

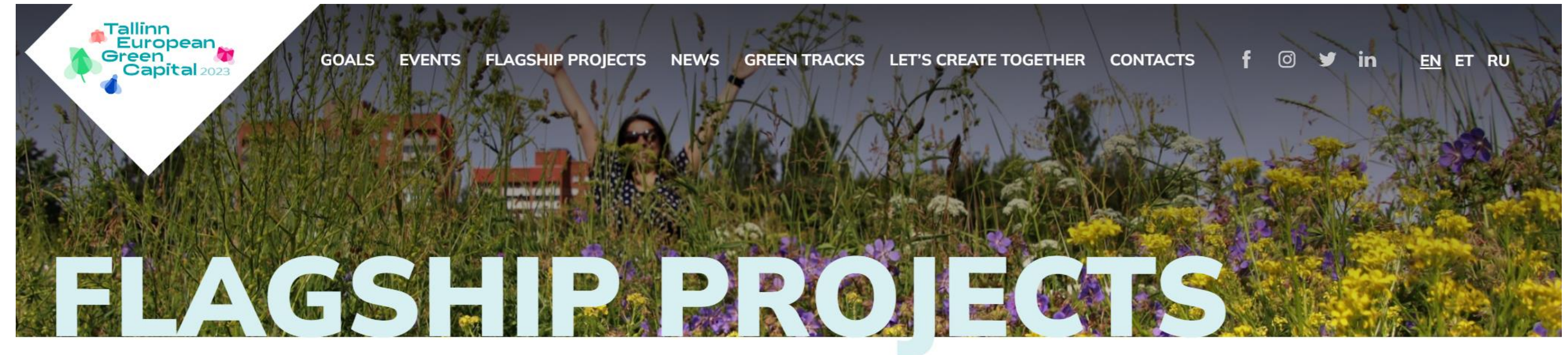
Introduction webinar - establishing an international sustainability governance network

21 March, 11:00-12:00 CET



Background

- Flagship project for the Tallinn Green Capital programme 2023
- Opening conference 20 January 2023
- Conference conclusions highlighting key messages to cities and EU



SUSTAINABILITY GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK



"The number of green initiatives on the EU level initiated in the last years is impressive, and we commend the EU for that. The next step is to bring about strategic, high-level coordination of urban affairs and provide for structured involvement of cities in the EU policy discussions. The reason is simple: The cities are implementing the EU Green Deal and SDGs locally. It is the local level that brings about the most imminent change in people's well-being and contributes significantly towards achieving the EU's ambition of a first climate-neutral continent by 2050. Therefore, one of the strategic priorities for Tallinn, as the European Green Capital 2023, is to launch debates on the new forms of governance that support sustainable urban transitions and local green deals."

– Mihhail Kõlvart, Mayor of Tallinn

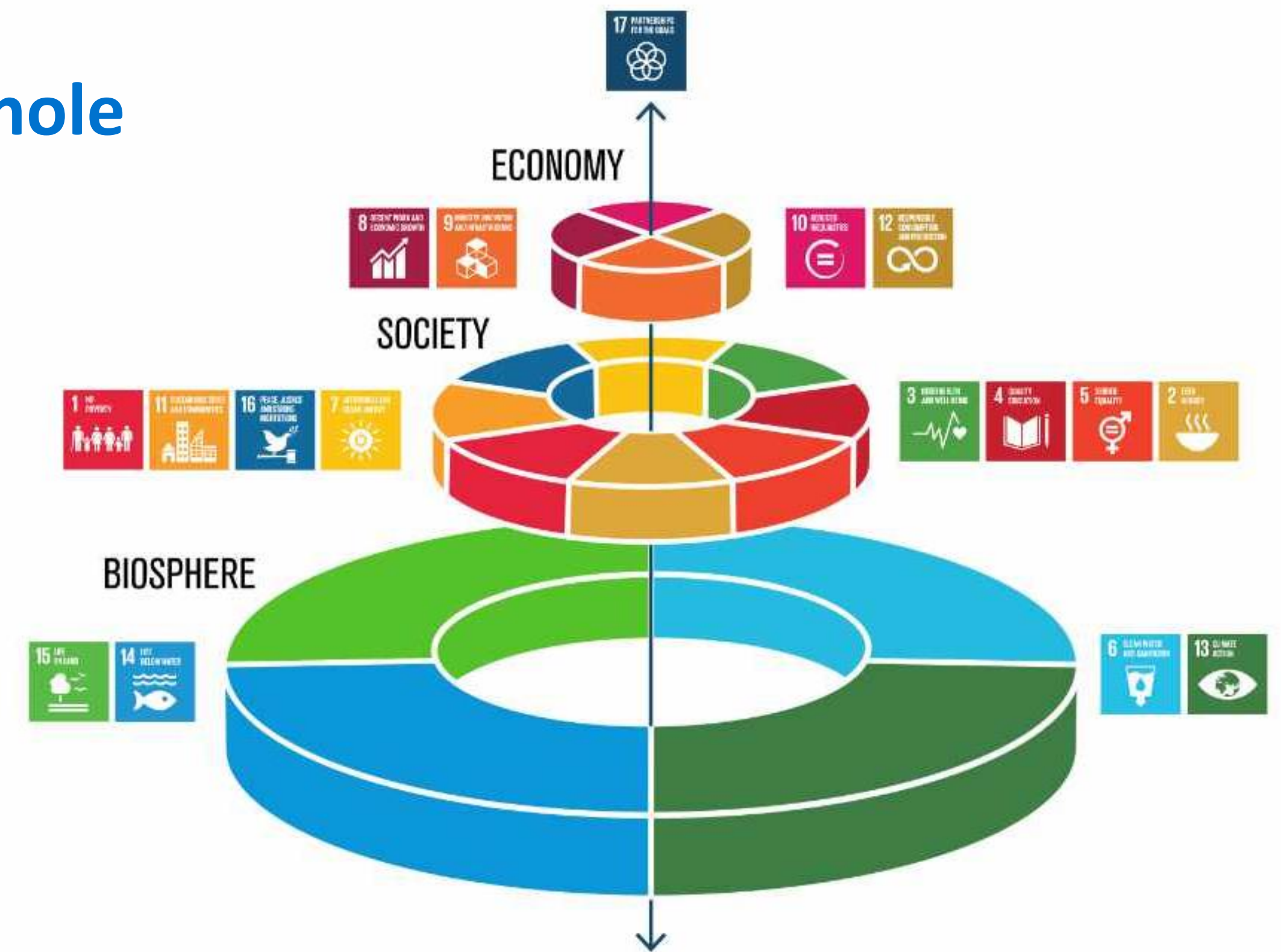
What do we mean by sustainability
governance?



Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



An indivisible whole



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

Stockholm Environment Institute, CEEW Council, (2022) „Stockholm+50: Unlocking a Better Future.“

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

(Louis Meuleman, former Rapporteur UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration)

What is (urban) governance?

„Urban governance is primarily concerned with the **processes** through which government is organized and delivered in towns and cities and the **relationships** between state agencies and civil society.“

Mike Raco, University College London.

Storming in through an open door:

- Systemic Changes in Governance. Equipping local governments for realising climate-neutral and smart cities. *Energy Cities report to EC, 2022*
- Principles of Effective Governance for Sustainable Development, *UN CEPA, 2018*
- Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development 2019, *OECD*
- OECD Toolkit for a Territorial Approach to the SDGs, *OECD*
- Whole of Government Approach
- Transitions Management in the Urban Context, *Drift, 2014*
- Methodological Framework for the Principles of Public Administration: ENP Countries, *Sigma Programme, 2018*
- Towards an Anticipatory Innovation Governance Model in Finland, *OECD, 2022*
- Meragovernance for Sustainability, *Louis Meuleman, 2019*

*Key processes
in (sustainability)
governance*

Organizational development

Who we are and
how do we do things



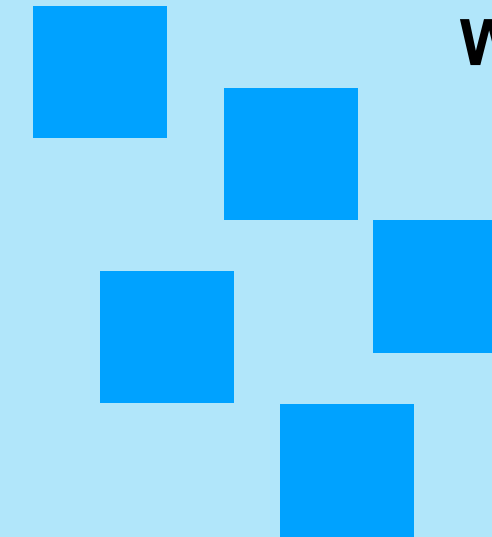
Purpose
Why do we exist



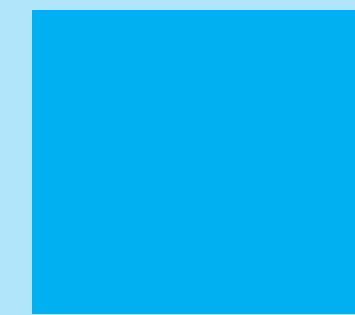
Culture
What are our values

Policy Development

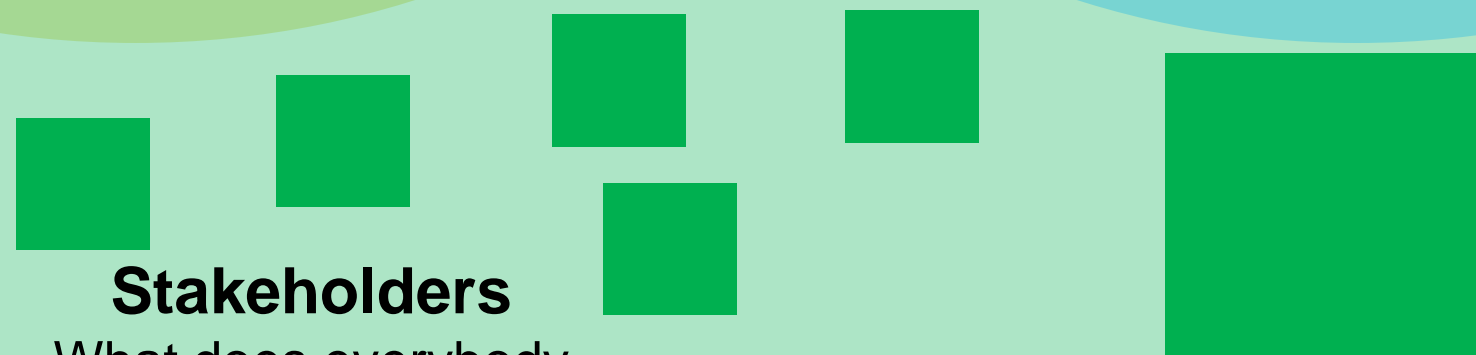
What do we do and why



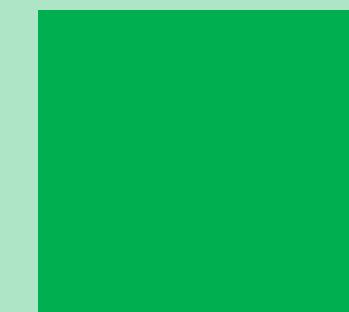
Goals
What shall we reach



Vision
Where do we want to go



Stakeholders
What does everybody
bring to the table



Relationships
How do we organize ourselves

Multilevel governance

Who is involved and how

From "hope based" governance to "extreme ownership based" governance.

What type of network do we want to build?



Our goal

We want to build an **international network of practitioners, experts and organisations working on “sustainability governance”** as a way to close the action gap between goals and ambitions, and achieving the SDGs.

A network that can **influence policy dialogue** on the role of cities in sustainable development in the EU (and beyond).

Possible network

Core activities:

- Knowledge exchange and co-creation around priority topics
- Policy dialogue

* Institutions indicated are ideas only and does not represent any endorsement



Value proposition: time and energy!

- Investment in **human resources to coordinate and lead** the network
- Partnering in **events** (in Tallinn and elsewhere)
- Possibility to commission **studies and expertise** on topics prioritised by the network
- Preparation of **applications for peer learning and other funds** to support future network activities
- Online **platform for collaboration** and document exchange

Tallinn team



Krista Kampus,
Executive Director of the Tallinn
Green Capital



Toomas Haidak,
Sustainability Governance
Advisor, framework and
partnerships.



Stina Heikkilä,
Sustainability Governance
Advisor, network and peer
learning.

Phases & methodology



Jan-March 2023

Exploration

- Intro session (today!)
- Mapping of interests
- Expert interviews
- Partner search

April-Sep 2023

Activation

- Physical Kick-off
- Online peer learning sessions
- Events, seminars
- Expert inputs
- Draft framework 2.0

Oct-Dec 2023

Consolidation

- Online peer learning sessions cont'd
- Network cooperation agreement / embed in other networks
- 2024 work plan
- Final framework

Peer learning sessions (example)



Study: Horizontal principles of sustainability governance

Online peer learning session – May 2023 (date TBC):

- Sharing methodology development and lessons learnt
- Sharing how the approach will be tested in Tallinn
- Mini workshop / other cities' experiences on the topic

International events (example)

Urban Future.

- 21-23 June in Stuttgart, Germany
- Tallinn is partner
- Possibility of official network kick-off



Knowledge exchange and co-creation (examples)

- Position papers and statements
- Conference and event conclusions
- Expert inputs and reports
- Tools and methodologies



However, in this context, European cities are presently lacking the support and leverage from the European Union. There is a great need for EU level coordination as well as financial and policy instruments aimed at fostering innovation and boosting investments, which support SDG implementation and recognise the central role of the cities.

Hence, we, URBACT Global Goals For Cities, Nordregio SDG work and SDG46, call for revitalisation of the SDG work within the Eurocities.

More explicitly, we propose that Eurocities

- provides a platform to facilitate exchange of experience
- joins forces to contribute and influence the implementation
- validates the recognition of the SDGs on EU level



Uudised Projektid Koostöö ülikoolidega Projektor Meist

Global Goals for Cities Learning Kit

- + Module 0 - Introduction to the Global Goals for Cities Learning KIT
- + Module 1 - Understanding your starting point for integrated action planning using SDGs
- + Module 2 - Raising awareness about the SDGs and starting a participatory process
- + Module 3 - Developing a shared vision for the SDGs through #SDGStories
- + Module 4 - Building an integrated action plan contributing to the SDGs
- + Module 5 - Monitoring and reporting results for the SDGs
- + Module 6 - Strengthening governance for the SDGs

Next steps

- Follow-up survey to participants to explore interests and potential engagement
- First online peer learning session on Horizontal principles of sustainability governance (May 2023)
- Physical kick-off of the network in Stuttgart (21-23 June, TBC)

Time for reactions and Q&A

