

Union of the Baltic Cities (UBC)

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

UBC

UNION
OF THE BALTIC
CITIES

SUSTAINABLE CITIES
COMMISSION

Jarkko Virtanen
Deputy Mayor, City of Turku, Finland
Vice-President of Union of the Baltic Cities



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.”

**Green urban
economies**

**Baltic Sea
and its
catchment
area**

**Sustainable
urban
ecosystem
and natural
resources**

**Climate-
smart Baltic
cities**



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 free of toxic substances and have a rich biodiversity.

**Sustainable Urban
Ecosystems and Natural
Resources**

Attractive and prosperous UBC cities have clean and safe environments and they use all **resources efficiently**.

**Integrated Management
approach**

**Integrated urban planning
Decreasing hazardous
substances**

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Our goal:

To make UBC cities leaders in integrated water management

To improve the ecological state of the Baltic Sea



Baltic Sea and its catchment area

Due to alarming state of the Baltic Sea, **improved water management** has become an important goal for the countries around the Baltic Sea.

Integrated water management
Integrated Storm Water management
Coastal area management



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



BALTIC URBAN LAB

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



iWater

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

CITY	COUNTRY	PERCENT REDUCTION	TARGET YEAR
Melbourne	Australia	100	2020
Copenhagen	Denmark	100	2025
Gävle	Sweden	100	2030
Östersund	Sweden	100	2030
Växjö	Sweden	100	2030
Santa Fe	US	100	2040
Stockholm	Sweden	100	2040
Turku	Finland	100	2040
Antwerp	Belgium	100	2040

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

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19.6.2017

Etunimi Sukunimi



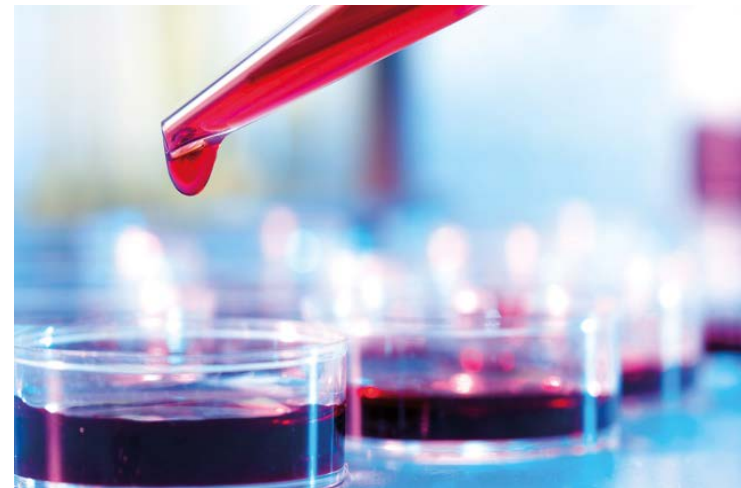
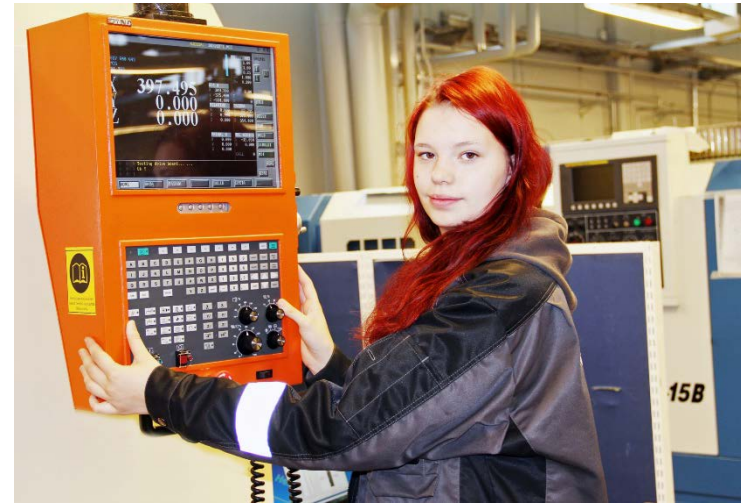
Turku 2029 Strategy

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

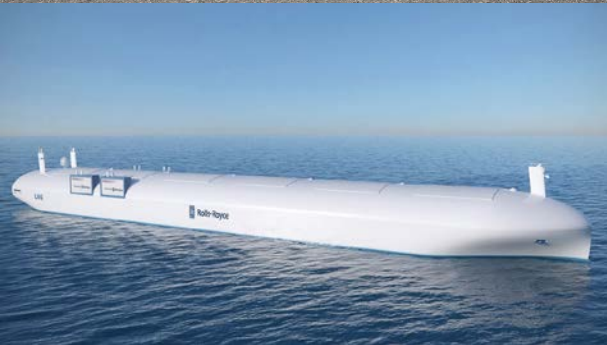
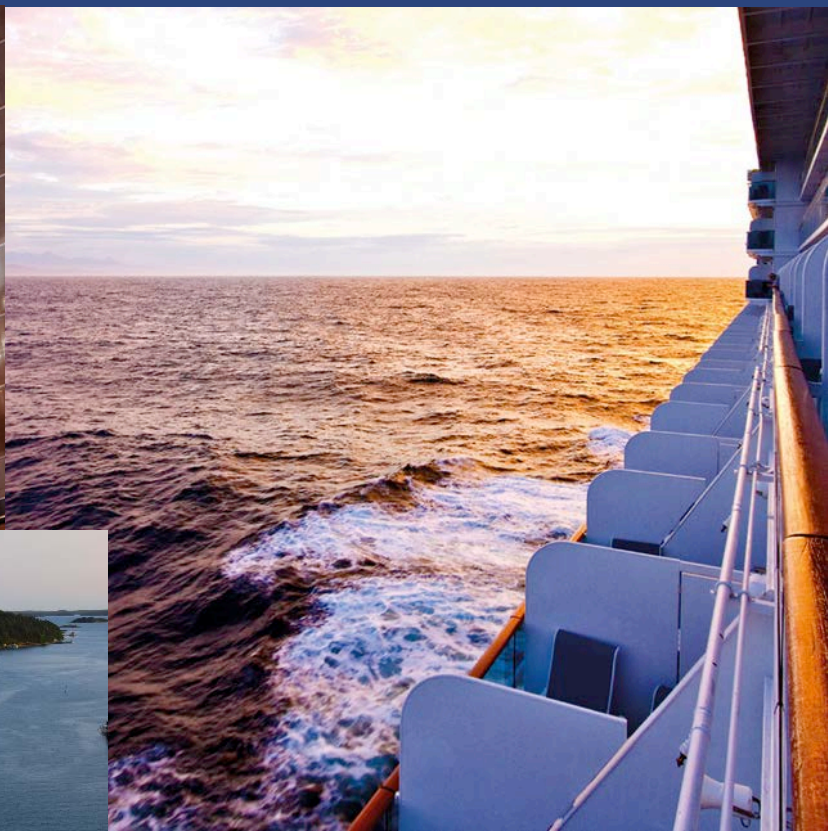
As a result of good cooperation between our universities, businesses and public sector the top fields of business are in Biotech, ICT, Maritime industries, Logistics, Tourism, and Creative industries.

The Turku region has 22,000 businesses and 130,000 jobs.



BLUE GROWTH

Automatisation, LNG robotisation and Clean Tech



Smart Green Growth in Integrated Waste Water and Energy Production



Sludge



Biomaterials \$

Biogas \$

Cooling \$

Heating \$



For all steps there is an economically sound solution

Increasing local energy production based on renewables

Less dependence on fossil fuels

**Model for Baltic Sea Region
Smart Water Hub**

ENERGY & MOBILITY SMART NEW CITY DISTRICTS



LIVING and WORKING

local services, Smart lighting
Distance work



SMART MOBILITY

Shared Electric vehicles & network
Smart parking
Smart & crowdsourced citylogistic

ENERGY BEHAVIOUR

Smart grid
Free WIFI



WELLBEING

Health and wellbeing services
Using art to build identity
Co-creation!

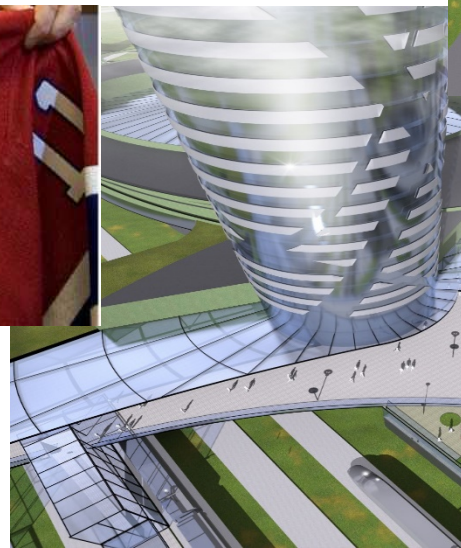


”Salut
mes amis
de
Montréal”

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



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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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