



ICLEI World Congress
Malmö, Sweden • 2021 - 2022

MEDIA RELEASE

The ICLEI World Congress 2021 – 2022 | Sustainability. Together.

The Malmö Summit will bring 100+ cities, towns and regions together to showcase leadership in sustainability, adaptation and equity.

Bonn, Germany (25 April 2022) - The ICLEI World Congress 2021 - 2022, hosted by [ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability](#) and the City of Malmö, Sweden, will conclude on 11-13 May with the Malmö Summit - an international three-day congress for local and regional governments, urban practitioners, researchers and stakeholders to exchange with and inspire one another on the best practices in local sustainable development, and learn firsthand from the City of Malmö's wealth of sustainability initiatives. The Malmö Summit will explore and highlight critical topics in sustainable urban development, reflect on the outcomes of the COP26, and set new goals for cities, towns and regions in response to the climate emergency.

"The Malmö Summit will bring to life the motto of *Sustainability. Together*," said Frank Cownie Mayor, City of Des Moines, US, President of ICLEI's Global Executive Committee. "We're pleased to partner with the City of Malmö, Sweden for this World Congress because Malmö is a leading example of what cities are doing right now to co-create innovative sustainable development with equity at the forefront".

The City of Malmö, a once successful industrial city that fell on hard times has since reinvented itself as a dynamic knowledge centre built on cultural diversity, youth and sustainable development. "The City of Malmö is honored to host the ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022," said Katrin Stjernfeldt Jammeh, Mayor, City of Malmö. This is an opportunity for us to showcase our environmental and socially integrated approach to sustainability and to highlight real-world examples locally, in order to provide other cities with actionable information. At the Malmö Summit we look forward to also learning from other cities and regions through the sharing of best-practices. Building on this, the Malmö Commitment will be introduced at the Congress, firmly placing local and regional governments at the forefront of the global response to today's challenges."

Through a pre-event researchers' symposium, high-level plenaries, interactive mobile workshops, virtual sessions, and networking opportunities, the Malmö Summit is an action-oriented event that will ensure a space for cities, towns and regions to experience the power of working together toward their sustainability goals. Local and regional governments and their partners from around the world are invited to join the Malmö Summit in showcasing, celebrating and exchanging on the vision of a sustainable urban future. Registration information is available [here](#).

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The ICLEI World Congress 2021 – 2022: The Malmö Summit will have three days of core programming for participants, featuring strategic high-level dialogues building on themes explored in 2021, as well as exciting technical visits, in-depth workshops and multiple networking opportunities.

The rich and engaging in-person and online sessions will be divided into three overarching categories:

- **Strategies towards a climate neutral future:** These sessions will explore the efforts needed in our cities, towns and regions in order to move towards a climate-neutral future, specifically looking at technological approaches and fostering behavior change within the community.
- **Strategies towards resilient and healthy communities in harmony with nature:** These sessions will investigate cutting-edge discussions in building resilience capacity in our cities, towns, regions and communities, making them healthy homes both for people as well as for nature.
- **Strategies towards equitable and inclusive communities:** These sessions will look at equitable, inclusive and whole-of-society approaches to local sustainable development, participatory approaches and stakeholder engagement, and prioritizing the interlink between human health and sustainable local development.



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In order for cities, towns and regions to achieve these objectives, key enablers for action need to be leveraged. The Malmö Summit will give special attention to two of those enablers: **Sustainable finance** and **Innovation**.

Sustainable Finance: These sessions will focus on bringing all actors along the investment chain behind the SDGs to respond to the crisis in the short-term and rebuild over the long-term for a more resilient and sustainable future.

Innovation: These sessions will share new approaches for addressing urban sustainability; including highlighting areas the ICLEI Network are already applying. The sessions under this area will show that innovation is a process of trial, failure and success, looking at innovation through two lenses; innovation in sectors and Innovation in policy and governance approaches.

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

The Research Symposium, the 6th in ICLEI's 32-year history will deepen the dialogue among leading urban sustainability researchers, innovators, local and regional practitioners, political leaders, and scientists, at the interface of research-policy-practice to co-create actionable knowledge for science-informed decision making to support subnational governments in their transition toward further sustainability.

During the Research Symposium, as the highlighted Research & Innovation component of the ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022, two important reports and key outcomes from the Innovate4Cities 2021 Conference, will be launched and discussed, as new agendas for cities and climate change science.

First, an update to the Global Research Action Agenda on Cities and Climate Change Science will be released as Findings from Innovate4Cities 2021 and Update to the Global Research and Action Agenda.

Second, an updated City Research and Innovation Agenda (Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, GCoM), a response for city practice and city leadership to the updated GRAA agenda, will also be launched.

The Research Symposium will also include:



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- The Knowledge Hall: A space for local governments and researchers to showcase their projects
- Research Market Place: A space to pitch researchers' project ideas, as well as explore partnerships and coalitions for future research and innovation collaboration.

This event, designed and delivered under ICLEI's Global Research Strategy is co-organized by the City of Malmö, the World Maritime University (WMU) - Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute (GOI, and ICLEI.

The Research Symposium will take place on 10 May at the World Maritime University (WMU). For more information, visit <https://worldcongress.iclei.org/global-research-symposium/>.

MOBILE WORKSHOPS

To give the participants a unique opportunity to learn first-hand from the City of Malmö's wealth of sustainability initiatives, thirteen Mobile Workshops will be organized by the City of Malmö especially for the ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022: Malmö Summit. Participants will explore the innovative solutions and approaches that the City of Malmö has implemented to advance its own sustainable development.

To learn more about each Mobile Workshop, please visit <https://worldcongress.iclei.org/mobile-workshops/>.

THE MALMÖ COMMITMENT

The Malmö Commitment positions local and regional governments at the centre of the global response to today's challenges, by encouraging sustainable approaches, innovation, adaptability, participation, and inclusiveness in policy-making to tackle the current climate emergency and by embedding social equity at the core of their local sustainable development. It gathers local and regional governments that commit to this urban transformation following a four-step process: identify the challenges; monitor social equity indicators; report the progress and enhance the effort taken through neighbouring communities.

During day two of the Malmö Summit, initial signees will be announced and other cities or regions will be invited to join the commitment.



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SPONSORS

ICLEI and the City of Malmö would like to thank the following organizations for their support and contribution to the ICLEI World Congress 2021-22:

Premium Event Sponsors:

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Media Partners:

The ICLEI World Congress 2021-2022: The Malmö Summit is supported by official media partners including All Things Urban, CitiesToday, EKOIQ, İKLİM HABER (Climate News), Impakter, Shareable, STIR World, TheMayor.EU, URBANET, urbanNext, World Architecture Community, and WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities.

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NOTE TO EDITORS

About the ICLEI World Congress

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 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.

For more information about the ICLEI World Congress, please visit <https://worldcongress.iclei.org>.



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Full event program is available here: <https://worldcongress.iclei.org/program-overview/>.

About ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 2,500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 125+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development. Our Members and team of experts work together through peer exchange, partnerships and capacity building to create systemic change for urban sustainability.

For more information about ICLEI, please visit: <https://iclei.org/>.

About the City of Malmö

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 SDG's.

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, will be supplied with 100% renewable energy.

CONTACT

For further information: <https://worldcongress.iclei.org/media/>.

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