

Legal compliances – framework

The environmental work of a Swedish municipality depends on:

- EU legislation
- National legislation
- International targets
- National targets
- Regional targets
- Local targets
- Voluntary work not covered by legislation or targets



Legal compliances – legislation

The least level for a Swedish municipality is to follow legislation from national and EU level

The Environment & Health Department controls that the municipality follows the Environmental Code

The legislation varies from "every municipality has to have an Energy Plan" to "emissions to water must not exceed xx"

Legal compliances – national targets

The Government in Sweden has adopted 16 environmental targets

- Some of them are related to international targets, e.g. climate change
- This is not legislation, but may be a basis for legislation

These targets are broken down to regional level

Some municipalities break down the regional targets to local targets



Legal compliances – local targets

In Växjö, an environmental program was adopted in May 2006

It includes local targets in three different areas. The basis is legislation and regional environmental targets but

- The environmental program shows what Växjö wants to focus on
- The environmental program is steered and followed through ecoBUDGET

The targets in the environmental program goes further than the regional targets

An EMS makes sure that voluntary targets are being reached

Comments on Point 8 – experiences from ecoBUDGET

Element: Identification of the legislative prescription and of the competences (regulation list and regulation database)

-Within ecoBUDGET it seems as if this is not necessary since we use it to steer and follow voluntary targets, which are set outside the framework of legislation.

-We more or less assume that the we are working in compliance with legislation

-To be successful with the system, it is crucial that many people feel that they are involved, which means that it is easier to reach targets.

-Also political involvement and interest is important when it comes to voluntary targets

Comments on Point 8 – experiences from ecoBUDGET

Element: Assessment of the fulfillment and the competences (voluntary binding distinction etc)

- In Växjö, ecoBUDGET is used to steer and follow the environmental targets, which gives a satisfactory assessment of the fulfillment
- Environmental work that is not a direct responsibility according to the program, is assessed and described in the annual Environmental report



Thank you for your attention!

Henrik Johansson
henrik.johansson@kommun.vaxjo.se