PROPOSAL FOR A SUSTAINABILITY GOVERNANCE NETWORK

As the European Green Capital 2023, the City of Tallinn strives to bring together cities, experts and organizations working on ways to strengthen “governance” for achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Governance in this context encompasses the structures, processes and holistic dialogue within cities and communities that enable transformation in society. The 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals include targets and indicators that have direct linkages to the responsibilities of cities. The OECD estimates that 65% the 2030 Agenda targets can only be reached with the proper engagement of and coordination with local and regional governments, and various international and national strategies urge regional and local governments to set ambitious sustainability and climate goals.

Still, the “action gap” is significant and no European capital city or metropolitan area has yet achieved the SDGs.

CLOSING THE ACTION GAP BY CHANGING HOW CITIES ARE GOVERNED

For cities to tackle multidimensional challenges their governance framework needs to be based on the concept of transformation. A framework that enables urban governance to be more agile and dialogue based. We aim to create a network that draws on real-life experience within different city organizations and their communities, fostering peer learning and the co-creation of a governance framework that focuses both on the development of the city as an organization and its relationships with stakeholders. Described under three pillars (on the right).

CALL TO ACTION

We are looking for motivated partners with adequate mandate to develop this dialogue-driven framework and process together, contributing with their experiences and expertise on how to build the way forward for sustainability governance in cities.

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Read the full concept note: greentallinn.eu/en/flag-projects/sustainability-governance-framework/