



City of Växjö, Sweden

Bo Frank, mayor



The City of Växjö

- Population: 90,000
- University city
- Lots of forests and lakes



The Greenest City in Europe



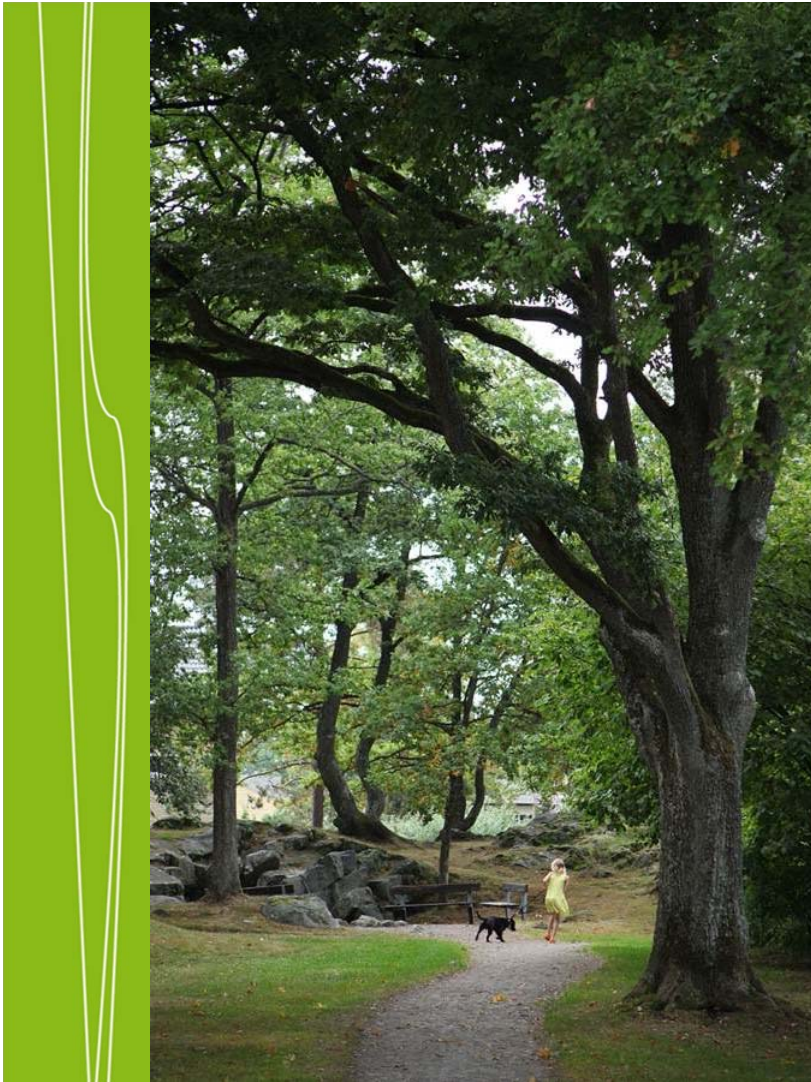
Success factors

- Municipal autonomy – decisions are taken at local level
- Political consensus and long term targets
- Broad co-operation
- Resources



Clean lakes

- The start of Växjö's environmental work
- Visible success



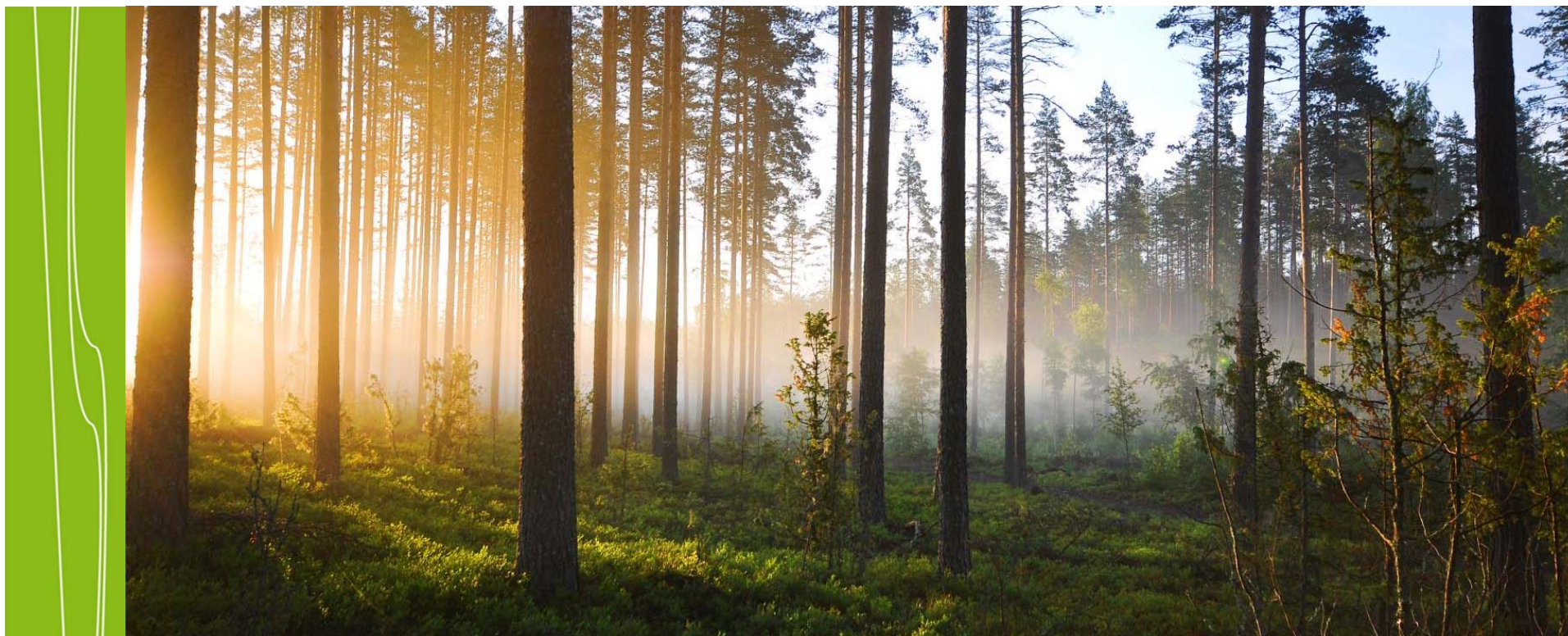
Energy transition

- The shift from fossil energy to biomass started in 1980
- Today, nearly 100 % of the local production of heat and power is renewable
- Over 60 % of the energy use (including transport) is renewable

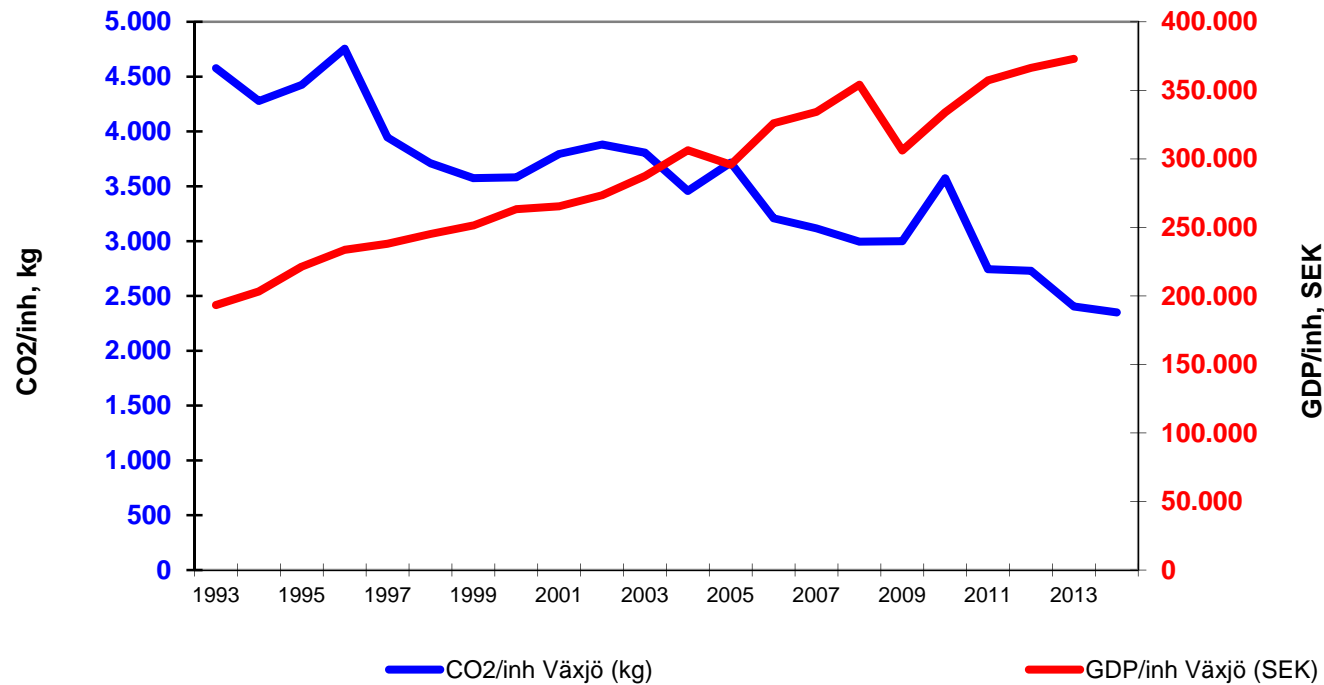


District heating from wood is smart

- Local energy source
- Renewable
- Improved air quality



**The fossil CO₂ emissions per capita shall be reduced by 65 %
between 1993 and 2020, and by 100 % until 2030**



CO2 emissions -54 % (1993-2015)
Economic growth +93% (1993-2013)



From food waste to fuel

- Households sort their organic waste
- The waste is a source for biogas
- All city buses run on biogas



The Modern Wooden City



Växjö declaration: Act now!

Local action is crucial, but help is needed

Linnéuniversitetet Kalmar
Växjö

**SUSTAINABLE
SMÅLAND**

**Växjö
kommun**
Europas grönaste stad



Recommendations

- Understand that all cities are different – know your strengths
- Start with low hanging fruits – quick results for the decision makers
- Invite stakeholders to participate
- Consider other advantages (business, health, attractiveness)



"The love you take is equal to the love you make"

Thanks for listening!