



ICLEI World Congress
Malmö, Sweden • 2021 - 2022

ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022



Sustainability.
Together.



ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022

ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022 was hosted by the City of Malmö and organized by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, the leading global network of more than 2500 cities, towns and regions committed to building a sustainable future.

For more information, visit: <http://worldcongress.iclei.org/>

ABOUT THE CITY OF MALMÖ, SWEDEN

An ICLEI Member since 1996, the City of Malmö is a climate-smart knowledge city, listed as the fourth most innovative in the world by OECD. Malmö is working actively for sustainability initiatives and is the first city in Sweden that has publicly announced the commitment to implement the UN SDGs.

With around 350,000 inhabitants, Malmö might be small in size, but big in ambition. The city has adopted a unique approach to sustainability, with environmental, financial and social effects all forming part of the equation. Everything that happens in Malmö is done with sustainability in mind. New climate-smart city districts are emerging, and old areas are being improved using new environmental technology. And the objectives are ambitious; by 2030 the whole city of Malmö will be supplied with 100% renewable energy.

The City of Malmö is a leading example of the ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022 theme, “Sustainability. Together.” A once prosperous industrial city that fell on hard times has since reinvented itself as a dynamic knowledge center built on cultural diversity, youth, and sustainable development. Their example proves that local and regional governments are at the forefront of the global response to today’s challenges.



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INTRODUCTION

Every three years, ICLEI hosts the ICLEI World Congress to showcase how cities, towns and regions across our network are advancing sustainable urban development worldwide. The ICLEI World Congress connects local and regional governments with their peers and strategic partners, and provides a platform for discussions that will inform and enhance their work.

From the founding ICLEI World Congress in New York City, USA in 1990, the ICLEI World Congress has always taken a deep and critical look at the most relevant and pressing issues in urban sustainability. The ICLEI World Congress is the core event organized by ICLEI. Each event is a chance for the network and our partners to come together and outline the future of sustainability in urban areas worldwide.

The year 2021 was critical in so many ways. The devastating force of the corona-virus pandemic, paired with the ongoing climate and nature crises, made it imperative for local and regional governments to continue to find ways to persevere in their sustainable development goals. For this reason, ICLEI and the City of Malmö pioneered a “brand new” format for the ICLEI World Congress 2021 – 2022, so participants could still get the full ICLEI World Congress experience in spite of the pandemic.

A “Brand New” Format

For the first time in ICLEI history, the ICLEI World Congress was a year-long, multi-part event. From 2021 up until the first quarter of 2022, the Congress was entirely virtual, in order to accommodate the ever-changing COVID-19 rules and restrictions, while the final part of the congress was held primarily in-person in Malmö, with virtual opportunities for those unable to travel.

Part one was the Virtual Launch, a fully virtual experience that kicked off the Congress with high-level and insightful global discussions.

Part two was a virtual webinar series titled, *The Road to Malmö*, that took participants on a tour around the world, exploring global sustainable development advances as we moved toward 2022.

The Congress culminated in the final part: The Malmö Summit, where ICLEI Members and other local and regional governments came together in Malmö in-person for three exciting days of strategic high-level dialogues building on themes explored in 2021, as well as engaging technical site visits, in-depth workshops, and multiple networking opportunities especially suited for in-person participation.



The Virtual Launch

At the Virtual Launch, which was held on 13-15 April 2021, ICLEI elected a new global leadership and launched a year-long event program focused on sustainable urban development together with the City of Malmö, Sweden.

The organization's new leadership was announced during a special pre-event session of the inaugural ICLEI Global Executive Committee Meeting on 12 April 2021.

Frank Cownie, Mayor, City of Des Moines, USA was elected as ICLEI President. Katrin Stjernfeldt Jammeh, Mayor, City of Malmö, Sweden, was elected ICLEI First Vice-President. The Global Executive Committee also elected two Vice Presidents: Minna Arve, Mayor, City of Turku, Finland, and Atishi Marlena, Member of Legislative Assembly, National Capital Territory of Delhi, India.

"We form a strong, dedicated and balanced ICLEI Presidium that represents the diversity and strength of our network," said Des Moines, USA, Mayor Frank Cownie, in his first address as ICLEI President to the participants of the ICLEI World Congress 2021 - 2022 on 13 April, 2021 with more than 1500 participants from over 115 countries.

Frank Cownie, Mayor, City of Des Moines, USA



**Frank Cownie,
Mayor, City of Des Moines, USA**

The Virtual Launch of the ICLEI World Congress included the announcement of the ICLEI Malmö Commitment and Strategic Vision 2021-2027. This document lays out how the ICLEI network will advance sustainable urban development for the next six years, locally and globally, in an era where the local, regional, and national governments are continuing to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, while at the same time advancing urgent action on climate, nature, land and health.



**ICLEI Secretary General introducing the new
ICLEI Strategic Vision**
[click here to view the video](#)

Accompanying the **ICLEI Strategic Vision is the ICLEI Malmö Action Plan 2021 - 2024**, a compendium of concrete actions that ICLEI is undertaking with the ICLEI local and regional governments to achieve sustainable development. The three year action plan includes 141 activities, involving well over 1100 cities, towns and regions around the world.

Check out the ICLEI Malmö Commitment and Strategic Vision 2021-2027 and ICLEI Malmö Action Plan 2021-2024 [here](#).

The Virtual Launch also featured a number of high-level events with a focus on ICLEI's five sustainable development pathways, the contribution of local and regional governments to the UN Decade of Action on Sustainable Development (2021-2030), while also shining a particular spotlight on the sustainability efforts of the host, City of Malmö, Sweden.



**Katrin Stjernfeldt Jammeh,
Mayor, City of Malmö, Sweden**



**Minna Arve,
Mayor, City of Turku, Finland**



**Atishi Marlena,
Member of Legislative Assembly,
National Capital Territory of Delhi, India.**

The Virtual Launch Sessions

Shaping Our Sustainable Urban Future for All



Shaping Our Sustainable Urban Future for All
[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)



Equitably Shaping Our Sustainable Urban Future
[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)



Following the Circular Development Pathway Towards Sustainable Cities
[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)



Engaging Cities and Regions in the Global Nature Agenda
[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)



Resilient Development and Risk Management for a Sustainable Urban Future
[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)



Towards Low Emission and Climate Neutral Development for a Sustainable Urban World
[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)

The Road to Malmö

Following the Virtual Launch of the ICLEI World Congress 2021 – 2022, throughout the rest of 2021, we explored critical topics in sustainable urban development during the Road to Malmö webinar series. This virtual tour around the world worked to advance cities on sustainability throughout the ICLEI network, building our momentum to 2022 and the Malmö Summit.

The Road to Malmö Sessions



Climate Investment Showcase with the Transformative Actions Program (TAP)
Latin American Pitch Event

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)



Fostering 1.5 Degrees Lifestyles with Urban Partnerships All Roads Lead to Healthier
and Climate Neutral Cities

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)



Moving forward from COP26
[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)



Localizing Biodiversity Protection through the Circular Economy
[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)



Green Resilience: Building a Resilient and Environmentally-Friendly City
[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)



The Best Practice Behind Malmö's Innovative Climate Work
[CLICK HERE TO VIEW RECORDING](#)

2022 Global Executive Committee Meeting

On 10 May 2022, the ICLEI Global Executive Committee (GexCom) convened in-person in Malmö for their 2022 annual meeting. The GexCom highlighted the work done by ICLEI Members and partners during these challenging times and the work projected to be completed over the next three years including:

500+

500+ declared a climate emergency

250+

250+ committed to ambitious climate action by 2030 and climate neutrality before 2050

200+

200+ accounts and report their climate action via the ICLEI-led Clearpath and HEAT+ softwares

1000+

1000+ practicing transparency and accountability by reporting at CDP-ICLEI Track

250+

250+ committed to acting in the "Cities/Regions with Nature" platforms

50+

50+ advancing on circular economy

100+

100+ committed to sustainable procurement

75+

75+ delivering sustainable mobility

300+

300+ developing resilience, climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction plans

600+

600+ incorporating equity into their urban sustainable development actions

The GexCom commended the actions of these pioneering cities and expressed hope that they serve as inspiration to all local and regional governments as they further determine their role in addressing the climate and nature emergencies.

SEE WHAT ICLEI GEXCOM REPRESENTATIVES AIMED TO HIGHLIGHT AT ICLEI WORLD CONGRESS 2021-2022

The Malmö Summit

With the learnings taken from the Virtual Launch and the Road to Malmö, the ICLEI World Congress began its final part as we gathered in person in Malmö, Sweden, for the Malmö Summit, on 11-13 May 2022 to exchange with and inspire one another on the best practices in local sustainable development. The three days of programming highlighted many of the initiatives the city of Malmö has co-created with residents to achieve the SDGs by 2030, including mobile workshops designed for local and regional leaders to experience the initiatives in action firsthand. In addition, ICLEI, in partnership with the City of Malmö, furthered our equity and people-centered urban development pathway by launching the Malmö Commitment, a knowledge-sharing initiative aimed at embedding social equity through inclusion and community engagement, at the core of local sustainable development.



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW](#)



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INSIGHTS INTO THE CONGRESS

Attendees

The Virtual Launch

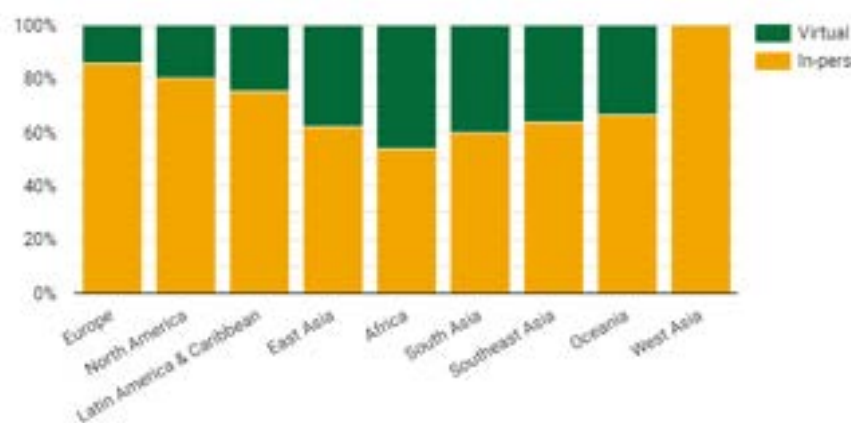
- 1,685 registrants from 120 countries
- 647 live attendees from 85 countries and 9 ICLEI regions
- +840 views of the recordings
- 6 high-level dialogues over 3 days

The Road to Malmö

- 535 live attendees from 65 countries and 8 ICLEI regions
- +900 views of the recordings
- 7 webinars, 1 workshop and 1 pitch event across the year (from May 2021 to April 2022)

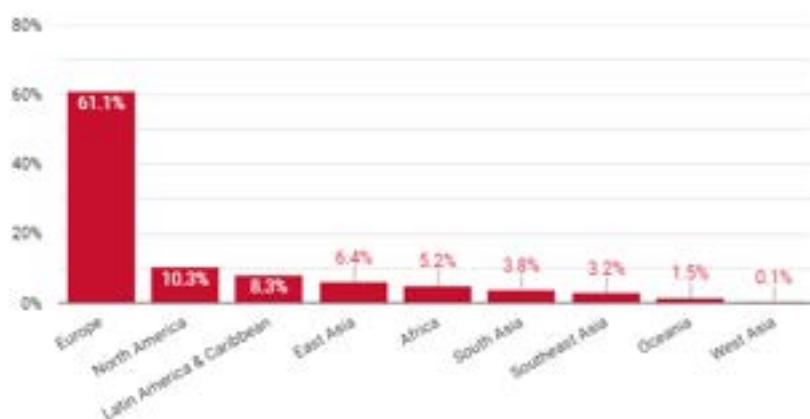
The Malmö Summit



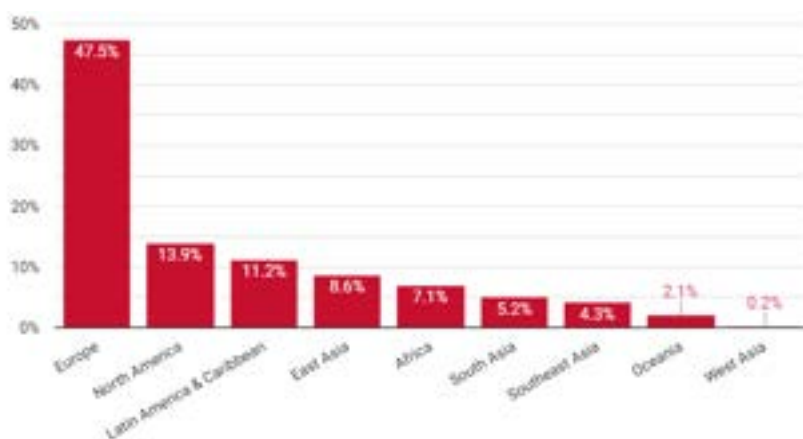


Regional distribution by participation type

Of the total participants **61% were based in Europe** and **18% were based in the Americas** ; all 9 ICLEI Regions were represented by the participants:

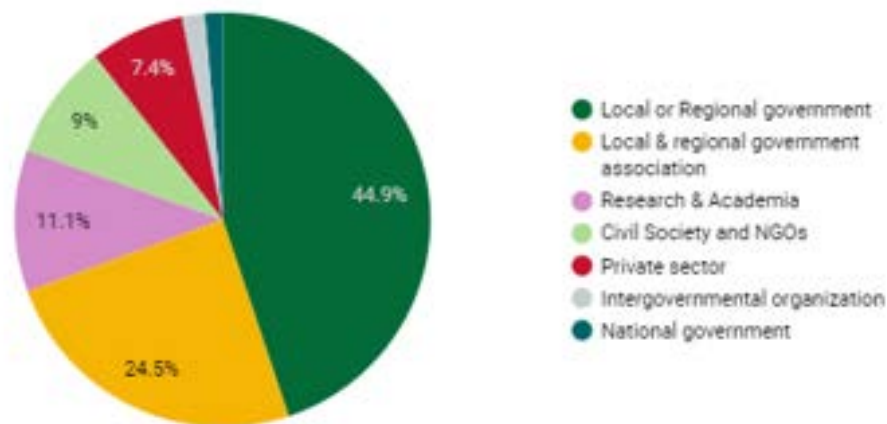


Regional distribution by geography



Regional distribution excluding Swedish participants

44% were representatives from local governments coming from 153 different cities and regions. Other sectors represented by The Malmö Summit participants include academia and research institutions (11%), private sector (7%), and civil society and NGOs (9%):



Participation by sector

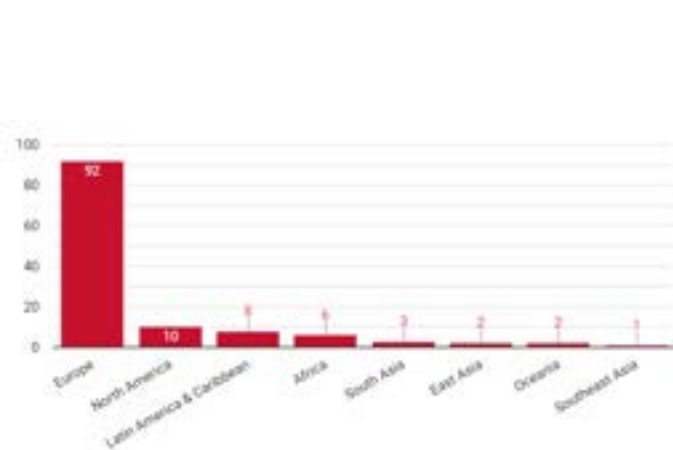
Whova: 674 attendees downloaded the Whova app, more than **3,600 messages** were exchanged, **643 messages in the community board** were posted, **243 photos** were shared, **226 business cards** were exchanged, **89%** reported they **found Whova useful**. **26** interactive **in-person sessions**, **10 virtual sessions**, **6 high-level dialogues** and **13 mobile workshops** took place.



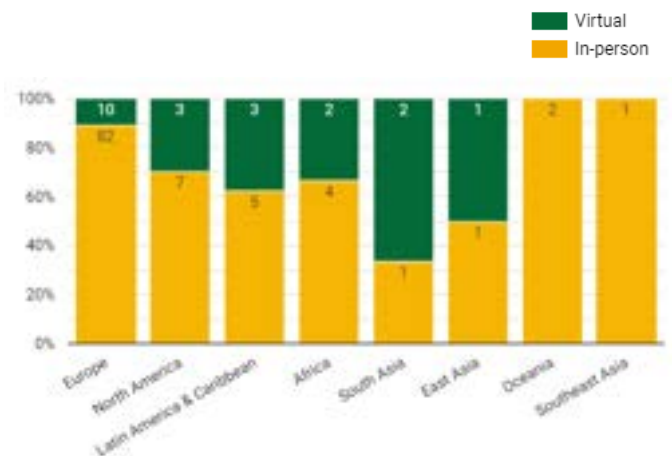
Research Symposium



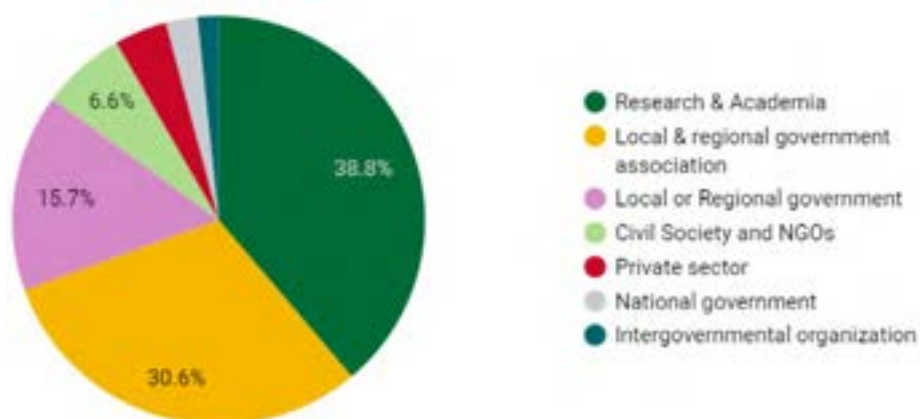
About 100 participants from more than 25 different countries representing all 9 ICLEI regions



Regional distribution:



Regional distribution by participation type



Participation by sector

39% of Research Symposium participants represented Research & Academia, 16% were from local or regional governments:

“Malmö: The city at the heart of “Sustainability. Together.”

Malmö's challenges date back to the early 90s when the city was financially bankrupt. Around that time, wealthier residents had fled their apartments in the downtown core in favor of purchasing homes in outlying areas. Those early issues represented the start of the city's process of finding a balance between the potentially conflicting agendas of social inclusion, environmental action, and economic growth.

Putting the city's remarkable transformation into perspective, Malmö is home to the Augustenborg neighborhood, a city-led initiative to create a more sustainable community through multi-departmental work tied to improving transportation, stormwater management, energy efficiency, waste management, biodiversity, and social innovation. The outcome is now seen as one of the most ambitious, most successful transition projects in all of Europe. Additionally, in 2021 Malmö was voted as Sweden's Environmental

Best Municipality by Aktuell Hållbarhet magazine. The award recognizes that Malmö has become a living lab for sustainability, with the ambitious goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

The City of Malmö's past and present made it both relatable and inspirational to other cities and therefore the ideal setting for ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022. We were able to spotlight Malmö as the host city with the following components:

- **Mobile Workshops**
- **The Malmö Commitment on Inclusive and Equitable Communities**
- **Announcement of City of Malmö Recognition as MCR2030 Resilience Hub**
- **Youth Engagement**
- **Event Equity and Environmental Guidelines**

CHECK OUT THE CITY OF MALMÖ'S SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES IN ACTION



Climate Neutral Energy & Building
[CLICK HERE TO WATCH VIDEO](#)



Equitable and Inclusive City
[CLICK HERE TO WATCH VIDEO](#)



Low emission transport
[CLICK HERE TO WATCH VIDEO](#)

Mobile Workshops

The Mobile Workshops were an opportunity for visiting city representatives to see first-hand how sustainability measures were being implemented in the City of Malmö. Our participant survey results demonstrated that these workshops were the stand-out experience at ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022.

ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022 participants rated their satisfaction with mobile workshops 8.1/10.

Mobile Workshops included:



Malmö- Creating a sustainable urban food system

Botildenborg has established itself as a successful social enterprise around food, catering and urban farming. The enterprise serves as an incubator and helps people develop life and employment skills. Situated in Rosengård, an area known for its 150 nationalities, it is a unique place for human interaction and integration.

Malmö - A city with net zero carbon emissions in 2030

The construction sector accounts for more than 20% of Sweden's climate impact. The "Local Road map for a climate-neutral construction and civil engineering sector in Malmö 2030" (LFM30) is a unique local partnership leading the way forward. Nearly 195 construction-related companies are now working together to restructure the construction industry in Malmö to net zero buildings by 2030.



Malmö - An active and attractive city for all

Malmö has a strong focus on creating a more livable city with space for nature, people, play and recreation as well as commerce and sustainable mobility. During a three-step tour, largely on foot through central parts of Malmö, you will take part in several examples of work to create a more vibrant and livable city.

Malmö - Community building, health promotion and social inclusion at neighbourhood level

Lindängen is a multicultural residential area in the southern part of Malmö where there are several socioeconomic and health related challenges. Over a long period of time, collaboration between municipal agencies, NGOS, networks within the community, academia and property owners has evolved to meet these challenges. This mobile workshop focused on the cornerstones of this work: participatory and co-creative action, trust-based relations between agencies, community building and strategies to promote health literacy and resilience.

Malmö - Partnerships for socio- economic improvements and lasting change

BID Malmö is a partnership between property owners, businesses, tenant-owner associations and community organisations to increase well-being in the areas. BID is an established method standing for "business improvement district". However, in Malmö this was to "boende, integration, dialog" which means "housing, integration, dialogue". BID Malmö is also based on close collaboration with the city, community associations, authorities and researchers. Cultural activity and diversity are at the heart of the regeneration partnership. BID Sofielund and BID Möllevången cover vibrant parts of the city encompassing older residential areas and a large industrial district.



Malmö - Designing streets for active mobility

Design and use of streets focusing on accessibility, walking, cycling and public transport. This bike tour featured different sites in Malmö city center and educated participants about diverse aspects of the city's work on sustainable mobility including:

- Cycle infrastructure design and services,
- Cycle parking in the streets and at public transport hub
- Environments,
- Carpools and cargo bike pools,
- Improved walk-ability of central Malmö,
- Public transport infrastructure design for high-capacity bus service (Malmöexpressen)
- Development of car parks into mobility hubs

Malmö - Energy system transformation in the sustainable city district Hyllie

Hyllie is the largest new-built district in Malmö with the vision to become the most climate-smart district in the Öresund region and a global role model for sustainable city development. In 2011, the City of Malmö, the energy company [E.ON](#) and the water and sewage company VA Syd signed a climate contract to make Hyllie a climate-smart district. Since then, several projects concerning innovation testbeds and other developments have been executed. Through extensive and successful collaboration, the journey for the visions of Hyllie has come far.



Malmö - Learning from the sea

Malmö has strong ties to the marine environment and education from local community level to the UN World Maritime University based in Malmö. This mobile workshop allowed participants to experience Malmö's unique work with Ocean Literacy at the Naturum Öresund visitor centre by the coastline. Here children, students and inhabitants learned more about the sea and how important it is for our well-being.

Malmö - Social enterprises and the inclusive and circular city

Social enterprises and NGOs provide important services to the local community addressing social issues, and often with a strong link to the circular economy. Inequality in health is a challenge and a focus of attention for the city of Malmö. Malmö was the first city in the world to launch a local commission for social sustainability, the "Malmö Commission", which finished its work in 2013. The work to build a more social sustainable city, with no health inequalities, is an ongoing process.

Malmö- Sustainable neighbourhood regeneration

Augustenborg is a pioneering example of regeneration of an existing neighbourhood with a strong focus on community participation, environmental improvements and flood management.

Malmö - Sustainable transformation of industrial harbour areas

The Western Harbour and the New Harbour provide a glimpse at 20 years of cutting-edge sustainable urban development and look 20 years into the future. The Western Harbour, until the 1990's a purely industrial harbour area, became the venue for the European housing exhibition, Bo01 - the world's first 100% renewable urban district. Both areas are examples of the challenges of the transformation of industrial harbour areas, such as soil remediation, sea level rise and storm water management, but also flagships for sustainable solutions in liveability, energy efficiency, renewable energy supply, sustainable mobility and biodiversity.

Malmö- Circular resource management

Malmö-based SYSAV and VA SYD are two essential players in the field of sustainability who both work with a structural approach toward a circular economy. SYSAV through resource management and district heating production, VA SYD through wastewater management and energy production. With a shared belief that waste should be considered a resource which should, as far as possible, be reused and recycled, SYSAV and VA SYD firmly promote a circular outlook on the future, each in their own way.



Urban design for the sharing economy

Sege Park explores how the sharing economy is influencing property developers, self-build co-ops, utilities and car parking companies to rethink their concepts, plans and business

Models. Sege Park was once a sanatorium, self-sufficient in fruit and vegetables, providing care in a green and pleasant environment. Today the area is being developed through re-purposing of existing buildings and new development to become a lively sustainable neighbourhood. This mobile workshop shared about the collaborative design process, where the developers have committed to working with the principles of sharing economy, exploring new ways of increasing quality of experience, strength of community, affordable housing and environmental sustainability.

The City of Malmö also hosted the Mobile Workshops the weekend following the World Congress for residents to attend and feel pride in the work their city is doing to make it a more equitable, sustainable place for everyone.



The Malmö Commitment on Inclusive and Equitable Communities

Recognizing the multiple, interconnected challenges local governments face with regards to the climate and nature crisis and social inequalities, the Malmö Commitment on Inclusive and Equitable Communities, aims to inspire local governments to be part of the solution and encourages sustainable approaches, innovation, adaptability, participation and inclusiveness. Spearheaded by Katrin Stjernfeldt Jammeh, Mayor, City of Malmö, Sweden, and First Vice President, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, the Malmö Commitment will serve as a key legacy of the ICLEI World Congress 2021 - 2022 for both ICLEI and the City of Malmö.

“The Malmö Commitment is more than just a declaration. It’s a long term goal of fostering safe, vibrant cities, towns and communities for all to live, work and thrive.”

Katrin Stjernfeldt Jammeh,
Mayor of Malmö.



The Malmö Commitment was launched on 12 May 2022 during the high-level dialogue “Putting people at the heart of local sustainable development: The Malmö Commitment” and signed by nine **Pioneer** cities who are already leading the way in equitable sustainable urban development at a press conference at the ICLEI World Congress 2021 - 2022: The Malmö Summit.



These nine local and regional governments have committed to: 1) collaborating with community stakeholders to identify the key sustainability challenges that must be prioritized within the community, and the social dimensions against which each challenge must be addressed; 2) designing smart social equity indicators to measure and monitor their progress in addressing these key sustainability challenges; 3) reporting their progress and share successes and lessons learned with other committed local governments to develop a pool of knowledge for further advancing equitable sustainable local development around the world; and 4) encouraging the local governments of neighboring communities, and others they work with and partner, to commit to the Malmö Commitment and further enhance the collective efforts.

All local and regional governments are welcome to become Supporters of the Malmö Commitment. As supporters they will have the opportunity to showcase their commitment to developing safe, inclusive, resilient communities for all. **Supporters** will become part of a community of like-minded local and regional governments working on equity policies within the sustainability sphere; gain access to further tools, resources and good practice which support equitable local sustainable development planning and implementation; and have the opportunity to share knowledge and collaborate with other committed local and regional governments addressing similar challenges and dedicated to promoting equity in their cities, towns and regions.

After this first phase of piloting, supporters will have the chance to become part of the group of pioneers. Evaluations will be done periodically based on the readiness of the government to design equity indicators and its capacity of reporting, among other requirements.

Learn more about the Malmö Commitment at <http://malmocommit.iclei.org/>



“The Malmö Commitment calls on cities to do more about the social side of green transition”

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE STORY](#)

The City of Malmö Recognized as MCR2030 Resilience Hub

During the session: “Strategies towards resilient and healthy cities” at the ICLEI World Congress, Malmö announced being named the latest European city and the second in Sweden named as a Resilience Hub by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). This honor recognizes the city and its partners for their proactive efforts to prepare for and mitigate climate-related hazards.

Malmö, which was severely flooded after a cloudburst event in 2014, recently completed a special coastal protection analysis, and a coastal protection strategy is expected to be finalised next year. The city has also taken steps to cut its energy use in city-owned buildings by 30 per cent and was named the most environmentally friendly municipality in the country last year.

“Malmö, the first municipality in Sweden to sign the UN’s Agenda 2030, serves as an example of how proactive leadership and disaster risk reduction strategies can help to end the spiral of destruction created when we underestimate disaster risk”

Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of UNDRR.



Climate Justice Through Youth Engagement

Another alignment between the City of Malmö and ICLEI was the importance of engaging youth in this year's World Congress. 16 students from the Lund University, Malmö University, and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences participated in all the sessions and talked to many participants from all over the world about their vision of a sustainable city.

While attending sessions, mobile workshops and networking with ICLEI Members, the students were asked to reflect on the following questions:

What is our new vision of a sustainable city or town?

How have we changed our concept and priorities for a sustainable city or town in light of recent hazards and risks, including, but not limited to the COVID-19 pandemic?

How have we changed our concept and priorities for a sustainable city or town in light of recent hazards and risks, including, but not limited to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Which obstacles and challenges do we face?

How can we ensure this new vision is brought about equitably and includes all persons?

What is needed to realise this new vision?

Some of their key takeaways and recommendations included:

- The need to involve today's youth earlier in the design of a sustainable urban future. They asked to give young people a chance to be part of the dialogue and make their voices heard much more in advance.
- The need for greater multi-level governance. They saw a commitment to bottom-up approaches, for incorporating communities, and citizens, and to find more science-based approaches, but more needs to be done to make sure that multi-level governance is implemented in an effective way..
- The awareness that cities are the right actors to address the concerns of local citizens. This World Congress consolidated their belief that cities are the front runners and those who should be demanding more political action from national governments.
- The need for a bigger discourse about the differential impact of climate change. They agreed that climate change has and will have a much greater effect for some parts of this world, especially the global South, and priority for financing and partnerships in these areas is critical.

[View the full report here.](#)

Equitable Event Guidelines

The guidelines for an equitable event were the result of a close dialogue and collaboration between the City of Malmö and the ICLEI World Secretariat. It is the product of an insightful exchange that took place during the whole preparation period of the ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022: The Malmö Summit, and continued during and after the event, incorporating lessons learnt and internal evaluations. These guidelines are based on the principle of equality in rights and opportunities, the core of human rights and the basis for the principle of leaving no one behind in Agenda 2030.



The initial purpose of these guidelines was to support the objective of the ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022 in Malmö to be a non-discriminatory, equitably accessible, and inclusive congress, at all levels and stages of the work process. **This initiative will be a starting point for hosting future ICLEI events in an equitable and inclusive manner.**

Learn more about the guidelines [here](#).

Sustainability. Together In Action: Key Announcements from ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022

ICLEI's 6th Research Symposium:

UPDATE ON GLOBAL RESEARCH ACTION & CITY RESEARCH INNOVATION AGENDAS

100+ attendees

30+ speakers

5 panels and plenaries

6 break-out groups

14 research pitches

2 Global Research Agendas launched

Over 100 urban sustainability researchers, innovators, local and regional practitioners, political leaders, and scientists gathered at the World Maritime University in Malmö for ICLEI's 6th Research Symposium to co-create actionable knowledge for science-informed decision making to support subnational governments in their transition toward further sustainability.

An update to the 2018 Global Research Action Agenda on Cities and Climate Change Science (GRAA) was released as Findings from Innovate4Cities 2021. These findings detail the research, policy, public discussions, recommendations and research gaps as the global research and action agenda for cities and climate change science.

An update to the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM) City Research Agenda was also launched as the City Research

and Innovation Agenda – a response for city practice and city leadership to the updated GRAA. GCoM's City Research and Innovation Agenda identifies and tackles the data, information, and technology gaps that cities have prioritized and, if addressed, would drive science-based, technology-driven, replicable sustainable action and implementation at the scale the world needs and cities demand.

These two agendas are key outcomes of the Innovate4Cities 2021 Conference that was co-hosted by GCoM and UN-Habitat, co-sponsored by the IPCC, with ICLEI as one of the core partners.

The Research Symposium was co-organized by the City of Malmö, the World Maritime University (WMU) – Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute, and ICLEI.

Check out the City Research and Innovation Agenda



CITY RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AGENDA

ACCELERATING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FOR CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

The science is clear: climate change is the crisis of our time and must be addressed by all sectors of society at unprecedented speed and scale.

Impactful consensus at the highest levels of international research on climate science have increased recognition of Paris Agreement aims, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the pathways required to achieve them.^{1,2,3} Yet current national government commitments are not enough; at the COP26 World Leaders Summit, UN Secretary-General António Guterres highlighted "a deficit of credibility and a surplus of confusion over emissions reductions."⁴ Amidst uncertainty cities and local governments are rising to meet the moment – with more than 11,700 already committed to ambitious mitigation and adaptation action through the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy.

With one voice, the world's cities are underscoring their role as an effective driving force in implementing the Paris Agreement.

To deliver accelerated and more ambitious city climate action, it is critical for all levels of government, academia, the private sector, civil society, and other organisations to form transformational, outcome-oriented partnerships.

Built on a cross-sector evidence base,^{5,6} the City Research and Innovation Agenda clearly identifies the global and regional priorities that can enable local governments to rapidly and holistically transform ambition into implementation.

LET'S GET STARTED!



Figure 8: Themes from the Strategy from Innovate4Cities 2021 and update to the Global Research and Action Agenda (GRAA), 2022. Circular City Research and Innovation Agenda. Source: Theme leader (ring) and Strategy Approaches (outer ring).



Check out the City
Research and Innovation Agenda

Launch of ICLEI150 Race to Resilience in the United States

During the ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022: The Malmö Summit, ICLEI USA announced its support of U.S. local and regional governments in the Cities Race to Resilience, a global initiative of the United Nations that aims to build the resilience of 4 billion vulnerable people globally to climate risks.

With ICLEI USA support, four communities will conduct climate risk and vulnerability assessments and implement high-impact resilience actions:

Travis County, Texas

- Nashville-Davidson County, Tennessee
- Oberlin, Ohio
- Olympia, Washington

Google.org provides \$10M funding to ICLEI

Sustainable cities are a growing interest area for Google, and ICLEI is a long-standing, trusted grantee of Google.org. To show their continued support, Google.org will provide additional funding to the ICLEI Action Funds. The ICLEI Action Fund aims to partner with cities by funding projects that are data-driven, highly-replicable, and action-oriented.

The ICLEI EU office will be supported with €7M and the ICLEI USA office with \$3M. With these two funds combined, Google.org will be providing over \$10M in funding to ICLEI.



For more information on the Google.org
Action Fund, click [here](#)





Transformative Actions Program (TAP) launches 6th Call for Application

At the closing plenary, ICLEI launched the 6th Transformative Actions Program (TAP) call for application. TAP aims to catalyze and improve capital flows to cities, towns and regions, thereby accelerating net zero emission and climate-resilient development.

The Program offers project preparation support, guidance, partnering and connection with other experts, key stakeholders, potential investors and Project Preparation Facilities (PPFs).

Since its launch in 2015, TAP has received 330+ local climate projects seeking guidance and funding. For more information, visit <https://tap-potential.org/>

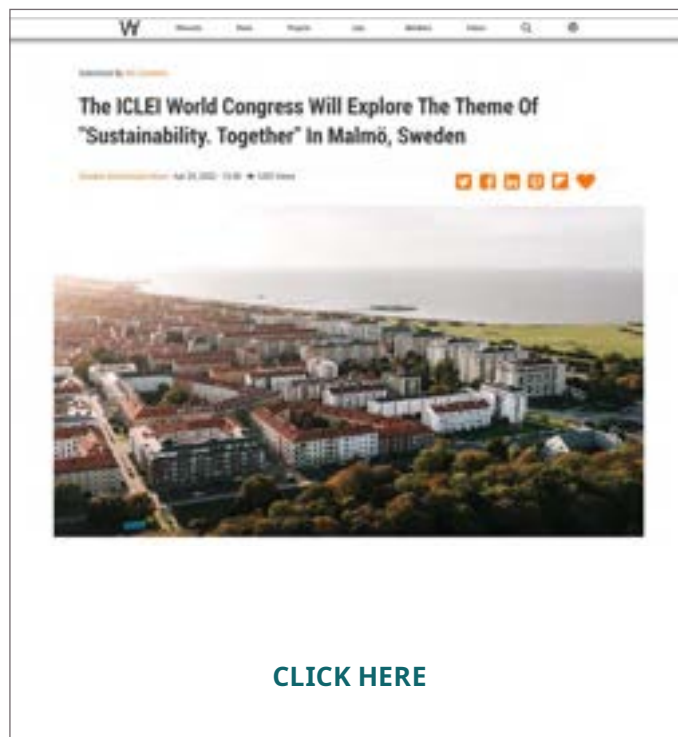
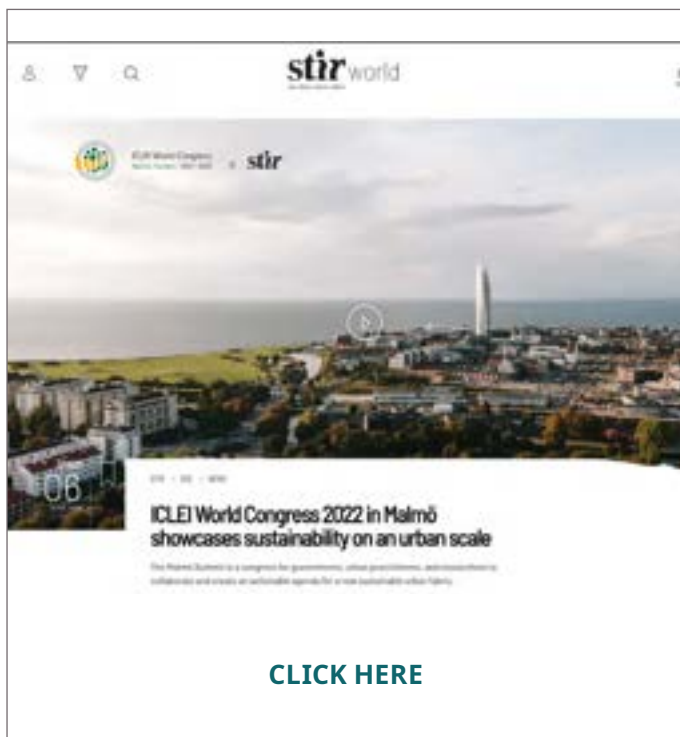


Media Coverage

ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022 provided a year-long opportunity to spotlight the urban sustainability programs and initiatives the City of Malmö leads.

Through 35+ media stories, the City of Malmö and ICLEI gained over 73.6M views through online readership.

Media highlights include:



Sponsors, Exhibitors, and Media Partners

ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022 wouldn't be possible without support from the following sponsors, exhibitors, media partners, and community partners.

Premium Sponsors

ICLEI and the City of Malmö would like to express special appreciation and gratitude to the Premium Sponsors of the ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022: The Malmö Summit: E.ON, ClimateView and MKB for their generous support and valuable contributions to making this ICLEI flagship event such a success.



E.ON Sweden is part of the international energy group E.ON SE with headquarters in Essen, Germany. The group employs around 70,000 people in 15 countries and is one of Europe's largest operators of energy networks and energy infrastructure as well as a provider of innovative customer solutions for 50 million customers.

By expanding today's electricity grid, electrifying transport and developing new energy solutions, E.ON is committed to help drive the energy transition to a sustainable society.

E.ON's core business consists of two major pillars: Smart distribution networks and innovative energy solutions. The electricity networks are the backbone of the energy transition and the expansion of renewable energy. Operation of these are the foundation of livable cities, communities and regions. Innovative and sustainable energy solutions make it possible for E.ONs customers to control their energy consumption. With district heating and cooling, solar energy, e-Mobility, energy storage, energy efficiency and solutions for sharing energy, customers can both reduce their costs and climate emissions, and increase their comfort and quality of life.

"In order to cope with climate change, it is necessary that we switch energy from fossil fuels to renewable and recycled, and that we use energy in the smartest possible way. At E.ON, we are proud to do so in close collaboration with the City of Malmö; together we drive Malmö's sustainable growth."

Marc Hoffmann, Country Head Sweden/CEO Customer Solutions

At The Malmö Summit, E.ON shared several examples of how the company works with sustainable urban development, bringing in focus [ectogrid](#), one of the decentralized energy systems of the future that can help reach zero emission levels - in a neighborhood, in an area or in entire cities.



"Hear from Anette Blücher on why E.ON sponsored iclei world congress and what product they highlighted during the solutions showcase."

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH](#)

E.ON's virtual side event at
The Malmö Summit:

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH](#)





[ClimateView](#) is a Swedish climate action technology company that helps cities transform climate planning into progress. ClimateView provides [ClimateOS](#), a collaborative decision-making platform for local governments to plan, simulate and execute their climate transition. Pioneering cities use the platform to reach their Paris Agreement targets and build their zero carbon economies with free and paid subscriptions. It enables faster delivery and financing of climate action by integrating data, advanced modeling and beautiful visualization into a single easy to use platform.

"To keep the Paris Agreement within reach, the right tools need to become available to the main actors of the transition, namely local governments. The ClimateOS Analysis toolkit is our commitment to the advancement of zero carbon cities. And that's why it's free."

Tomer Shalit, Founder & CPO of ClimateView

As part of The Malmö Summit program, ClimateView introduced the new Climate Plan Visualisation in ClimateOS and discussed the importance of broadly communicating city climate plans, using an integrated digital platform. In the interactive workshop ClimateOS dashboard and the ways in which it supports climate action were presented.



Check out this webinar featuring ClimateView during The Road to Malmö:

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH](#)

"Hear from Orren Shalit on why ClimateView sponsored ICLEI world congress and what product they highlighted during the solutions showcase."

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH](#)





MKB, owned by the City of Malmö, is one of Sweden's largest public housing companies. Managing over 25000 flats and 1000 commercial spaces, it is the single biggest property management company in Malmö.

MKB places great emphasis on achieving commercial goals alongside a firm commitment to social responsibility and actively works to create sustainable solutions across the city. The company holds an HBTQ-certification and is committed to the promotion of diversity and inclusion.

During The Malmö Summit, MKB highlighted their integrated sustainability concept, according to which multiple sustainability efforts, including social and environmental aspects, are conducted in parallel. The concept builds on the conviction that successful sustainability work requires a capacity to focus on several areas persistently and at the

same time. This firm and integrated commitment to sustainability is also central to MKB's capacity to fulfill its commercial objectives.

"For our sustainability work to be successful in the long term, it is my conviction that we must integrate environmental, social and financial sustainability. We will achieve our commercial goals by being socially and environmentally sustainable, while maintaining a strong financial situation will allow us to invest in sustainable solutions. Each action supports the other. Investing in the physical development of our residential neighborhoods improves property values, as well as security among our tenants. This is how we must work as we build the Malmö of the future."

Marie Thelander Dellhag, CEO of MKB

What's the real bottom line?

Sustainability in housing profitability



Read more about MKB's sustainable housing work in LGIU

[CLICK HERE TO READ](#)



Additional Sponsors, Exhibitors, and Supporting Partners

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EnergyMetric (Institute for Environmental Analytics)
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RUGGEDISED project

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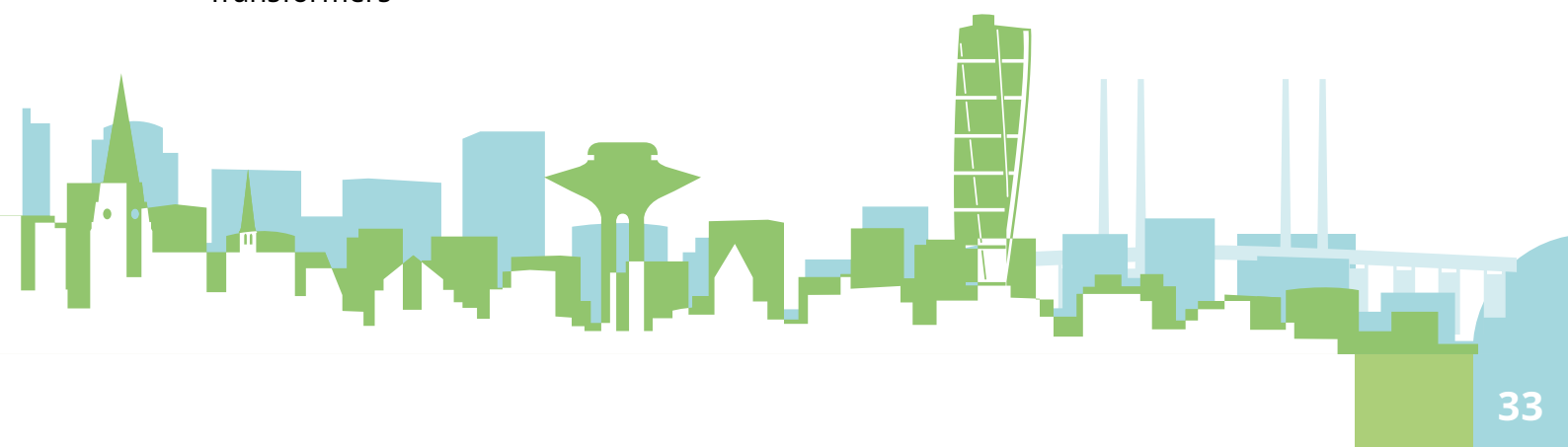
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LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022: the Malmö Summit offered participants the opportunity to finally be reconnected, both in-person and virtually, to showcase equitable initiatives to sustainable development and to adopt a whole of community, inclusive approach where stakeholders engage in innovative and constructive ways.

Following the lead of the five interconnected ICLEI pathways, i.e. low emission, circular, resilient, nature-based, and equitable and people-centered development, and SDG 11 “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”, the Malmö Summit explored the most pressing topics related to sustainable local development. Additionally, it investigated how the COVID-19 pandemic and other new and evolving hazards have redefined our priorities when imagining a sustainable city, town or region, and what needs to be done to further strengthen multilevel collaboration and action in order to move from target setting and hard commitments to implemented action and transformative change.

ICLEI and the City of Malmö strived to use ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022 to showcase good practice on how local and regional governments can ensure participatory approaches and stakeholder engagement, and effectively bring all members of their communities on board with their sustainability work. High-level plenaries and workshop sessions alike provided ample examples from around the world showcasing such approaches, while also identifying the challenges that still need to be tackled or improved upon. ICLEI and the City of Malmö aim to address these challenges and others through the newly launched Malmö Commitment, collaborating with the nine Pioneer cities who are committed to

prioritizing to embed equity at the heart of their local sustainable development work. ICLEI and the City of Malmö also wanted to ensure that we “walked the talk” when it came to prioritizing equity. Numerous efforts were made to improve the inclusiveness and equitability of the event itself. Rounds of consultations were conducted with stakeholders from around the world in order to help shape an inclusive and representative event program. ICLEI and the City of Malmö also co-developed equity and sustainability guidelines for events that can now be used by other event organizers, especially local and regional governments, in order to plan and implement their own events in more inclusive and equitable ways.

A further way in which this need for inclusivity and equitable engagement was addressed was through the offering of a virtual program to a remote audience. The aim was to make the congress as accessible as possible, considering the challenges that some Members faced, including but not limited to COVID-19 related travel restrictions, in attending the event in-person in Malmö. However, despite our efforts and best intentions, we have identified that this aspect of the ICLEI World Congress is one that needs to be significantly improved for future iterations, in order to give virtual participants a meaningful event experience.

Finally, while we made efforts to include the voices of young people in the event, we also learned that we could do much better on this front as well. This has been taken on-board as a key learning for future ICLEI World Congresses, in order to ensure that the ICLEI World Congress delivers meaningful youth engagement and provides a quality platform for youth to not only share their perspectives, but rather shape the discourse as such.



See You at the Next ICLEI World Congress!

ICLEI is seeking a host for the next edition of the ICLEI World Congress. All interested ICLEI Members can contact the ICLEI World Secretariat to request the ICLEI World Congress Bidding Package - without any commitment - at world.congress@iclei.org.

Hosting an ICLEI World Congress allows your city to present its sustainability efforts, share success factors and lessons learned to an international audience, demonstrate leadership and commitment, gain international exposure, integrate its sustainability work into the congress legacy, and strengthen its relationship with local and international stakeholders.





ICLEI World Congress
Malmö, Sweden • 2021 - 2022

