

Driving Resilient Decarbonization

the 10th Anniversary of the World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities
May 10th - 11th 2022
Sibelius Hall, Lahti

Shaping a climate-neutral, resilient Europe

When the European Union launched its 100 Climate Neutral and Smart Cities mission on November 25th, 2021, it did not foresee the drastic changes that would take hold of the world in the first months of the new year. Nonetheless, the objectives outlined remain equally relevant and urgent today. The WALCC Forum supports and strengthens both low-carbon development and the increased resilience of cities by bringing together like-minded peers engaged in transformational collaboration.

To deal with uncertainty we must be able to adapt while also making decisions in the context of the unfolding new landscape, which will only gradually become clear to us. In such situations we must decide whom we can trust and how we can work with our trusted partners to secure the best possible future. The notion of resilience means that we must also consider our role as part of the comprehensive security system of Europe. This system must be built on trust. Finland as a role model of trust has here an important role to play.

This new geopolitical context will frame the World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities annual Forum at the Sibelius Hall in Lahti, Finland May 10-11. Russia's invasion of Ukraine has sown uncertainty and tension throughout the world which has far-reaching impacts. This has also greatly influenced the shaping of the

Forum's program. Driving decarbonization must now be accompanied by securing resilience.

We are pleased to welcome our partners, stakeholders, and new faces to Lahti this spring for a long-overdue opportunity to gather in person and engage in discussion and cooperation in the dynamic environment offered by the WALCC Forum. From the public sector we welcome EU and national government officials as well as city leadership. From the private sector we are pleased to welcome, in addition to our key partners, speakers from leading companies promoting decarbonization.

This Forum also revives a tradition of engaging academia through not only the institutions and leading professors but also students. The Forum will see the participation of professors and students from Aalto University, Tampere University, LUT University, University of Turku, and the University of Vaasa. Students from these institutions will shape and take part in discussions with leading experts from the worlds of business and governance to bring fresh perspectives on our shared future.

Those interested in contributing to the Forum can contact Jussi Hulkkonen.
(firstname.lastname@walcc.org)



Overview of the forum program

Tuesday, May 10th

09:00-09:30 Registration and coffee

09:30-10:00 Welcome and opening words

10:00-11:00

The new world order and the World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities;

Panel discussion

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-12:30

Corporations in the forefront of decarbonization and resilience;

Panel discussions

12:30-13:30 Lunch

13:30-14:30

How to deal with the present challenges of the European energy landscape?

Panel discussion

14:30-15:00 Coffee break

15:00-16:00

How must cities reposition themselves in the changed European landscape?

Panel discussion

16:00-16:45

Co-creating the future of the WALCC;

Interactive discussion

18:00 Dinner

Wednesday, May 11th

09:00-09:05 Welcome and program review

09:05-10:05 **How can cities simultaneously build resilience and drive decarbonization;**

Panel discussion

10:05-10:25 Coffee break

10:25-11:25

How can companies support cities in securing urban resilience;

Panel discussion

11:25-12:00 **What can we do together in securing a prosperous future for the next generations?**

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-17:00 site visits in Lahti

NOTE: The program might still change in details. An up-to-date version is on our walcc.org website

Carbon-neutral Lahti 2025

Lahti is the leading green city in Finland and a leader of environmental work: Lahti has already abandoned the use of coal and will become a carbon-neutral city by 2025 as the first major city in Finland.

Sibelius Hall, Lahti

Sibelius Hall is located by the beautiful Lake Vesijärvi. Sibelius Hall is a congress- and concert center that offers diverse services for both consumers and companies. Address: Ankkurikatu 7, 15140 Lahti

Hotel information

For those seeking accommodation for the duration of the Forum, we recommend the following three hotels near the center of Lahti. Use the dedicated reservation codes listed next to each hotel when making your individual booking.

GreenStar Hotel Lahti (greenstar.fi): Single (€84/night) and Double (€93/night) rooms available – Booking code WALCC (book before April 25th)

Scandic Lahti City (scandichotels.com): Single (€102/night) and double (€122/night) rooms available – Booking code 47961532 (book before April 8th)

Sokos Hotel Lahden Seurahuone (sokoshotels.fi): Single (from €141/night) and double (from €161/night) available – Booking code WALCC (book before April 9th)

Tickets and registration

Registration for the Forum opens on March 24th. See our website for registration details (walcc.org).

Two day passes to the Forum are available for €250 through April 9th, 2022 so get your ticket soon!