

Sustainable food in Malmö



About Malmö

- Sweden's third largest city
- 360 000 inhabitants
- 186 nationalities
- Procure just under 8 000 tonnes of food a year
- Annual food budget approximately 304 MSEK (€ 26 M)
- 90+ schools
- 200+ pre-schools

Environmental Programme for the City of Malmö 2021–2030

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Malmö's agricultural landscape is cared for and used in a sustainable manner

Land is an important natural resource. The way in which land is planned and used has long-term consequences. Malmö has the most arable land in Sweden. It needs to be cared for correctly to ensure continued long-term food production. Methods for the use of agricultural land must be adapted to ensure that they preserve and develop the quality of the land and its natural values.

2023 Master Plan Malmö

Three priorities are framing the urban planning:

- Malmö as a regional engine for green growth and employment
- The City as a cultural and democratic environment
- A close, narrow and green city with a multitude of functions

“ The agricultural land surrounding Malmö is the most productive in Sweden and is a resource that has to be protected for long-term food production.”



Land use

- Carbon sequestration
- Food supply
- Pressure from exploitation
- Recreation
- Biodiversity
- Ecosystem services

Public sector food in Malmö

- Malmö provides breakfast, hot lunch, snacks for pre-school children
- Subsidised meals for elderly care home residents
- Tax financed school lunch for all children,
- Approximately 45 000 school lunches a day.
- Food also has to be nutritionally balanced (follow national guidelines for healthy food)



Malmö's policy for sustainable development and food 2010-2020

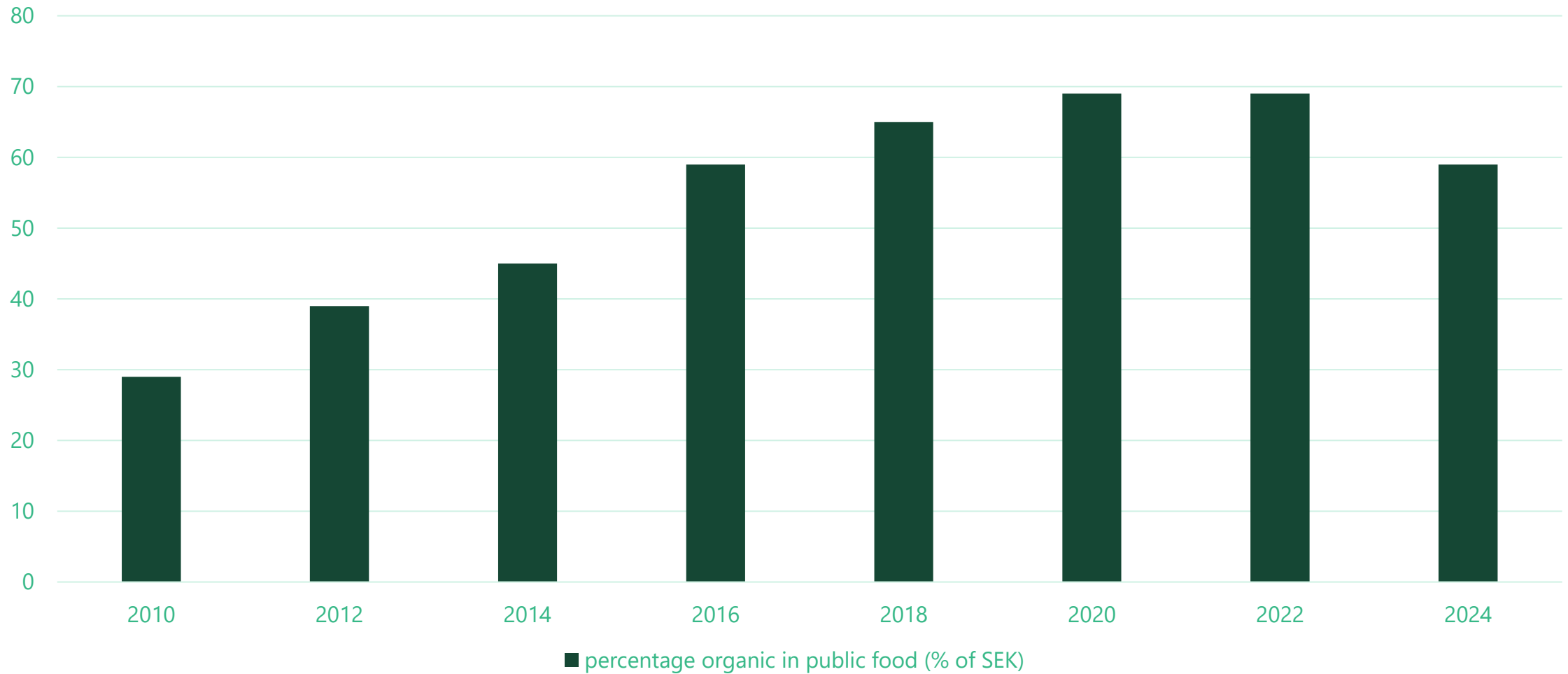
- Initiative of deputy mayor and senior management
- Healthy food with a high quality
- Knowledge and competence
- Sustainable procurement
- Responsible economy
- Events and official dinners
- Sustainable business



“By 2020 all food that is served or procured by the city of Malmö should be certified organic”

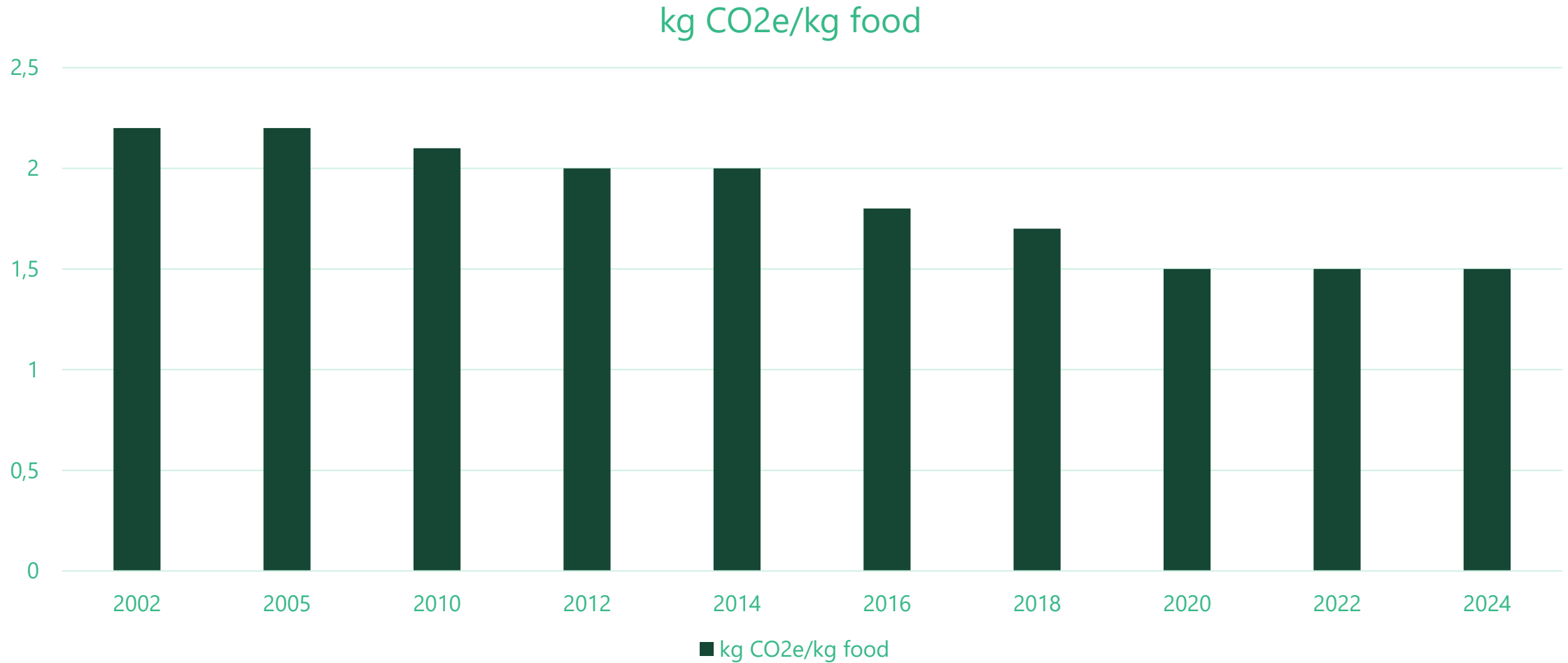


Organic food in public catering



**“Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
from food consumption by 40% from
2002 level”**

Greenhouse gas emission from public food





Reducing Malmö's carbon footprint

- Pre 2010 = 2,13 kg CO₂e per kg purchased food
- Now = 1,5 kg CO₂e per kg purchased food
- Increased amount of root vegetables and seasonal vegetables.
- Substitute some/all meat in dishes for legumes and pulses.
- More plant-based meals
- More fish
- Working to reduce food waste.

What have we learnt?

- Communicate a clear aim
- Important to have leadership on board
- Let it take time! Work slowly but steadily towards the goals
- Make sure staff are engaged and involved
- Education to increase knowledge and understanding
- Test new dishes multiple times
- Have close dialogue with your suppliers

Challenges we have faced...

- Questions from staff
- Keeping to the budget and agreements
- Finding suppliers
- Getting schools on board
- Moving too quickly led to : conflicts in canteens, unhappy parents, fractious politicians and sensational media coverage

Unexpected results of our work

- Less food procured even when population in city has grown
- Cannot always guarantee Swedish products, even if we try!
- Pressing prices can place undue pressure on farmers

Challenges for the future

- Reduce food waste
- Connecting urban and rural
- Secure supply of more local organic products
- Develop better links with schools
- What comes after the policy?



Public procurement

- Frame contracts
 - Large suppliers, large volumes
- Dynamic Purchase System
 - A possibility for smaller suppliers with smaller amounts

Malmö food council

- Membership-driven organization dedicated to elevating Malmö's rich and vibrant food culture to new heights
- Vision - A Malmö where food is a cornerstone of sustainability, inclusivity, and community.
- Created in 2020 after a 2-year project headed by Environment Department, funded by EU
- Mixture of producers, interest organisations, municipality actors
- <https://www.malmofoodcouncil.org/>

Fututre Food City Malmö

A local network that is aiming towards a sustainable urban food system in Malmö. We bring key actors from the municipality, business, support system och the civil society together to promote the transition.

We hope to create a joint food strategy for Malmö.



TILLVÄXT Malmö



Products for the future



Thank you!

