

Climate City Contract 2030

Between the City of Stockholm, 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

Contents

Climate City Contract 2030	4
1. Purpose of the Climate City Contract 2030	5
2. Parties	5
3. Municipal commitments	5
3.1. Municipal climate goals.....	5
3.2. Strategy.....	7
3.3. Organisation and management.....	9
3.4. Collaboration with the business sector, civil society, the academic community and citizens.....	9
3.5. Climate investment plan.....	9
3.6. Digital support for implementation.....	10
3.7. Innovation hub for climate neutral municipalities.....	10
3.8. Climate change adaptation.....	11
3.9. Climate smart mobility.....	11
3.10. Reporting and monitoring.....	12
4. Viable Cities' commitments	13
4.1. Coordination of Climate City Contract 2030.....	13
4.2. Smart policy development.....	13
4.3. Innovation.....	14
4.4. Coordinated funding.....	14
4.5. Interaction with the EU's Climate Neutral Cities mission.....	15
5. The agencies' commitments	15
5.1. Smart policy development.....	15
5.2. Funding for research, innovation and development.....	16



5.3. Coordinated funding.....	16
5.4. Participation in European sustainable cities initiatives.....	17
6. Strategic development projects for 2024.....	17
6.1. Governance.....	18
6.2. Climate investment plans.....	19
6.3. Competitiveness through transition.....	20
6.4. Citizen engagement.....	20
6.5. System demonstrators.....	21
6.6. Climate Neutral Cities 2030 mission on an international level.....	22
7. Joint efforts on monitoring, evaluation and updating.....	23
7.1. Key updates for the municipality.....	23
7.2. Most urgent experiences for the municipality to share.....	24
7.3. Key updates for Viable Cities.....	24
7.4. Key updates for the government agencies.....	27
9. The contract.....	28
Climate City Contract 2030.....	29
Appendix 1 - Links to documents.....	30
Appendix 2 - Protocol to Climate City Contract 2030 - City of Stockholm.....	31



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:

- The City of Stockholm.
- 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

Cities have an important part to play in the transition process, and Stockholm should be a world leader in reducing its emissions, acting as a role model for others. Stockholm has lofty climate ambitions. The goal is for Stockholm to be climate-positive by 2030 and entirely free of fossil fuels by 2040. The city's own organisation will be free of fossil fuels by 2030. The city and the people of Stockholm cause major carbon emissions in other parts of the world on account of their consumption. The city's goal is to halve emissions from consumption by 2030 (City of Stockholm Budget 2023). The city's climate budget and climate action plan are important

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.



tools in achieving climate goals. Efforts are in progress in 2023 and 2024 to devise a new environment programme and a new climate action plan: adoption of these is planned for 2024.

Vision 2040 is the city's long-term vision document. According to this, Stockholm is leading the global transition towards a sustainable society (Vision 2040).

The city's Environment Programme 2020–2023 (which will remain in force until a new programme is adopted) focuses on the greatest environmental challenges. The programme is based on seven priority goals for Stockholm's environment in the long term, i.e. until 2030 or beyond. Each of the goals has interim goals for 2023, which are presented as subitems below.

1. A fossil-free and climate-positive Stockholm by 2040 (the goal of achieving a climate-positive Stockholm by 2030 was tightened up in the Stockholm budget of 2023).
 - 1.1. Reduced greenhouse gas emissions – no more than 1.5 tonnes of CO₂e per capita
 - 1.2. Reduced climate impact of consumption
2. A fossil-free organisation by 2030
 - 2.1. Reduced greenhouse gas emissions – no more than 105,000 tonnes of CO₂e from the city's activities
 - 2.2. Efficient use of energy
3. A climate-adapted Stockholm
 - 3.1. Reinforced capacity to manage the effects of cloudbursts
 - 3.2. Reinforced capacity to deal with the impact of heatwaves
4. A resource-smart Stockholm
5. A Stockholm with biodiversity in well-functioning and cohesive ecosystems
6. A Stockholm with clean air and a good auditory environment
7. A toxin-free Stockholm

(Environment Programme 2020–2023).

The city needs to work in collaboration with the surrounding world and through technological development. That is why the programme has been designed to encourage and reinforce collaboration and innovation. The role of industry in environmental efforts is clarified, and forms of cooperation are developed. Successful climate and environment work requires Stockholm to be an attractive city with a dynamic commerce and industry that creates high and sustainable growth and



provides conditions for continuing good welfare and a good life in all parts of a Stockholm that shall continue to grow (Environment Programme 2020–2023).

The Norra Djurgårdsstaden sustainability profile area has lofty ambitions in terms of sustainable urban development. One important climate-related goal is for Norra Djurgårdsstaden to be free of fossil fuels by 2030 (Programme for Sustainable Urban Development, 2021).

Climate and environmental work is fundamental to sustainable urban development in accordance with the city's Environment Programme 2020–2023. Stockholm will be a world leader in its implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The indivisible Sustainable Development Goals and the Agenda's general principle that no one should be left behind must guide the work of the city. Efforts to achieve the goals must be prioritised within the city's own organisation (City of Stockholm Budget 2023).

3.2. Strategy

The Climate City Contract is based on the city's Vision 2040 and goals in adopted programmes, primarily the Environment Programme 2020–2023 and relevant action plans, primarily the Climate Action Plan 2020–2023.

Greenhouse gas emissions in Stockholm in 2022 amounted to 1.6 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per resident, which is 70 per cent down on 1990. Climate Action Plan 2020–2023 describes how the goals of *A fossil-free and climate-positive Stockholm 2040* and *A fossil-free organisation 2030* are to be achieved. This plan includes a climate budget, specific proposals for measures for 2023 in order to reduce emissions, a description of the roadmap towards 2040, how the city can achieve net zero emissions by 2040, efforts to reduce emissions from its own organisation, efforts in respect of consumption-based emissions and an implementation plan (Climate Action Plan 2020–2023).

In 2022, the City of Stockholm was selected by the EU to join the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030 mission. In October 2023, after careful evaluation, the city received what is known as a "mission label" as evidence of its lofty climate ambitions. As a basis for this award, the city has submitted what is known as a European Climate City Contract, which includes a climate action plan, a Climate Investment Plan and a commitment document. The City of Stockholm perceives the two Climate City Contracts – the national and the European – as strategic documents that will help it to achieve the same overall goal; but each focuses on different things in some respects. The Swedish contract is based on the municipality and interaction with the national level, while the European mission focuses more on local aspects, with a link to the European level. The European documents are based on the city's climate action plan, which has been supplemented with criteria that will help Stockholm to



become climate-positive by 2030. To achieve this goal, emissions need to be reduced to no more than 700,000 tonnes of CO₂e by 2030, which requires initiatives to:

- significantly reduce emissions from road traffic by means of electrification, reducing traffic performance and increasing the share of renewables
- reduce emissions from works machinery and shipping by means of electrification and increasing the share of renewables
- reduce fossil plastic volumes in society
- phase out all fossil oil for heating and electricity generation
- offset the remaining 700,000 tonnes of CO₂e with negative emissions by means of bio-CCS

Besides the city and its municipal companies, the European Climate City Contract has been signed by Region Stockholm, Ellevio, Stockholm Exergi and the three universities with which the city has partnership agreements: KTH Royal Institute of Technology, the Karolinska Institute and Stockholm University. The city is expecting the mission label award to potentially lead to more opportunities for funding support and increased awareness.

The city has extensive experience of development projects and innovative solutions, and also works to provide a role model for others. If the city's climate goals are to be achieved, it is essential to ensure that successful solutions can be scaled up, funded and implemented in the long term. It is very important to ensure that external funding is available for this. Relevant examples include sensor-based control, AI and IoT to promote energy efficiency in buildings and more efficient traffic management.

Local carbon sinks (negative emissions) are required to achieve climate positivity. For instance, the city is running two successful pilot projects where new business models are required for upscaling. Biochar is produced from green waste produced by the people of Stockholm, and is used as a soil improver. Carbon capture and storage (Bio-CCS) linked to district heating plants has major potential, and Stockholm Exergi is planning to implement a full-scale plant by 2026.

To achieve the goal of *A climate-adapted Stockholm*, the city must have plenty of capacity to manage the effects of high water levels and flows, cloudbursts, heatwaves and prolonged drought, for example. To achieve the goal of *A resource-smart Stockholm*, resources must be used efficiently and in accordance with the EU waste hierarchy. Stockholm must adapt to the finite nature of resources by developing and adopting new technology, new business models and new lifestyles (Environment Programme 2020–2023).



3.3. Organisation and management

The city's Environment Programme 2020–2023 is integrated into ILS, the city's overall system for management and monitoring of all operations and finances. This integration forms the city's environmental management system. Climate Action Plan 2020–2023 must be implemented by the designated committees and corporate boards. Committees and companies with emission conditions in the climate budget in the action plan have to incorporate these into their operational plans and describe the activities/measures to be implemented so that measures and conditions can be monitored (Climate Action Plan 2020–2023).

The City of Stockholm's Quality Programme emphasises the importance of high quality services in everything the city does. Systematic quality efforts, including continuous improvement, innovation and digitalisation, are needed to achieve this.

The support functions linked to innovation, digitalisation and funding, the city's internal networks such as the R&I network, collaboration with the academic community within the strategic partnerships, collaboration with the business sector within the city's pacts and development of a project portfolio as part of Climate-Neutral Stockholm 2030 are important functions in the innovation efforts.

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

There is cooperation with the business community as part of a number of collaborations, such as Digital Futures, the Electrification Pact and the Environment and Climate Pact. In the academic field, the City of Stockholm has established strategic partnerships with KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm University and the Karolinska Institute.

Collaboration with the people of Stockholm takes various forms, in fields such as the digital citizens' panel and the design of the city's public spaces.

The municipal board's Council for the 2030 Agenda aims to support, monitor and provide advice on the city's work on the 17 Global Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

3.5. Climate investment plan

The City of Stockholm devised the city's first Climate Investment Plan as part of the EU mission "Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030". This is based on the measures identified as necessary if the city is to achieve climate neutrality by 2030, and then lists various stakeholders' investment needs in order to realise these measures. All in all, most investment is needed for measures to reduce emissions from road transport. The municipality is responsible for only a small percentage of all the climate



investments required to achieve the goals. Most of these investments are made by businesses and residents. This requires well-reasoned forms of cooperation and dialogue for coordinated planning and implementation of measures.

As regards climate change adaptation, there are additional cloudburst measures and initiatives to counter the effects of heatwaves: these have not been included in the Climate Investment Plan.

The City of Stockholm's climate action is being funded through the budget of the relevant committee or company responsible for implementation, through special climate investment funds available to specialist administrations and district administrations, and through the agreements entered into by the city within the framework of government negotiations where the city is co-funding regional transport infrastructure. The city is also playing an active part in seeking external co-funding from both national programmes and the various EU funds and programmes.

3.6. Digital support for implementation

Vision 2040 describes Stockholm as one of the world's cities that has made the most of the opportunities offered by digitalisation.

A number of initiatives are in progress, such as:

- Implementation of digitalisation as an integral element in the city's new Quality Programme.
- The MIT Stockholm Senseable Lab is being run by MIT, KTH Royal Institute of Technology and the City of Stockholm, working in close cooperation. Innovative measurement methods and sensor solutions are being developed here.
- Skolfastigheter i Stockholm AB (SISAB) is reducing energy needs and costs and increasing customer satisfaction thanks to digitalisation, sensors and smart control.
- Open data policy that can be shared and used for different services.
- Digital support in the urban development process, e.g. strategic GIS map and digital twin.
- IoT is used to control, measure and monitor traffic on certain streets.

3.7. Innovation hub for climate neutral municipalities

On its own, the city is unable to achieve a number of goals set out in the environment programme. That is why collaboration with other stakeholders is key to the implementation of the programme. This is true of state and municipal stakeholders in the region, as well as the business sector, the academic community and civil society, and not least the people of Stockholm (Environment Programme 2020–2023).



The City of Stockholm should actively participate in a strengthened regional collaboration that includes the business sector and the academic community (Climate Action Plan 2020–2023). The City of Stockholm is part of a regional climate collaboration together with Region Stockholm, the County Administrative Board, the Swedish Transport Administration and StorSTHLM. The cooperation is conducted in collaboration with the Environment and Urban Development Council and together with the Climate Arena Stockholm initiative. The City of Stockholm is also participating in the innovation network available for the county's municipalities. The emphasis here is on leadership, cultural change and sustainable structures for change.

Stockholm is also an active member of a number of international networks such as C40, Climate-Neutral Cities Alliance and ICLEI. Experiences are created here, and lessons are learned that the city is happy to share with the 23 other cities in the Viable Cities project. The same is true of the lessons learned from Net Zero Cities and work on the mission at a European level.

3.8. Climate change adaptation

The goal is to allow Stockholm to develop into a city that is well prepared to cope with the consequences of a changing climate. Stockholm must have plenty of capacity to deal with both direct and indirect effects of high water levels and flows, cloudbursts, heatwaves and prolonged drought, for example. In the long term, the city must plan well if it is to be able to cope with rising sea levels (Environment Programme 2020–2023). To concretise this goal, the city has adopted a new Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan for 2022–2025, which focuses on cloudbursts and heatwaves and includes specific activities and a clear division of responsibilities.

3.9. Climate smart mobility

Transport is the biggest source of climate emissions in Stockholm, and emissions from traffic are on the increase. Stockholm aims to lead the way in accelerating the transition and reducing emissions from the transport sector. The city's objective is to reduce transport sector emissions by 80 per cent by 2030 (compared to 2010), and to reduce traffic performance by 30 per cent from 2017 levels. This will be achieved by means of electrification, increased admixture of biofuels and fewer vehicles on the roads. The criteria for achieving this goal are dependent on local, regional and national policies. The city aims to work within its capabilities and in collaboration with national, regional and private stakeholders to achieve the goal. Reducing the number of vehicles on roads will also help to increase accessibility, as well as providing an opportunity for a safer, more vibrant city. People should be easy to reach homes, services, places of work and leisure activities by public transport, cycling and walking. The vision of the 15-minute city, where city residents should be able to find all important services within walking distance or a short bike ride, must be taken into account for urban planning and development. Major emphasis is being placed



on promoting cycling and developing public transport in collaboration with the region. Ensuring that the city centre is emission-free by 2030 is another goal (City of Stockholm Budget 2023).

Linked to the goals of fresh air and an emission-free city centre, the city has investigated the option of being one of the first cities in the world to introduce a Class 3 environmental zone. This means that only electric, gas and fuel cell vehicles are allowed to use the roads in parts of the city centre. Introduction of the environmental zone is proposed from late 2024/early 2025. A decision on implementation will be made by the municipal council in the spring of 2024. The City of Stockholm has been awarded external funding for what is known as a system demonstrator, a project that works on system innovation in order to transform the transport system.

The city aims to lead the way and drive development, and so it has adopted an ambitious objective for the development of charging infrastructure where the city has its own capabilities. Committees and corporate boards have to work towards major expansion of charging points in both the inner city and the outer city. Moreover, the freight strategy must be revised to facilitate a significant increase in electrification.

The city will assist with the decommissioning of Bromma Airport: the aim of this to reduce emissions from air transport and transform the area into Bromma Park City on the basis of the 15-minute city concept.

The increase in the ambition in respect of changing mobility and increased electrification will require greater coordination within the city, both internally in the city's organisation and together with the business sector. The state's regulatory framework, subsidies and the development of business models for charging infrastructure are key prerequisites for achieving these high objectives.

3.10. Reporting and monitoring

The City of Stockholm conducts annual monitoring of Environment Programme 2020–2023 on the basis of reports by committees and companies in the city's integrated management system (ILS). The City of Stockholm submits annual reports on emissions and other relevant data to the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), which is also a recognised reporting platform for the Global Covenant of Mayors.

In Norra Djurgårdsstaden – which aims to be fossil-free by 2030 – the results are systematically monitored in an annual sustainability report and using a special monitoring portal.



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 procurement².

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

² 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 Council³.

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,⁴ European Urban Initiative (EUI)⁵ and Urbact⁶.

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” programme⁷. 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.

³ 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.

⁴ New European Bauhaus highlights the importance of aesthetic, social and cultural assets in the green transition.

⁵ 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)

⁶ Urbact is a European cooperation programme for exchange and learning in the field of sustainable urban development, Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth.

⁷ 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 City of Stockholm has a strong mandate to work towards a climate-positive Stockholm. The 2023 budget for the City of Stockholm includes stricter climate goals. This includes, for example, a just climate transition and an emission-free inner city by 2030, a goal to reduce emissions from traffic by 80 per cent (compared to 2010) and to reduce road transport by 30 per cent (compared to 2017). The city is also working to implement a Class 3 environmental zone in part of the city centre. Another of the city's goals is to halve emissions from consumption.
- Stockholm received one of the first "mission labels" awarded by the European Commission in connection with the mission to achieve climate neutrality by 2030. Linked to this, the city has submitted a European Climate City Contract, including a climate action plan and a climate investment plan. Stockholm has also made project applications linked to the mission. The project for which applications have been submitted integrates climate and health, with emphasis on the business sector and citizens in five geographical areas.
- One important instrument in efforts towards the climate goals is the climate budget, which is made up of emission conditions that have been distributed to the responsible committees and corporate boards. These conditions are expressed as a reduction in tonnes of CO₂ for the 2020–2023 period and are based on measures in the city's climate action plan. The city management office is of the opinion that the condition will be met in full. Emissions from district heating production have been greatly reduced thanks to coal and fossil oil being phased out. The remaining emissions are due to incineration of plastic from household waste. A waste sorting facility is now being built that will use modern technology to separate food waste, plastic and metal. This will be commissioned in 2024.
- The city is also working to accelerate electrification in the transport sector. For instance, Stockholm has been working with competitive dialogue in the procurement of a fossil-free construction site, and has thereby been able to bring about stricter requirements and more fossil-free solutions. This approach is now being taken forward and implemented in a further location.
- Work is in progress on developing cooperation with the business sector as part of the Environment and Climate Pact and the Electrification Pact with a view to



reinforcing cooperation, generating joint development projects and accelerating the pace of the transition process.

- Stockholm has received funding for development of a system demonstrator in order to demonstrate an efficient transport sector free of emissions. This system demonstrator is based on the introduction of a Class 3 environmental zone and aims to achieve an emission-free city centre.

7.2. Most urgent experiences for the municipality to share

The City of Stockholm has been actively working with climate change since the 1990s. The key areas in which the city has experiences to share with other municipalities are:

- Integration of climate action into regular governance and management in budgets, the monitoring process and the urban development process
- Demonstration and implementation of innovative solutions, such as lessons learned from various urban development projects, in partnership with the business sector and the academic community
- Lessons learned from efforts as part of the European Climate City Contract and NetZeroCities; linked to the transition model and devising a Climate Investment Plan, for example
- Utilisation of EU-funded projects relating to energy-efficient buildings, green vehicles and port operations, for example
- Efforts to develop a system demonstrator
- Use of IoT so that the data collected can be made available and used to positive advantage
- International climate action with a view to cooperating with other cities, obtaining business intelligence and disseminating knowledge, raising the profile of the city and influencing political decisions at a supranational level

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 planning⁸ of how municipalities and regions can improve and intensify their efforts on climate change adaptation and reduced climate impact.

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

⁸ Fair and sustainable transition for the climate - Proposal from SKR's program preparation for sustainable transition, SALAR, September 2023 (Swedish)



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 missions⁹ 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 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.

⁹ 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



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 *Svensk Modell 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 the City of Stockholm, 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.

Karin Wanngård

Mayor,
City of Stockholm

Olga Kordas

Programme Director,
Viable Cities

Robert Andrén

Director General,
the Swedish Energy Agency

Darja Isaksson

Director General,
Vinnova

Johan Kuylenstierna

Director General,
Formas

Elisabeth Backteman

Director General,
the Swedish Agency for
Economic and Regional Growth

Roberto Maiorana

Director General,
the Swedish Transport
Administration

Björn Risinger

Director General,
the Swedish Environmental
Protection Agency



Appendix 1 – Links to documents

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

- [This is how the city works with climate and environment – City of Stockholm \(start, stockholm\)](#)
- [Climate – Stockholm’s environmental barometer](#)
- [Living sustainably – City of Stockholm](#)
- [Environmental program 2020–2023](#)
- [Climate action plan 2020–2023](#)
- [Overview plan for the city of Stockholm](#)



Appendix 2 – Protocol to Climate City Contract 2030 – City of Stockholm

Protokoll till Klimatkontrakt 2030 - Stockholms stad

Stockholms stad förväntar sig en tydlig motpart hos staten för genomförande av stadens åtaganden. Staden förutsätter att staten har för avsikt att, bl.a. genom sina regleringsbrev till de nationella FoU-myndigheterna, tydliggöra sitt stöd för att genomföra klimathandlingsplaner.

Stockholms stad vill framföra nedanstående förslag på nationellt stöd för genomförandet. Det önskvärda stödet handlar om:

- Finansiering i form av investeringsbidrag
- Förändringar i regler, lagar och styrmedel

Finansiering i form av investeringsbidrag

För att stadens klimatmål ska kunna nås behövs bidragsfinansiering för såväl utveckling av innovationer som de investeringar som föranleds av att innovationerna skalas upp och implementeras. Det rör exempelvis såväl investeringar i infrastrukturen för energi- och elförsörjningen som stöd att sprida och skala utvecklade lösningar inom elektrifiering och digitalisering.

Elektrifieringen av vägtrafiken kommer att kräva stora satsningar på kort tid. Vissa investeringar är riskabla eftersom infrastrukturen behöver ligga steget före fordonsmarknaden, och därför behövs en säkrad finansiering för dessa.

I de samarbeten med näringslivet som kommer att ske framöver är det viktigt att även ingående företag kan erbjudas utvecklingsstöd och finansiering.

Energimyndigheten har i uppdrag att genomföra omvänd auktionering för att stödja bio-CCS-anläggningar. Stockholms stad menar att det är viktigt att tilldelningen av medel är tillräcklig för att förverkliga den stora potential som finns.

Nationella myndigheter och departement bör påverka utformningen av arbetsprogram och prioriteringar för EU-program (t.ex. Horisont Europa, CEF) samt bidra till utvecklingen av nationella planer för relevanta EU-fonder (t.ex. EU:s strukturfonder) i linje med de svenska klimatkontrakten. Den nationella nivån bör även aktivt

följa och påverka utvecklingen av eventuella nya finansieringsinstrument knutna till de europeiska klimatkontrakten, EU:s Missions och den gröna given.

Förändringar i regler, lagar och styrmedel

Stockholms stad har identifierat ett antal områden där förändringar i styrmedel, lagar och regler på nationell eller EU-nivå behövs för att stadens klimatmål ska kunna nås. De viktigaste är följande:

- Incitament för ökad bibränsleanvändning och bibränsleproduktion genom en bibehållen eller förstärkt reduktionsplikt och ett konverteringsstöd för befintlig fordonsflotta.
- En avståndsbaserad, färdmedelsneutral skattereduktion för arbetsresor.
- Ett beslut om att lägga ner Bromma flygplats.
- Incitament för ökad användning av miljöfordon, framför allt att möjliggöra differentierad trängselskatt och parkeringsavgift i syfte att nå utsläppsfria transporter.
- Undanröjning av hinder för elektrifiering som identifieras i det praktiska arbetet. Ett exempel är att det genom ett tillfälligt undantag bör vara möjligt att höja viktgränsen för vad som klassas som lätt lastbil till 4,25 ton när fordonet drivs på el eller gas. Dessutom bör det införas incitament för att öka antalet chaufförer med C-körkort.
- Möjliggörande av ”policylabb” genom exempelvis en regelförändring som testas i ett begränsat område. Det skulle till exempel kunna handla om parkeringslagstiftning eller att ge kommuner ökade möjligheter att jobba med dispenser och geofencing.
- Incitament för ökad delning av fordon såsom att möjliggöra för kommuner att reservera gatumark för parkering av bilpoolsbilar samt en definition av delade fordon.
- Utreda möjligheter och nyttor av att miljözon 3 delas upp i lätta och tunga fordon i syfte att främja utsläppsfria fordon.
- Möjliggörande av lokal hantering av byggmassor genom att dessa inte klassas som avfall.
- Skapa bästa förutsättning för städers klimatomställningsarbete genom påverkansarbete på europeisk lagstiftning i linje med de svenska klimatkontrakten (t.ex. Förnybarhetsdirektivet - RED, Energieffektiviseringsdirektivet – EED, Förordningen om Infrastruktur för alternativa bränslen - AFIR samt de delegerade akterna kopplat till Taxonomin).

Stockholms stad

Stockholm, den 8 december 2023