

Climate City Contract 2030

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

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1. Purpose of the Climate City Contract 2030

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

2. Parties

Parties in the Climate City Contract 2030 are:

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

3. Municipal commitments

3.1. Municipal climate goals

Kristianstad Municipality's work on the environment, climate and energy shall contribute to international, national and regional actions, and the Municipality shall remain at the forefront of efforts in ecological sustainability. Kristianstad Municipality shall set a good example and steer developments towards a climate-smart society with a rich, thriving nature.

During 2022, Kristianstad Municipality prepared a proposed Climate and Environment Plan to apply up to 2026. The plan encompasses the Municipality's climate- and energy-related efforts, along with environmental aspects not covered by other governing documents. The plan is a central part of the Municipality's work on ecological sustainability. The following climate goals have been proposed with regard

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



to the municipality as a geographic area: Kristianstad Municipality shall be fossil fuel free by 2034

- By 2030, consumption-based emissions shall total no more than 5 tonnes per inhabitant
- Renewable electricity production shall account for at least 500 GWh by 2030
- By 2030, 100 GWh of solar energy shall be produced in the municipality
- Energy use per person in Kristianstad shall fall by 40% by 2030 compared to 2008
- By 2030, half of all journeys in the municipality shall take place by walking, cycling or public transport

In addition, the following goals are proposed for the municipal organization:

- By 2025, the Municipality's own vehicles shall run on fossil-free fuels
- By 2028, the Municipality's own work machinery, work vehicles and work equipment shall run on fossil-free fuels
- By 2025, the total output of municipal solar power plants shall total at least 5 MW
- From the plan's adoption date, energy use in municipal operations (electricity and heating) shall fall by at least 1.5% per floor space per year

The goals in the Climate and Environment Plan, with accompanying description of actions and follow-up, shall constitute a central governing document for reducing climate impact within Kristianstad Municipality and achieving climate neutrality. To accomplish the mission of a Climate Neutral Kristianstad by 2030, the potential for local carbon sequestration also needs to be developed to balance out the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that remain in 2030. During 2023, Kristianstad Municipality will also further examine the current situation and the potential for greater carbon sequestration within the municipality. The focus will be on considering the establishment of wetlands (rewetting), and on carbon sequestration methods in farming.

3.2. Strategy

Kristianstad Municipality is working towards its Vision 2030, *Vi lyfter tillsammans/ Taking Off Together*. The vision is defined in the Strategic Roadmap, which sets priorities for the different initiatives. The Strategic Roadmap 2021–2024 entails heightened sustainability ambitions, and the goal is formulated as follows: "Kristianstad shall be an ecologically, economically and socially sustainable municipality, with a rich, thriving nature and climate-smart communities characterized by less segregation and high citizen participation." The goal area contains three ecological results indicators: reduced GHG emissions from transport, enhanced biodiversity, and reduced volumes of waste.



Kristianstad Municipality has decided to produce an overall Sustainability Strategy to act as an umbrella for social, environmental and economic sustainability based on the 2030 Agenda. The Sustainability Strategy will be part of the Municipality's roadmap for accomplishing the mission of a "Climate Neutral Kristianstad by 2030 – with a good life for all within planetary boundaries." The aim of the Sustainability Strategy is to bring together the Municipality's work on sustainability, identify areas where the Municipality's efforts can be improved or adapted, and visualize synergies based on the three dimensions of sustainability.

Kristianstad Municipality intends to work from all angles in order to reduce climate impact by 2030. This entails:

- phasing out territorial emissions of fossil carbon dioxide
- reducing territorial emissions of GHGs
- reducing consumption-based emissions to which local consumption contributes beyond the municipality's boundaries
- increasing territorial carbon sinks to compensate for the emissions that are hard to phase out, for example in the agricultural sector.

The Municipality's comprehensive planning contains guidelines on how municipal land and water areas are to be used, and the planned physical development indicates future energy requirements and climate impact. A more in-depth Comprehensive Plan for the City of Kristianstad was adopted in 2021, containing 15 strategies for contributing to the city planning goals: *Stad för alla/City for All*, *Attraktiv stad/Attractive City* and *Grönblå stad/Green-Blue City*. The following strategies can be linked to the Municipality's strategic climate efforts: Localize Smarter, Increase Density, Positive Climate Impact and Climate Adaptation, Promote Sustainable Mobility, and Strengthen Ecosystems. Comprehensive planning is based on a Transport Strategy and Transport Plan, as well as a Green Strategy and a Green Plan, which point the way for transport development and sustainable travel and development of the Municipality's green and blue structure respectively.

Since 2005, Kristianstads Vattenrike has been officially recognized by the UN agency UNESCO as a Biosphere Reserve, and today it is a model area for sustainable development which shows how development and preservation can go hand in hand in practice. The reserve is working on measures to restore, protect and preserve nature, reduce the climate and environmental burden, and share knowledge and information about sustainable development.

Transport and agriculture are the two biggest emission sectors in Kristianstad Municipality, representing one-third each of territorial GHG emissions in Kristianstad. In the transport sector emissions need to decrease through more efficient vehicles, renewable fuels, and a more transport-efficient society where traffic volumes by car



and lorry decrease. This requires, among other things, shifting journeys and transportation by car to more sustainable modes such as walking, cycling and public transport. In tandem with this, fossil fuels in the transport sector need to be phased out, the charging infrastructure needs to be extended, and measures need to be taken to reduce the need for transportation.

Kristianstad is a food municipality; the green industries are key components in the municipality's development, and a lot of innovation is already taking place in the food segment. Producers in the municipality play an important part in Sweden's level of food self-sufficiency, and this position will be consolidated. Through strong collaborations, innovation, fresh thinking and courage, the agricultural sector can be an enabler in accomplishing the mission. The aim is, together – Municipality, food producers, consumers, farmers and cooperation partners – to shift to an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable food chain, with minimal climate impact.

3.3. Organization and management

Kristianstad Municipality's strategic climate efforts start from the Department for Growth and Sustainable Development at the Municipal Management Office. The department has Municipality-wide strategic responsibility for strengthening and developing sustainability efforts in line with the 2030 Agenda, and will formulate a Municipality-wide Sustainability Strategy. Linked to this work is a Sustainability Group with representatives from all the Municipality's administrations and enterprises.

Efforts towards a Climate Neutral Kristianstad by 2030 are led by the Department for Growth and Sustainable Development. The project's partners are Krinova Incubator & Science Park, Kristianstad University, Hushållningssällskapet Skåne and Region Skåne. The Kristianstad Bromölla branch of the non-profit Swedish Society for Nature Conservation is also a stakeholder in the project.

For Climate Neutral Kristianstad 2030, two groups have been formed, focusing on the sectors with the highest climate impact in the municipality: transport and agriculture. Each group initially comprises representatives from the project partner organizations, as well as civil servants from the Municipality. The groups have put together a description of the current situation with regard to existing and ongoing efforts, as well as existing collaboration forums that contribute to the mission. A rough list of further actions has been produced, and these are being assessed with regard to cost and effect. The focus groups can be seen as innovation teams in their respective areas.

In addition, a review has been initiated of the municipal processes that in different ways impact on society's sustainability in general, and climate impact in particular. A transition function linked to the executives in the Municipal Management Office will work on the internal organizational and structural challenges associated with



the climate transition – such as the budget process and the societal planning process – in order to prioritize and streamline the necessary transition.

3.4. Collaboration with business, academia and citizens

The Sustainability Strategy currently being formulated aims to bring parties together on a strategy for sustainable development in Kristianstad Municipality, and to clarify the three dimensions of sustainability and the 2030 Agenda.

Kristianstad University is an important partner in many development areas and projects. A companion researcher in public sector governance from Kristianstad University is taking part in Climate Neutral Kristianstad 2030. In addition, several dialogues are under way linked to innovation, student collaboration, public health, FOHRK (Centre for Food, Health and Retail), design and citizen participation.

Krinova Incubator & Science Park has the job of increasing attractiveness and growth in Kristianstad and north-eastern Skåne province, and serves as a hub for collaboration. Krinova is Sweden's first and biggest incubator with food as its profile area. PRIMÄR is one of many projects run by Krinova, and its purpose – challenge-driven innovation in primary producer-related SMEs – contributes to the mission. Alongside the Municipality, Krinova is also running Klimatalliansen Skåne Nordost, a climate alliance and business network in north-eastern Skåne focusing on climate and sustainability issues. The climate alliance plays an important part in collaboration with the business sector, and in accelerating the business community's transition in the municipality.

Kristianstad Municipality convenes the ideas industry to cooperate on climate and sustainability issues. A consultation group for climate is led by the Municipal Executive Board's chairperson, and the group meets four times a year to discuss and learn together based on different themes. *Framtidsveckan/Future Week* has been organized for several years, primarily by the ideas industry, with the 2030 Agenda as a platform, and with the overall theme of sustainable transition, the aim is to contribute to an even more sustainable Kristianstad.

Klimatsmarta Näsby/Climate-Smart Näsby and *Stadsutveckling Näsby/Urban Development Näsby* are two projects being conducted by the Municipality, focusing on sustainable development and climate transition. Both projects have been of value for greater cooperation between the Municipality's various administrations, and also with academia, citizens and business. Forms for citizen cooperation have also been pivotal, and methods such as local dialogue forums and joint walks have been developed, with good results.



3.5. Climate Investment Plan

During 2023, Kristianstad Municipality intends to initiate the process of preparing a Climate Investment Plan for Kristianstad Municipality, alongside players in the municipality. This Climate Investment Plan will clarify prioritized climate actions and the need for investment in order to achieve the climate goals we have adopted.

The Climate Investment Plan is an important tool for highlighting the gap between the current position and climate goals, but also for visualizing added value, cost savings, and the potential for external funding in developing Kristianstad Municipality. Moreover, the Climate Investment Plan can highlight current and future costs and investments linked to climate adaptation in the municipality.

3.6. Digital support for implementation

Technology and digital solutions are often stated as being critical in order to achieve climate transition. Kristianstad Municipality will use the digital visualization and implementation tool Futureproofed to monitor and visualize how different actions and activities reduce emissions and contribute to the climate goals. During 2023, Kristianstad Municipality intends to evolve its work on continuous climate data collection, and look into the possibility of making Futureproofed a platform for visualizing local examples and initiatives carried out by individuals, businesses and organizations, which support climate transition.

The potential to collect detailed, ongoing travel data will be looked into, the aim being to build a coherent idea of travel and transport habits in the municipality. This is an important foundation in understanding how people travel, between which points, and by which modes of transport. The data can then be used to plan behaviour-influencing actions and infrastructure measures.

3.7. Innovation hub for climate-neutral municipalities

Kristianstad Municipality places great emphasis on collaboration with other municipalities that share our ambition for climate-neutral cities. Obviously, cooperation with other Viable Cities municipalities in Skåne province is crucial in order to achieve regional collaboration and increase the rate of transition in the region. Moreover, we have a responsibility to share our work and experiences with our neighbouring municipalities in north-eastern Skåne. Kristianstad Municipality is involved in various collaborations that are relevant to achieving climate neutrality, in which we learn from others and share our own experiences. Viable Cities is an obvious example, but we are also involved in Klimatkommunerna, Greater Copenhagen, Klimatalliansen Skåne Nordost, and other local and regional forums.



3.8. Climate adaptation

The vision expressed in Kristianstad Municipality's plan for climate adaptation is to develop in such a way that the negative impacts of climate change on humans, nature and the economy are dealt with, while the opportunities are harnessed. This means for example that the Municipality takes account of raised sea levels and protection of groundwater in all relevant decisions.

The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) has identified Kristianstad Municipality as being an area at significant risk of flooding, both from the sea and from Kristianstad's river, the River Helge. The city's low-lying location, high flows in the River Helge, torrential rain, along with ongoing rising sea levels due to climate change, all pose a serious threat. Rising water levels in the future call for dikes at new locations around the city, as well as the raising of existing dikes. Kristianstad Municipality has a monitoring system that measures and forecasts flows and water levels in the River Helge and the sea. The system gives ten days' warning, and the Municipality can then adapt its preparedness in the event of high water levels.

In January 2021, the Municipality adopted an extension plan for full dike protection, which will protect Kristianstad against flooding for over 100 years. The plan considers extreme levels as regards flows in the Helge river and rising sea levels. One intention of the plan is to lay the foundation for continued development of the city in line with the Municipality's comprehensive planning. The total cost of the extension is estimated at around SEK 1.6 billion at 2020 monetary value.

Kristianstad's coast and sea area is an important part of the municipality. Hanöbukten bay has a dramatic underwater landscape and high nature values. Important industries and tourist facilities coexist along the coast with sensitive nature areas and important cultural relics. The Municipality's Coast and Sea Plan describes strategies and guidelines for how the coast and sea can be used, and how rising sea levels along the coast and inland can be dealt with. Several studies highlight a number of areas along the Kristianstad Municipality coastline as being particularly sensitive to erosion. Rising sea levels will exacerbate the problem of erosion along much of the municipality's coast. Intensive efforts have been under way across administrations since spring 2019, to come up with proposed measures for protecting and managing the coast.

Kristianstad Municipality has decided to begin the process of applying for permission to carry out beach nourishment at two of the beaches most vulnerable to erosion. The Municipality is also looking into the possibility of building nature-based stone reefs, which will promote biodiversity while limiting beach erosion by damping the wave energy.



3.9. Climate-smart mobility

Like the majority of municipalities in Sweden, Kristianstad Municipality is facing some major challenges in transitioning the emission-intensive transport industry to sustainable, climate-smart mobility. In the transport sector, private car traffic represents the highest emissions in the municipality at almost 70%. Kristianstad is a rural municipality, and many inhabitants rely on their cars on an everyday basis as there are no viable alternatives. However, there is also a high proportion of short car journeys in the municipality, even on short routes or where adequate alternatives are available. Kristianstad Municipality's Transport Strategy, which is part of the foundation for its Comprehensive Plan, repeatedly stresses the importance of using advocacy measures to steer travelling in the desired direction. Objectives include developing pedestrian and cycle networks that are direct, accessible, attractive, and secure as regards both personal and traffic safety, improving pedestrian and cycle routes to stops and stations, and reducing road traffic in population centres. Kristianstad Municipality's Transport Plan focuses on and prioritizes actions that aim to transition from car journeys to more sustainable modes of transport such as walking, cycling and public transport. The Transport Plan stresses that over the next few years, a raft of measures will be needed in the infrastructure to facilitate pedestrian and cycle traffic, and this will need to be combined with mobility management measures to stimulate behavioural changes and new travel habits.

We are working with the regional public transport company, Skånetrafiken, to increase the attractiveness of public transport so that it represents a higher percentage of travel moving forward. Together with Kristianstad University, we want to gain a better understanding of citizens' travel habits. What is it that governs the travel habits of the people of Kristianstad, and what needs to happen for them to develop more sustainable travel habits in the future?

3.10. Reporting and follow-up

The Strategic Roadmap is followed up annually in the Municipality's annual report. The Municipal Executive Board will have overall responsibility for compiling an annual follow-up of the actions in the Climate and Environment Plan, while committees and company boards are responsible for planning and monitoring their own measures and feeding this back to the Municipal Executive Board. The Municipality's annual wheel and its governance process aim to establish a better link between budget, interim reporting and year-end accounts. The annual monitoring of goal achievement will be reported to the public.

Kristianstad Municipality follows up its climate efforts in an annual Climate Report. Futureproofed will be a tool and platform for visualizing the effects of measures on the climate goals and monitoring the results. The rate of transition and progression



to achieve the mission is monitored through periodic reporting to the Swedish Energy Agency, and otherwise within the framework of Viable Cities.

4. Viable Cities' commitments

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

Viable Cities works with a wide range of stakeholders across disciplinary boundaries, industries and societal sectors. The programme connects centres of research excellence with large, small and medium-sized enterprises in a range of industries, as well as with public sector and civil society organizations.

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

4.1. Better regulation

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

4.2. Innovation

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

4.3. Coordinated funding

Viable Cities will work in the following ways to support the municipality's funding needs for the climate transition and to promote collaboration and synergies between



government agencies and other stakeholders that fund climate transition and sustainable urban development.

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

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

4.4. Cooperation with the EU Cities Mission

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

5. Commitments by the government agencies

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

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

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



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

5.1. A learning approach in policy development

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

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

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

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

5.2. Funding for research, innovation and development

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

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

As part of the transition process, the agencies² and Viable Cities have launched an initiative on urban system demonstrators. During autumn 2022, an initial 'design phase' was carried out as part of the initiative. A follow-up call will be made in 2023. The purpose of the effort is to create a form of initiative that takes a clearer systems perspective to the transition process.

5.3. Coordinated funding

To create better foresight and centralized information, the government agencies continuously develop coordination of the various efforts under way in the field of sustainable urban development and climate transition. Development takes place

² Vinnova



within the framework of several of the agencies' existing tasks and assignments, such as the Council for Sustainable Cities, strategic innovation programmes, the national research programmes for climate and sustainable community building, as well as the European Regional Development Fund.

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

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

5.4. Participation in European initiatives for sustainable cities

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

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

The agencies will continue to collaborate in the Driving Urban Transitions to a Sustainable Future Partnership³, where there will be calls and other activities in the field of sustainable urban development in the years to come, as well as the European Commission's New European Bauhaus⁴ initiative, the European Urban Initiative (EUI)⁵ and URBACT⁶.

The agencies will also contribute to develop support functions for the cities selected to participate in the Cities Mission. One example is the CapaCITIES⁷ programme. Through CapaCITIES, national change processes are initiated and strengthened to establish national networks and governance structures.

³ The Swedish Energy Agency, Formas and Vinnova

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

⁵ The European Urban Initiative is a hub for sustainable urban development on an EU level. The EUI will offer funding for cities to improve and increase their capacity in designing strategies, policies and projects for sustainable urban development (urban-initiative.eu).

⁶ URBACT is a European collaboration programme for exchange and learning in sustainable urban development, Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth,

⁷ the Swedish Energy Agency and Viable Cities are taking part.



6. Strategic development projects 2023

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

6.1. System demonstrations

In collaboration with the involved government agencies, Viable Cities is developing a new form of initiative to drive systems innovation for transformation in line with the Cities Mission. A system demonstrator will be conducted to demonstrate the transition of entire social systems in a real-life environment. An important part of this kind of approach is a portfolio of efforts where new solutions, models, initiatives and experiments are linked to a greater whole. Many actors from different sectors are being mobilized in order to learn how to scale up. The system demonstrators start from central areas in the Climate City Contract 2030 and are intended to contribute to revisions of the contract based on insights arising from the work.

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

6.2. Competitiveness and funding

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



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

6.3. Citizen engagement

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

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

6.4. International Cities Mission 2030

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

During 2023, work will be done to further strengthen links between Swedish and joint European efforts to achieve climate-neutral cities by 2030. This will take place within a



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

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

7. Joint monitoring, evaluation and updating

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

7.1. Most important updates for the municipality

The proposed Climate and Environment Plan contains ambitions and actions for the Municipality's climate efforts going forward.

Kristianstad has been selected by the European Commission as a pilot area in Europe within the Adaptation to Climate Change mission. The mission aims to help cities, municipalities and regions to better understand, prepare and manage climate risks, and develop methods and solutions for climate-resilient communities by 2030. As a pilot area, Kristianstad Municipality commits to working with climate adaptation and striving for climate resilience by 2030.

Within the framework of Climate Neutral Kristianstad 2030, Kristianstad Municipality will focus particularly on reducing climate impact in the agricultural sector. Food is a strong profile area for the Municipality, as it is for Krinova, Kristianstad University and the business community. In this area, we can pave the way for other municipalities, while boosting Sweden's self-sufficiency and reducing climate impact in a pivotal sector.



7.2. Most urgent experiences to share for the municipality

In Kristianstad Municipality, we want to combine strategic climate efforts with biodiversity and climate adaptation. Kristianstads Vattenrike Biosphere Reserve is working successfully with measures that unite social and ecological sustainability: which promote biodiversity, reduce climate impact, make nature available to citizens, and spread knowledge and learning. The reserve's methods and approaches are an important source of inspiration for work on a Climate Neutral Kristianstad by 2030.

Initially in Climate Neutral Kristianstad 2030, we brought together project partners in two focus groups – agriculture and transport – for open discussions on needs, actions and possibilities. These cross-sectoral forums proved to be positive and effective in getting efforts started, and working together to unite and work on a few specific ideas.

7.3. Most important updates regarding Viable Cities

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

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

During 2022, Viable Cities has had responsibility for a government assignment, Thriving North (support for innovation work for sustainable urban and community development in Norrbotten and Västerbotten). An initial prototype of a regional climate contract has been developed with a working group of representatives from the regions and county administrative boards in Västerbotten and Norrbotten. Moreover, a platform for regional societal transition has been initiated in northern Sweden. The platform is called Thriving North, and is now being carried forward by several players in Sweden's four northern regions.



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

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

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

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

7.4. Most important updates regarding government agencies

Work in the interagency innovation team

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

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



work should contribute to commitments regarding coordinated funding and the cities' work on planning climate investments.

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

Funding for research, innovation and development

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

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

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

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

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

The Swedish Energy Agency has published calls in the following programmes that are relevant to sustainable cities and communities: Humans, Energy Systems and Society



(MESAM), Energy efficiency in cultural heritage buildings, Design for Everyday Energy Efficiency, Transport-Efficient Society and E2B2 (energy-efficient building and living), Graduate School in Energy Systems, and Bio+ (biobased society).

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

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

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

Government agency work and special government assignments

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

The Climate City Contract agencies are also five of the 14 members on the government's Council for Sustainable Cities. In March 2022, the council was given an extended and modified remit, with more of a focus on working towards the 2030 Agenda's Sustainable Development Goal 11, Sustainable Cities and Communities. Several of the agencies have been involved in the National Board of Housing, Building and Planning's coordination assignment as part of New European Bauhaus (NEB). One example is the call Ideas for a future Kiruna, Gällivare, Boden, Luleå, Skellefteå* and Umeå. Idea sketches ready in the project *Visioner: i norr – Hållbar Stad* (hallbarstad.se).



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

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

New signatory agency

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

8. The contract

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

Climate City Contract 2030

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

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

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Appendix 1 – document links

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

Links to relevant documents

[Proposal for a Climate & Environment Plan 2022–2026 \(draft version, in Swedish\)](#)

[Strategic Roadmap 2021–2024 \(in Swedish\)](#)

[Regarding the Comprehensive Plan and adopted strategies \(Green Strategy, Transport Strategy, Transport Plan etc., in Swedish\)](#)

[Kristianstad Municipality's climate adaptation efforts \(in Swedish\)](#)

[Climate Neutral Kristianstad 2030 \(in Swedish\)](#)

[Climate Report \(in Swedish\)](#)

[Kristianstads Vattenrike Biosphere Reserve](#)