

Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030





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Foreword

On 9 November 2021, the regional council adopted a new environmental programme for Region Skåne, providing direction for the region's internal environmental work leading up to 2030. The environmental programme itself is an extension of the successful environmental work that has been conducted since Region Skåne was established in 1999 and is anchored in the region's vision of *Belief in the future and Quality of Life*. The environmental programme will enable us to work together on building a greener Skåne for a better future.

Region Skåne shall meet the challenges of the future and leverage the opportunities offered by providing Skåne's inhabitants with public services of the highest standard. This will require a sustainable holistic approach comprised of several elements, such as high quality, favourable work environments, low environmental impact, sound economy, social responsibility and high resilience to disruptions and threats. The environmental programme comprises the key element of environmental sustainability and is designed to work together with the other elements of sustainability as a whole.

Region Skåne's employees play a vital and appreciated role in their work for the region's inhabitants in our areas of responsibility, namely healthcare, dental care, public transport, culture and regional development. The employees elements of sustainability most important piece of the puzzle for attaining the environmental programme objectives. The environmental programme is a natural part of the budget and planning processes, with governance and follow-ups performed just as for any other area.

We cannot possibly know the future or the challenges and opportunities that we will face during the programme period, so the environmental programme can be revised to remain current and relevant at all times.

Now it is up to us to embrace the future and to continue to make it better for current and future inhabitants of Skåne!

Anna Jähnke

Regional Councillor and Chair of the Regional Development Committee

Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030

Adopted by the regional council on 9 November 2021.

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Towards 2030

Region Skåne's vision is *Belief in the future and Quality of Life*. Region Skåne's purpose is to ensure that everyone living in Skåne feels well and has confidence in the future. Borderless partnerships and careful consideration help to create the best conditions for a healthy life in Skåne – in terms of business, public transport, culture and healthcare. Together, we make life more possible.

Region Skåne is responsible for healthcare, dental care, public transport, regional development and culture. A responsibility that is fulfilled with high quality and the ambition to reduce Region Skåne's environmental footprint. Region Skåne's areas of responsibility encompass everyone in Skåne, inhabitants and visitors alike.

The environmental programme represents Region Skåne's long-term objectives and direction for its environmental work until the end of 2030.

The environmental programme is based on Agenda 2030 as well as Sweden's national environmental quality objectives and generation objective. Skåne's regional development strategy, The Open Skåne 2030, provides the strategic framework for the Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030. The environmental programme concerns environmental sustainability within the field of sustainable development, which means development meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Region Skåne takes its share of the

responsibility for ensuring the fulfilment of the needs of present and future Skåne inhabitants.

The challenges within the environment are great and include, for example, increasing consumption of finite resources, climate change with far-reaching and unpredictable consequences, and emissions of substances that are hazardous to both health and the environment and that sometimes accumulate in the food chain.

Region Skåne meets these challenges and strives for sustainable development with high quality of the services for which Region Skåne is responsible. Good public health, economic and social responsibility, and reduced environmental impact go hand in hand.



Region Skåne's operations have a major impact on the environment, both directly and indirectly. This provides extensive opportunities to reduce the negative environmental impact of Region Skåne's operations. Region Skåne already contributes to reduced environmental impact through fossil-fuel-free transport and energy, for example, as well as public transport, which offers major climate benefits. An increase in public transport use in Skåne is beneficial for the environment, in terms of both lower climate impact and more efficient resource use. The *Strategy for a Sustainable Transport System in Skåne 2050* includes quantified targets for different means of transport, and this aspect is also addressed in the regional public transport authority's Sustainability Programme for Skånetrafiken 2016–2025.

Matters concerning public health and the environment are interlinked for reasons that include much of the negative environmental impact we see affecting human health too, such as extreme weather linked to global warming and emissions of substances hazardous to both health and the environment.

Skåne's healthcare system will face new demands due to changing demographics. Forecasts show that by 2030, the share of Skåne's population in their eighties will have increased by almost 50 percent. This means that healthcare services will have to cope with increasing care needs linked to an ageing population. Since care needs are expected to rise, there is a risk that a larger share of the region's resources will have to be allocated here to deliver the high quality of care people expect. By striving proactively for a more resource-efficient and circular economy, the aim is to achieve more with less.

Technological and digital advances offer Region Skåne ample opportunities to operate high-quality, more appropriate, effective and flexible healthcare and public transport. They offer greater opportunities to reduce Region Skåne's direct and indirect environmental impact by driving a transition towards a circular economy in which fewer resources are used to deliver more operations of high quality that also generate less waste. In addition to reducing environmental impact, improved resource management can have positive economic consequences as well. Greater resource efficiency can increase Region Skåne's resilience and reduce its vulnerability in the event of a crisis. For instance, greater use of multi-use rather than single-use materials can reduce our dependency on complex supply chains.

Predicting the opportunities and threats Region Skåne will face between now and 2030 is very difficult. However the *Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030* is designed to provide a flexible and robust strategy for reduced environmental impact in which all employees can play a part. The people who work for Region Skåne are the key to successful environmental work.

The Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030 is comprised of:

- The environmental policy
- Long-term strategic environmental objectives divided into three focus areas to be met by the end of 2030
- Appendices
 1. *Implementing the environmental programme*
 2. *Background to the focus areas*
 3. *Definitions and terms*

Region Skåne's Environmental Policy

Region Skåne's vision is *Belief in the future and Quality of Life*. Region Skåne is responsible for healthcare, dental care, public transport, regional development and culture in Skåne. Region Skåne partners with other regions and organisations in Sweden and abroad. The environmental policy encompasses all of Region Skåne's operations, committees and boards, wholly owned and majority owned companies, and operations conducted on behalf of Region Skåne.

Region Skåne's employees shall prevent, reduce and limit the negative environmental impact of operations while strengthening their positive environmental impact. Region Skåne's employees are the region's most important asset and are central to achieving the environmental programme objectives. Employee commitment to the environment is leveraged, encouraged and developed. Region Skåne's environmental profile is important to its brand. Operations that are fully or partially financed by Region Skåne take responsibility for their environmental impact and contribute to the attainment of Region Skåne's environmental policy and objectives.

Region Skåne

- optimises resource use by moving towards a circular economy that reduces resource inputs as well as waste outputs.
- has low greenhouse gas emissions throughout the supply chain within the allowed emission limits for reaching the 1.5-degree goal of the Paris Agreement to become climate neutral by 2045. Region Skåne's own operations are fossil fuel free, which is achieved by purchasing renewable and fossil-free energy and driving the transition within the supply chain.
- implements efficiency improvements as part of the efforts to ensure a stable electricity system and assesses which of the region's operations show potential for more flexible energy use through efficiency improvements.
- sets requirements for energy-efficient premises in new builds and renovations and refurbishments as well as in external leases.
- phases out substances of very high concern from the supply chain as far as possible and these substances are not found in products, food, goods, inputs, materials and buildings other than in exceptional cases.





- helps to reduce the accumulated hazardous exposure to substances and medicines.
- pursues environmentally sustainable production and consumption.
- shares knowledge about the interaction between people, health and the environment and has environmentally aware employees.
- chooses environmentally friendly goods, products, services and technologies wherever possible with consideration for quality, patient safety and economics. Region Skåne expects procured suppliers to meet the same environmental requirements that would apply if Region Skåne provided the service itself. Suppliers are expected to meet relevant and proportionate environmental requirements. Life cycle costs are taken into account in purchasing and procurement.
- assesses and describes the potential environmental consequences prior to policy decisions, planning, implementation, product choices, procurement, purchasing, financing and evaluation.
- ensures that the strategic environmental objectives are taken into account and fulfilled in funding, investments, procurement and purchasing.
- shall within procurement and purchasing prioritise locally produced organic food and locally produced food followed by organic food from other areas.
- safeguards and strengthens resource-efficient and sustainable land use, biodiversity and ecosystem services.
- considers environmental criteria in conjunction with investments and capital investments and engages in active dialogues with the relevant stakeholders.
- promotes research, development and innovation that contribute to positive environmental impacts.
- is a forerunner in contributing to environmental sustainability throughout Skåne and is transparent regarding this environmental work and its effects.
- complies with applicable laws and other binding requirements and strives for continual improvement in the effort to reduce environmental impact and increase energy performance.

Environmental Objectives 2030

Environmental Objectives 2030 describes the long-term strategic objectives that Region Skåne is to achieve by 2030. The objectives are grouped into three focus areas that overlap to some extent. The figure below presents these three focus areas and the overarching links to the sustainable development goals of Agenda 2030* for each area.

The environmental objectives have been divided into the following focus areas:

1. Resource-efficient and circular economy
2. Low climate impact
3. Vital and healthy environment.



* THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS OF AGENDA 2030

In 2015, the UN member states adopted Agenda 2030, a universal agenda for sustainable development that includes seventeen sustainable development goals, or SDGs, to be achieved by 2030. In turn, the SDGs are divided into 169 targets and more than 230 global indicators for implementing and following up the work.



1

Focus area

Resource-efficient and circular economy

Region Skåne shall have a resource-efficient and circular economy in which the inflow of goods has been reduced significantly in relation to operational output, purchased resources are reused, recycled and recovered in a circular flow, multi-use materials are chosen whenever possible with consideration for quality, patient safety and the total cost of ownership, and the amount of waste that is not reused or recycled is minimised. Energy efficiency improvement and energy conservation are to be implemented as regards both operational energy and building energy across all operations as well as within transport, including public transport.

Strategic objectives

- Region Skåne shall reduce the use of consumables per produced services within healthcare by at least 30 percent by the end of 2030 compared to 2019 levels.
- Region Skåne shall increase the share of recycled materials in priority goods and in priority services and contracts to at least 30 percent by the end of 2030 compared to 2019 levels.
- Region Skåne shall reduce the amount of municipal waste per produced services within healthcare by at least 40 percent by the end of 2030 compared to 2019 levels.
- Region Skåne shall increase the use of reused and recycled priority materials in construction.
- Region Skåne shall reduce food waste from patient meals by at least 50 percent by the end of 2030 compared to 2019 levels.
- Region Skåne shall reduce the amount of discarded medicine by at least 30 percent by the end of 2030 compared to 2019 levels.
- Environmental and health requirements shall be included for financing and funding based on the environmental impact of the recipient.



2

Focus area

Low climate impact

Region Skåne shall have low greenhouse gas emissions within the allowed emission limits for reaching the 1.5-degree goal of the Paris Agreement, with the aim of achieving net zero emissions by 2045 at the latest. Region Skåne shall continue to be fossil fuel free within its operations as well as drive the transition within the supply chain by means of the requirement for fossil-fuel-free transport in procurement, purchasing and funding.

Strategic objectives

- Region Skåne shall reduce indirect emissions of greenhouse gases from textile, plastic, rubber and metal goods by at least 40 percent by the end of 2030 compared to 2019 levels.
- Region Skåne shall reduce the climate impact of the construction phase by at least 40 percent by the end of 2030 compared to 2019 levels.
- Region Skåne shall reduce the climate impact of an average meal to no more than 0.5 kg of carbon dioxide equivalents by the end of 2030.
- Region Skåne shall have 100 percent fossil-fuel-free land transport by the end of 2030 within transport services conducted by both Region Skåne and its providers.
- Emissions of nitrous oxide and anaesthetic gases are to be reduced by at least 50 percent by the end of 2030 compared to 2019 levels.
- Renewable power plants are to be installed on properties owned by the region where possible.
- Environmental and health requirements shall be included for financing and funding based on the environmental impact of the recipient.



Focus area

Vital and healthy environment

Substances of very high concern are to be phased out within Region Skåne's operations and are not to be found in products, food, goods and buildings unless absolutely necessary. As far as possible, the use of substances of very high concern shall be eliminated throughout the supply chain, from raw materials and inputs to waste. Goods and materials are to be designed for resource-efficient recycling and are not to contain any substances of very high concern unless absolutely necessary. The requirements for virgin and recycled materials are to be identical. As far as possible, Region Skåne shall minimise emissions of environmentally hazardous pharmaceutical residues.

Strategic objectives

- By the end of 2030, there are to be no intentionally added substances of very high concern in the products, food and goods used in Region Skåne's operations and found in Region Skåne's premises, both owned and leased, unless there is a documented decision on exemption. Exempted products found within operations are to be used and handled safely.
- Region Skåne shall proactively reduce the use of substances of very high concern in priority areas of its supply chains.
- By the end of 2030, at least 60 percent of Region Skåne's food consumption shall be comprised of organic produce.
- Environmental and health requirements shall be included for financing and funding based on the environmental impact of the recipient.

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Appendix 1: Implementing the Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030

What is the Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030?

The Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030 is Region Skåne's strategic objectives and vision for the region's internal environmental work up to the end of 2030. The environmental programme is based on *Agenda 2030* as well as Sweden's national environmental quality objectives and generation objective. Skåne's regional development strategy, *The Open Skåne 2030*, provides the strategic framework for the Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030. The Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030 interacts with *Energy Strategy for Region Skåne 2018–2030* and *Climate and Energy Strategy for Skåne 2030*, which have been developed and adopted by Region Skåne, the County Administrative Board of Skåne and Skåne's municipalities within the Climate Collaboration Skåne initiative.

The environmental policy provides overarching guidance on the management of the internal environmental work and the strategic environmental objectives, describing the concrete long-term results that Region Skåne wants to achieve within three different focus areas.

The environmental programme provides guidance on the operational environmental objectives and the 1–3-year action plans, which are established in the budget and operational planning process together with other operational objectives. This allows for flexible management of the internal environmental work to match the prevailing conditions and political will in the shorter term as well as the opportunity to use the budget to allocate funds for financing the environmental programme. Throughout the programme period, Region Skåne will be able to focus and concentrate its efforts on particular programme objectives for a time and then switch to other objectives. The long-term objectives can be broken down into milestones to increase the likelihood of success. This link to the budget and operational planning processes provides the necessary conditions for clearer communication between elected officials and civil servants and better opportunities for policy follow-ups and governance.

The *Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030* builds on the progress achieved by Region Skåne in its work with the *Environmental Programme 2010–2020* and the *Environmental Programme 2017–2020*, a revised version of the former.

The environmental programme encompasses environmental sustainability, and since there are overlaps and interfaces with economic and social factors, the programme could be revised into a sustainability programme during the programme period.

From words to action

Ten years is a long time, and much that cannot be predicted or planned for, such as technological advances, new scientific findings or various types of crises, can arise. The programme period encompasses two full terms of office and three elections. Accordingly, the operational governance determining how the environmental programme objectives are to be met must also be managed within operations by means of goals and action plans spanning appropriate time frames. The journey towards the environmental objectives should be planned in intervals of 1–3 years, a length of time for which circumstances can actually be known. This enables more flexible short-term governance while maintaining the long-term perspective.

Opportunities and threats may also result in the need to revise some of the environmental objectives described in the environmental programme as time goes by. Accordingly, each year Region Skåne will evaluate the appropriateness and effectiveness of the programme's environmental objectives and, if necessary, use the political process to revise them. Some of the environmental objectives may require further study during the programme period to develop better indicators and more accurate baselines as well as to ensure better measurability where needed and to establish and adjust the ambitions for these objectives. Thorough follow-ups and measurements using appropriate indicators are key to successful environmental work.

Follow-up and measurement plan

Each year, Region Skåne will follow up the outcomes of the environmental objectives in its budget and operational planning using the same follow-up process as for other objectives. Region Skåne will also analyse the progress made with regards to the strategic objectives of the environmental programme. This analysis provides important input to the current budget and operational planning process when establishing new short-term environmental objectives for the coming year and the direction for the second and third years of the planning period.

Since indicators and better measurability need to be developed for certain environmental objectives found in the environmental programme, a region-wide measurement plan needs to be drawn up, listing the relevant indicators to be followed up. The measurement plan will also identify any needs for new indicators and define the appropriate metrics. The measurement plan will even include relevant indicators for the region-wide environmental objectives adopted during budget and operational planning throughout the programme period. The work to develop indicators, together with the associated analyses and follow-ups, is central to ensuring appropriate and effective environmental work.

Funding, other financing and environmental impact

Region Skåne's environmental policy states that *Operations that are fully or partially financed by Region Skåne take responsibility for their environmental impact and contribute to the attainment of Region Skåne's environmental policy and objectives.* This means that relevant environmental requirements must be established and followed up for, among others, those receiving funding as Region Skåne hereby has an opportunity to reduce the environmental impact of such operations as well. The requirements must be reasonable given the circumstances of the concerned operations.

The environmental programme and the environmental management system

The *Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030* is governed by the instructions found in the environmental management system (EMS). The environmental management system also ensures that any environmental impacts that have not been assigned targets in the programme are properly managed and even governs how legislation and other binding requirements linked to environmental legislation are handled.

The purpose of the environmental policy and its application

The purpose of the environmental policy is to guide Region Skåne's environmental work and to establish the framework for the environmental programme objectives. The energy policy is integrated with the environmental policy.

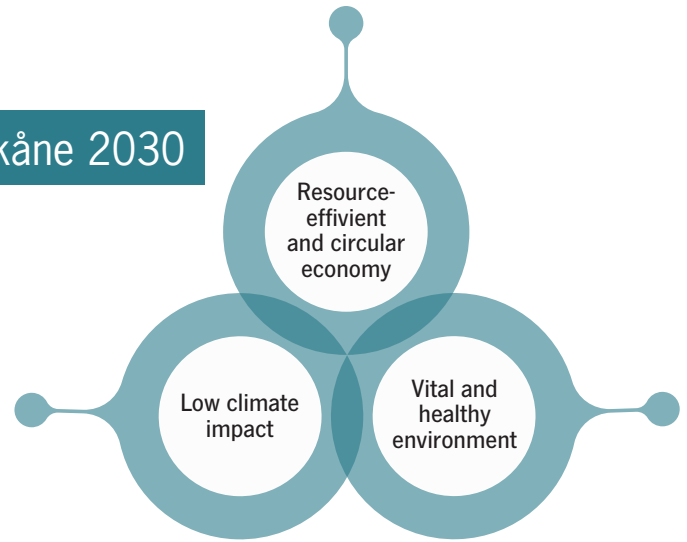
Region Skåne's environmental policy is part of the environmental programme and shall be reflected across the organisation's work and be easily accessible to employees, citizens and other stakeholders. In conjunction with the annual review of the strategic environmental objectives, the environmental policy is also revised to ensure that it remains appropriate given the state of the environment in Region Skåne. The environmental policy complies with the requirements of both the ISO 14001:2015 environmental management standard and the ISO 50001:2018 energy management standard.

Economic consequences of the environmental programme

At the time of the adoption of the environmental programme, it was not possible to analyse or assess the long-term economic consequences, neither the positive effects stemming from, for example, increased resource efficiency, nor the negative effects stemming from, for instance, increased procurement costs due to environmental requirements. In principle, the economic factors and related decisions are dealt with in the budget process, with the environmental objectives that are established supported by evidence such as cost-benefit analyses and other cost estimates that are easier to make for more concrete activities.

However, there are reasons for performing an overall economic assessment of the ambitions expressed in the environmental programme to assess how reasonable those ambitions are, such as with consideration for life cycle costs. No such assessment could be conducted before the environmental programme was adopted. Accordingly, a financial assessment of the ambitions set out in the environmental programme needs to be conducted at the beginning of the programme period. This work will be included in the budget process at the beginning of the programme period.

Based on the results of the assessment, the level of ambition of the environmental programme will be reviewed and adjusted on the basis of the adjustment principles of the environmental programme as regards reviews of the environmental policy and the environmental objectives in conjunction with work on the next budget period.



Appendix 2:

Background to the focus areas in the Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030

Region Skåne's environmental impact

Region Skåne impacts the environment in a number of ways, both directly and indirectly:

- The provision of healthcare requires resources, including consumables, food, products and goods, energy and water, property management and logistics as well as internal transport services for goods, patients and waste.
- The environmental impact of healthcare stems not only from healthcare provision, but also from throughout the supply chain – from agriculture, raw materials and inputs in the countries of production to waste after healthcare is provided. In 2019, Region Skåne had 11,000 suppliers, announced 162 procurements and paid SEK 26 billion to suppliers. (Source: Sweden's National Agency for Public Procurement).
- Despite achieving fossil fuel freedom, public transport has a significant impact on the environment, such as noise and air pollution from its operation, as well as a major impact from vehicle manufacturing. Public transport has a major positive environmental impact in terms of reducing carbon dioxide emissions when public transport replaces car journeys.
- Region Skåne's operations within culture and regional development have, through the opportunity to establish requirements for funding and regional development work outside its own operations, some control over the environmental impact of other, external operations. The regional development work is primarily driven by Region Skåne's collective expertise in regional development contributing to collaborations and development partnerships with other stakeholders in Skåne, such as municipalities, business clusters, universities and non-profit organisations.

This regional development work is also driven forwards by means of lobbying, communication and analysis. Environmental work can even be given prominence in all of these contexts.

- Region Skåne's managers and employees can influence how the organisation uses its resources by means of requirements within procurement, purchasing and funding.

Resource-efficient and circular economy

The growing world economy and increasing global population mean that Earth's finite natural resources are facing rapid depletion. Resources such as water, arable land, clean air, natural assets and ecosystem services are essential for human health and quality of life, but these resources are limited. Region Skåne's operations are also dependent on Earth's resources, and such consumption uses up finite natural resources and creates waste and emissions. If Region Skåne is to move towards sustainable operations and reduce the environmental burden, it needs to use its resources more efficiently by means of effective resource management and by transitioning to a circular economy as far as possible.

A circular economy is described in the Swedish government's strategy for the transition to a circular economy as "a tool for reducing resource use in society and the resulting environmental impact. A circular economy is usually described in terms of a biological cycle and a technical cycle (see Figure 1 below). More resource-efficient use of the materials in each cycle can increase their lifetimes and economic values while reducing the extraction of new raw materials and the disposal of waste."

Effective resource management

Effective resource management ensures increased

Energy efficiency

The Climate Collaboration Skåne initiative's *Climate and Energy Strategy for Skåne* sets out the objective that by 2030, energy use in Skåne is to be at least 20 percent lower than in 2005 with at least 80 percent comprised of renewable energy. *Energy Strategy for Region Skåne 2018–2030* establishes energy efficiency improvement goals for Region Skåne, but only for properties owned by the region, not those that are leased. The environmental programme states in both the environmental policy and the overarching objectives that leased properties are to be included, although the actual goals are to be established in the energy strategy once there is opportunity to do so.

The energy consumption of goods transport is not assigned targets in the environmental programme but is addressed in the environmental policy. This is an environmental aspect of relevance to Region Skåne, and indicators and measurability need to be developed at the beginning of the programme period to enable targets to be established later. As for energy efficiency improvement in public transport, the targets for this are managed in Skånetrafikens sustainability programme.

In addition to the transition to a more electrified vehicle fleet across society, including Region Skåne, the production and use of biogas remains strategically important in terms of business, the climate and robustness.

Biogas contributes to a more resource-efficient and circular economy by effectively using organic waste to produce fuel. Moreover, the biogas production process also generates biofertiliser, which is important for agriculture. Additionally, a large amount of biogas is produced from domestic resources, thereby better securing the supply within the energy system and creating growth in Sweden.

Water as a resource

Sweden has a long history of safeguarding the quality of its water, but it is only recently that water has come to be considered a limited resource in practice. The heatwave of 2018 was a challenge for both Region Skåne and society in general. It proved to be the hottest Swedish summer on record, with droughts and water shortages across large parts of Skåne.

In the context of extreme weather caused by climate change, there is a need for a new approach to water security. This means that effective water resource management is key to Region Skåne being able to run its operations, whether on a day-to-day basis or in the event of a crisis or national emergency. In 2020, some 729,000 cubic metres of water were consumed at

Region Skåne's hospitals. This is the equivalent of about nine normal-sized bathtubs per minute. Within healthcare, access to water is central to good hygiene, patient safety and reducing the spread of infection.

Region Skåne should analyse its water needs and what can be considered sustainable use. Equally important for sustainable water use is the creation of the right conditions for good water quality free from hazardous substances and pharmaceutical residues.

Low climate impact

Global warming and its effects on the climate are scientifically proven and indisputable. Effects such as heatwaves, droughts, floods and other extreme weather phenomena pose a serious risk to public health in Skåne and to Region Skåne's ability to operate effectively. The Public Health Agency of Sweden has assessed the most clearly expected health effects of climate change to be respiratory problems, heat stroke, allergies, cardiovascular problems, infectious diseases, poisoning and mental health issues.

Region Skåne contributes to increased climate impact through various activities within its operations. Emissions of climate-changing gases occur both directly and indirectly, such as through energy use in buildings and transport, but also through the consumption of food, goods and services throughout the supply chain. Renovation work, refurbishment and new builds generate significant climate-changing gas emissions too.

Global and national climate goals

The global and national goals that have been established aim to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5 degrees compared to pre-industrial levels, in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement, but projections point to an increase of up to 3 degrees. In 2017, Sweden adopted a climate policy framework with the long-term goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045, with negative emissions thereafter. The framework also has a milestone for emissions in 2030 to be 63 percent less than in 1990. This goal means that by 2045, emissions from Swedish territory will be at least 85 percent lower than in 1990. The remaining fifteen percentage points to the goal of net zero emissions will have to be compensated by so-called complementary measures. The complementary measures currently known include increased net sequestration of carbon dioxide in forests and soil, verified emission reductions through investments in other countries, and bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (CCS), also known as bio-CCS or BECCS. If Sweden is to have negative emissions after 2045, the complementary measures need to exceed Sweden's remaining greenhouse gas emissions.

Sweden's goal of net zero emissions encompasses territorial emissions, whereas complete climate neutrality encompasses consumption-based emissions from a life cycle perspective. Region Skåne has limited direct local, or territorial, emissions. Instead, the majority of emissions (indirect) stem from the consumption of goods and services. If Region Skåne is to achieve climate neutrality, the starting point must be centred on consumption-based emissions rather than the territorial emissions focus of Sweden's climate goal. Furthermore, in addition to reducing emissions as far as possible and using alternative solutions to offset the remaining emissions, there is also a need to limit matters in terms of both the life cycle perspective and the calculation methodology.

Region Skåne's situation and control

Carbon offsetting measures must be conducted outside the organisation, and since Region Skåne is a tax-funded public authority, at the beginning of the programme period there is some legal uncertainty as to whether this is appropriate. The continued development of carbon insetting measures may offer a way forward. The environmental programme sets out the long-term objective for Region Skåne as being to pave the way for becoming climate neutral by 2045, which is in line with the Swedish government's climate goal.

Skånetrafikens forward-looking work on climate neutrality within the framework of its sustainability programme can perhaps provide inspiration for how this should be managed, and Region Skåne will most likely be able to benefit from this work in other areas of its operations.

Direct emissions are those over which Region Skåne has direct control, such as emissions from public transport, vehicles used within operations, purchased electricity, and district heating and cooling, as well as emissions of nitrous oxide and anaesthetic gases. Indirect emissions include those from capital investments, waste incineration, and purchased goods and services. Indirect emissions can also be controlled by establishing requirements for suppliers at all levels, with public procurement providing a valuable tool for creating incentives for suppliers to strive for lower emissions, from a life cycle perspective, from the goods and services that Region Skåne procures.

To achieve the objectives of this environmental programme, Region Skåne needs to be proactive in its efforts to reduce both direct and indirect emissions across all of Region Skåne's operations wherever possible. The work to increase Region Skåne's control over climate emissions outside its operations needs to continue.

Between 2010 and 2020, Region Skåne had enormous success in phasing out fossil fuels from its operations. Moreover, for its own properties, Region Skåne buys only electricity and district heating with environmental product declarations.

Food and meals

Globally, the entire food system, from farm to fork, is the single largest contributor to climate change, accounting for 21–37 percent of greenhouse gas emissions, according to the IPCC. In Sweden, the agricultural sector (farming only) accounted for about seven million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents, corresponding to fourteen percent of Sweden's total emissions in 2019. Emissions from machinery and energy use are excluded from the above emissions figure and represent an additional 0.8 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents. More than half of the sector's emissions are linked to the production of animal-based food, such as meat, dairy products and eggs.

The majority of the food consumed within Region Skåne is used for patient meals, although a significant amount is also used for meals and wellbeing measures for personnel.

Patient meals are an important aspect of patient recovery and general health, and so it is vital that these meals are nutritious, appealing and tailored to patient needs and preferences. It is important that the patient finds the food that is served tasty and appetising, as they are then more likely to finish their meal. This way, food waste will be reduced and the nutritional content of the meal will benefit the patient. A meal that is not eaten is detrimental to both the patient's health and the environment, so this area must be prioritised. Offering a varied menu, one that includes seasonal produce, plenty of vegetables and animal-based products with lower carbon footprints, provides opportunities to reduce the environmental impact of the meals. As for meals and wellbeing measures for personnel, while the focus on patient recovery (which may mean reduced appetite and a need for denser nutrient content) is unnecessary, there are good opportunities to choose climate-smart food.

When it comes to food, transport is also an important consideration in terms of the climate, with locally grown or locally produced food involving shorter transport distances, which is positive. Although short transport distances can offer some benefits to the climate, the type of energy used for the transport (as well as the logistics solution and the fill rate) is the most significant factor in terms of emissions per unit delivered. Land transport is currently best positioned for making the transition to fossil-free fuels. Other means of transport, such as aviation and shipping,

face a more difficult and slower transition to fossil-free fuels than land transport.

Vital and healthy environment

The *Vital and healthy environment* focus area shows the way in safeguarding public health, biodiversity and society's food resources. Successful goal formulation helps to prevent harm to people and the environment, thereby avoiding socioeconomic costs.

Everything is made up of chemical substances: humans, their food, the things they surround themselves with and Earth itself. While most of these substances are harmless, some are hazardous, and some of the latter are substances of very high concern. Some of these substances are combined with others to produce various products with specific properties. Other substances are used in the manufacture of diverse materials that are assembled into goods.

Combination effects and protecting children

Both society and the environment are home to a variety of hazardous substances that, when combined, can cause synergistic effects making the combination more dangerous than the individual substances alone. This is known as a combination effect. Accordingly, it is important to try to reduce the accumulated exposure throughout a person's lifetime, as well as across generations, to protect the development of children and young people. Ecosystems also need to be protected from accumulated exposure to avoid negative impacts on biodiversity.

Since developing children are especially sensitive to hazardous substances already in the womb, a focus on protecting them can also offer adults good protection. The overall priority in efforts to reduce the risk of exposure to hazardous substances should therefore be to protect children in particular from exposure.

Sustainable consumption and production require the responsible management of chemical substances. If Region Skåne is to truly achieve a circular economy and to protect children, other vulnerable groups and biodiversity, then the use of the most hazardous substances must end. Such substances shall only be used if there is absolutely no alternative. When goods and products containing hazardous substances are used, the risks must be assessed and minimised.

Detoxifying the cycle and recirculation risks

If Region Skåne and the rest of society is to switch to a more circular economy, the cycle must be detoxified, which is a major challenge. Goods and buildings produced in the past were made when different chemical legislation applied and less was known about

hazardous substances. As a result, there is a risk of introducing hazardous substances into the environment when such goods and buildings are recycled, and in the worst case they may even be enriched. New materials and goods entering a circular cycle must be non-toxic from the outset, which requires greater knowledge of the substances these goods and products contain and of whether they are hazardous. Modern society is seeing increasing global flows of products, materials and goods, which also means increasing flows of chemical substances. This results in hazardous substances being spread throughout the world by means of production, use and disposal. One problem is that most of Region Skåne's materials and goods are manufactured in countries with more lenient chemical regulations than those found in Europe.

Working with the entire supply chain

It is important to ensure that all stages of the supply chain – from product development and manufacturing to waste management wherever in the world it takes place – do not at any point result in hazardous substances having a negative impact on human health, food resources or biodiversity. Greater knowledge from research and non-toxic sustainable innovations are needed. Product development must focus on eliminating the need for hazardous substances in production processes. Toxicological considerations need to be included early in the development of new chemical substances and materials. New recycling methods that can separate hazardous substances already circulating in society also need to be developed so that these substances are not reintroduced. To speed the transition, incentives are needed to encourage companies to invest in non-toxic innovations and products of better quality with greater durability. One tool for this is public procurement.

The need for knowledge and information

Another challenge in the transition to non-toxic circular cycles is overcoming the lack of knowledge about which chemical substances are used at each stage of the manufacturing process in supply chains that are often complex and global. Furthermore, information about the component substances must be provided throughout the supply chain, to consumers and to all stages of the circular flow until the waste stage is reached. At the waste stage, information about the chemical components needs to be shared with recyclers and manufacturers using recycled materials. Information storage and transfer systems are currently lacking in many cases, but they are needed to make circular flows free from hazardous substances.

Requirements for recycled materials

Recycled materials need to be a reliable source of raw materials to enable a circular economy. If recycled materials are to compete with virgin materials, they need to meet the same safety and quality requirements for hazardous substance content. That is, a recycled material must be as safe for its intended purpose as a material produced from virgin raw materials.

Food and biodiversity

In addition to efforts to reduce hazardous substances in products, materials, goods and buildings, it is also becoming increasingly clear that further efforts are needed to reduce exposure to hazardous substances in food. For example, plant protection products are feared to have a greater impact on insects in agricultural areas than changes in both temperature and precipitation. A specific goal for the amount of organic food purchased is not stated in the environmental programme, but Region Skåne is guided by the Swedish government's directional goal set out within the framework of the national food strategy, which requires that a minimum of 60 percent of food purchased within the public sector is to be organic by 2030. This direction is also in line with Skåne's food strategy 2030 and Skåne's development strategy, *The Open Skåne 2030*, which state that "Skåne shall lead the way to a sustainable food system" and that Skåne shall "ensure extensive biodiversity". At the beginning of the programme period, this is already at just over 45 percent in Region Skåne, so the starting point is promising. However, further efforts will be needed to attain the directional goal, which will be achieved by means of the operational environmental objectives and operational plans drawn up in the budget and operational planning process.

Locally grown/produced food is important from a business perspective as well as from a food supply perspective and is therefore a priority area for Region Skåne. Promoting locally grown and locally produced food, such as certified pastured meat, can also be an effective way to preserve the open landscape. This may favour positive environmental impact through the conservation of biodiversity, although it may also entail climate impact.

In addition, there is the potential to contribute to increased consumption of Swedish organic food, that is, food that is both locally grown/produced and organic, without compromising any of the environmental objectives. The public sector will then be sending a clear message to the market about its preference for more locally grown/produced food *that is also* organic.

To achieve effects that benefit the environment, Region Skåne needs to take into account and balance the varied environmental impacts of food, such as climate impact, a healthy environment and biodiversity.

Medicines and antibiotics

Since medicines are potent substances, it is also important to consider their effects on the environment and biodiversity throughout the supply chain, from the production of the active substance and the pharmaceutical formulation to the waste and wastewater stage.

The environmental impact of medicines, both the direct impact of pharmaceutical residues in wastewater treatment plants and recipient waters after the consumption of prescription medicines and the indirect impact of manufacturing and transport, is undoubtedly considerable. There is some uncertainty as to the environmental impact of pharmaceutical residues in nature, but there is growing scientific evidence of significant negative effects.

Basically, the use of medicines in Skåne has a positive impact on public health, which is why there is no reason to establish a goal for a general reduction in prescription medicines with consideration for the environment. Efforts to make the prescription and use of medicines more appropriate and effective from a health perspective are a priority and are under way in Region Skåne. This work also has the added benefit of reducing the environmental impact as the unnecessary use of medicines is reduced.

During the programme period, Region Skåne shall focus on working towards a larger knowledge base on the negative environmental effects of pharmaceutical residues in the environments of Skåne together with other stakeholders in society, such as the universities in Skåne, the water and wastewater company VA Syd and the County Administrative Board of Skåne. Region Skåne shall also focus on environmental requirements in procurement to reduce environmental impact in the manufacturing and supply chains, which shall also be ensured by following up supplier compliance with the established requirements.

Goals for reducing the prescription of antibiotics are not dealt with within the framework of the environmental programme, although this is a very important matter for Region Skåne. The reason is that increasing antibiotic resistance is primarily a public health issue and is not considered an environmental issue. Moreover, efforts to reduce the prescription of antibiotics and the associated follow-ups are conducted via other channels.



Appendix 3:

Definitions and terms for the Environmental Programme for Region Skåne 2030

The heading *Definitions* gathers Region Skåne's definitions of a number of concepts and terms. The heading *Terms* gathers generally accepted definitions of various concepts and terms.

DEFINITIONS

Carbon offsetting

Carbon offsetting means that unavoidable emissions caused by a business or a consumer are offset by actions taken by another party. These actions shall result in a reduction in emissions equal to the emissions caused, that is, they shall result in net zero emissions.

Conventionally grown food

Conventionally grown food is food that is grown in a manner that does not match the definition of organic food.

Internal incentives for reduced climate impact

Internal incentives for reduced climate impact is a way to reduce climate-changing gas emissions by creating financial incentives that encourage a desired behaviour that leads to reduced climate impact. The financial incentive can take the form of an additional fee for a certain type of activity, such as business air travel, that can then be used internally to finance activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Organic food

Organic food meets specific requirements regulating the means of production and its validation as well as for the import of organic products from outside the EU.

Organic food is defined as food that meets the requirements of Sweden's KRAV labelling system or is otherwise approved in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and Council Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 and its amendments. To be defined as organic, wild-caught seafood must be MSC certified and farmed seafood must be ASC certified.

Product

A collective name for chemical products and cosmetic products as well as for medical devices that are substances or mixtures. See also Chemical product, Cosmetic product, Medical device, Substances and Mixtures under the heading Terms.

Swedish organic food

Organic food produced in Sweden.

Substances of very high concern

Substances of very high concern have properties that cause such serious harm to human health or the environment that their use should be discontinued as far as possible. Substances of very high concern have one or more of the following properties:

- endocrine disrupting
- very persistent in the environment and very bioaccumulative (vPvB substances)
- persistent in the environment, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT substances)
- carcinogenic, cause cancer (category 1A or 1B)
- mutagenic, damage DNA (germ cell mutagens, category 1A or 1B)
- interfere with reproduction (toxic for reproduction, category 1A or 1B)
- highly allergenic, that is, cause severe skin or respiratory allergy (category 1A and 1B)
- ozone depleting, hazardous to the ozone layer (category 1)
- very acutely toxic (acute toxicity, category 1 and 2, and specific organ toxicity – single exposure, category 1)
- environmentally hazardous with long-term effects (hazardous to the aquatic environment, chronic category 1 and chronic category 2)

- do not meet any of the above criteria but have other properties assessed to give rise to an equivalent level of severity, such as highly fluorinated substances as well as mercury, cadmium and lead and their compounds.

TERMS

Agenda 2030

Agenda 2030 is the name of the agenda adopted on 25 September 2015 by the UN General Assembly under the title *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, for a transition to a sustainable society. Agenda 2030 is the overarching strategy document that includes, for example, the seventeen sustainable development goals, or SDGs for short. In Sweden, the government agency Statistics Sweden has a mandate from the Swedish government to coordinate the indicator-based follow-ups of Sweden's compliance with the Agenda 2030 goals. The national environmental quality objectives describe the challenges as regards ecological sustainability on a national level. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, Statistics Sweden, UN Resolution A/RES/70/1)

Antibiotic resistance

Antibiotic resistance entails bacteria developing resistance to antibiotics. This is a serious and growing public health issue both in Sweden and throughout the world mainly caused by the excessive use of antibiotics. (Source: Public Health Agency of Sweden, Healthcare guide 1177)

Bioaccumulative substances

Substances that accumulate in tissues. See also Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Biocide

A chemical or biological pesticide produced to prevent or deter animals, plants or microorganisms, including viruses, from causing harm or inconvenience to human health or damage to property. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Biodiversity

Biodiversity refers to the broad variation among living organisms of all origins, including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems, and the ecological complexes of which they are a part. This includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Carbon dioxide equivalents, CO₂e

To make all greenhouse gases comparable, all emissions, except carbon dioxide, are multiplied by an associated global warming potential (GWP). This factor is different for each gas or substance in solid form and provides its total contribution to global warming. The GWP enables different emissions to be converted into carbon dioxide equivalents. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Carcinogen

Agent that has the potential to cause cancer. See also Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Chemical/chemical product

A chemical substance or a preparation (mixture) of chemical substances (compounds). Chemical products can be specially regulated products, meaning pesticides, or commonly regulated products, meaning all other products. See also Product, Substance and Mixture. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Circular economy

In a circular economy, resources are kept in a community's economy or kept in a community's economic and materials cycle instead of becoming waste. A circular economy aims to maintain the value of products, materials and resources for as long as possible by reintroducing them to the product cycle at the end of their use thereby minimising waste generation. The fewer products we discard, the less material we need to extract, and the better for our environment.

There is currently no standardised and widely accepted definition of a circular economy.

This process starts at the beginning of a product's life cycle: smart product design and production processes can help to save resources, avoid prevent waste and create new business opportunities.

(Source: The EU's Circular Economy Action Plan)

Climate change

Climate change comprises variations in Earth's climate over time, with climate meaning the average weather conditions over an extended period of time. This means that temperature variations must be followed over decades to determine how the climate is changing. The climate has always undergone natural variations, which can be due to natural processes or external forces such as solar cycles, volcanic eruptions and persistent changes in atmospheric composition due to human activities. The rapid change now taking place, in the form of

global warming, is scientifically proven to be due to human activities. Measurements show that since the second half of the 1800s, the average temperature has risen by about one degree. And it is not just the air that is getting warmer, the oceans are getting warmer and the polar ice caps are melting as well. The most common greenhouse gases produced by human activities are carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, SMHI, IPCC)

Climate neutral

A state in which human activities have no net effect on the climate system. Achieving such a state requires, among other things, balancing remaining greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere with greenhouse gas removals, such as by means of carbon offsetting. (Source: IPCC, Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Climate policy framework

The Swedish parliament, the Riksdag, has adopted a climate policy framework for Sweden comprising new climate goals, a climate act and a climate policy council. The framework shall structure climate policy and is based on an agreement within the parliamentary Environmental Objectives Committee. (Source: Swedish Government)

CMR substances

Acronym for substances that are carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction. See also Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency, Swedish Work Environment Authority)

Combination effect/cocktail effect

The combined effect of a mixture of chemicals, which may be greater than the individual effects of the individual substances. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Construction phase

The construction phase encompasses the extraction of raw materials, the manufacture of construction products, work on the construction site and transport conducted up until the building is completed. The construction phase can be divided into the product phase (A1–A3) and the building production phase (A4, A5). (Source: Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning)

Consumables

Consumables are a category of goods comprised of items purchased by an organisation for use in its operations. Consumables have an economic lifetime of up to one year. Examples of goods in this category include single-use items such as paper napkins, plastic or paper cups, gloves, catheters, injection equipment, packaging and bin bags. (Source: Bolagslexikon, Swedish Institute for Standards, SIS)

Contract

A contract is an undertaking by a company, most often in the construction industry, to conduct work within a certain time for a predetermined price. Accordingly, a contract encompasses both the work to be done and the time during which it is to be done. (Source: Bolagslexikon)

Cosmetic product

Substances or mixtures intended to be applied externally to the human body (epidermis, hair, scalp, nails, lips and external genital organs) or to the teeth and mucous membranes of the oral cavity for the sole or main purpose of:

- cleansing
- scenting
- altering appearance
- protecting
- maintaining condition
- correcting body odour

Accordingly, a product is considered a cosmetic when all three aspects of the definition are met:

- is comprised of substances or mixtures
- is intended to be applied externally to the human body
- has a purely cosmetic purpose

(Source: Sweden's Medical Products Agency)

Ecosystem services

Ecosystem services are all the products and services that nature's ecosystems provide to humans and that contribute to our wellbeing and quality of life. Pollination, natural water regulation and nature experiences are a few examples. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Endocrine disrupting

Substances that affect endocrine systems and can cause harm to organisms, populations or ecosystems. See also Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Environmental impact

Positive and negative impact on the external environment stemming from an organisation's entire operations. Environmental impact can entail, for example, the impact of greenhouse gas emissions on the climate or the impact of eutrophication on lakes and seas. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Environmental management system

An environmental management system ensures structured and systematic environmental work. It helps organisations to focus on the right things when planning, conducting, following up and improving their operations. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Environmental sustainability, alternatively ecological sustainability

One of the three aspects of sustainable development, namely the environmental aspect. Ecological sustainability (environmental sustainability) encompasses everything to do with Earth's ecosystems. This includes, for instance, the stability of climate systems, air, land and water quality, land use and soil erosion, biodiversity and ecosystem services (such as pollination and photosynthesis). (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Food

Something, whether in liquid or solid form, that must be regularly provided to the body to maintain vital functions. (Source: Swedish Food Agency)

Food strategy, national

In 2017, the Swedish government decided on a food strategy stretching to 2030, and this strategy includes the directional goal for 60 percent of food consumed within the public sector to be organic. (Source: Sweden's National Agency for Public Procurement, Swedish Government)

Fossil fuel free

The use of fuels that are not fossil based. Fossil fuels are comprised of organic carbon and hydrogen compounds found in sediment or sedimentary bedrock that have been subjected to increasing pressure and temperature over millions of years and slowly transformed into oil, coal and natural gas. Petrol and diesel are examples of fossil fuels. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Global warming

Global warming is the heating of Earth's climate caused by increasing levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Greenhouse gases enhance the atmosphere's ability to heat Earth's surface, thereby reinforcing the greenhouse effect. It is primarily emissions of greenhouse gases, especially carbon dioxide, from human activities such as transport and energy production that contribute to global warming. See also Greenhouse effect. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Good

An item that during production acquires a particular shape, surface or design which determines its function to a greater extent than its chemical composition. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Greenhouse effect

The greenhouse effect is a fundamental property of Earth's climate – it affects the balance between incoming solar radiation and outgoing thermal radiation. The incoming solar radiation passes through the atmosphere and heats Earth's surface. In turn, the heated Earth's surface emits thermal radiation, the passage of which is largely blocked by the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Some of this thermal radiation is radiated back to Earth, keeping the temperature of Earth's surface both higher and more constant than on a planet without an atmosphere.

In the context of global warming and climate change, this refers to a strengthening of the natural and essential greenhouse effect. See also Global warming. (Source: SMHI)

Greenhouse gases

Primarily carbon dioxide originating from human activities such as energy production and transport. Also includes other gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, desflurane and sevoflurane. These gases enable heat from solar radiation to get trapped in the atmosphere rather than just reflected or radiated from Earth into space. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Hazard

An inherent property of a substance that can cause undesirable effects. See also Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency).

Hazardous substances

Chemical substances classified as hazardous to the environment or human health under the EU's CLP Regulation and those that fulfil these requirements but have not yet been classified. See also Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Household waste

The previous definition of waste arising from households and comparable waste from other activities and operations. In Sweden, as a legal term this no longer applies in the same manner and has been partially replaced by the term municipal waste. The formerly exclusive municipal right to waste collection has also been amended. Today, the term household waste can only be applied to household waste. See also Municipal waste. (Source: Swedish Waste Management Association)

Indirect environmental impact

Indirect environmental impact is that which occurs upstream or downstream of the concerned operations, such as within the production, transport or waste management of goods purchased by those operations. It can also comprise environmental impact associated with a second party due to an action on the part of the first party, such as prescribing medicines. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Life cycle costing, LCC

Life cycle costing (LCC) is a way of including long-term effects in a purchasing decision by looking at the economic consequences throughout the life cycle of a product or service. By considering life cycle costs, public procurement can make economically and environmentally sustainable investments. (Source: Sweden's National Agency for Public Procurement)

Life cycle perspective

A way of looking at the environmental impact of a product or service throughout its life cycle, from the extraction of natural resources through manufacture to waste management. Calculating environmental impact from a life cycle perspective is known as life cycle assessment, or LCA for short. (Source: Swedish Life Cycle Center)

Locally grown (locally produced) food

There is no official definition of how locally a food product needs to be produced to be considered locally produced. Differing geographic and climatic conditions often make it difficult to define an exact distance for

locally grown or produced goods. Accordingly, if either of these terms is relevant to a procuring agency or entity in conjunction with the procurement of food or meal services, it is up to that agency or entity to define the meaning of the term. (Source: Sweden's National Agency for Public Procurement)

Material

Component parts that need to be assembled to make something useful. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Meals

Meals is the term used for the specific times of day when people in a community eat. Good, sustainable meals require a comprehensive approach based on four aspects:

- Tasty and enjoyable – it is important that the meal is considered tasty and enjoyable if the food is to be eaten.
- Nutritious and safe – a good meal is also nutritious and safe to eat.
- Environmentally smart – environmentally smart means meals that are environmentally sustainable and contribute to the national environmental objectives.
- Integrated – integrated means that the meal is used as a resource within operations.

(Source: Swedish Food Agency)

Medical device

Instrument, apparatus, device, software, implant, reagent, material or other item that, according to the manufacturer, is intended to be used, either separately or in combination, for humans for one or more of the following medical purposes:

- diagnosis, prophylaxis, monitoring, treatment or alleviation of disease
- diagnosis, monitoring, treatment or alleviation of or compensation for an injury or functional impairment
- examination, replacement or modification of the anatomy or of a physiological process or condition
- controlling conception or aiding fertility
- disinfection or sterilisation of any of the above-mentioned products, and that does not achieve its principal intended action in or on the human body by pharmacological, immunological or metabolic means but may be assisted in its intended function by such means.

See also Product. (Source: Sweden's Medical Products Agency)

Medicine

A substance or a combination of substances that is provided with the claim that it has properties for preventing or treating disease in humans or animals, or that can be used on or administered to humans or animals for the purpose of restoring, correcting or modifying physiological functions by means of pharmacological, immunological or metabolic action or for the purpose of diagnosis. (Source: Paragraph 1 of Sweden's Medicinal Products Act (SFS 1992:859))

Mixture

A mixture or solution comprised of two or more substances. (Source: REACH Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Municipal waste

Defined in the EU's Waste Directive, and in Sweden's Environmental Code since 2020, as waste from households and waste from other sources that is similar in nature and composition to waste from households. This partially replaces the previous term household waste for the fraction originating from non-household sources.

Examples of municipal waste are mixed waste and separately collected household waste, including paper and cardboard, glass, metal, plastic, biological waste, wood, textiles, packaging, waste comprised of or containing electrical and electronic equipment, used batteries and accumulators, and bulky waste, including mattresses and furniture. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency).

Mutagen

A substance that damages genetic material. See also Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

National environmental quality objectives

The environmental quality objectives describe the desired state of the environment in Sweden. More detailed descriptions of the environmental quality objectives clarify the aims and are used for follow-ups. On 28 April 1999, the Swedish parliament decided that there should be fifteen national environmental quality objectives for Sweden. In November 2005, a sixteenth environmental quality objective, for biodiversity, was adopted. The work to achieve the environmental quality objectives and the generation objective provides the basis for the national environmental policy. The environmental quality objectives and their detailed descriptions are intended to provide a long-term

strategic objective for environmental work and to serve as guidance for environmental work throughout Swedish society, including that of government agencies, county administrative boards, municipalities, trade and industry, and other stakeholders. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Packaging

A good or a single-use item produced to contain, protect or present another good or product, or else to deliver or otherwise handle a good or a product, from raw material to final good or product and from producer to end user. (Source: Sweden's Ordinance on Producer Responsibility for Packaging (2018:1462))

Paris Agreement

On 4 November 2016, the Paris Agreement on climate change entered into force. The agreement was negotiated between 2011 and 2015 and agreed at COP 21 in Paris in December 2015. The core tenet of the Paris Agreement is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to keep the global average temperature increase well below 2 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels as well as to support those affected by the effects of climate change. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

PBT

Persistent, Bioaccumulative, Toxic. Chemicals with PBT properties are long-lasting (persistent), can be stored in living tissue (bioaccumulative) and are toxic. See also vPvB and Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Persistent

A substance that is long-lasting or not easily biodegraded. See also vPvB and Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Persistent organic pollutant, POP

Long-lasting organic pollutant. See also Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

PFAS

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. A group of persistent, long-lasting chemical substances. See also Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Recycling

Recycling is a waste management practice described in Annex 1 to Sweden's Waste Ordinance or otherwise entailing the use of waste as a substitute for another material or its processing in preparation for such substitution, or waste management that entails preparation for reuse. (Source: Swedish Waste Management Association)

Renewable energy

Energy from renewable energy sources that is directly or indirectly based on solar radiation and can therefore renew itself within a human lifetime and will not run out within the foreseeable future. Example energy sources include sun, wind, water and biofuel. (Source: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)

Reproduction disruptor/Toxic for reproduction

Substance that harms the reproductive system. See also Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Reuse

Reuse is an action whereby a product or a component that is not waste is used again to fulfil the same function for which it was originally intended. (Source: Swedish Waste Management Association)

Risk

The combination of a hazard and the probability of its occurrence; a hazard–exposure factor. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Substance

A chemical element and its compounds in natural or manufactured form, including any additives necessary to preserve the stability of a product and any impurities resulting from the manufacturing process, but excluding any solvents that can be separated without affecting the stability of the substance or changing its composition. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Sustainable development

Sustainable development means development meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development considers the ecological, economic and social aspects of development. (Source: Brundtland Commission, UN)

Toxic

Poisonous. See also Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

vPvB

Very persistent and very bioaccumulative. A chemical that is very persistent and very bioaccumulative, i.e., it is stored in tissue. See also PBT and Substances of very high concern. (Source: Swedish Chemicals Agency)

Waste

Waste means any object or substance that the holder wants or is obliged to dispose of. A substance or an object resulting from a production process where the main purpose is not to produce that substance or object is to be considered a by-product rather than waste provided that:

1. it is certain that the substance or the object will continue to be used.
2. the substance or the object can be used directly without any processing other than that which is normal industry practice.
3. the substance or the object has been produced as an integral part of the production process.
4. the use referred to in 1 above does not contravene any law or regulation and does not have generally negative effects on the environment or human health.

Waste that has undergone a recycling process ceases to be waste provided that:

1. the substance or the object is to be used for a specific purpose.
2. there is a market or demand for such substances or objects.
3. the substance or the object complies with the applicable legal and regulatory requirements.
4. the use of the substance or the object does not have generally negative effects on human health or the environment.

(Source: EU Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC, Sweden's Waste Ordinance (2020:614), Swedish Waste Management Association)