**New terms for Green loans - changes for each project category**

The new terms apply from 1 December 2024

**New disclosure requirements regarding reduced climate impact from concrete**

When using concrete, information must be provided about measures in the project to reduce the concrete's climate impact, with regards to Resource-efficient design, applying the Right concrete in the right place and the use of Climate-improved concrete. Exceptions to the disclosure requirement can be made for concrete that is in contact with drinking water.

The requirements for the use of climate-improved concrete in new Green buildings that have existed since before remain in the new framework, however the required reduction in climate impact from the concrete to be considered climate-improved has been quantified.

Kommuninvest's ambition is to introduce strict requirements for reduced climate impact from concrete for all project categories in 2025, including threshold values regarding embodied climate impact for new buildings.

**Renewable energy**

* The project category has been amended so that only activities based entirely on renewable energy can be financed within the category (fossil fuels are allowed for start-up and termination of processes)
* Several activities that were previously in the project category Renewable energy have been transferred to the project category Energy efficiency. This applies, for example, to distribution of district heating/cooling, including electric heat pumps as well as production, storage and distribution of hydrogen.
* With the exception of solar energy and wind power, subcategories are now covered by specific criteria that need to be met in order for a Green Loan to be granted.

**Energy efficiency**

* Several activities that were previously in the project category Renewable energy have been moved to the project category Energy efficiency.
* The previous requirement that energy efficiency measures within various municipal activities and operations should lead to at least 30 percent lower energy use is discontinued. Instead, for all subcategories, energy use before and after the project must be quantified.
* All subcategories will instead be covered by specific criteria aimed at reduced climate impact, e.g. requirements for methane leak detection.

**Waste management/Pollution prevention and control/control of GHG emissions**

* The project category includes more activities than before, in addition to waste management, Green loans are also granted for:
  + Facilities that use waste incineration to produce heat/cooling/electricity
  + Remediation of landfills and contaminated areas
  + Carbon capture, utilisation and storage
* All subcategories are covered by specific criteria that need to be met in order for Green Loans to be granted, for example criteria for how waste fractions that cannot be recycled must be treated.

**Green buildings**

New buildings

* For new buildings larger than 5000 m2, criteria to measure air tightness and thermal integrity have been added.
* The framework now specifies that "climate-improved concrete" refers to concrete with at least 20 percent lower climate impact than the current industry reference level. (This means, as a minimum, the use of climate-improved concrete corresponding to level 2 according to guidance from industry association Swedish Concrete (*Svensk Betongs Vägledning Klimatförbättrad betong, utgåva 2*). Previously, the criteria was unspecified.
* The previous criteria to report estimated climate impact prior to construction for certain buildings and prior to financing has been replaced with a requirement to be able to obtain a climate declaration in accordance with Swedish legislation. For buildings where a climate calculation is already available at the time of application, information must be provided firstly about calculation results and secondly about/how the calculation is taken into account in procurement.

Existing buildings

* No changes. The criteria in place since before, i.e. that existing buildings must be able to report an energy performance that is at least 20 percent lower than the legal requirement for new production, has been deemed sufficiently ambitious by the Environmental Committee.

Major renovations

* No changes. The criteria in place since before, i.e. to be able to report a reduced energy use of at least 30 percent for major renovations, is in accordance with the EU taxonomy and has been deemed sufficiently ambitious by the Environmental Committee.

Other measures relating to energy efficiency in buildings

* The criteria that energy efficiency measures in partial systems of existing buildings should lead to 30 percent lower energy use has been discontinued.
* Instead, the criteria have been supplemented with a list of approved energy efficiency measures based on the EU taxonomy.

**Clean transportation**

* All subcategories are covered by specific criteria that aim to reduce climate impact, and which need to be met in order for Green Loans to be granted.
* In contrast to the requirements of the EU taxonomy, biogas will still be eligible as an approved fuel for investments within the category. The rationale is the Environmental Committee's view that biogas can contribute to addressing several environmental and climate challenges. Among other things, the use of biogas for transport purposes can contribute to reduced demand for electricity, which given current forecasts of greatly increased electricity needs as a result of electrification of industrial processes and vehicle transport is desirable.

**Water and wastewater management**

* All subcategories are covered by specific criteria that need to be met, with a focus on either reduced energy consumption or reduced negative impact on water, in order for the Green Loan to be granted.

**Climate change adaptation**

* The project category is covered by specific requirements that need to be met in order for Green Loans to be granted. Previously this was lacking, the requirements were general in nature.

**Biodiversity**

* The project category has been renamed, from the former Other environmental measures to Biodiversity.
* Activities that were previously funded within the project category, e.g. remediation of contaminated land, have been transferred to the project category Waste management/pollution prevention and control/control of GHG emissions.
* The project category contains specific criteria that need to be met in order for Green Loans to be granted.