clarify the areas in respect of energy on which it is important to focus within the municipal group in order to ensure a successful energy transition, and also to present specific measures that need to be implemented. The energy plan includes four focus areas that are of particular importance in terms of Skellefteå municipality's development and responsibility. These four focus areas are:

- 100 per cent renewable energy
- Building and living for the future
- Sustainable fuels
- New generation industry and business

The primary target group for the energy plan as a whole is everyone living and working in Skellefteå municipality's geographical region; in other words, the municipal group as well as the municipality's residents, businesses and other public organisations. Objectives and proposed measures in the energy plan are aimed mainly at the Skellefteå municipal group and its areas of influence.



3.2.3 Traffic programme and cycling plan

The traffic programme describes the direction of traffic planning and is a step towards developing a more sustainable transport system. The aim is to encourage people to make short journeys on foot, by bike or by public transport. Efficient freight transport with reduced environmental impact will also be prioritised.



Figure 4. Prioritisation of modes of transport.

Together, they pave the way for functional and accessible road traffic for anyone who has to use a car. Moreover, we are laying the foundation for both a sustainable society and better public health.

The cycling plan serves as a basis for project planning, community and traffic planning, but is also a way of showing residents how the cycle path network is gradually being expanded and interlinked.

The cycling plan aims to promote cycling in Skellefteå municipality. Besides building an attractive, interconnected network of pedestrian and cycle paths, Skellefteå municipality is also working on providing motivation and information about cycling so that more car drivers will choose to cycle rather than drive whenever possible. This will help to create an attractive, eco-friendly municipality that promotes health.



3.2.4 Waste plan

The purpose of the waste plan is to describe the municipality's waste management. It should include information on waste within the municipality and actions to reduce the hazardousness and volume of waste. The waste plan includes goals for the municipality's organisations and residents, and for how waste management is to be developed and improved.

The waste plan forms the backbone of the top three steps of the waste hierarchy: Prevent, reuse and recycle. The two lower steps, energy recovery and landfill, are useful ways of disposing of waste that there is no desire to keep in the cycle. Sweden has come a long way from sending all waste to landfill, but there is a need to work on moving on from energy recovery to the next three steps.

3.2.5 Guidelines for sustainable construction

Building sustainable cities and communities with just and pleasant living environments is a global challenge. In Skellefteå, we accept our share of responsibility as a municipality. Now we are making the transition from words to action. We have already started our work on building a beautiful, just and sustainable city. Guidelines for sustainable construction are a continuation of that work.

Achieving the goal of a sustainable society requires a holistic approach to urban planning in which resource management, good architecture and technological innovation are obvious elements. Moreover, all Skellefteå residents who build are required to build for a sustainable Skellefteå.

The knowledge and technology available in industry-leading research institutions and companies in Skellefteå has already helped other cities along the way. The forests of Västerbotten have created jobs in forestry and at the local sawmill, while also providing important exports of top-quality timber and timber products. Skellefteå is currently maintaining a strong position in eco-friendly and industrial timber construction.

Sustainability is something we are building together. In Skellefteå, we have to remain humble and learn from the best examples while also sharing all the good examples we create.

3.3. Organisation and management

Collaboration requires criteria in both organisation and governance. More information about our organisation and governance can be found here. We believe that trust-based leadership (Ledningsfilosofin – Insidan Skellefteå kommun (skelleftea.se)) forms the basis that allows us to develop and deliver according to our mission and ambitions.



If Skellefteå is to become climate-neutral by 2030, both management and governance are required that are clearly consolidated so as to be able to control, monitor and prioritise the activities that need to be executed in order to succeed with the climate transition.

In Skellefteå municipality, the municipal board bears overall strategic responsibility for environmental and climate issues, but the municipal council is what ultimately defines the municipality's goals and ambitions. The municipal board is also responsible for overall internal governance and control for the municipal group as a whole, which includes the municipality's quality management system and environmental management system.

Skellefteå municipality has had a sustainability strategist since autumn 2022 who:

- Is responsible for progressing sustainability efforts in the municipality.
- Is tasked with coordinating and driving sustainability in the municipality's work across administrations and organisations.

In 2023, the sustainability strategist will also be working with the help of an external resource to coordinate mobility issues, as this is a priority and a complex development area for Skellefteå.

Skellefteå municipality is working through Climate-Neutral Skellefteå 2030 as part of Viable Cities to drive the transition to becoming a climate-neutral city by 2030. This project will assist with this transition by working in collaboration with an established innovation team to formulate this Climate City Contract, a Climate Investment Plan and a roadmap towards a Climate-Neutral Skellefteå 2030, with subprojects working with sustainable energy, sector coupling and local sharing and circularity providing cornerstones for this transformation of our society.

3.4. Collaboration with the business sector, civil society, the academic community and citizens

If Skellefteå's climate transition is to be successful, the public sector, the business sector, the academic community and citizens must all work together on sustainability issues; and this is why Sustainable Skellefteå 2020 was launched. Cooperation and exchanges with other organisations such as Coompanion, RISE and Umeå University are also ongoing with a view to jointly building up knowledge and achieving success in our climate work.

Sustainable Skellefteå is a collaboration platform focusing primarily on sustainable social development, and it is run as part of Skellefteå's municipal group in which local stakeholders and external partners are invited to collaborate.



This platform aims to promote experience exchange, cooperation and commitment for projects focusing on sustainability, as well as promoting external cooperation with other platforms, initiatives and projects for the sustainable development of society.

Sustainable Skellefteå is focusing on initiating collaboration, creating new opportunities and putting Skellefteå on the map in the following three areas: sustainable construction, sustainable mobility and sustainable industry.

One of these projects linked with Sustainable Skellefteå have in common is the fact that they:

- Have a clear influence on economic, ecological and social sustainability
- Reinforce interaction between different systems and sectors
- Facilitate long-term development towards a sustainable society
- Make effective use of resources

Skellefteå municipality's collaboration with civil society has to take place over a number of stages with a view to creating a cross-sectoral organisation, consolidation and implementation capacity.

If necessary, civil society organisation *Coompanion* will provide experts for Skellefteå municipality's climate transition, working on issues related to civil society organisation and citizen engagement.

Moreover, *Coompanion* is part of the innovation team formed as part of the Climate-Neutral Skellefteå 2030 project. Additionally, working groups linked to project activities will be formed with the goal of achieving broad representation according to the quadruple helix model in order to create establishment of methods and effects from the project's activities that are sustainable in the long term.

Skellefteå municipality has also entered into a strategic partnership with *Umeå University* in order to accelerate the transition to a climate-neutral society with the support of research.

RISE, one of the project partners for Climate-Neutral Skellefteå 2030, has extensive expertise in research and innovation. *RISE* will be helping Skellefteå municipality to pursue issues in the fields of sustainable mobility and sustainable construction.

3.5. Climate investment plan

With the help of Viable Cities, Skellefteå municipality will be developing a climate investment plan for 2025 so as to be able to plan, prioritise and follow up on the specific investments that need to be made for Skellefteå to succeed with the climate transition. This climate investment plan aims to demonstrate the climate



benefits and impacts created by these measures. It also provides an understanding of and consensus on what specifically needs to be done in order to achieve the environmental and climate goals defined by the municipality. Work is in progress on a corroborated climate roadmap and climate investment plan, in that Skellefteå municipality is in the process of implementing Climate OS.

3.6. Digital support for implementation

Skellefteå has to have functioning digital support and tools if it is to succeed with both implementation and monitoring of the Climate City Contract. Skellefteå municipality has compared different tools for calculating and monitoring Skellefteå's climate emissions. Skellefteå municipality has selected Climate View to monitor its carbon footprint. Skellefteå municipality needs to enhance its digital skills and learn more about how digitalisation can assist with the climate transition and how digital tools can facilitate and enable behavioural changes. Digital support will allow Skellefteå's residents to be included more easily and influence the journey towards a climate-neutral city.

3.7. Innovation hub for climate neutral municipalities

Skellefteå's objective is to inspire more cities in their own climate transitions through its participation in Climate-Neutral Cities 2030. Skellefteå has an established cooperation with a number of other municipalities in the local area. As the transformation of society takes place, the areas of cooperation are changing and evolving. This provides an opportunity to form partnerships in different forms, with the focus required.

Skellefteå is also a member of the Klimatkommunerna association, the overall aim of which is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Sweden through the exchange of experience, advocacy work and dissemination of good examples. Its membership of the Klimatkommunerna association makes Skellefteå a champion of national climate action by highlighting the opportunities, obstacles and driving forces that are of significance for the outcomes of the work.

Another innovation hub is Skellefteå municipality's partnership in North Sweden Cleantech, a regional innovation and export platform for green technology, clean energy and sustainable solutions from Västerbotten and Örnsköldsvik.

The number of study visits to the city has increased significantly of late thanks to the green transition and social transformation in Skellefteå. These visits are now managed by a formalised reception organisation, which ensures a professional approach involving representatives of the municipality's operations, depending on the type of visit or visitor. This approach provides us with a useful platform to pass on information about what we do to a number of different target groups: it also reinforces our function as an innovation hub. Another example of this is the Expo



planned for 2026. This will provide us with a way of highlighting the development of Skellefteå while also developing knowledge and tools that can be used by others around the world.

3.8. Climate change adaptation

Skellefteå municipality has started work on climate change adaptation on account of its statutory mandate to work with foresight on the issue in comprehensive planning, in-depth studies and detailed development plans. Skellefteå municipality also needs to plan and link climate change adaptation measures as part of a growing Skellefteå. That is why Skellefteå municipality needs to develop a climate change adaptation plan in order to gather together the municipality's efforts to adapt the city and society to climate change. According to the Taxonomy², which also covers elements of the municipality's activities, there needs to be an investigation of where the risks are and how best to deal with them on the basis of an action plan, as well as implementation. This is an appropriate first step as a foundation for a climate change adaptation plan.

3.9. Climate smart mobility

A large number of projects in the field of mobility (transport of people and goods) are running in parallel in different parts of the Skellefteå municipal group. Mobility includes everything from walking and cycling, public transport, new mobility services and charging infrastructure to work on behavioural change, port expansion and drones and sustainable flights. These projects can both assist with the green transition and have the potential to alleviate the pressure on the transport and traffic system.

The autumn of 2022 saw consolidation in the field of sustainable mobility (within the framework of Sustainable Skellefteå) in order to increase leverage and create synergies between the various mobility projects ongoing and planned in Skellefteå, as well as increasing the municipal group's ability to adapt in terms of mobility. Kraftsamling Hållbar Mobilitet (Sustainable Mobility Consolidation) involves creating and consolidating a common roadmap within the municipal group for sustainable mobility in Skellefteå by 2030. It also involves coordinating ongoing projects for increased leverage and facilitating greater exchange of information and experience between the various projects and organisations focusing on sustainable mobility in the municipal group.

Work on mobility hubs, work on a common target scenario for mobility within the municipal group (Physical and digitally seamless travel from A to Z) and replacement

² Extract from the taxonomy:

1. In the case of economic activities, physical and non-physical solutions (adaptation solutions) have been applied that significantly reduce the most significant physical climate risks essential to these activities.
2. The physical climate risks that are material to the activity have been identified from those listed in Addendum A to this Appendix through a robust climate risk and vulnerability analysis.



of the vehicle fleet are just a few of the ongoing climate-smart mobility initiatives. Another specific initiative involves the municipality's property company having been given greater responsibility for mobility in the ownership directive.

The increase in resources that was implemented specifically for mobility in 2023 is one way of accelerating development.

The consolidation initiative involves working closely with many different organisations in Skellefteå, including Trafikgruppen, Näringslivskontoret (the Trade and Industry Office) and the Gator och Parker (Streets and Parks) department (including parking activities) at Skellefteå municipality, E-Mobility at Skellefteå Kraft, Skellefteå Buss, etc.

3.10. Climate-smart construction

Skellefteå is growing at a pace never before achieved by any other city of our size. This growth requires significant resources, and so we need to take a great deal of responsibility for the climate impact of construction. Challenging conventional construction techniques, creating function-based procurement procedures and searching for new business models will allow Skellefteå to be a pioneer and make a global impact with new solutions that are valuable to its own operations, the region and the world. Skellefteå has unique opportunities to create new solutions across boundaries as part of its extraordinary social transformation. This means that Skellefteå has to adopt a holistic approach from planning to construction, work to coordinate the chain as a whole and share responsibility for the total life cycle cost of construction.

Streamlining our energy use is a prerequisite for an energy system with no negative environmental or climate impact. It is important for Skellefteå to do everything in its power to set an example and lead the way. If the climate goal is to be achieved, Skellefteå needs to prioritise streamlining energy efficiency in our own existing stock of homes and premises, while also constructing new buildings with high energy performance. Employees have an important part to play in leading the way. We are reaching out to organisations and individuals by using and developing our advice, supervision and cooperation with the business sector.

3.11. Reporting and monitoring

Skellefteå municipality has compared different tools for calculating and monitoring Skellefteå's climate emissions. Climate View has been selected as the calculation tool and is in its implementation phase in autumn 2023.



4. Viable Cities' commitments

The Viable Cities innovation programme is being conducted in broad collaboration in order to contribute to the transition to climate neutral cities by 2030 as part of the Swedish commitment to meet the goals of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. This includes acting as international pioneers in the transition for cities.

Viable Cities is working with a wide range of stakeholders across academic disciplines, industries and sectors of society. It links outstanding research environments with enterprises of all sizes across a range of sectors, as well as public and civil society organisations.

Viable Cities will promote the following as part of its role as a strategic innovation programme:

4.1. Coordination of Climate City Contract 2030

Accelerated mobilisation in respect of the transition on a local, national and international level is now taking place using Climate City Contracts as a tool. This requires more of an ability to coordinate the efforts and go on developing the contracts in order to achieve upscaling, broadening, replicability, prioritisation and more effective coordination of meetings and dialogues between stakeholders.

That is why the Viable Cities programme office is developing a coordination function for Climate City Contract 2030 in Sweden so as to further support the Climate City Contract process, the commitments of agencies, municipalities and other relevant stakeholders being developed and refined step by step. This is being done in parallel with implementation and scaling to drive the transition more effectively. The coordination function will support the building of stakeholders' collective capacity for transition from knowledge to implementation and develop the Climate City Contract to the next level – in a local, national and international context.

The coordination function aims to create better opportunities for municipalities and stakeholders to benefit from and manage at a local level the comprehensive policy packages at EU level that result from the European Green Deal (such as Fit for 55 and the Taxonomy Regulation for sustainable investments).

4.2. Smart policy development

Viable Cities intends to create expertise support in respect of policy and regulations with related initiatives in respect of smart policy development. This will involve providing the municipality with more of an overview of current and future Swedish and European legislation, rules and standards of relevance to the climate transition of cities (such as the Fit for 55 policy package). It will also include process support for



amending regulations and standards to facilitate climate transition in practice. This will link to agencies' commitments (section 5.1) and development work on system demonstrators (see section 6).

4.3. Innovation

Viable Cities intends to develop its role as a pioneer and intermediary (linker of systems, manager of gaps, crosser of boundaries) in order to reinforce the coordinating, mobilising and facilitating efforts in the emerging ecosystem for the Climate Neutral Cities mission, offering a good life for all within the boundaries of our planet.

Viable Cities will contribute competence networks and process support to make it easier for the municipality to implement innovation that accelerates climate transition. This will include engaging other strategic innovation programmes in the further development of Climate City Contract 2030. This is particularly applicable to mobility, energy, the built environment, circular economy, health and digitalisation. Working on the basis of the partnership agreement with the Drive Sweden strategic innovation programme on climate smart mobility, collaboration will be developed further with both cities and agencies in this respect, not least with the Swedish Transport Administration.

4.4. Coordinated funding

Viable Cities will be supporting the municipality's need for climate transition funding and promoting cooperation and synergy between agencies and other stakeholders funding climate transition and sustainable urban development in the following ways.

- Viable Cities will go on working with the 23 cities and six agencies involved in Climate City Contract 2030 on developing forms of funding linked with this.
- Viable Cities will cooperate with the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth as the managing authority for the European Regional Development Fund in Sweden and the initiatives earmarked for sustainable urban development with a view to creating synergy with Climate City Contract 2030.
- Viable Cities will be working together with the agencies to develop work on coordinated funding by means of various ongoing initiatives in respect of sustainable urban development: see 5.3 Coordinated funding.
- Viable Cities will be continuing to develop forms of climate investment plans for cities with a view to supporting all cities as part of the Climate Neutral Cities 2030 initiative.



4.5. Interaction with the EU's Climate Neutral Cities mission

Viable Cities is working in close cooperation with the support structures that are being built around the EU Climate Neutral Cities 2030 mission – both a platform for implementation of the EU mission, NetZeroCities, and CapaCITIES, a network of national nodes such as the Driving Urban Transitions (DUT) partnership programme. At EU level, closer interaction and synergies with the sister mission “Adaptation to Climate Change”, as well as with the proposed “New European Bauhaus” mission, are also being discussed.

5. The agencies' commitments

The agencies are committed to working together within the scope of Climate City Contract 2030. In this way, the agencies will contribute to the purpose of the mission-driven effort to make the transition to climate neutral cities by 2030 with a good life for all within the boundaries of our planet.

In 2024, the agencies will go on developing supporting structures and new ways of working for a more coherent, strategic and learning development process. The Sustainable Cities Council (Rådet för hållbara städer) acts as a framework and strategic forum for collaboration between agencies, the Swedish Model for Sustainable Development (Svensk modell för Hållbar utveckling) as an operational platform for collaboration between agencies, and Climate City Contract 2030 as a joint innovation and test lab for the 23 cities and agencies.

As part of this, the innovation teams at the Climate City Contract agencies will hold joint responsibility for driving the following innovation processes: Policy labs (5.1), System demonstrators (5.2) and Local portfolio analysis (5.3). This work also involves participation in the Transition Lab facilitated by Viable Cities. In 2024, the agencies intend to focus in particular on the development of Climate City Contract 2030 as an innovation in governance for the Climate City Contract Arena, the meeting place for dialogue workshops between municipalities and agencies (see 6.1).

The agencies commit to continue their joint efforts in respect of the following developments in 2024 in order to support municipalities' climate transition:

5.1. Smart policy development

The agencies are working together with the municipalities to identify and contribute to development towards more appropriate regulations and other policy instruments for sustainable urban development and climate transition, and also to increase understanding and knowledge of existing regulations. The process will continue to



be based on proactive dialogue and mutual learning, focusing on the development needs of municipalities in an accelerated climate transition.

In 2024, work will continue with policy labs in one or more of the challenge areas identified: inclusive mobility that promotes health, land use and land allocation, energy planning and energy streamlining, and circular resource and material flows. Joint development and planning efforts are ongoing through collaboration and dialogue in order to clarify policy challenges and identify key stakeholders, as well as ensuring the transition potential of policy labs.

5.2. Funding for research, innovation and development

The agencies are funding research, innovation, development and system innovation activities that support more rapid climate transition. The agencies' support is aimed at various types of research, innovation, application and demonstration and, to some extent, investment funding. Funding is provided through open calls for proposals and other forms such as, for example, client networks, stakeholder networks and innovation procurement³.

In 2024, the agencies are committing to go on developing and funding new types of initiatives, such as: System Demonstrators for Climate Neutral Cities (see 6.2 for more information) and the Urban Twin Transition Center for the digitalisation of cities.

5.3. Coordinated funding

The agencies are constantly developing coordination in respect of ongoing initiatives in the field of sustainable urban development and climate transition so as to create better advance planning and comprehensive information.

In 2024, the agencies are intending to deliver aggregated output data from some of the agencies' funding to all 23 municipalities, based on the innovation process on methodology development for local portfolio analyses that was conducted in 2023. The innovation work will also continue in 2024 with a view to improving the quality and coverage of data supplied, and by means of one or more in-depth projects in collaboration with certain interested municipalities in order to streamline the process and increase the benefits for recipients. The long-term goal of the portfolio analyses is to assist in efforts relating to cities' climate investment plans.

Hållbarstad.se is the joint website of the Sustainable Cities Council. Here, the agencies have undertaken to regularly publish information on funding opportunities and calls

³ See [pressannouncement from the Swedish Internet Foundation](#) (Swedish)



for proposals, as well as collective knowledge support from all participating agencies involved in the Sustainable Cities Council⁴.

5.4. Participation in European sustainable cities initiatives

The agencies are part of and working with a number of European initiatives to support the development of sustainable cities and communities.

Efforts to support Swedish participation in the Horizon Europe 2021–2027 research programme include contributing to the formulation of activities and calls for proposals and providing information and advice to stakeholders who are planning to participate in applications regarding various European initiatives. The agencies are also cooperating on the implementation of the EU Regional Development Fund 2021–2027 with initiatives for sustainable urban development.

The agencies are continuing to participate in the Driving Urban Transitions to a Sustainable Future partnership, where calls for proposals and other activities in respect of sustainable urban development will be of relevance in the next few years, as well as the European Commission’s “New European Bauhaus” initiative,⁵ European Urban Initiative (EUI)⁶ and Urbact⁷.

The agencies are also helping to develop support functions for the cities selected for the 100 Climate Neutral Cities mission. One example is the “CapaCITIES” programme⁸. CapaCITIES is being used to initiate and reinforce national change processes in order to establish national networks and governance structures.

6. Strategic development projects for 2024

The strategic development projects are key accelerators for the emergence of an ecosystem relating to the Climate Neutral Cities 2030 mission and provide a common platform and arena for collaboration and learning.

⁴ The Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning, the Swedish Energy Agency, the Public Health Agency, Formas, the county boards, the Swedish Agency for Participation, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, the Swedish National Heritage Board, ArkDes (the Sweden’s national museum for architecture and design) the Public Art Agency Sweden, the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions, the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth, the Swedish Transport Administration och Vinnova.

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

⁶ The European Urban Initiative is a hub for sustainable urban development at EU level. The EUI aims to offer support to cities to improve and increase their capacity when it comes to formulating sustainable urban development strategies, policies and projects. (urban-initiative.eu)

⁷ Urbact is a European cooperation programme for exchange and learning in the field of sustainable urban development, Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth.

⁸ The Swedish Energy Agency and Viable Cities are participating.



The following strategic development projects will be conducted in 2024 within the Viable Cities Transition Lab in collaboration with other municipalities, with a view to further developing the content of Climate City Contract 2030 during the upcoming revision of the contract.

6.1. Governance

Developments in climate transition governance, both at local level and between local, national and even EU level, are fundamental to broader mobilisation and more effective systemic changes. This involves coordinating and leading different stakeholders at different levels with a view to accelerating the climate transition and slowing climate change so that a sustainable future can be built. Governance refers to the process and structure of governing, managing and regulating an organisation, society or system. It considers how decisions are made, how authority and responsibilities are allocated, and how rules and guidelines are maintained and followed. This is a complex process involving political, economic, technical and social aspects, which in turn requires cooperation and commitment from a wide range of societal stakeholders.

Mobilisation through Climate City Contract 2030 has proven to be successful and will go on being developed in order to further reinforce, scale up, broaden and accelerate the transition work. Clearer needs orientation/prioritisation and stricter commitments are required from several quarters: from the national agencies and the municipalities, and also linked to the Viable Cities role/commitments.

The Climate City Contract is a new and innovative governance tool that is building a long-term strategic process from local to international level on the basis of the collective mission of achieving sustainable and climate neutral cities by 2030. Commitments from cities, agencies and other stakeholders are revised and refined every year, and implementation takes place in interaction between the public sector, the business sector, the academic community and civil society stakeholders. The whole process is building ever stronger mobilisation of ecosystems of stakeholders and initiatives and constantly reinforcing the collective capacity for faster transition. This is a multi-level governance perspective that has also acted as an international role model when it comes to mobilising cities in a broad partnership between enterprises, the academic community, the public sector and civil society, implementing the EU's "Climate Neutral and Smart Cities" mission, which is aiming to achieve 100 climate neutral cities (municipalities) in Europe by 2030. Being the first to set up Climate City Contracts makes Sweden a pioneer, leading the way for other European countries and the European Commission. This, in turn, will strengthen the Swedish business sector's ability to take its place and contribute to the global transition.



In the run-up to 2024, there is still a major need to develop a more in-depth understanding of what transformative governance involves and how municipalities and cities can work with it in practice. Collective analysis support for Climate City Contracts will be developed further using experience and insights from the initial steps. This work has to be done in close cooperation between Viable Cities, agencies and municipalities. This work will be coordinated by the programme office, which will ensure stronger emphasis on analysis and monitoring in the Climate City Contract Arena in 2024.

6.2. Climate investment plans

A basic tenet of mission-driven innovation is that the state and public organisations at different levels of society play an active role in co-creating and reshaping markets in interaction with the business sector and other societal stakeholders such as the academic community and civil society.

Climate investment planning is a crucial part of the transition in a municipality or from a broader perspective. Such planning makes it possible to understand what measures the various stakeholders in the city – the municipality and other stakeholders – need to implement, how these measures can be implemented in a manner that is economically viable, and which financial instruments can be used to raise the capital necessary for the transition. On average, the municipality itself is estimated to have control over about 15 per cent of the investments needed. That is why a series of stakeholders need to be involved, including citizens, civil society, enterprises (including the financial sector), the academic community and public organisations.

Climate investment plans as a key part of the work on developed governance for the mission, and in 2024 we will be focusing on climate investment plans in a number of areas; analyses and tests on how climate investment plans can be linked to regular decision-making processes, including roadmaps for climate neutrality at city level, analyses of necessary climate investments in areas with a major impact on climate emissions, such as heating/cooling, mobility, food, etc., economic analyses of multiple benefits of climate transition, such as where climate transition can both help to save money and provide quantified benefits such as better health, more jobs, security, etc., how sustainability indicators can be incorporated more systematically into commercial management and contract management

In 2024, the Viable Cities financial dashboard will undergo further development and incorporate the investment plan page, financial indicators and funding flows provided by different national agencies (see section 5.3). The functions of various financial instruments will be mapped, and a number of learning cases will be launched in areas where financial roadmaps are being developed. There will also be



a developed collaboration with investors in order to discuss how to mobilise private funding for climate neutral cities.

The work on climate investment plans in Sweden is closely linked to what is happening within NetZeroCities, the platform for implementing the climate neutral cities mission at European level.

6.3. Competitiveness through transition

Strong mobilisation for the transition to climate neutrality may provide the conditions for enterprises in Sweden to develop new business strategies and entirely new markets, which in turn will provide competitiveness by driving a transition to a climate neutral, sustainable society. This is crucial for Sweden's ambition to be the world's first fossil-free welfare state and our climate policy framework. Enterprises play a key role in the climate transition; as major emitters of greenhouse gases, but also as providers of solutions for climate transition and climate change adaptation.

In 2024, Viable Cities is joining forces with the Climate Competitiveness initiative to explore – together with a range of other stakeholders – what systemic changes can accelerate collaboration between municipalities and the business sector in order to achieve the Climate Neutral Cities 2030 mission with a good life for all within the boundaries of our planet. Collaboration with the agencies signing the Climate City Contract is a key aspect of this work so that policy change can be driven. The initiative is targeted primarily at the 23 cities signing Climate City Contracts for 2030, with the objective of creating knowledge that can be used in all Swedish municipalities.

The aim is to focus jointly on key areas of activity linked to the cities' transition journeys, where enterprises are mobilised and systematically engaged. One important element in this work is to reinforce one another in handling the opportunities and challenges presented by the EU's "Fit for 55" programme. Examples of areas of activity include procurement, skills supply, business development and establishment. The work includes reviewing the chances of using municipal policy documents such as procurement policy, business programmes and ownership directives for municipal companies in order to drive development. In its work, Viable Cities also engages with business-oriented organisations and initiatives at international, national and regional level where fair and inclusive transition is a key aspect.

6.4. Citizen engagement

Current societal challenges mean that a number of crises coincide with the climate crisis: the pandemic, the war in Ukraine, crises in respect of energy, food, raw materials and critical minerals, biodiversity and demography. These challenges are



exacerbated by the fact that we are also experiencing a democratic development where a growing proportion of the population feels excluded.

This increases the need for initiatives aimed at inclusion and putting citizens at the centre of the transition to a climate neutral, sustainable society through initiatives such as new forms of citizen involvement (such as citizens' councils) and the development of attractive living environments (such as New European Bauhaus) and policies for the designed living environment. It is necessary to make the most of citizens' knowledge and expertise with regard to the decisions that affect their lives, and these decisions must be supported by the vast majority so that action and change can be implemented at the pace and to the extent required.

There will be further development of cooperation between cities, agencies and other stakeholders in 2024 in order to pave the way for citizen engagement in the climate transition; not least by developing new forms of citizen involvement in local Climate City Contracts and interaction with European initiatives in this respect.

A number of learning cases, tests and initiatives in respect of citizen participation will be mobilised in 2024 with a view to building on empowering citizens so as to accelerate the climate transition.

6.5. System demonstrators

System Demonstrators for Climate Neutral Cities is a strategic development project under Climate City Contract 2030. The system demonstrators are expected to play an essential role in the ability of cities to accelerate the transition, raise awareness and create plenty of engagement on a local, regional, national and international level.

The initiative focuses clearly on mission-oriented innovation, and clearly emphasises the importance of a systems perspective in the transition process. A portfolio approach, where a number of actions, initiatives and experiments combine to form a larger whole, is an important element in this form of intervention. The system demonstrators are based on key areas of Climate City Contract 2030 and are intended to assist with the development of the contract on the basis of insights from the work.

Viable Cities and the agencies undertake to help raise the profile of the system demonstrators in key contexts at national and international level, and to capitalise on the insights from the system demonstrators with a view to facilitating upscaling. All Climate City Contract 2030 municipalities undertake to capitalise on the insights from the system demonstrators with a view to facilitating upscaling.



6.6. Climate Neutral Cities 2030 mission on an international level

In October 2021, the EU launched five missions for a new and innovative way of working together and improving people's lives in Europe and beyond. These five missions aim to tackle major societal challenges such as health, climate and the environment, and set ambitious goals with deadlines to be achieved by 2030. One of these is 100 Climate Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030 (known as the Cities Mission), which is a key element in delivering the European Green Deal with a view to making the continent climate neutral by 2050. This will involve significant reinforcement of Swedish efforts on the mission of achieving climate neutral cities by 2030 and using Climate City Contract 2030 as a tool for this.

There will be continued mobilisation and development in 2024 in order to reinforce the link between Swedish and European efforts on the Climate Neutral Cities 2030 mission. This is taking place by means of a series of initiatives involving cities, agencies and Viable Cities programmes. Examples include NetZeroCities (a platform for implementing the Cities Mission, with development work on aspects such as Climate City Contracts and Climate Investment Plans), the Driving Urban Transitions partnership (with research and innovation projects focusing on 15-minute cities, energy-positive districts and the circular urban economy) and CapaCITIES (which is developing national support platforms similar to Viable Cities in a number of countries in Europe).

At EU level, closer interaction and synergies between the Cities Mission and its sister mission "Adaptation to Climate Change", as well as with the "New European Bauhaus" initiative, are also being discussed.

Launched by the European Commission in January 2021, the New European Bauhaus initiative links the European Green Deal with our built environment. In the Cities Mission implementation plan, the European Commission points out that EU Climate City Contracts will enable participating cities to integrate the values and principles of the New European Bauhaus initiative in their climate neutrality plans and reinforce them. Work on the New European Bauhaus is taking place in collaboration with the government assignment awarded to the Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning (Sustainable Cities Council, Rådet för hållbara städer) aimed at coordinating Sweden's participation in the New European Bauhaus.



7. Joint efforts on monitoring, evaluation and updating

Viable Cities and the municipality have agreed to conduct annual monitoring of the municipality's performance within the framework of Climate City Contract 2030. Viable Cities will provide documentation annual monitoring at municipal and national level.

7.1. Key updates for the municipality

The new organisation for sustainability work in Skellefteå municipality has been established in 2023, and there is increasing identification of forms. Work on the Environment and Climate Change Programme and the energy plan, together with other policy documents, is creating a clearer framework for the transition effort.

Continued work on the climate roadmap will be important as a way of further concretising and evolving the work. Another important aspect will be to go on working on the coordination of various initiatives, and to combine different funding opportunities and programmes in order to drive development. For instance, Skellefteå municipality is taking part in Intelligent Cities Challenge 2.0, which is focusing on Local Green Deals. Opportunities as part of this programme will undergo further development in the next few years.

Skellefteå municipality will concretise the climate transition still further in future editions of the Climate City Contract as the climate roadmap becomes clearer.

7.2. Most urgent experiences for the municipality to share

The journey towards climate neutrality by 2030 has to be consolidated and reinforced at all levels within the organisation. Failure to apply leadership and governance will make it difficult to achieve success with such a major change as that resulting from this climate transition, in particular for a city and a municipality. That is why Skellefteå municipality will prioritise aspects and ensure that this is done in the coming years.

To measure is to know – processes, methods and tools for measuring climate emissions are essential if we are to monitor the climate transition. That is why Skellefteå municipality will be prioritising this aspect and ensuring that this work is expanded in the coming years.

7.3. Key updates for Viable Cities

The work done by Viable Cities on facilitating the Climate City Contract process has undergone development in 2023. The Viable Cities programme has also prepared a new multi-year phase of the programme. Moreover, significant development work



on climate investment plans has taken place and the new system demonstrator intervention has taken new steps. An EU-level process on Climate City Contracts has been established in the international cooperation on the mission and a number of Swedish cities have been successful in becoming involved in the work of the mission regarding climate-neutral cities with funding from Horizon Europe.

7.3.1 The Climate City Contract process

Work has continued in 2023 on developing the role of Viable Cities as a facilitator of the Climate City Contract process in interaction with the 23 cities and 6 government agencies that are signatories to date. The accelerated learning platform has been further developed through the Viable Cities Transition Lab Forum, City Labs, Climate Breakfasts and a series of different formats for meetings between cities and government agencies and other stakeholders. Interaction with the signing government agencies has also been developed in order to further extend the Climate City Contract 2030 process. In parallel, work has continued in the 23 cities on developing different forms of local climate contracts as part of mobilising local transition arenas with companies, the public sector, the academic community and research institutes and civil society. Mobilisation at EU level with the 112 cities that are pioneers in the Climate-Neutral Cities 2030 mission has also involved a process of establishing Climate City Contracts with the participation of Viable Cities. Viable Cities perceives an increased need to create synergies and work on developing support for learning between cities and further developing interfaces between local, national and international levels. The aim of all this is to reinforce the collective capacity for transition.

7.3.2 Strategic efforts prior to new programme phase

Scaling up relevant initiatives in various ways for greater impact and to increase the pace of transition is a crucial element in Viable Cities' work going forward. It is also clear that further work needs to be done in a situation in which multiple crises coincide with the climate crisis. Extensive strategy work took place during the year in preparation for the next multi-year phase of the programme. In October, Viable Cities submitted an application to become one of the programmes under the new, mission-oriented Impact Innovation programme. In parallel, documentation is being submitted for the next phase as a strategic innovation programme in which an evaluation of the first six years of the programme has been completed. In various ways, Viable Cities has also provided input for the Government's forthcoming climate policy action plan and the forthcoming research and innovation bill and contributed to SALAR's planning⁹ of how municipalities and regions can improve and intensify their efforts on climate change adaptation and reduced climate impact.

⁹ Fair and sustainable transition for the climate – Proposal from SKR's program preparation for sustainable transition, SALAR, September 2023 (Swedish)



7.3.3 Strategic upscaling and acceleration initiatives

Continued development work on climate investments for the transition for cities has taken place both in Sweden and in European cooperation as part of the work on Climate City Contracts. Dialogue with relevant financial stakeholders has also been developed in this regard. Digitalisation efforts were also intensified during the year, and November saw the establishment of the Urban Twin Transition Centre in collaboration with Viable Cities. Work has also begun on preparing processes for enhanced citizen engagement/participation in order to create methods and insights that can be used by many cities. A Just Transitions graduate school was launched at Linköping University during the year, in cooperation with Viable Cities. Lund University, in collaboration with Viable Cities, has also launched a Massive Online Open Course (MOOC): Cities, Climate and Change: Pathways and Opportunities. Work on storytelling and communication for transition has also undergone further development. The next step in developing a new form of intervention known as System Demonstrators has been taken with funding from Vinnova and Viable Cities for two system demonstrators: CoAct in Lund, which is focusing on both sustainable mobility and energy-positive districts, and SnabbSam in Stockholm, which is focusing on a fossil-free city centre. Other cities are keen to join in with these collective learning efforts. Fifteen feasibility studies have been funded as part of Viable Cities in order to explore how we can further energise the transition of cities in three respects: citizen engagement, climate investments and regional collaboration.

7.3.4 International alliances in respect of the mission

Efforts to mobilise cities and countries in respect of the mission, in which Viable Cities is involved in a number of ways (e.g. NetZeroCities, Driving Urban Transitions, CapaCITIES, Urban Transitions Mission), are continuing. An evaluation commissioned by the European Commission of the EU's work on the five missions¹⁰ was published during the year. This concludes that the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities 2030 mission (Cities Mission) has already achieved significant mobilisation to step up the pace of climate transition in cities. The evaluators highlight the fact that establishment of the Cities Mission was an important and timely initiative in order to address the "implementation gap" and the systemic challenges that individual cities' climate efforts could never handle alone.

Viable Cities has continued its efforts as one of many international NetZeroCities partners in order to facilitate the transition in the 112 cities (seven of which are Swedish). NetZeroCities, in dialogue with the European Commission, has formulated a Climate City Contract for cities throughout the EU as a tool to accelerate climate transition. Climate investments are a key element in this regard. As with everything else Viable Cities does, the ambition is for methods, tools and lessons learned to

¹⁰ Alasdair Reid et al. Study supporting the assessment of EU Missions and the review of mission areas – Mission areas review report. 10.2777/61143, European Commission, 2023



benefit many more cities as they make their transitions. Swedish cities have achieved success within the framework of NetZeroCities and been granted funding for a number of initiatives in order to reinforce their climate transition initiatives. Malmö, Uppsala and Umeå, for instance, have received funding as part of the Pilot Cities initiative (totalling around SEK 45 million); and Luleå (matched with Umeå) and Lund are just two of the cities that have been selected and matched with pilot cities under the Twinning initiative, which focuses on learning partners for transition.

New steps are being taken as part of the work that has been conducted at global level within the Climate Smart Cities Challenge for a number of years, and which involves a number of Swedish stakeholders, with a view to further developing the work. This includes linking the four system demonstrators as part of the initiative with the two Swedish ones, and also working to mobilise capital. The partnership with UN-Habitat is key to this, and a dialogue is being conducted regarding broader cooperation with UN-Habitat on the basis of climate transition for cities. Similarly, a dialogue has been initiated regarding broader cooperation with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) regarding climate transition for cities in Sweden and internationally.

7.4. Key updates for the government agencies

The agencies have worked jointly on four innovation processes in 2023 as part of Climate City Contract 2030. Four challenges have been identified for policy labs as part of Smart Policy Development. System demonstrators for climate neutral cities are being trialled in two cities. A local portfolio analysis method has been trialled and scaled up. Climate City Contracts as a model for developed governance have been analysed in depth.

7.4.1 Smart policy development

In 2023, a number of joint workshops with Climate City Contract municipalities and Climate City Contract agencies were organised so that development of more appropriate regulatory frameworks and other instruments could begin. Four challenge areas were identified, and these were mapped and investigated further with a view to making decisions to launch a number of “policy labs” in one or more of the areas identified. Representatives from the agencies continued working between the workshops, processing the data that emerged and planning for future work. All the work involved forms of exploration and learning, with everyone involved.

7.4.2 System demonstrators

The emphasis on system demonstrators for climate neutral cities has continued in 2023. The call for proposals for System Demonstrators for Climate Neutral Cities – Planning Phase took place, and two cities were awarded funding. This call for proposals will be seamlessly followed in 2024 by the call for proposals for System Demonstrators for Climate Neutral Cities – Implementation Phase, which will be open



only to the same two cities that were awarded funding for System Demonstrators for Climate Neutral Cities – Planning Phase.

7.4.3 Local portfolio analyses

In 2023, the agencies have carried on developing a methodology for portfolio analysis of the agencies' overall funding to cities. The methodology was trialled in discussion with five of the municipalities during the year. The aim during the year has been to investigate applications in the municipalities and enable all 23 municipalities to scale up. The year's work and completed tests were presented and further developed jointly during the Transition Lab Forum in Kristianstad in the autumn.

7.4.4 Greater collaboration between agencies

In 2023, the agencies forming the Sustainable Cities Council have been granted funding from the European Regional Development Fund's National Programme to develop a more operational inter-authority collaboration platform. This collaboration platform has been named Svensk modell för hållbar urban utveckling, the Swedish Model for Sustainable Urban Development. The aim of this is to focus on the more operational efforts of the agencies and develop a coordinated and joint initiative to reinforce the municipalities' capacity for innovation. The Sustainable Cities Council decided to review in 2023 how the Council can be strengthened in its role as a strategic forum and provide a framework for the operational collaboration platform Swedish Model for Urban Sustainable Development and Climate City Contract 2030 as a joint innovation and test lab for the 23 cities and agencies, as well as other related initiatives identified. The aim of this was to increase synergies and learning between several of the agencies' related assignments and initiatives.

7.4.5 Climate City Contracts as a governance model

Developments in climate transition governance, both at local level and between local, national and even EU level, are fundamental criteria for broader mobilisation and more effective systemic changes. In 2023, collaboration between agencies – with analytical support by Vinnova – focused on governance issues in particular A strategic analysis project entitled "Klimatomställning av städer – en svensk modell för att öka takten i omställning" (Climate transition of cities – a Swedish model to increase the pace of transition) was conducted in close cooperation with Viable Cities, and with the active participation of both the agencies and the cities. From an operational perspective, it has been possible to devise the term "governance" for climate transition on the basis of practical experience from the last two decades. Governance is used when an authority needs to go beyond what it can directly control in order to realise a goal, which also involves systemic shifts from piecemeal operations to a holistic approach to public administration. In governance, the authority collaborates with the business sector, civil society and the academic community.



9. The contract

The Parties agree that these joint commitments, as formulated above, shall apply for 2024. The first version of Climate City Contract 2030 was signed in 2020, the second in 2021 and the third in 2022. The Climate City Contract is to be updated and renewed for each new year.

Climate City Contract 2030

Between Skellefteå municipality, 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 2023-12-08 The Parties agree that these joint commitments, as formulated above, shall apply for 2024. The first version of Climate City Contract 2030 was signed in 2020, the second in 2021 and the third in 2022. The Climate City Contract is to be updated and renewed for each new year.

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Appendix 1 – Links to documents

Below are the links to the most relevant documents in relation to Climate City Contract 2030 for Skellefteå municipality (may be in Swedish).

- [Climate City Contract 2030 Skellefteå version 2022](#)