

UBC Sustainable Cities Commission meeting

Creating climate-proof and nature-positive cities together

1 – 3 October 2025

Malmö, Sweden

STUDIO Meetingpoint, Nordenskiöldsgatan 24

Agenda

Wednesday, 1st October | Climate Budget Summit

- VENUE:** Satellit room at STUDIO Meetingpoint
- MODERATION:** Mariia Andreeva, UBC Sustainable Cities Commission, and Donald Alimi, HafenCity University Hamburg
- 08.30–09.00** Registration and coffee
- 09.00–09.20** Welcoming words
- Welcome from the UBC Sustainable Cities Commission: **Agnieszka Ilola**, Head of Secretariat
 - Welcome from the hosting city of Malmö and presenting the city's climate actions and ambitions: **Thea Ohlander Arfwidsson**, Head of the Department, and **Jonas Kamleh**, Strategic Process Leader for the Carbon neutral Malmö 2030
- 09.20–09.30** Welcome to the Climate Budget Summit! Introducing the day organised with the Climate-4-CAST project
Mariia Andreeva, UBC Sustainable Cities Commission
Donald Alimi, HafenCity University Hamburg
- 09.30–09.50** Keynote I Urban climate governance
Jörg Knieling, Chair of Institute of Urban Planning and Regional Development at the HafenCity University Hamburg
- 09.50–10.10** Keynote II Climate budgeting: maximizing achievability of climate plans with the help of climate budgeting
Anna Huttunen, City Advisor at the NetZeroCities project, Climate KIC
- 10.10–10.30** Coffee break
- 10.30–11.30** How climate budgeting helps your city to succeed
- **Sophie Naesvang & Mathias Mildam Ottsen**, City of Copenhagen
 - **Odin Budal Søgne**, City of Bergen
 - **Anna von Zweybergk**, City of Turku
 - **Konrad Szpak**, City of Krakow

11.30–12.30	Reflection workshop <i>HafenCity University Hamburg and Uppsala University</i>
12.30–13.30	Lunch at Lokal 17 restaurant (on the same floor of the building) UBC Advisory Board meeting (by invitation)
13.30–14.00	Introducing the Climate Action Decision Support (CADS) Tool for climate forecasting and budgeting <i>Michael Mechenich, Kausal Ltd</i>
14.00–14.20	Boosting climate work in the city with the Climate Action Decision Support (CADS) Tool <i>Hanna Meriläinen, City of Tampere</i>
14.20–14.40	Introducing participants to the Climate Budget training course Closing of the day <i>Olena Zinchuk and Mariia Andreeva, UBC Sustainable Cities Commission</i>
14.40–15.00	Introduction to the study visits Coffee break and finding your study visit group
15.00–18.00	STUDY VISITS

1. Climate Adaptation & Biodiversity by bus (15.00–18.00)

Join us on a guided bus tour through Malmö's pioneering neighbourhoods, where climate adaptation, biodiversity, and social sustainability go hand in hand. From the innovative eco-district of Sege Park to the green roofs and open stormwater systems of Augustenborg, to the lively urban fabric of Möllevången – each stop reveals how the city blends old and new. You will see firsthand how Malmö's long-term strategies not only safeguard against climate risks but also create vibrant, biodiverse, and socially inclusive communities.

2. Coastal Protection & Biodiversity on foot (15.00–17.00)

Step into Malmö's Western harbour to experience holistic, forward-looking approaches to sustainable urban development, coastal protection and thriving biodiversity. This guided walking tour takes you through modern, sustainable city districts, showcasing how former industrial harbour areas have been transformed into vibrant hubs of green urban living. You will discover the full potential of city transformation and explore nature-based solutions that not only enhance sustainability and well-being but also safeguard the coastline while bringing nature back into the heart of the city.

19.00–21.00	Networking dinner for all participants Aster restaurant, Jagaregatan 6
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Thursday, 2nd October | Creating climate-proof and nature-positive cities together

VENUE:	Satellit room at STUDIO Meetingpoint
MODERATION:	Agnieszka Ilola, UBC Sustainable Cities Commission
08.30–09.00	Registration and coffee
09.00–09.25	Welcoming words • <i>Welcome from the hosting city of Malmö: Sofia Hedén, Deputy Mayor and Chair of the Environmental Committee</i> • <i>Per-Arne Nilsson, Co-Chair of the UBC Sustainable Cities Commission, City of Malmö</i> • <i>Agnieszka Ilola, Head of Secretariat, UBC Sustainable Cities Commission</i>
09.25–09.55	Keynote I: Local actions contributing to global biodiversity targets: Tools and platforms for monitoring and reporting on biodiversity and urban nature <i>Ingrid Coetzee, Director Biodiversity, Nature & Health, ICLEI Cities Biodiversity Center</i>
09.55–10.15	Climate adaptation and biodiversity strategies and measures in Malmö <i>Per-Arne Nilsson, Senior Environmental Strategist, City of Malmö</i>
10.15–10.45	City reflections: Good practices on nature-based solutions in climate change adaptation • Greifswald: Long-term adaptation to sea-level rise <i>Stephan Braun, Climate Protection Officer</i> • Umeå: Biodiversity enhancement for resilient communities <i>Doris Grellman, Ecologist</i>
10.45–11.00	Coffee break and splitting into the discussion groups
11.00–12.00	Scaling good practices: parallel discussion on overcoming barriers to climate change and biodiversity integration <i>Collaborative brainstorming for overcoming barriers, workshop style</i>
12.00–12.30	Keynote II: Creating climate-proof cities. Climate change effects on cities, climate risks and preparedness strategies <i>Louise Fiil Hansen, Design Director and Partner, SLA Copenhagen</i>
12.30–13.30	Lunch and networking at Lokal 17 restaurant
13.30–13.50	Keynote III: Creating biodiverse and nature-positive cities – case examples from Urban Biodiversity Parks project <i>Majja Rusanen, Senior Advisor, City of Turku</i>
13.50–14.35	City reflections: Biodiversity strategies and measures in cities • Lahti: Roadmap to nature positive Lahti 2030 <i>Heli Huuskonen, Project Manager</i> • Riga: Adding value through green: The role of urban greening in city planning <i>Liene Griķe, Lead Project Manager</i>

- **Tartu:** urbanLIFEcircles: A new blueprint for biodiversity in cities
Mirjam Vösaste, Urban Nature Coordinator

14.35–15.00	Coffee break and splitting into the discussion groups
15.00–15.45	Scaling good practices: parallel discussions on new project ideas and partnerships for climate change and biodiversity <i>Collaborative brainstorming for new project ideas and partnerships, workshop style</i>
15.45–16.15	Takeaway messages from parallel discussions
16.15–16.35	Tracking urban progress on biodiversity and climate change adaptation through CDP reporting <i>Étienne Métais, Associate Director, CDP</i> <i>Thea Ohlander Arfwidsson, Head of the Department, Malmö</i>
16.35	Closing remarks
19.00	City reception hosted by the City of Malmö Old City Hall, Stortorget 2

Friday, 3rd October | Local strategies and solutions against PFAS and micropollutants for cities in the Baltic Sea Region

Results and experiences from EMPEREST project and the need for more actions

VENUE: View room at **STUDIO Meetingpoint**

MODERATION: Mayumi Narongin-Fujikawa, IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute

09.00–09.15	Welcome and introduction <i>Per-Arne Nilsson, Senior Environmental strategist, City of Malmö</i> <i>Lotta Lehti, UBC Sustainable Cities Commission</i>
09.15–09.35	Keynote: PFAS and micropollutants – A silent urban threat <i>Piia Leskinen, Turku University of applied Sciences</i>
09.35–10.30	EMPEREST project – Results and insights • Markus Raudkivi, HELCOM: PFAS pollution in the Baltic Sea • Kamila Gruškeviča, City of Riga / Riga Technical University (online): PFAS risk-assessment tool for cities • Piia Leskinen, Turku University of Applied Sciences: Technology pilots for wastewater treatment plants • Lotta Lehti, UBC Sustainable Cities Commission: EMPEREST key messages
10.30–10.40	Pitches from the projects LIMIT and BalticPFASResolve
10.40–11.10	Coffee break and networking
11.10–11.50	Local action panel: City-level strategies and solutions (wastewater treatment and PFAS pollution prevention) Reflections and interventions from different cities and regions

11.50–12.30

Interactive session: challenges and needs

What are the biggest local challenges in tackling PFAS and micropollutants?

What kinds of support or policy changes are needed?

Opportunities for cross-city collaboration in the Baltic Sea Region

12.30–13.30

Lunch at Lokal 17 restaurant and departures



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SUSTAINABLE WATERS
EMPEREST

