



EUROPEAN UNION



EU MISSIONS

CLIMATE-NEUTRAL & SMART CITIES

Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges



#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionCities



WHY A MISSION ON CLIMATE-NEUTRAL CITIES?

- **75%** of EU citizens live in cities (projected to increase to about 85% in 2050)
- More than **65%** of energy consumption and more than **70%** of CO2 emissions worldwide
- Co-benefits – lower air/noise pollution, congestion and road deaths. Lower energy bills and better energy security. Loveable and liveable cities !
- The **European Green Deal** is set at EU / national level, but will be implemented at local level – particularly in cities and regions: where policy meets people.
- Cities have the **ambition** to go further – but few have declared readiness to be fully climate neutral by 2030. We want to help cities address the barriers they face.



OBJECTIVES OF THE MISSION

1

Deliver at least 100 climate-neutral and smart European cities by 2030;

2

Ensure that these cities act as experimentation and innovation hubs to put all European cities in a position to become climate-neutral by 2050.



MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE MISSION

**Climate City
Contracts**

Mission Platform

Tailor-made help
with funding and
financing

A Mission label to
unlock synergies
with other
programmes

R&I action under
Horizon Europe

Innovative city
governance
models and citizen
engagement

Common
framework for
monitoring,
reporting and
verification



STRONG SUPPORT AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF THE COMMISSION



Matthew BALDWIN

@BaldwinMatthew_

...

Strong support in the [#COP26](#) Innovation Summit from President von der Leyen today for our Mission to develop 100 climate neutral cities in Europe by 2030, stressing importance of strong citizens involvement. Real leadership from European cities to deliver on [#EUGreenDeal](#)





SYNERGIES WITH OTHER PROGRAMMES FOR CITIES

- The Mission will not replace involvement in other programmes, such as the Covenant of Mayors or Climate Pact, but build synergies with them.
- A Mission label will help create funding opportunities in EU and other programmes.
- National networks to ensure synergies with national and regional programmes



BENEFITS

- Tailor-made advice and assistance from the **Mission Platform**
- Unlocking additional funding and financing opportunities through a **Mission label**
- **Research & innovation**: funding opportunities for cities to be part of large innovation actions, pilot projects and demonstrators
- Support through a **national coordination network**
- **Networking opportunities**, learning and exchange of experiences among cities
- Support with **involving citizens** in decision-making
- **High visibility** – raising political profile and attractiveness for investment and skilled workers



CLIMATE CITY CONTRACTS

- **Tailor-made plans** on how to reach climate neutrality, adapted to the individual needs of the city, supported by the Mission Platform
- Non legally binding – **Memorandum of Understanding**
- To be **co-created in spirit of multi-level governance**, with the involvement of national authorities, regions and local stakeholders, including citizens and local economic actors
- Focus on innovative (“holistic”) city governance, investment plan, and monitoring and reporting
- Signed by the Mayor (or equivalent), witnessed by the Commission and others



FUNDING AND FINANCING

- Support expected from different **EU funding programmes**
- Cooperation with the **European Investment Bank Group** and national Promotional Institutions (e.g. financial advisory, possibly Blending Facility)
- **Private investors** (individuals, private companies, commercial banks)
- **EU sustainable finance agenda** offers new opportunities to encourage investors to invest locally

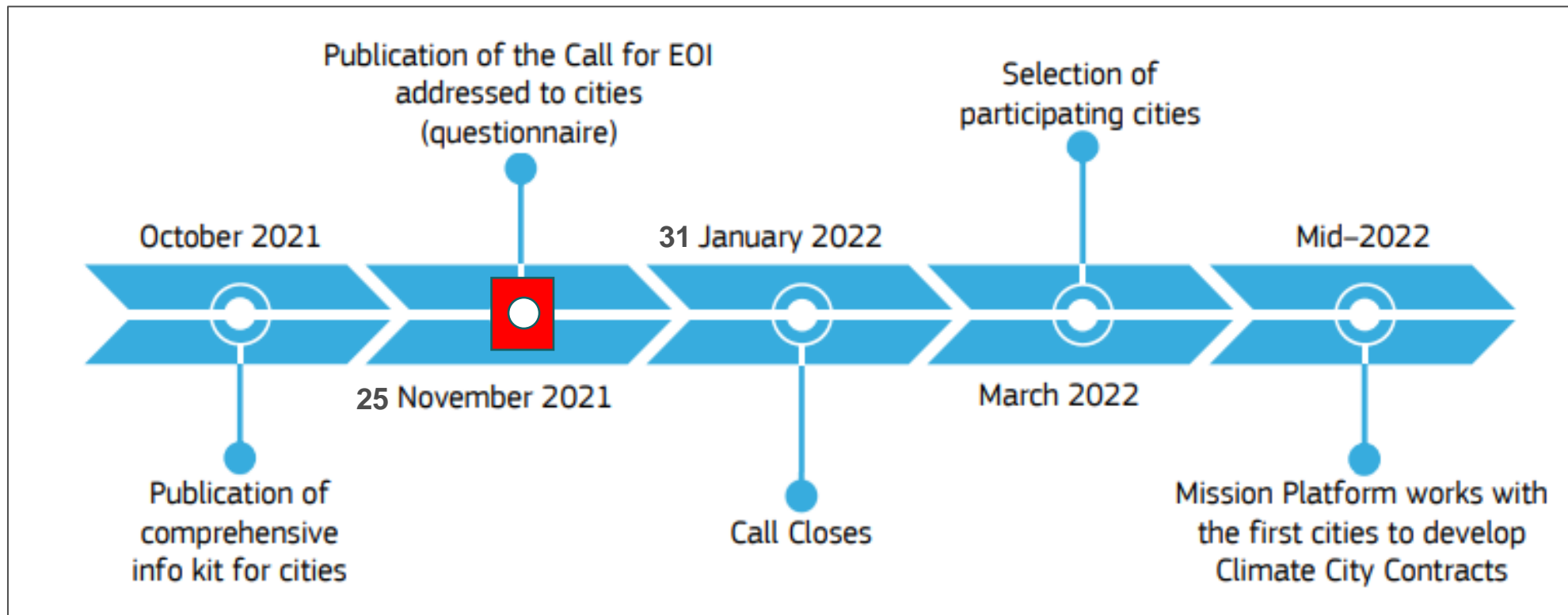


R&I CONTENT

- Portfolio of R&I activities targeting cities and communities will be launched in the **Horizon Europe Work Programme** for Missions
- **Goals**: develop capacity and showcase possibilities of scale-up and replicability
- **Complementarity** and **synergy** with ongoing and upcoming initiatives, e.g. partnerships



HOW WILL THE APPLICATION PROCESS WORK?



149 cities have already pre-registered for the Call for Expression of Interest



CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

- Online questionnaire to be filled in by city authorities
- Constitutes city's explicit request to join the Mission
- More than 150 cities pre-registered to receive information about the Call

Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission QuestionnaireV1

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Disclaimer

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Pages

Welcome Eligibility Additional information Current emissions Current policies Ambition for climate neutrality **Partnerships**

Capital needs and investment strategies Governance Barriers, risks and assistance

Partnerships

Stakeholder involvement

Who are the main stakeholders currently involved in formulating and implementing climate change mitigation/Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reduction policies in your city?

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> National government | <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth & education sector |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional government | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial institutions | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizen and renewable energy communities | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighboring local/regional government | <input type="checkbox"/> Trade unions | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academia / R&I institutions | <input type="checkbox"/> NGOs and associations | <input type="checkbox"/> Vulnerable groups | |



QUALIFYING CRITERIA

- Population thresholds – 50 000 (with some flexibility to bring in cities from all Member States)
- Stated ambition to achieve climate neutrality by 2030

PRINCIPLES

- Inclusiveness, diversity, geographical balance

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA INCLUDE

- cities' level of ambition and preparedness (but not just “usual suspects”)
- true geographic diversity – from south and east of Europe, not just north and west
- cities' commitment to involving citizens and stakeholders

Based on an assessment by independent experts, the European Commission services will choose the 100 cities



GET IN TOUCH

Register and respond to the Call for Expression of Interest:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/CNC-Pre-Registration>

Email:

RTD-HORIZON-EUROPE-MISSION-CITIES@EC.EUROPA.EU

Web page:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/horizon-europe/missions-horizon-europe/climate-neutral-and-smart-cities_en



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Thank you!

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