

Climate City Contract 2030

Between the the municipality of Uppsala, 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



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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:

- The municipality of Uppsala.
- 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 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda are setting the course for Uppsala's efforts to achieve smart, sustainable growth for all. The goals of the 2030 Agenda are integrated into the municipal council's directive objectives, which govern municipal activities and endeavour to create a common direction and change throughout municipal operations.

Uppsala's climate goal is to achieve a climate neutral Uppsala by 2030 and a climate positive Uppsala by 2050. This goal was adopted by the municipal council in 2015 and

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.



means that Uppsala will be a climate neutral welfare municipality and a regional, national and international climate transition node. The climate transition must take place in line with the 2030 Agenda's overall principle: Leave no one behind².

Climate neutral Uppsala 2030 means that:

- Greenhouse gas emissions³ must be reduced at the rate necessary in order to remain in line with the obligations set out in the Paris Agreement to achieve the goal of no more than 1.5 degrees of warming. The reduction in Uppsala must be 10–14 per cent per year.
- Total greenhouse gas emissions in the municipal geography must not exceed 28 per cent of emissions for 2020⁴ or 285 kilotonnes CO₂e by 2030.
- Net zero emissions must be achieved by 2030. This means that the uptake of greenhouse gases (negative emissions) must be equal to at least the remaining emissions after the annual emission reduction of 10 to 14 per cent within the municipality. Negative emissions cannot replace these emission reductions, but instead are tools for climate neutrality and climate positivity.

Climate positive Uppsala means that:

- greenhouse gas emissions within the municipal geography will continue to decrease in line with the carbon budget even after achieving climate neutrality
- the climate impact of consumption among Uppsala residents is also included in goals, actions and monitoring⁵
- negative emissions within the municipal geography exceed residual greenhouse gas emissions

The Environment and Climate Change Programme includes a carbon budget for Uppsala's geographical area, meaning that:

² Environment and Climate Change Programme. Adopted by Uppsala municipal council on 24 February 2014 and revised by the municipal council on 30 May 2022.

³ The emissions referred to are Uppsala's climate impact from consumption of electricity and heat, transport, agriculture and industrial processes, and long-distance travel by Uppsala residents. Emissions from building and construction are not included at present, but these are a priority issue that is under development.

⁴ Based on a normal corrected value of 1,068 kilotonnes of CO₂e in 2020 and an average emission reduction rate of 12 per cent per year for the period 2021–2030. Emissions in 2030 must be reduced by 80 per cent compared to 1990.

⁵ The elements of climate impact from consumption among Uppsala residents that are currently monitored are based on national data. The aim is to base monitoring on local data.



- The emissions allowance is made up of total greenhouse gas emissions between 2021 and 2100. This means 8,057 kilotonnes of CO₂e based on an average emission reduction rate of 12 per cent per year relative to the previous year⁶
- The emissions allowance must not be exceeded. If emissions are too high one year, the reduction in emissions must compensate by being higher in the following year.

3.2. Strategy

Goals and Budget for 2024 with Plan for 2025–2026 includes a clear ambition for Uppsala to be a world leader in the environmental and climate transition. The pace of climate transition must increase so that the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in Uppsala from 2021 will be 10–14 per cent per year until 2030. The municipality must work to reduce the impact of all Uppsala residents and businesses by means of community planning and joint action with community stakeholders, and also by encouraging engagement among residents. Goals and Budget also states that the municipality of Uppsala must focus on energy supply and development promoting a climate positive society, with particular emphasis on the expansion of solar energy and sustainable transport.

Climate action in the municipality's activities can be summarised in the following principles⁷:

1. Necessary climate goals for Uppsala as a community in line with the science.
2. Development of collaboration platforms with stakeholders in all sectors of society.
3. Every organisation within the municipal group is responsible for the climate transition in its area of activity.
4. Mobilising local residents and the business sector to accept joint ownership of the transition.
5. Emphasis on systemic change and the role of the municipality in systemic shifts.

3.2.1 Uppsala's strategic climate action

Uppsala's climate impact is currently several times greater than what is sustainable from a global perspective, and more needs to be done to achieve the goals of a climate neutral Uppsala by 2030 and a climate positive Uppsala by 2050. As a tool to increase the pace of the transition, the municipality of Uppsala will be

⁶ The emissions allowance relates to actual emissions and cannot be offset by negative emissions. The carbon budget is based on a normal year corrected value in 2020 and includes all greenhouse gas emissions in municipal geographic emissions monitoring. The municipality of Uppsala also includes all methane and nitrous oxide emissions included in climate monitoring; unlike carbon budgets, which are developed according to the methodology applied by the Tyndall Centre and Uppsala University.

⁷ They condense the basic approach and working methods of the Sustainable Development Policy, the Environment and Climate Change Programme and the Energy Programme.



activating a carbon budget for its own operations, as well as for the municipality as a geographical area, with a view to continuously monitoring and taking action to reduce the municipality's impact.

The municipality of Uppsala is unable to make the transition alone. There needs to be joint action to ensure climate-driven business development through broad cooperation with stakeholders in the community. At the same time, the municipality of Uppsala has a special part to play in paving the way for all residents, organisations and companies to adapt to the attractive new post-transition life.

Uppsala is experiencing a high rate of development, rapid population growth and an expanding labour market. The high rate of development in the municipality is making major demands of responsible and clearly prioritised development leading to socially, ecologically and economically sustainable solutions, but it also offers opportunities for improvement. The emergence of the districts of Rosendal and Ulleråker are two examples of how Uppsala is attempting to tackle the challenge of major expansion while also having to reduce its climate impact. Within the framework of Fossil Free Sweden's climate leadership programme, the municipality of Uppsala has set itself the goal of making the districts climate positive. This will be achieved by means of initiatives such as facilitating attractive, fossil-free lives for residents, defining clear requirements in land allocation, and storing carbon dioxide. The starting point is that experiences from the districts will then be used in future urban development projects in Uppsala and serve as a model for sustainable construction.

Local efforts towards the goal of a climate neutral welfare municipality by 2030 involve major investments in renewable energy supply, defining climate requirements for procurement and purchasing initiatives, continued expansion of solar energy, recycling solutions, phasing out fossil plastics, ecologically sustainable agriculture and ensuring sustainable and eco-friendly construction. Emissions from traffic are a particular priority, the municipality of Uppsala continuing to build more charging stations and pedestrian and cycle paths. Reducing through traffic in the urban environment improves air quality, increases accessibility and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

When it comes to achieving the emission goals, one major challenge involves reducing the negative climate impact of consumption and long-distance travel. Innovative new ways of increasing reuse in society need to be developed. In 2022, Uppsala was selected as a pilot city as part of the European Commission's Circular Cities & Regions Initiative. This initiative aims to support the selected pilot areas in the implementation of circular system solutions. Since 2023, Uppsala has also been a pilot city in the EU-funded NetZeroCities project, which is helping European cities to achieve climate neutrality by 2030.



3.3. Organisation and management

The municipality of Uppsala is currently demonstrating clear climate leadership. The municipality needs to develop conditions for systemic shifts within its own organisation and in society in order to accelerate the climate transition to the extent required. Powerful measures and reinforced capacity for transition are needed in order to achieve the municipality's goal of reducing emissions by 10–14 per cent per year. Long-term and overall climate goals need to be broken down and integrated more clearly into regular, overall processes in order to guide the municipality's activities effectively and appropriately. A carbon budget must therefore be implemented by means of a systematic approach, broad collaboration and an organisation supporting its implementation.

The municipal board is responsible for coordinating and developing strategic climate action and monitoring climate action in Uppsala. Primary guidance is provided by the municipal council's Goals and Budget, Sustainable Development Policy, Environment and Climate Change Programme, Energy Programme, etc. The municipal board also heads the municipality's comprehensive planning, where environmental and climate goals have a prominent place in the development of the municipality going forward. These policy documents define the framework for the action plans and measures that aim to achieve the goals. All committees and administrations are responsible for integrating climate issues into decisions and processes and reducing climate emissions from their activities.

Uppsala perceives the importance of working in collaboration to lead climate action and paving the way for initiatives that will mobilise companies, organisations and residents in the climate transition. Initiatives in the business sector are of the utmost importance in order to accelerate Uppsala's climate transition to the extent needed. The Uppsala Climate Protocol is a central platform for collaboration with the business sector for transition. Driving climate transition in the business sector by defining requirements in respect of procurement is another strategic tool for mobilisation, and so the municipality has developed a systematic approach to this.

With two universities, a world-leading business incubator, production industry and knowledge-intensive industries, a well-educated population and major housing and infrastructure investments, the conditions for broad collaboration are very good. A number of successful collaborations and platforms for collaboration are ongoing and being developed, such as the Uppsala Climate Protocol, the Uppsala Innovation Centre (UIC), the Foundation for Collaboration between the Universities of Uppsala, Business and Society (STUNS), and collaboration with a number of civil society organisations. Uppsala is also participating in a number of national and international collaboration platforms such as Viable Cities, Fossil Free Sweden, Klimatkommunerna, Ignite Public, EuroCities and the Covenant of Mayors. Uppsala is also engaged in active dialogue with other European cities within the framework of its pilot projects as



part of the EU-funded NetZeroCities project and the European Commission's Circular Cities & Regions Initiative.

The need for more radical changes in order to meet climate challenges places demands on major systemic changes and new ways of leading and working. The ability to adapt, find new solutions and use technological solutions is absolutely crucial to achieving the goal of implementing a climate neutral welfare municipality. The municipality's innovation work takes place in order to find, implement and scale up solutions to societal challenges in fields such as climate, energy and the environment, combining the municipal core mission with an aggressive business and employment policy. Creation of a smart and sustainable Uppsala requires an increase in innovation throughout the organisation and ideas from employees need to be refined and tested, which requires resources for development and implementation. The municipal group's monitoring and planning of activities must be developed as a tool for monitoring the operations' improvement work and development initiatives, facilitating political prioritisation. The Innovation Lab is the municipality's digital and physical meeting venue for external and internal individuals who wish to co-create solutions on the basis of actual needs, and it provides support in the form of coaching, training and facilitation support.

The municipality intends to:

- Activate a carbon budget as a tool to ensure sufficient action is taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 10–14 per cent per year by 2030 in order to reach the goals of Climate Neutral Uppsala 2030 and hence Climate Positive Uppsala by 2050. The carbon budget is to be applied to its own operations, and to the municipality as a geographical area, so that actions can be implemented and continuously monitored in order to reduce emissions in line with the municipality's climate goals.
- Further develop indicators and monitoring systems in order to measure and increase attainment of goals towards the goal of Climate Neutral Uppsala 2030 and hence Climate Positive Uppsala by 2050, including indicators for indirect emissions.
- Reinforce the capacity and capability of the municipal group to lead the work on systemic changes and shifts together with the innovation support system and the business sector.
- Examine criteria for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from building materials and further develop the urban planning process in order to reduce the climate impact of building and construction.
- Expand and systematise the monitoring of sustainability requirements in procurement procedures and use procurement procedures to expand efforts to



promote a sustainable flow of resources and increase reuse and recycling in the municipality's operations.

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

Uppsala's residents, organisations and businesses are crucial to achieving Uppsala's climate goals. That is why the municipality will go on developing networks and meeting venues where commitment among residents, the business sector, the academic community and civil society can be mobilised and utilised.

The municipality's ongoing efforts to increase citizen engagement on climate issues aims to create shared ownership, guide people to make climate smart choices and create a better understanding of political priorities for reducing climate impact. This includes trialling new ways of conducting dialogues with citizens that focus on the goal of a sustainable society and the need for climate transition. This work, which is being funded by Vinnova, is being carried out in connection with the revision of the municipality's comprehensive plan and the question "What constitutes a good life?".

Uppsala's climate action can also be interwoven more clearly with the municipality's broader promotion of the business sector with a view to reducing the climate impact of businesses and reinforcing their ability to be competitive in the sustainable society of the future. There is a good institutional infrastructure for innovation thanks to collaboration with organisations such as STUNS, UIC, Ignite Public and the city's two universities, Uppsala University and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU).

The municipality of Uppsala has been involved in the Uppsala Climate Protocol collaboration platform since 2010. This includes representatives from the business sector, the academic community, the public sector and civil society. Membership of the Climate Protocol involves participating organisations accepting climate leadership with a view to reducing their climate emissions in line with the Paris Agreement. This includes systematic climate action and adoption of various climate challenges. The collective emissions of members fell by 26 per cent in the last programme period (2018–2021). The collective objective for the current programme period is to reduce emissions by 20 per cent per year by 2030. This objective is based on carbon budget theory, which means that the percentage will be adjusted each year depending on results for the previous year. Emissions were reduced by four per cent last year, which means that the network needs to step up the pace in years to come. The Uppsala Climate Protocol has recently undergone an organisational change in order to increase its impact. For instance, there is now a climate leader in place, a role that has been taken on by the municipality's Head of Sustainability. The Climate Protocol must also prioritise more operational working groups to a greater extent in order to achieve more joint movements.



The municipality intends to:

- develop efforts to mobilise the municipality's residents and civil society for joint ownership of the climate transition by reinforcing the municipality's conditions for dialogue and participation in the early stages of urban development as an element in the building of a sustainable society, for example.
- develop work on the citizens' budget in the city and rural areas in order to reinforce residents' participation in the development of their local areas.
- develop efforts to support and engage more companies in the municipality in the promotion of climate-driven business development. This includes incorporating climate transition growth potential in business development initiatives and encouraging circular business concepts and models.
- use public procurement procedures and land allocation as a strategic tool for driving market development by defining requirements for gradual escalation of climate ambitions, for instance, as well as inclusion of cooperation models. The municipality is also intending to devise and collaborate on joint proposals for requirements in fields such as circularity and climate impact from building and construction projects internally in the municipal group, and also with industry stakeholders and within the Uppsala Climate Protocol.
- continue the development of sectoral dialogues on the topic of sustainability and innovation.

The municipality intends to work within the Uppsala Climate Protocol to:

- help accelerate the pace of climate action by moving away from exchanges of experience and towards joint action.
- assist with consolidating climate-driven business and operational development as the clear direction forward in Uppsala.

3.5. Climate investment plan

The climate transition will require significant resources, in the form of both new investments and new approaches that will guide investments and business development towards significantly reduced emissions and carbon sequestration. Efforts relating to investments and funding need to be reinforced in order to realise the municipality's climate goals. This work involves systematically identifying the need for investments from a climate standpoint and ensuring that investments made assist with achieving the climate goals, but also developing sustainable forms of investment and identifying key stakeholders for investments. The municipality also needs to ensure appropriate and resource-efficient management of available funds, as well as facilitating private investments in the climate transition.



Climate investments generate socio-economic benefits that result in profits or cost savings for many different stakeholders. There are no forms of dialogue regarding joint investment of funds or allocation of costs for such projects, taking into account the points where benefits and cost savings arise, which means that potential synergies cannot be exploited in a systematic manner.

Uppsala has developed a framework for sustainability-linked bonds in order to fund future investments more sustainably, and with a clear structure for reporting the climate performance of these investments. Ownership of the climate transition is also expected to be strengthened throughout the municipal group by linking attainment of the municipality's climate goals with financial incentives.

The municipality intends to:

- examine criteria for long-term climate initiatives in the municipality's goals, budget and investment plans.
- develop efforts to describe the socio-economic impact of climate investments.
- develop reporting linked to the framework for sustainability-linked bonds.

3.6. Digital support for implementation

Digital transformation provides the municipality of Uppsala with the opportunity to address challenges and external expectations by offering efficient and innovative welfare services. This is expressed by means of the political ambition to make Uppsala one of Europe's most digital places by 2050.

The municipality of Uppsala is working with a number of digital tools for planning, modelling, calculation and visualisation in order to support the implementation of the climate transition⁸. These digital tools are being used to visualise situations and scenarios, in monitoring, for technical supply plans in collaboration with the business sector and as assistance in developing communication with residents. Uppsala's ambition is to go on testing digital tools to support the climate transition, not least in the field of urban planning. A climate calculation has been used as a tool during the municipality's work on the comprehensive plan in order to assess various development scenarios. This has helped to increase awareness of the complexity of the transition, highlighted the need for carbon sequestration and illustrated the challenges linked with offsetting in order to achieve climate neutrality. Uppsala is also taking part in the development of digital calculation and monitoring of the climate impact of urban districts in collaboration with IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute and other stakeholders.

⁸ For instance, Uppsala has used the Low Emissions Analysis Platform (LEAP) modelling software system as a tool to assess the municipality of Uppsala's future energy use and greenhouse gas emissions according to different scenarios up to 2050.



The municipality intends to:

- go on testing and developing the municipal group's selection of various digital tools to support governance, planning, communication and monitoring of the climate transition. Develop and reinforce efforts to implement a coherent digital urban planning process where relevant and accurate climate control will be integrated throughout the chain, from planning to operation and management.

3.7. Innovation hub for climate neutral municipalities

As climate transition makes its way up the municipality of Uppsala's agenda and is integrated still further into our working methods, Uppsala is able to share its experiences with other parties in various ways via existing channels and cooperation networks on a regional, national and international level.

The municipality of Uppsala acts as an innovation hub for climate neutral municipalities in collaboration with STUNS. STUNS is focusing on sustainable growth in the Uppsala region by coordinating and developing the innovation support system and innovation systems in the Uppsala region, as well as conducting innovative and cross-border development. The municipality of Uppsala will go on developing its collaboration with other municipalities in the county together with STUNS, as well as actively pursuing collaboration and knowledge sharing both nationally and internationally⁹.

The municipality intends to:

- develop leading test beds for system innovation in collaboration with stakeholders such as STUNS, Uppsala University and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and together with the private business sector, as well as collaborative organisations and methods for supporting these, in designated geographical regions and strategic urban development projects such as Rosendal, Ulleråker and the south-eastern districts.
- collaborate with the other founders of STUNS – Uppsala University, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Region Uppsala, the County Administrative Board and the Chamber of Commerce – to go on distributing and developing meeting venues and processes for cooperation in respect of environment, climate and sustainability.
- assist with innovation and learning in the circular economy through Uppsala's participation as a pilot city in the European Commission's Circular Cities & Regions Initiative and NetZeroCities.

⁹ The municipality of Uppsala has partnership agreements with STUNS, Ignite Public, Uppsala University and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in this regard.



- reinforce Uppsala's position as an international stakeholder and drive development in and together with the wider world by means of initiatives such as strategically using the opportunities offered for participation in various types of collaborative projects financed by EU funds and programmes.

3.8. Climate change adaptation

The municipality of Uppsala has worked successfully and systematically to adapt the community to the changed climate both now and in the future, but this work must be refined still further. Climate change adaptation work needs to be integrated with efforts to reduce human climate impact, and climate change adaptation forms part of the municipality's Environment and Climate Change Programme. A number of committees hold designated and overall responsibility for the municipality's climate change adaptation.

Uppsala has integrated climate change adaptation into the municipality's organisations and companies, according to the principle whereby initiatives must be implemented within the organisations affected that hold responsibility for the necessary measures. These efforts focus on selecting preventive measures that address the source of the problems as far as possible, selecting measures that mitigate or avoid increased climate impact, and selecting measures that provide benefits from a number of aspects, such as more green areas and a more attractive urban environment.

The goal of Uppsala's climate change adaptation work is for Uppsala to be a robust community that is adapted to the climate change occurring today and that cannot be prevented in the future. The municipality of Uppsala has devised a green structure plan to ensure that important green corridors in the city are preserved. This green structure plan will be incorporated into the comprehensive plan, and renewed cloudburst mapping has also taken place.

The municipality intends to:

- go on working actively and systematically on the community's climate change adaptation by following up measures relating to spatial planning, issuing of permits and cloudburst planning aimed at reducing the risk of flooding and mitigating the impact of cloudbursts.
- investigate and evaluate the chances of developing interim goals for an Eco-friendly Uppsala.
- extend its efforts to include a model for ecological compensation in urban development and develop the initiative for ensure good access to green spaces in the city.



3.9. Climate smart mobility

A new *Mobility and Transport Programme* and *Mobility and Transport Action Plan* were adopted in late 2021/early 2022. This programme is based on the goal of achieving fossil-free transport by 2030 and 100 per cent sustainable travel by 2050, and includes a number of measures for working towards greater sustainable travel and fossil-free transport.

Efforts on the transition to sustainable transport must be assigned high priority if the goal whereby all travel must take place using sustainable modes of transport by 2050 is to be achieved. This transition is an important element in the effort to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and improve air quality in the city of Uppsala.

Uppsala is very much a cycling city and has been named Sweden's best cycling municipality for several consecutive years. This situation has come about due to investments in greater accessibility, safety and creating incentives for residents to choose cycling as part of sustainable travel. Uppsala is to become a world-class cycling municipality, and efforts to improve cyclists' experience and increase the percentage of cyclists are set to continue. The modal split for cycling must also increase so as to ensure that cycling continues to represent a high percentage of journeys when expanding high-capacity public transport. The sustainable mobility initiative prioritises walking, cycling and public transport, as well as increased co-use or sharing of vehicles and transport services.

In one of Sweden's largest rural municipalities, sustainable travel in rural areas is also a key piece of the puzzle, where the development of infrastructure for electric charging and other sustainable fuels is an urgent matter.

The municipality intends to:

- develop the urban planning process with a view to creating scope and favourable conditions for sustainable transport in the spatial environment, including during the construction phase.
- accelerate the expansion of infrastructure for electric charging and other sustainable fuels.
- review policy instruments to increase the use of facilities that promote mobility.
- further increase cyclability in the municipality and maintain the municipality's position as one of the leading areas in Sweden in terms of accessibility and safety for cyclists.
- work with sustainable work trips and business travel both within the Uppsala Municipal Group and in collaboration with other employers, encouraging staff to choose active travel or public transport wherever possible.



- continue to develop efforts relating to mobility houses/mobility hubs in urban development initiatives.
- increase the options for sustainable and public transport in rural areas by implementing a door-to-door approach.

3.10. Reporting and monitoring

Uppsala's Environment and Climate Change Programme forms an integral part of the municipality's overall system for management and monitoring of operations. The municipal board conducts in-depth monitoring and reporting of climate and environmental work in the municipality with a view to continuously monitoring and prioritising particularly important issues. The status of adopted activities and key performance indicators, as well as the suggestions submitted by the municipality's special environmental goals council to the municipal board, are all followed up. Indicators for directive objectives in respect of climate¹⁰ are included in Goals and Budget and the municipal board's business plan and are followed up in the municipal council's financial statements.

Through its membership in the Uppsala Climate Protocol, the municipality undertakes to measure direct and indirect climate emissions on an annual basis according to the methodology of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG). Climate emissions together with energy data are reported in the Climate Protocol's common monitoring tool. Membership also requires the municipality of Uppsala to map and measure significant indirect emissions, which means that at least two-thirds of the scope 3 emissions that the organisation is able to control are included.

Uppsala's climate and environmental statistics have been available on the website through Miljöbarometern (the Environmental Barometer) since October 2021. The municipality of Uppsala also monitors and provides feedback on the work done as part of the Covenant of Mayors 2030 initiative, the Race to Zero initiative and the WWF One Planet City Challenge through the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) and the Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) global reporting platform for cities.

The municipality intends to:

- further improve the municipality's monitoring in respect of climate as a means of steering new measures; by extending the monitoring of climate requirements in procurement procedures, for example.

¹⁰ Greenhouse gas emissions included in Uppsala's climate monitoring consist partly of emissions linked to energy use in the built environment – electricity, district heating, own heating, district cooling and process steam – and emissions from local transport services and works machinery. Non-energy related emissions from industrial processes, agriculture, waste management, etc. are also included. Additions are also made for Uppsala residents' holiday and business travel by air, while emissions from products and food consumed by Uppsala residents are not included. The data is obtained from a variety of sources, including Statistics Sweden and the national emissions database.



- further develop the municipality's ability to measure and monitor significant indirect/consumption-based (scope 3) emissions over time.
- develop indicators and monitoring systems to measure and increase fulfilment of goals against the municipality's overall environmental and climate goals.

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 procurement¹¹.

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.

¹¹ See [pressannouncement from the Swedish Internet Foundation](#) (Swedish)



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 for proposals, as well as collective knowledge support from all participating agencies involved in the Sustainable Cities Council¹².

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,¹³ European Urban Initiative (EUI)¹⁴ and Urbact¹⁵.

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" programme¹⁶. CapaCITIES is being used to initiate and reinforce national change processes in order to establish national networks and governance structures.

¹² 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.

¹³ New European Bauhaus highlights the importance of aesthetic, social and cultural assets in the green transition.

¹⁴ 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)

¹⁵ Urbact is a European cooperation programme for exchange and learning in the field of sustainable urban development, Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth.

¹⁶ The Swedish Energy Agency and Viable Cities are participating.



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.

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

In the municipality's Goals and Budget for 2024 with Plan for 2025–2026, the municipality focuses on four common focus goals, one of which is that Uppsala should be a world leader in the environmental and climate transition and improve preparedness for a changed society. Furthermore, an addition has been made to Goals and Budget to indicate that Uppsala must be adapted to climate change by 2040 at the latest, and a new assignment for systematisation of climate change adaptation work has been added.

Clearer emphasis on nature-based solutions/carbon sinks, such as the restoration of wetlands, more extensive use of locally produced biochar and collaboration with landowners to achieve sustainable clear-felled forestry, is another new feature in next year's Goals and Budget.

Last year's addition, which involved activating a carbon budget with a view to ensuring sufficient measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the rate required in order to remain in line with the obligations set out in the Paris Agreement, has been initiated and coordinated within the EU-funded Scale Up project led by the municipality of Uppsala. From 2021 onwards, the reduction in Uppsala must stand at 10–14 per cent per year until 2030. The carbon budget must be used to reduce the climate impact of municipal organisations and go on monitoring the rate of emission reductions in the municipality as a geographical region. This initiative also includes developing a Climate Investment Plan for the municipality, which will include climate-proofing the municipality's investments.

Movements have been made in a number of areas that are reflected in the revision of the Climate City Contract. Tools for evaluating the climate impact of urban development projects have been developed as part of the urban development process, and work is ongoing to reduce the climate impact of construction projects. With the support of Fossil Free Sweden's climate leadership programme, work is in progress on climate-positive urban development in Ulleråker and Rosendal, with the assistance of the roadmap for building and construction that was developed as part of the Climate Roadmap Uppsala – Climate-Neutral 2030 & Climate-positive 2050 project. The initiatives conducted have included a land allocation competition



in Rosendal, with stringent limits for maximum climate impact permitted. This was developed in collaboration with the Uppsala Climate Protocol. The Climate-Neutral Uppsala project has trialled innovative methods for involving the municipality's residents in the long-term climate transition. Activities as part of the Uppsala Climate Protocol are being developed in order to contribute still further to increasing the pace of the climate transition, and the municipality of Uppsala has extended its involvement in and utilisation of collaborative arenas for the climate transition.

7.2. Most urgent experiences for the municipality to share

Since the 2021 revision, the Climate City Contract has compiled the municipality's most important governance in respect of climate and priority activities for the coming years. This is helping to clarify the municipality's ambitions and direction. The process of revising the Climate City Contract also clarifies movements over the past year, thereby lending impetus to the climate transition initiative. That said, there is a major need for long-term investments, which may make it difficult to evaluate the municipality's commitments under the Climate City Contract on an annual basis.

The ambition of the 2021 revision of the Climate City Contract was to increase the impact of the Climate City Contract within the organisation. However, there is still a great deal of uncertainty with regard to how the Climate City Contract relates to other governance within the municipality and how the Climate City Contract should be applied. A longer process, in terms of both a broad base within the civil service organisation and a broad political base, is deemed necessary in order to achieve greater impact. This process also needs to be developed in order to clarify interaction between the various parties to the Climate City Contract.

Responsibilities for helping to reduce emissions were clarified throughout the municipality's organisations with the political goal of accelerating the pace of the climate transition. Climate issues are now more clearly linked to regular activities as a result. 2023 is the third year in which the task of increasing the pace of climate transition has been included in the municipality's Goals and Budget, and commitment and impact within the organisation has increased year on year. However, joint efforts need to be focused and systematised still further in order to achieve the emission goals.

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 planning¹⁷ 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

¹⁷ Fair and sustainable transition for the climate - Proposal from SKR's program preparation for sustainable transition, SALAR, September 2023 (Swedish)



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 missions¹⁸ 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

¹⁸ 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



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 the municipality of Uppsala, 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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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 municipality of Uppsala (may be in Swedish).

- [Mål och budget 2024 med plan för 2025-2026](#)
- [Policy för hållbar utveckling - Uppsala kommun](#)
- [Miljö- och klimatprogram](#)
- [Handlingsplan för Miljö- och klimatprogram 2022-2025](#)
- [Översiktsplan Uppsala \(antagen 2016\) \(under revidering\)](#)
- [Energiprogram 2050 - Uppsala kommun](#)
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- [Handlingsplan för Avfallsplan](#)
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- [Handlingsplan för mobilitet och trafik](#)
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