Union of the Baltic Cities (UBC)

– Leading city Network of the Baltic Sea Region and North Europe
The Baltic Sea Region

Known as a dynamic, innovative and attractive global growth center, where success is based on smart, green, resource efficient and sustainable economic and social development.

Member Cities are global forerunners in creating a high quality living environment for their inhabitants.
Working together to foster sustainable, smart and safe cities

1991 Since
10 Countries
90 Cities
7 Commissions
UBC operates through commissions, working groups and networking

- Cultural Cities
- Inclusive and Healthy Cities
- Planning Cities
- Safe Cities
- Smart and Prospering Cities
- Youthful Cities
- Sustainable Cities
Guiding strategies for UBC smart sustainable development

The EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region coordinates the activities to promote a more balanced development of the region. UBC Coordinates the HA Capacity.

HELCOM’s (Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - Helsinki Commission) Baltic Sea Action Plan
Helcom is the governing body of the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, known as the Helsinki Convention.

UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals are cross-cutting theme in UBC’s work connection also to CBSS’s Baltic 2030 Group
Guiding strategies for smart sustainable development

UBC Sustainability Action programme 2016 – 2021

The programme gives strategic direction to the realisation of our vision of the UBC cities in the future – creating a smart, safe and sustainable Baltic Sea Region.

Coordinated by the Sustainable Cities Commission, in City of Turku
UBC Sustainability Action Programme 2016–2021:

Our vision for Sustainable UBC cities until 2020 and beyond:

“UBC cities will be climate-smart, providing a good ground for green economy to grow, while being resource-efficient and sustainable in all their activities as well as protecting the environment and waterbodies in the Baltic Sea Region.

They will increasingly be known as global forerunners when it comes to creating inclusive, diverse, democratic, gender equal, high quality living environment for their inhabitants.”
Our Goal:

To make the UBC cities global green economy leaders providing good opportunities for innovative green and clean tech businesses and enable resource efficient economic activities. To support UBC cities on the way to a circular economy. To make UBC cities sustainable in their own economic activities.

Green urban economies

Municipalities and cities have an important role in fulfilling the EU 2020 targets and have a clear role for enabling green growth.

Circular economy
Share economies
Industrial symbiosis
Our Goal:
To make UBC cities leaders in resource efficiency, sustainable urban planning and biodiversity.

To have UBC cities that are toxic and have a rich biodiversity.
Our goal:

To make UBC cities leaders in integrated water management
To improve the ecological state of the Baltic Sea
Our goal:

To make the UBC cities climate change leaders in Europe and globally, to initiate and implement climate smart urban development (incl. climate smart-sustainable districts, mobility models, energy efficient transport – building planning)

Climate-smart Baltic Cities

Climate change aspects into consideration in their entire decision making e.g. in urban planning, mobility planning, energy related actions (efficiency, production), buildings.

Attractive and livable cities
carbon Neutrality by 2040
Previous UBC Sustainability Action Programme period 2010 – 2015

- 25 Projects
- 40 UBC Cities
- $58 milj. budget and appr. 60 persons employed annually
- Leading city network in Baltic Sea Region
- Several EUSBSR Flagships statuses
Examples of running projects spring 2017

The themes and actions in the project are tailor made for the needs of the project partners to assist the ongoing process in the local authorities towards sustainable development.

**IWAMA**
Improving *Wastewater Management* in the Baltic Sea Region
EUSBSR Flagship PA Nutri
17 partners including Russia, Belarus

**iWater**
Improving urban planning by developing integrated and multifunctional *storm water management* in the Central Baltic cities
EUSBSR Flagship Clima
Central Baltic Region Cities

**BALTIC URBAN LAB**
Improving *urban planning and energy efficiency* by developing and testing new integrated models for brownfield regeneration
Central Baltic Region Cities

**CIVITAS ECCENTRIC + SUMPS Up**
Improving *Urban mobility* by tackling the mobility challenges in suburban districts.
Creation of clean, silent and CO2 free city logistics
European partners including Munich, Madrid, Stockholm, Ruse
Climate smart partnerships

Partnering with CDP helps cities gather and understand the data needed to take action on climate change; helps to reach the goals of the Paris agreement and cities to benchmark their excellence globally.

Climate Action Global Top-10 in Cities (2015):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>PERCENT REDUCTION</th>
<th>TARGET YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copenhagen</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2025</td>
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<td>Gävle</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
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<td>2030</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Sweden</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2040</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turku</td>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2040</td>
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<tr>
<td>Antwerp</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2040</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Chicago, IL
Hamilton, ON
Milwaukee, WI
Rochester, NY
Toronto, ON
Windsor, ON
Regional Municipality of Durham/Durham Region
Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, QC

According to CDP Global Cities–report (2016), CDP and Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (2017) have 6 common active cities

UBC had in 2016 also 6 cities and the goal for 2017 is 25 cities
Union of the Baltic Cities

Sustainable Cities Commission

Focus areas:
• Sustainability management
• Local climate work
• Water management (waste water, storm water)
• Sustainable urban mobility and planning
• Maritime and port policies

Hosted by the City of Turku, Finland, since 1997
The Turku region is the third largest urban region in Finland with 320,000 inhabitants. The official population of the City of Turku is around 190,000. Turku is a bilingual city. 5.4 % of the citizens speak Swedish as their mother tongue.
The Turku region has a versatile business structure

As a result of good cooperation between our universities, businesses and public sector the top fields of business are in Biotech, ICT, Maritime industries, Logistics, Tourism, and Creative industries.

The Turku region has 22,000 businesses and 130,000 jobs.
BLUE GROWTH
Automatisation, LNG robotisation and Clean Tech
Biogas

Sludge

Cooling

Heating

Biomaterials

For all steps there is an economically sound solution

Increasing local energy production based on renewables

Less dependence on fossile fuels

Model for Baltic Sea Region

Smart Water Hub

Smart Green Growth in Integrated Waste Water and Energy Production
ENERGY & MOBILITY SMART NEW CITY DISTRICTS

SMART MOBILITY
- Shared Electric vehicles & network
- Smart parking
- Smart & crowdsourced citylogistic

LIVING and WORKING
- localservices, Smart lighting
- Distance work

ENERGY BEHAVIOUR
- Smart grid
- Free WIFI

WELLBEING
- Health and wellbeing services
- Using art to build identity
- Co-creation!
Saku Koivu: “I want to be part of developing Turku as membercity of UBC an attractive centre for business and trade, housing, culture and tourism, - simply because I love my home city.”

Finland’s largest experience and event centre envisioned is to be constructed in Turku’s rail yard and train station area.
Refugees - a challenge and a chance for the Cities of the Baltic Sea Region

Two statements:

UBC Conference: The Impact Of The European Refugees Crisis In The Cities Of The Baltic Sea Region
3/2016 Rostock Germany

Resolution On The Refugees Situation In Europe, General Conference
10/2015, Gdynia Poland
THANK YOU!

www.ubc.net
www.ubc-sustainable.net
Social media @unionoftheBalticCities
#BSR_UBC

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