

# Effective engagement of citizens and stakeholders in LHP

## Good practice template

**Country:** Sweden

**Title:** Together for climate neutrality 2030

### Introduction

The local administration of Helsingborg – a municipality in southern Sweden is actively driving a campaign to reach the goal of climate neutrality by 2030 – that is, to reach a level where the city's emissions are minimal while the quality of life is high. To achieve this, joint, coordinated efforts are required from residents, companies, associations and the city as actors in a broad transition. The campaign consists of a number of initiatives.

### Stakeholders engaged

**City of Helsingborg:** The municipality's central role is to drive and enable the climate transition through the exercise of authority, planning, purchasing, communication and service delivery.

**Business and companies:** The municipality actively cooperates with companies via the Climate Agreement in Helsingborg, where over 100 companies and associations have signed and committed to reducing their emissions.

**Climate Agreement in Helsingborg** – Through the Helsingborg Declaration, actors from the entire logistics system – politics, academia and business – come together to make the Helsingborg region Europe's most fast-moving and sustainable logistics hub.

**Entrepreneurs Helsingborg Associations and civil society** – Associations are covered by the climate work via the Climate Agreement and participate in dialogues and networks.

**Residents** – Through extensive climate dialogues in 2024, the municipality has engaged residents in open conversations and in-depth workshops on how they can contribute in various everyday areas (travel, consumption, urban planning, etc.).

**Viable Cities Academy and research actors** – Universities and research institutions participate in collaborations and networks, as evidenced by, among other things, the climate and energy plan and the collaboration on Climate Agreements and innovation programs.

**Authorities and public programs** – Helsingborg is part of the national innovation program Viable Cities, which also includes the Swedish Transport Administration, the Swedish Energy Agency, Vinnova, the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth and Economic Development and Formas.

The city has signed the Climate Agreement 2030 together with 23 other Swedish municipalities and six authorities as part of Viable Cities.

Public operations and energy management – Municipally owned companies such as Öresundskraft (energy company) and NSR (waste management) contribute with practical solutions: biochar plants, CCS plans, climate investments, etc.

Port of Helsingborg is also part of the transition through electrification and logistics improvements.

Youth and schools – Through the pilot project "Powerful climate communication", young people in upper secondary schools are involved in communicating the city's climate goals and acting as climate ambassadors.

### **Practice description**

Climate dialogues In 2024: 24 dialogue sessions were held with residents to gather ideas and understand what is needed for everyone to be able to contribute to the climate transition, e.g. questions about travel habits, consumption, urban planning, obstacles and opportunities were in focus. dialog.

Climate agreement for companies and associations: Since its launch in 2021, the number of signatories has grown from 25 to over 100 in 2024. Signing the Climate Agreement is free of charge and means that businesses commit to quickly reducing their emissions, while the city offers networks and resources for transition.

Green Community Building: Support through the Climate Fund, where private individuals and non-profit associations can apply for up to SEK 100,000 for climate projects in Helsingborg. The scope is broad – everything from carpooling campaigns, sustainability strategies for associations, climate-inspired events to projects that strengthen civil society engagement.

### **Benefits:**

- Local cooperation and networking Initiatives such as the Climate Agreement, the Climate Fund and the Helsingborg Innovation District encourage companies, residents and associations to jointly contribute to the transition. The many sub-campaigns offer a wide number and type of stakeholders.
- The strategies and roadmaps are clear and understandable for individuals. The municipal Climate and Energy Plan (2025–2030) provides a structured way forward with prioritized areas of action and continuous follow-up.
- Practical climate action in the urban environment are visible in the streets. Examples such as electric machines in the harbor, tree planting and CCS technology (fossil-free district heating) show that the transition is concrete and already underway.

### **Challenge:**

- The campaign has limited influence over consumption-based and global emissions. The city mainly affects emissions within the municipality, but a large part of the climate impact occurs through international consumption and travel. These are not included in the climate goals, which makes the whole difficult to manage.

### **References and additional sources:**

- [Tillsammans mot klimatneutralt 2030 | Helsingborg.se](#)