Welcome to the Climate Budget Summit

Mariia Andreeva · Donald Alimi



Interreg Baltic Sea Region

Co-funded by the European Union

ENERGY TRANSITION
Climate-4-CAST

Climate-4-CAST project is co-funded by Interreg BSR Programme to drive climate neutrality transition in the Baltic Sea Region

CLIMATE BUDGET SUMMIT

Partner event of the #EURegionsWeek

14 October 2026 | Brussels

#EURegionsWeek

#Climate4CAST

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The EURegionsWeek Close To You -event



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Union of the Baltic Cities

- Leading network of cities and municipalities in the Baltic Sea Region established **35 years** ago.
- Today over **70 member cities** in **9 countries** around the Baltic Sea.
- **8 thematic Commissions** focusing on sustainable development, urban planning, youth, health, culture, safety, education and business.



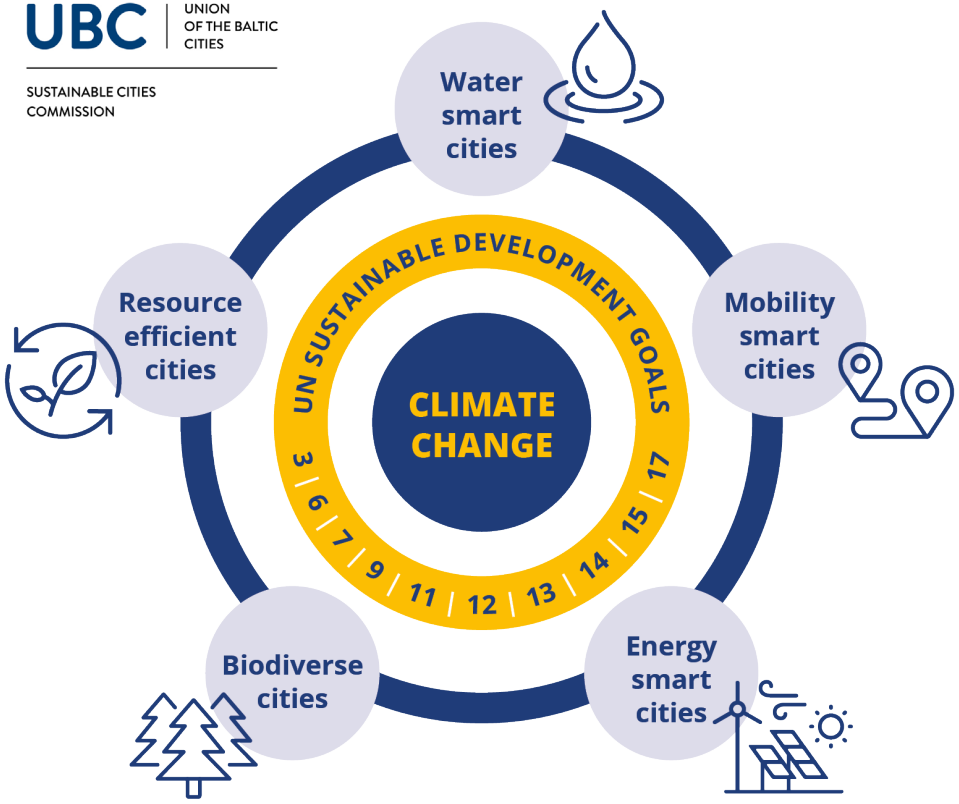
UBC | UNION OF THE BALTIC CITIES

#EURegionsWeek



Union of the Baltic Cities Sustainable Cities Commission

- Organiser of the Climate Budget Summit
- Coordinate the **UBC Sustainability Action Programme 2022–2030**
- **We are open to cooperation!**
  - Join our events dedicated to urban sustainability and climate actions → **www.ubc-sustainable.net/events**
  - Cooperate with us in international projects.
  - Are you based in the Baltic Sea Region or Ukraine? Become a UBC member city!



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Climate Budget Summit agenda

13.30-13.45	**Welcome to the Climate Budget Summit**
13.45-14.00	**Climate budgeting and how it can help achieving ambitious local climate goals** JÖRG KNIELING, HafenCity University Hamburg
14.00-14.15	**Climate governance and latest trends from the Eurocities Pulse Mayors Survey** SYLWIA SŁOMIAK, Eurocities
14.15-15.45	**Panel discussion: Setting ambitions and targets, prioritising investments for climate action and providing decision-support** Moderator: JÖRG KNIELING, HafenCity University Hamburg • GUNĀRS ANSIŅŠ, City of Liepāja • ELINA RANTANEN, City of Turku • BENNO HAIN, Ministry of Environment, Climate, Energy and Agriculture, City of Hamburg • VALDIS RATNIKS, City of Riga | Riga Energy Agency • SYLWIA SLOMIAK, Eurocities
15.45-16.15	***COFFEE AND NETWORKING***
16.15-16.30	**Turning climate targets into actionable decisions with the Climate Action Decision Support Tool** HANNA MERILÄINEN, City of Tampere
16.30-17.15	**Cities leading the change: Towards net-zero with climate budgeting** • EMMI NIEMINEN, City of Tampere • MADS BÆK PEDERSEN, Municipality of Aarhus • RASMUS GRELSSON, Municipality of Östersund
17.15-17.30	**Celebrating over 100 local government alumni of the climate budgeting training course** OLENA ZINCHUK, UBC Sustainable Cities Commission
17.30-19.00	***COCKTAILS AND NETWORKING***

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The Challenge Cities Face

Cities need to connect climate ambitions with real planning, investment and budget decisions.

Ambitious climate targets

Cities have set ambitious goals for reducing emissions.

Limited public resources

Budgets are tight, and climate measures compete with other priorities.

Difficult choices

Which measures to prioritise, how to fund them, and how to turn climate targets into action.

Climate-4-CAST Partnership

- 6 pilot cities
- 4 supporting institutions for research, tech, and communication tasks



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Piloting the Climate Action Decision Support (CADS) Tool

- Developed by and for cities
- Explored different application methods and pathways

- **No one-size-fits-all approach**
- **Support existing workflows and decisions**
- **Define a clear purpose and role in decision-making process**

Key Takeaway:
The tool is a means, not an end. Its value depends on how cities use it in their own context and decision-making processes.



The Value of Transnational Cooperation

- Vital space to learn, test, and share
- Exchange of knowledge with peers, building understanding across borders
- Diversity of perspectives and experiences support innovative solutions
- Practice-testing solutions in multiple contexts improves scalability



Photo: UBC Sustainable Cities Commission

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