





Climate City Contract 2030

BETWEEN THE MUNICIPALITY OF UMEÅ, FOUR SWEDISH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES: THE SWEDISH ENERGY AGENCY, VINNOVA, FORMAS AND THE SWEDISH AGENCY FOR ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL GROWTH, AND THE STRATEGIC INNOVATION PROGRAMME VIABLE CITIES

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Viable Cities is a strategic innovation programme in Sweden. The mission of the programme is to accelerate the transition to climate-neutral and sustainable cities by 2030, with digitalisation and citizen engagement as enablers. It is jointly funded by Vinnova, the Swedish Energy Agency and Formas.









1 The purpose of the Climate City Contract 2030

The aim of this Climate City Contract is to speed up the climate change and energy transition in cities within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and at the same time contribute to the recovery of the Swedish economy in the wake of the Coronavirus pandemic. The Climate City Contract expresses the parties' intention to raise their ambition in sustainable urban development and climate change and energy transition. The Climate City Contract also provides Sweden and Swedish cities good preconditions to be international forerunners in cities' climate change and energy transition. This is to be achieved by means of mutual and long-term commitments on the efforts of the signatory central government authorities and the municipal government as follows.

2 Parties

The parties to the Climate City Contract 2030 are:

Municipality of Umeå.

Swedish Governmental Authorities: The Swedish Energy Agency (Energimyndigheten), the Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems (Vinnova), and the Swedish Research Council for Sustainable Development (Formas), the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth (Tillväxtverket).

3 Umeå Municipality's Commitments

3.1 The Municipality's climate goals and targets

Umeå Municipality has established climate goals and targets, adopted with the support of a wide majority in the Municipal Council: The city of Umeå has the goal of being climate neutral by 2030, as does the municipality as a whole by $2040.^1$ Umeå also has the goal of reducing consumption-based greenhouse gas emissions to 2 tonnes of CO_2 equivalent per person per year by 2040 and 1 tonne of CO_2 equivalent per person per year by 2050. The Municipality and municipally-owned companies have a particularly important role in the transition and therefore has the goal of being climate neutral as early as 2025. The climate goals give specific targets for Umeå Municipality's overall objective of sustainable development and growth, plus clarify the high ambitions in the field of climate change.

3.2 Strategy

With their overall objectives, the Strategic Plan 2016–2028 and the master plan with associated specialisations and strategies (Strategy for Business Development, Energy Policy, Travel Policy, various types of traffic management programmes, and others), Umeå Municipality has several of

¹ www.umea.se/miljomal. The climate goals are designed in such a manner so that the city will take the lead in the transformation and achieve climate neutrality by 2030 with the remainder of the municipality doing so by 2040. This will be done from a perspective of fairness, as the largest greenhouse gas emissions and the opportunity to address these emanate from the city.





the governing documents for reducing climate impact. In order to link these existing plans and programmes, with new radical measures, the Umeå Municipal Group is working on behalf of the Municipal Council to develop a policy and action programme for Umeå's climate goals and targets (adoption in 2021).

The Umeå Municipal Group's policy and action programme, in conjunction together with other Umeå parties' climate change programmes, will constitute the roadmap developed within Climate Neutral Umeå 2030 and the roadmap will in turn be a central part of the local Paris Agreement for and with everyone in Umeå (adoption by the parties in May 2021).

In 2021, a strategy for a circular economy will also be developed for the purpose of strengthening the work with resource flows in a circular economy.

3.3 Governance

Umeå Municipality has a developed model to use policy instruments for the efforts to accomplish the transformation. Development is governed via general goals and targets, orientation, plans, strategies and assignments that express the change that is to be achieved. The governance also occurs via the Municipality management's monitoring of how well the Municipality and the Municipality's operations are succeeding in implementing their goals and which changes, and what results and effects the Municipality and the Municipality's activities have achieved. However to successfully respond to the complex challenges, such as succeeding with the climate change and energy transition and achieving the climate goals, we now need forms of management, direction, and policy instruments. Cooperation and co-creation by the parties and all of the citizens of the community as a whole is essential. For the purpose of facilitating this and to achieve the Climate City Contract 2030's ambitions, Umeå Municipality is in the process of developing several new innovation platforms.² These will increase adaptability and establish inventiveness and innovative capacity, explore and find solutions to complex sustainability challenges. By means of the creative co-creation by Umea's many stakeholders, the innovation platforms challenge the city's current situation, urges a change in behaviour and, where necessary, the preparation for new structures and power relationships, all paving the way for future innovations.

3.4 Interaction and cooperative efforts with the business community, academia and the citizens/civil society,

Umeå is a place with many progressive role models, engaged citizens, an innovative business community and a culture characterised by trust and co-creation. This will be built on by Umeå Municipality to achieve the sustainable development goals and become a climate neutral city by 2030 and the municipality by 2040.

Umeå's large institutional capacity for cooperation and meeting forums with parties in the society locally, nationally and internationally is a cornerstone of the transformation process. Strategic partnerships, agreements and networks in conjunction with universities, research institutes, the

² Social Progress Innovation Sweden (SPIS), Digital Impact North, Climate Neutral Umeå 2030, et al.





business community and organisations such as governmental entities, Umeå will develop both dynamically and uniformly. Umeå Municipality will manage what we have built over a long period of time and develop it further within section 4.1 of this contract.

3.5 Climate change investment plan/climate city deficit/financing

Umeå Municipality and the Umeå Municipality Group intends to develop a Climate Change Investment Plan in accordance with section 4.2 of this contract to facilitate the achievement of the climate goals. This work will be done in collaboration with Viable Cities. In addition, investments from the business community in reducing climate change will have a particular focus in the interaction and cooperative efforts taken pursuant to section 4.1 of this contract.

3.6 Digital support for implementation

Umeå Municipality has a clear objective to accelerate the Municipality's digital transformation, which is also an important area to enable the climate change and energy transition. Development of different types of digital tools that can be used for dialogue and involvement is central for Umeå Municipality as it enables the co-creation and implementation of the Climate City Contract 2030 among Umeå's stakeholders, especially its residents.

Initiatives in areas such as open data and the Internet of Things (IoT) show great potential for achieving Umeå Municipality's overall objectives and therefore the work to structure data- as information management has intensified, which will continue in 2021. It is also a basic prerequisite for machine learning, AI and new circular business models, areas that Umeå's stakeholders invest heavily in and develop in the collaboration forum Digital Impact North.

Digital tools establish the preconditions for being able to measure progress and assess the rate of change to reduce the impact of climate change. The tools are also necessary to design and implement the climate change and energy transition together with the many different parties in the society, not the least the citizens.

3.7 Regional innovation hub for climate-neutral municipalities

Being by far the largest city in northern Sweden, Umeå has an extensive amount of experience with conducting development work and interacting with other municipalities, both within Västerbotten and in surrounding regions nationally and internationally (Umeå and Västerbotten border both Finland and Norway). In 2017, Umeå initiated the regional innovation partnerships in northern Sweden, for the purpose of jointly identifying areas of smart specialisation where northern Sweden is successful. The participants are the six largest cities in northern Sweden and the Regions Norrbotten, Västerbotten, Västernorrland and Jämtland. This is a natural platform to build on, as Umeå Municipality is already the coordinator of the Smart City/Sustainable Cities platform. on several occasions Umeå has been shortlisted for the European Green Capital Award, with the Municipality also being members of the Green Capital Network that brings together Europe's most ambitious environmental cities.





3.8 Reporting and follow-up reviews

Umeå Municipality has established indicators for climate goals and targets and related action programmes. Within the framework of Climate Neutral Umeå 2030 and other initiatives, efforts are also progressing to develop specific indicators for consumption. This will form the basis for Umeå Municipality's follow-up reviews and reporting.

4 The Viable Cities programme's commitments

The Viable Cities innovation programme is being implemented in a broad collaboration, to assist with the transformation to climate-neutral cities in 2030 as part of the Swedish commitment to meet the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement. This includes being international pioneers in the cities transition to the future.

Viable Cities works with a wide range of parties across scientific disciplines, industries and sectors of the society. It connects excellent research environments with large and small companies in a range of industries, as well as governmental activities and civil society organisations.

Within the framework of the role of Viable Cities as a strategic innovation programme, the programme works to promote:

- **4.1** Better rules. Viable Cities intends to create a support with expertise with associated policy labs, for the purpose of providing the Municipality a better overview of current and upcoming Swedish and European legislation, rules and standards relevant to the cities' climate change and energy transition. This includes process support for changes in legislation, regulations, and standards to facilitate climate change and energy transition in reality.
- 4.2 Innovations. So as to make it easier for the Municipality to implement innovations that accelerate the climate change and energy transition, Viable Cities will provide competence networks and process support, including by involving other strategic innovation programs in the further development of the Climate City Contract 2030, particularly in the areas of mobility, energy, the built environment, the circular economy and digitalisation.
- 4.3 Coordinated funding. Viable Cities will support the Municipality's needs for financing for the climate change and energy transition and promoting cooperation and synergy between governmental authorities funding of the climate change and energy transition and sustainable development of cities:
- **4.3.1** Viable Cities will implement an invitation for applications near the end of 2020/early 2021 with the aim of financing continued work on the Climate City Contract 2030. The Municipality is welcome to seek support for participation in the development of mission-driven efforts in the field of climate change.





- **4.3.2** Viable Cities collaborates with the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth as the managing authority of the European Regional Development Fund in Sweden and the efforts earmarked for sustainable urban development in order to establish synergies with the Climate City Contract 2030.
- **4.3.3** Via the Rådet för Hållbara Städer/Sustainable Cities Council, Viable Cities has commenced a collaboration to create synergies between the central government's authorities/agencies' contributions to the cities climate change and energy transition and Climate City Contract 2030. The governmental authorities intend to expand the coordination concerning the various initiatives and efforts underway in the field of sustainable urban development, see 5.3 Coordinated funding.
- **4.3.4** Viable Cities is cooperating with the Swedish local government funding agency Kommuninvest and the European Investment Bank (EIB) with the aim of developing forms to strengthen the long-term financing of the Municipality's investment plan relating to climate change.
- **4.4** Support for obtaining EU funding. If the Municipality intends to apply for funding from the European Investment Programme for Research and Innovation, Horizon Europe's new financial instruments based on the "Mission 100 Climate Neutral Cities by 2030," Viable Cities will support the work with the application work based on the role and expertise of the programme.

5 Commitments by the governmental authorities

The governmental authorities support the mission-driven work aimed at the transformation to climate-neutral cities by 2030 and provide a framework for collaboration via the Viable Cities strategic innovation programme.

The governmental authorities intend to cooperate on the following developments in 2021 to support the municipalities' climate change and energy transition:

5.1 Coordination around lessons learned and legislation and regulations. The governmental authorities intend to develop coordination between the relevant Swedish authorities and establish the preconditions for a proactive dialogue and mission-oriented learning around policy development and upcoming legislation and regulations in the field of sustainable urban development and climate change and energy transition.





- **5.2** Research, innovation and development. Via invitations for applications for funding, the governmental authorities provide funding for development and system innovation.
- **5.3** Coordinated funding. The governmental authorities intend to expand the coordination concerning the various initiatives and efforts underway in the field of sustainable urban development and the climate change and energy transition.
- 5.4 Work on the European Investment Programme for Research and Innovation. The governmental authorities are working in several ways to support Swedish participation in the EU's upcoming investment programme Horizon Europe, including linked to the 2030 climate neutral cities mission.

6 Strategic development projects in 2021

In 2021, the following strategic development projects will be conducted within the Viable Cities Transition Lab in collaboration with other municipalities, with the aim of being able to further develop the contents of the contract during the upcoming revision of the Climate City Contract 2030.

6.1 Interaction and cooperative efforts with the business community, academia, civil society and citizens

The Viable Cities programme and the Municipality are developing forms of collaboration between local parties in order to further develop and realise the ambitions of the Climate City Contract – with particular emphasis on civic engagement.

6.2 Long-term investment plan relating to climate change and socio-economic impacts

The Municipality intends to work together with the Viable Cities programme to develop a climate change investment plan with a 2030 perspective, encompassing both municipal investments as well as the investments that take place outside the municipal sector. The objective of this is to contribute both to the climate change and energy transition and to the recovery of the economy. The investment plan should be able to serve as a basis for discussions on financing investments relating to climate change. It should also be able to support the local business community policy by highlighting future business opportunities.

6.3 Digital support for climate change and energy transition

Viable Cities and the Municipality are developing forms to use digital tools to facilitate co-creation between parties and guide decisions on investments relating to climate change.





7 Joint work on follow-up reviews, evaluation, updating

Viable Cities and the Municipality agree to conduct follow-up reviews of the Municipality's results within the framework of Climate City Contract 2030 annually. Viable Cities is developing the supporting documents which will form the basis for an annual follow-up review at the municipal and national levels.

8 The Contract

The Parties hereby agree that these joint commitments, as set out and formulated above, shall apply for 2021. The Climate City Contract shall be updated and renewed prior to each new year.

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Stockholm, December 11, 2020

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