



## 4. Biodiversity strategy for 2030

Transformation of cities towards more sustainable, biodiverse and resilient cities

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CITIES

**30 YEARS**  
1991-2021



SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
COMMISSION

# Common challenges for the BSR

Geographic & Economic concentration, urbanisation

Aging population and Migration

Inefficient Energy consumption and availability

Traffic, transport and accessibility problems

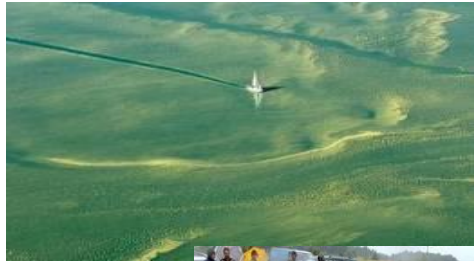
State of the Baltic Sea

Climate change

Biodiversity

Financial crisis!

COVID-19



# Guiding strategies for UBC 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. UBC has an Observatory Status in HELCOM.



**CBSS's Baltic 2030 Group and UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals** cross-cutting theme in UBC's work connection also to

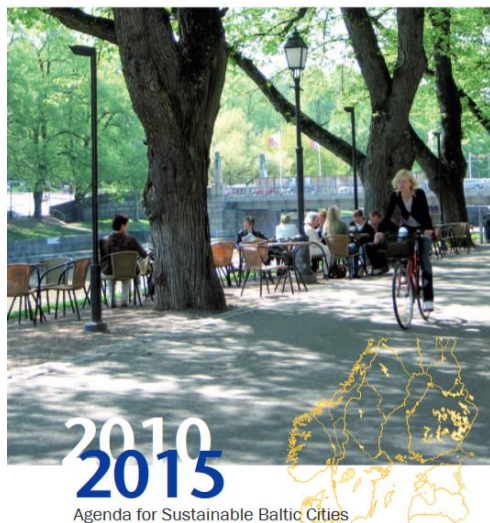
**CDP – Global Climate and Water benchmarking platform**  
660 cities globally - 25 cities in the BSR reporting



# UBC Sustainability Action Programme



UBC Sustainability  
Action Programme



2010  
2015

Agenda for Sustainable Baltic Cities

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2016-2021

6th UBC SD Action Programme



UBC Sustainability  
Action Programme

Stairway towards Sustainable Baltic Cities

NEW UBC  
Sustainability  
Action  
Programme 2022  
– 2030

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# Current UBC Sustainable Action Programme focus

Climate-Smart  
Cities

Baltic Sea  
and its  
Catchment  
Area

Sustainable  
Urban  
Ecosystems

Green  
Urban  
Economies

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# Challenges and needs

- **Insufficient knowledge** of important nature areas and its influence on the quality of ecosystem services
- **Lack of resources** to ensure sufficient maintenance of nature areas and habitats, while it is difficult to define the appropriate level of maintenance overcoming knowledge deficiency and public acceptance issues.
- **Inadequate implementation of good political will and existing commitments** on all managerial levels and across departments
- **Limited ways to communicate about biodiversity issues correctly**, engagingly, and professionally both inside municipal structures and with the public for awareness raising, higher acceptance rate and joint actions success
- **Ineffective handling of invasive alien species** due to perception issues, limited resources etc.
- **Intensifying protection, promotion and increase of areas, relict sites and habitats for native species** in the urban environment.
- Finding and executing **balance between biodiversity and urban planning/construction, or biodiversity and tourism/recreational needs.**

# Proposals for goals and ambitions for the next decade

- The goals defined by the **global, European and regional frameworks (the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, SDG 15, the EU's Biodiversity strategy for 2030, HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan, etc.)** are taken into account as guiding principles, while **UBC work should focus on measures facilitating member cities' capacity of reaching / contributing to reaching those goals:** exchange on good practices, methods, tools and knowledge on specific topics and challenging issues within the field of biodiversity and nature conservation.
- **UBC cities should aim to increase and strengthen biodiversity of urban areas,** via wide array of actions comprising, but not limited to, planning ecosystem services, implementing compensation mechanisms, ensuring diversity of protected areas as well as high quality of green areas, adequate level of maintenance, etc.



# Thematic Working Group

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# THANK YOU

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Sustainable Cities Commission



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