

22nd ESDN Workshop "Governance Transformations for More Effective SDG Implementation" 26-27.3.2024

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOVERNANCE HUBS

> Krista Kampus Head of the EU and International Relations Department









In a situation where many governments have moved away from the implementation of Agenda 2030, the role of cities in achieving the SDGs has become increasingly important.





# "The 'action gap' is significant. We do not have a gap in policies and aspirations, rather in actions."

Stockholm Environment Institute, CEEW Council "Stockholm+50: Unlocking a Better Future."

# "The challenge to achieving the SDGs is a lot about governance."

Louis Meuleman





## CHALLENGES

WHAT SDGs?

STORY-TELLING AND COMMUNICATION

THE SDGS.

POLITICAL SUPPORT AND

COMPETENT STAFF WORKING ON

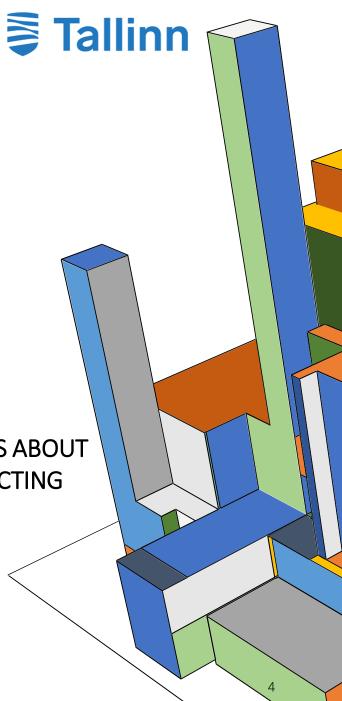
GREEN TRANSITION = SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

WE ARE STILL IN SILOS

NATIONAL – LOCAL GAP

HOW TO MEASURE?

REINFORCED EXPERTISE AND NEW SKILLS ABOUT HOLISTIC URBAN GOVERNANCE - CONNECTING ACTORS AROUND A TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE AND LEADING THEM.





### Policy Development ...

...through strategic use of SDGs

Sustainable Development in everything we do, through...

Bridging the gap between high-level goals and local actions

...a strong city organisation...

...that works in partnerships and with the community...

...making cities' voices heard at national and international levels

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The HOW?

The

#### Organizational development

Building culture, mindset and skills for holistic sustainability; "dancing with silos"; sensemaking and story-telling

#### **Multi-actor** governance

Growing capacity for ecosystem leadership, within the city organisation, with partners and the community

#### Multilevel governance

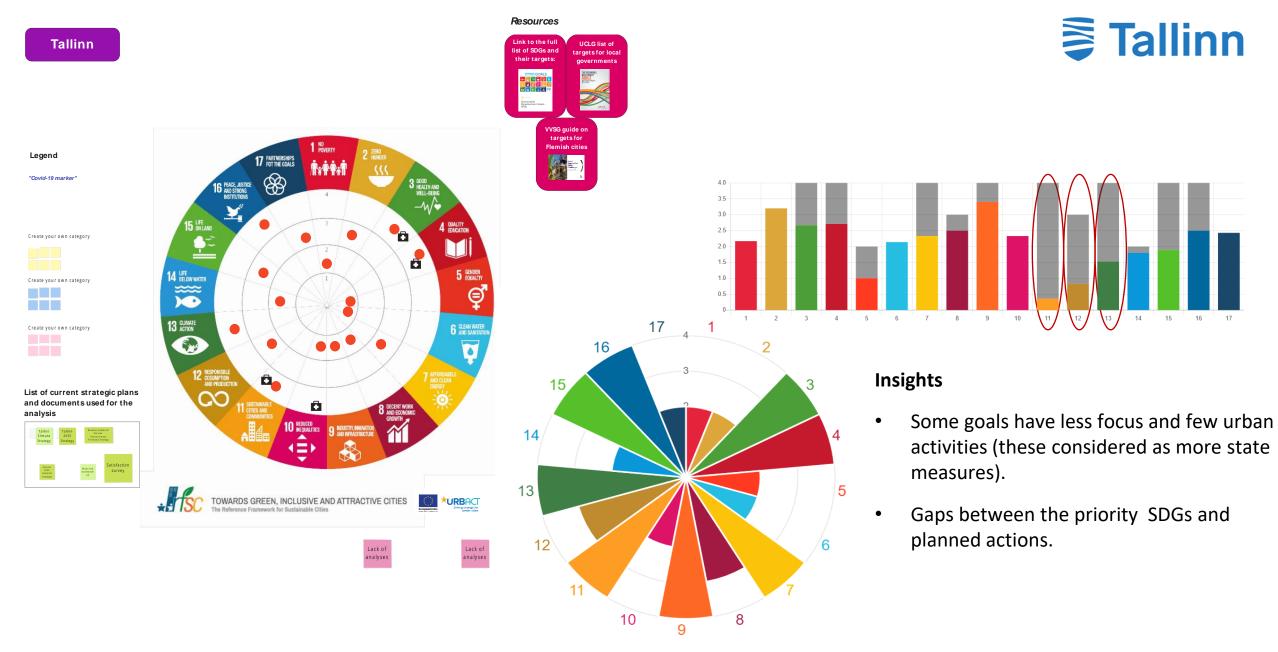
Gaining leverage through city diplomacy and networks; vertical coordination and collaboration



## TALLINN SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE MODEL

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#### **Tallinn Sustainable Development Guide**

Guidelines for the implementation and monitoring of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in Tallinn



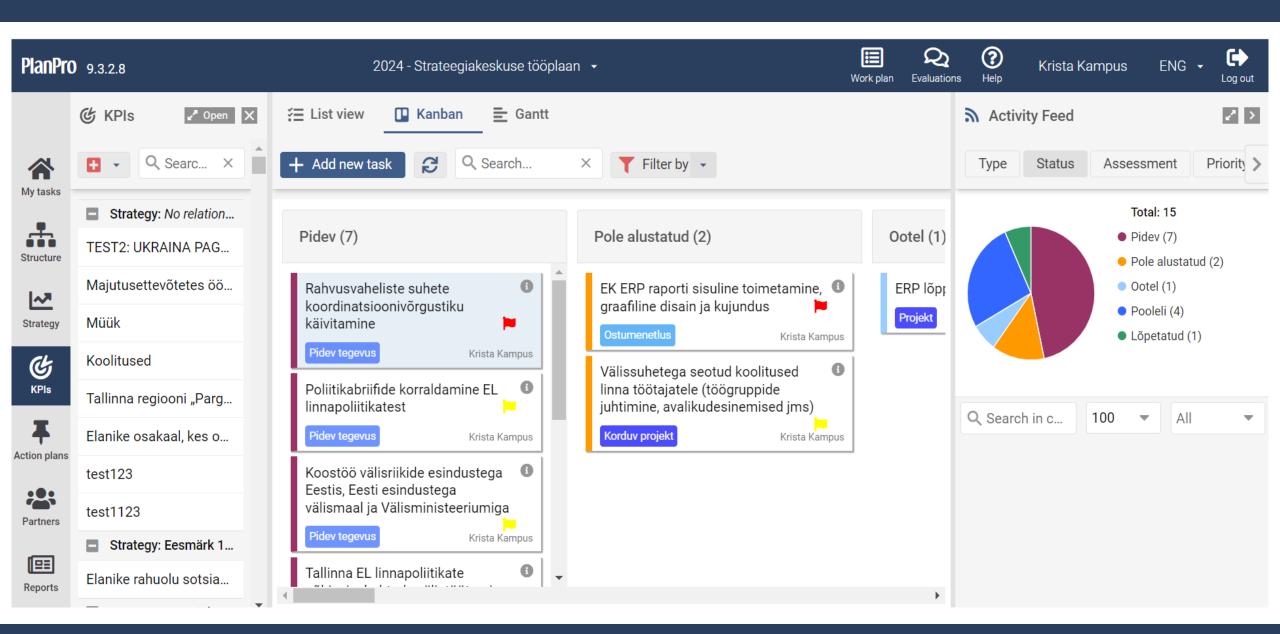


Strategic Management Office miltton

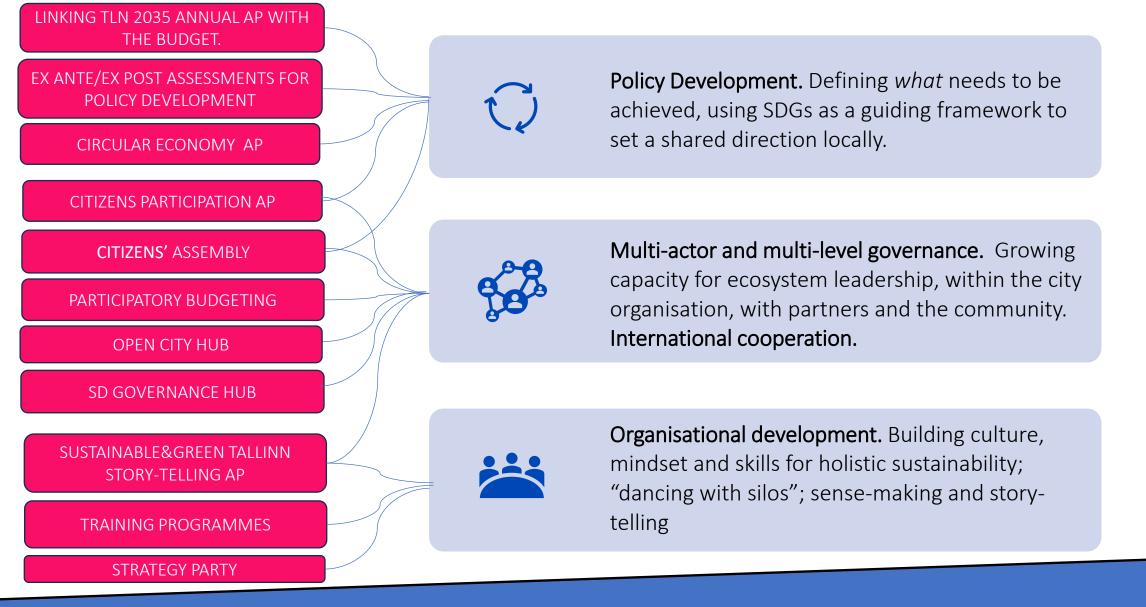
Definition of SDGs for Tallinn, incl. priority SDGs Description of links btw. Tallinn 2035 goals and SDGs City SDGs targets and indicators 22+52 strategic KPIs 219 operational VLR in the internal reporting system SDG awareness & stakeholders engagement principles



### Please no extra work! A comprehensive monitoring system Tallinn 2035 **Development Strategy** 13 CLIMATE ACTION GHG Emissions from V **TRANSPORT** in Tallinn Public transport annual ridership in trips **VOLUNTARY** LOCAL **3** GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING **11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 13 CLIMATE ACTION REVIEWS Share of main destination trips $\checkmark$ by foot/bike/public transport Total driven annual mileage of private cars



# TALLINN SUSTAINABILITY GOVERNANCE MODEL 🗟 Tallinn



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### **Horizontal Principles of Sustainability Governance**

We have identified four interconnected horizontal principles based on our expertise and theory research:

#### Directionality

Defining clear long-term priorities and potential risks to guide current decision making and provide collective understanding of what is trying to be achieved.

#### Experimentalism

Embedding a 'learning through doing' approach based on the capacity to change approach when harmful path dependencies, new knowledge, or a lack of knowledge are found. Through this, we learn what does and doesn't work.

#### Collaboration

Recognising and orchestrating actions based on the need to involve multiple actors, and understanding of their agencies, capacities, and synergies.

#### Sincerity

Building legitimacy and trust by corresponding actions to goals, and being honest if they don't yet correspond.





Capital 2023

Green

# TALLINN SD GOVERNANCE COMPETENCE CENTRE BUILDING BLOCKS

### SUSTAINABILITY GOVERNANCE MODEL

- Development and testing
- Training programme for city officials and politicians
- HR development
  Cooperation with universities etc

### INTERNATIONAL PEER -LEARNING HUB

- Projects (Urbact SGC etc)
- Eurocities SDG TF
- Coop. with international organisations (ICLEI, Net-Zero Cities, UNECE Forum of Mayors, Nordregio etc.)
- Doughnut Economy Coalition
- Seminars, workshops

### EXPERT SUPPORT TO OTHER CITIES

- In Estonia (Narva, Saaremaa municipalities)
- EU EaP (Ukraine, Georgia)
- Sustainability Leadership programme

# INTERNATIONAL HUB

#### **Objectives**

- Provide a space for city practitioners, experts and organisations working on "sustainability governance" to meet to exchange knowledge and best practices.
- 2. Organise peer learning exchanges, capacity building activities and joint projects.
- 3. Capitalise and disseminate knowledge shared and co-created through the hub activities.
- 4. Feed into policy dialogue on the role of cities in sustainable development in the EU (and beyond).

#### for Tallinn

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- Connect with other cities, experts and international organisations to access good practices, research and policy innovations relevant for advancing on Tallinn 2035 and its sustainability governance model.
- 6. Promote the interests of Tallinn in EU urban policy.
- 7. Increase the visibility of Tallinn's work among peers, EU institutions and international networks, enhance its reputation as forward-thinking and responsible global citizen.



# WHO WE HAVE WORKED WITH





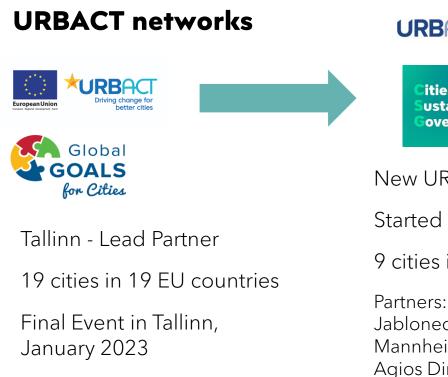
An initiative of the







# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



Learn more.



Co-funded by the European Union

Cities for Sustainability Covernance

New URBACT network

Started June 2023 - 2025

9 cities in 9 EU countries

Partners: Espoo Finland; Tallin Estonia; Jablonec Czech Republic; Kosice Slovakia; Mannheim Germany; GabrovoBulgaria; Agios Dimitrios Greece; Valencia Spain; Braga Portugal.

#### Learn more.



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### Welcome to the Global Goals for Cities Learning Kit





### 6 Modules to localise the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Integrated Action Planning

https://urbact.eu/global-goals-cities-learning-kit https://www.tallinn.ee/et/valisprojektid/global-goals-cities-learning-kit

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

### **Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform**

27-28 September 2023, onsite peer review Developing better sustainability governance to close the implementation gap towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

#### Peers from across Europe:

- Katharina Krell and Astrid Severin, Thematic Experts on Greener Europe
- Marcus Ljungqvist, City of Malmö, Sweden
- Prof. Dr. Louis Meuleman, Public Strategy for Sustainable Development (PS4SD), Brussels, Belgium
- Jeremy Williams, International Public Policy Observatory (IPPO) and UCL, United Kingdom
- Nicolas Gharbi, City of Madrid, Spain





Co-funded by the European Unior

#### <u>Learn more.</u>

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# PLANS FOR 2024

#### Events

- Online events (open)
- Peer learning exchanges (online and in-person)
- Sharing Tallinn's experience
- URBACT CSG network meetings

Knowledge curation and creation

- SDG "wiki" / observatory: Building a library of and innovative city administration and governance practices from cities around the world
- Research and Development supported by external partners (Tallinn model).

### Dissemination

- Blog posts: capturing learnings from Hub activities to share with a wider audience.
- Newsletter: quarterly newsletter bringing together insights around Sustainability Governance

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# Thank you!

krista.kampus@tallinnlv.ee

