

UBC

UNION
OF THE BALTIC
CITIES

SUSTAINABLE CITIES
COMMISSION

UBC Sustainable Cities Commission

Report on latest activities and plans for **Hamburg, 22 June 2023**

Esther Kreutz , Head of Secretariat
meeting

90th UBC Executive Board

Commission activities

- **Regular Advisory Board meetings**
 - Input to project development
 - Input to other activities
- Next Advisory Board meeting in September in Turku
- Discussion with cities about interest to be in the AB 2023-2025



Activities Dec 2022-June 2023– Exchange & Dissemination

- **UBC TALKS**

- about cooperation for the better future of the Baltic Sea Region (March 2023)
- about revitalising urban space (May 2023)

- **UBC Supports**

- Riga's work in the urban greening plan (June 2023)

- **Publications & communication channels:**

- Two UBC Sustainable Cities Bulletins were published & numerous newsletters
- Annual Report of UBC SCC 2022 was published in the beginning of the year

Activities Dec 2022-June 2023 - Projects

Recently approved projects

- SUMP for BSR - enhancing effective Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning for supporting active mobility in BSR cities
 - UBC SCC is the lead partner
 - Involved UBC cities: Turku, Gdynia, Panevezys, Gävle, Greifswald, Tartu, Cesis (partners), Aarhus, Söderhamn (associated partners)
- Climate4Cast - AClimate Action decision Support Tool to accelerate cities' progress towards climate neutrality
 - UBC SCC is partner and WP leader
 - Involved UBC cities: Aarhus, Riga (partners), Växjö, Luleå, Vejle, Hamburg, Turku, Gdansk (associated partners)

Running projects: EMPEREST project - update

EMPEREST – Eliminating Micro-Pollutants from Effluents for REuse STRategies

Project aims at eliminating micropollutants from wastewater effluent to unlock the opportunities for safe reuse strategies.

The holistic approach to the elimination of PFAS and other persistent organic pollutants incorporates regional strategies for monitoring and assessment, technological advances in wastewater treatment, and risk management assessment for cities.

- 6-8 February: Kick-off meeting in Turku launching project implementation
- 3-5 May: Roadshow on PFAS pollution in Stockholm
- 25-26 May: workshop on PFAS risk assessment plans for local authorities in Riga

The project plans on validating risk assessment plans with 18 municipalities from BSR, welcome to join!

Running projects: BALTIPLAST project - update

BALTIPLAST – Baltic Approaches to Handling Plastic Pollution under a Circular Economy

Context. The project aims at prevention and reduction of plastic waste in the Baltic Sea Region, focusing on single use plastic reduction, improvements in plastic packaging and innovative collection and treatment systems at the municipality level.

- Project progress meeting was on 10-11 May 2023: 1st General Assembly in Västerås
- Collection of best practices in plastic management is almost finished, will be compiled into a benchmarking publication of existing practices in BSR in autumn 2023
- Piloting of solutions is ongoing in cities: Helsinki, Tallinn, Valmiera, Kaunas, Hamburg, Västerås, Daugavpils
- UBC TALKS webinar on 28 November will present selected solutions from UBC cities in the project
- Next project event – in 14-16 November in Tallinn, back-to-back with the EU Green Capital activities

- **Funding:** Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme
- **Duration:** 01.01.2023 – 31.12.2025
- **Budget:** 4.3M € (3.4M € by ERDF)

Activities Dec 2022-June 2023– Cooperation & Networking

CDP-ICLEI Track

- UBC has been actively cooperating with CDP to assist the UBC cities in disclosing their environmental data and monitoring their progress towards their climate goals
- Disclosing period has started: disclose the environmental data of your city to the CDP-ICLEI Track **by 25 July**. By doing so, your city will receive the added benefit of having its responses checked, scored, and receiving advice from CDP on how to improve its sustainability efforts
- UBC SCC supported the **CDP webinar for Polish cities** in May 2023

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Plans until end of 2023

Joint Commission meeting with the UBC Planning Commission 13-15 Sept in Turku

- Registration is open until end of August
- More information: <https://www.ubc-sustainable.net/events/joint-commission-meeting-2023>



Plans until end of 2023

EUSBSR Annual Forum: UBC has applied for a common stand

UBC General Conference:

- Commission meeting: Meet & Greet the Sustainable Cities Commission
- Workshop: EU Cities Mission as a source of inspiration and expertise for cities towards climate-neutrality

Other activities: UBC Talks, Bulletin, newsletters

**Thank you all for your
cooperation, support,
encounters and
connection!**

Let's stay in touch!



Thank you!

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