



EUROPEAN UNION



EU MISSIONS

CLIMATE-NEUTRAL & SMART CITIES

Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges





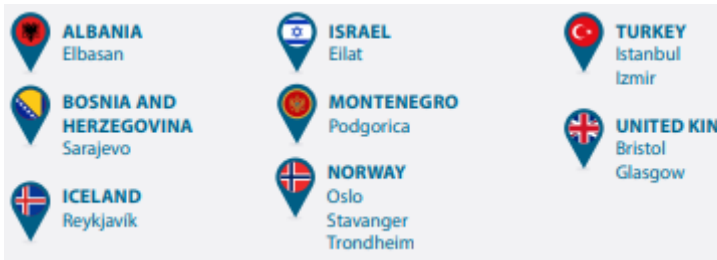
Objectives

- Deliver at least **100 climate-neutral and smart European cities** by 2030;
- Ensure that these cities act **as experimentation and innovation hubs** to put all European cities in a position to become climate-neutral by 2050.

EU27



Associated countries





Main elements of the Mission

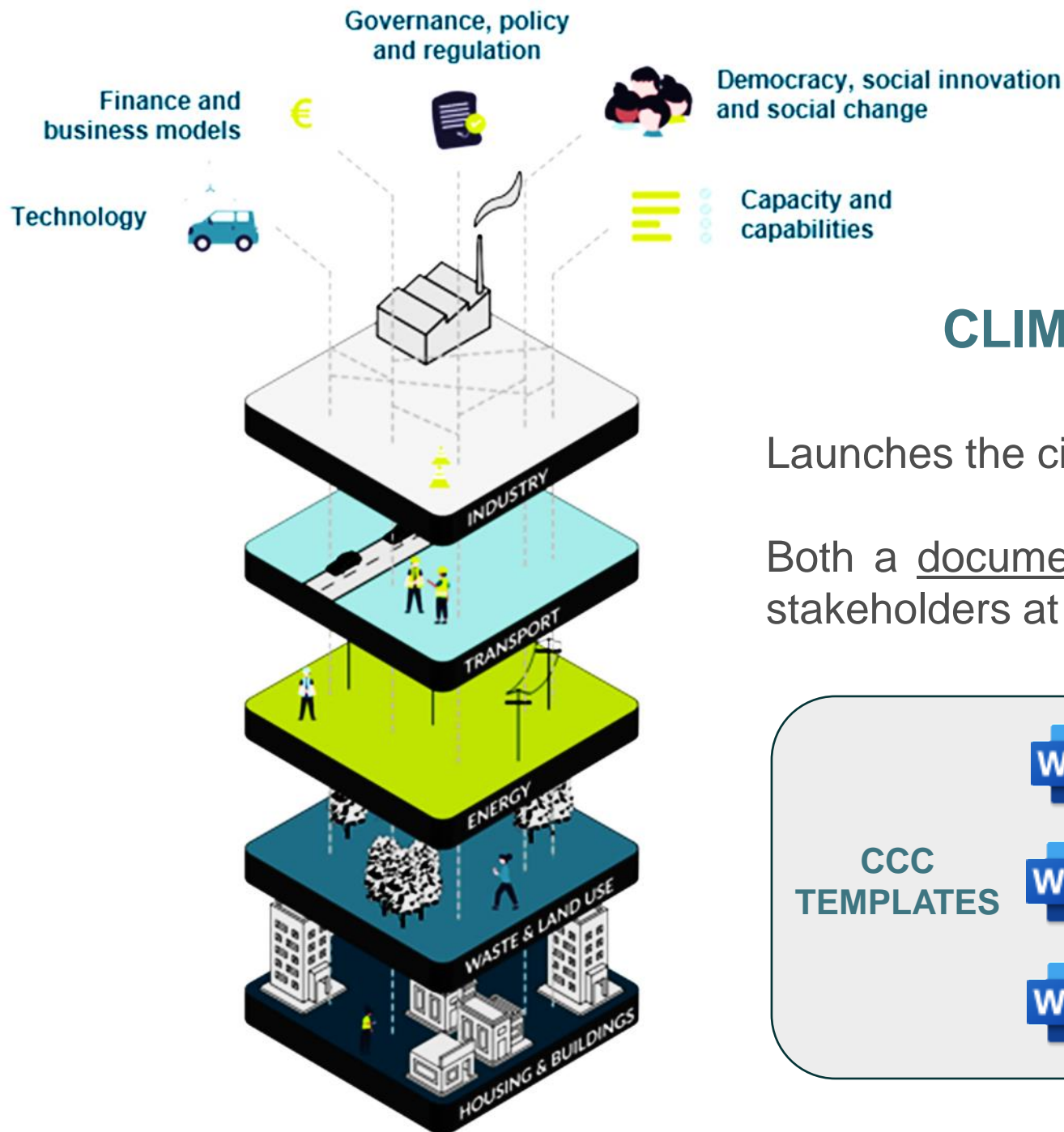


Climate City Contracts

- Including (1) political and stakeholder commitments, (2) cross-sectoral climate action plan and (3) investment strategy
- Innovative city governance and citizen engagement
- Involvement of European, national and regional level



- Synergies with other programmes
- Help with access to funding and financing



CLIMATE CITY CONTRACT (CCC)

Launches the city's journey to become climate-neutral by 2030

Both a document and a process for iterative co-creation with stakeholders at various governance levels and local ecosystem

CCC
TEMPLATES



Commitments



Action
Plan



Investment
Plan

Read the CCC
of the 'labelled' cities



[HERE](#)



Mission Platform – The NetZeroCities consortium

-  13 associations and networks
-  5 companies & consultancies
-  8 research organisations
-  3 think-tanks
-  4 universities

The consortium includes the following organizations:

- EURO CITIES
- democratic society
- ERRIN (European Regions Research and Innovation Network)
- Climate-KIC
- Centre for Systems Solutions
- Climate Alliance
- ENERGYCITIES
- European Regions Research and Innovation Network
- Urban Mobility
- UTP (Advancing Public Transport)
- VTT
- ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability)
- OPEN & AGILE SMART CITIES
- LGi (sustainable innovation)
- south pole (carbon)
- BANKERS WITHOUT BOUNDARIES (THE INVESTMENT BANK FOR EARTH)
- Viable Cities
- Fraunhofer ISE
- Metabolic
- Cerema
- DEMOS HELSINKI
- RUPPRECHT CONSULT (Forschung & Beratung GmbH)
- TNO (innovation for life)
- REG EA
- Institute for European Environmental Policy
- tecnal:a
- FinEst Centre for Smart Cities
- MATERIAL ECONOMICS
- POLITECNICA
- UNIVERSIDAD POLITÉCNICA DE MADRID
- Dm
- POLITECNICO MILANO 1863
- CARTIF



Mission Platform Portal: over 4 000 users, 200 cities and 170 groups



Climate Transition Map – an interactive guide to the different phases and steps of the journey to climate neutrality, linking to corresponding resources



Knowledge Repository – includes 700+ curated entries grouped under 40 tags allowing users to scout innovation and explore new opportunities



City Dossiers – a detailed dataset on the city's vision, GHG emissions, investment needs, capacity building priorities, stakeholders, collaborations, skills and barriers



Finance Guidance Tool – based on a questionnaire that helps cities define their financing needs and filter the types of funding that are appropriate

PILOT CITIES PROGRAMME [link](#)



PILOT CITIES test and implement innovative approaches to rapid decarbonisation over a two-year period

- 1st cohort, 2022 call: [25 pilots](#), 53 cities from 21 countries
- 2nd cohort, 2023 call: [22 pilots](#), 26 cities from 16 countries
- 3rd cohort, 2024 call: [21 pilots](#), 25 cities from 12 countries

TWINNING LEARNING PROGRAMME [link](#)



TWIN CITIES are paired with pilot cities based on shared interests for onsite visits and expert advice over 18 months

- 1st cohort: [40 twin cities](#) from 20 countries
- 2nd cohort: [call closed](#) on 7 June 2024
- 3rd cohort: call to open in September 2024



53 Mission Labels awarded so far

European Week of Regions and Cities, 12 October 2023

Sønderborg, Denmark Mannheim, Germany Klagenfurt, Austria Madrid Valencia Valladolid Vitoria-Gasteiz Zaragoza, Spain Cluj-Napoca, Romania Stockholm, Sweden

European Research & Innovation Days, 21 March 2024

Ioannina Kalamata Kozani Thessaloniki, Greece Heidelberg, Germany Leuven, Belgium Malmö, Sweden Espoo Lahti Lappeenranta Tampere Turku, Finland Pécs, Hungary Barcelona Seville, Spain Izmir, Türkiye Guimarães Lisbon, Portugal Florence Parma, Italy Marseille Lyon, France Limassol, Cyprus





NEWS ARTICLE | 8 October 2024 | Directorate-General for Research and Innovation | 2 min read

A new group of 20 cities receives EU Mission Label for their efforts towards climate neutrality

Today, the [EU Mission Label](#) was awarded to 20 cities that are part of the EU Mission for Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities, one of the EU Missions under Horizon Europe, the EU's research and innovation programme.

The Label recognises the cities' plans to achieve climate neutrality by 2030 and aims to facilitate access to public and private funding towards that objective. This brings the total number of cities with the label to 53.

Iliana Ivanova, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, said:

"The EU Mission Label celebrates the bold steps these 20 cities are taking towards climate neutrality. Their commitment paves the way for a sustainable and resilient future for all our communities. The Commission will continue supporting them on this journey."

The 20 cities that received the label today are: **Aachen, Münster (Germany), Trikala (Greece), Miskolc (Hungary), Eilat (Israel), Bologna, Bergamo, Milan, Prato, Turin (Italy), Liepāja (Latvia), The Hague (the Netherlands), Porto (Portugal), Bucharest 2nd District, Suceava (Romania), Ljubljana, Kranj (Slovenia), Gothenburg, Gävle, Umeå (Sweden).**



Examples of synergies with other EU programmes

- **Connecting Europe Facility:** All relevant calls that opened in September 2022 for projects on the TEN-T network (in total more than EUR 5 billion) include participation in the Cities Mission as an award criterion under “priority and urgency”; to be carried on in future calls. So far, EUR 75 million have benefited Mission cities.
- **LIFE Strategic Integrated Projects - Climate Action:** Urban or community-based action plans pioneering the transition to climate neutral and/or climate resilient society, including climate-neutral cities plans and actions, for instance in the context of the EU Mission ‘Climate-neutral and smart cities’ and Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (EUR 30 million).
- **Urban Innovative Action:** References to the Cities Mission and the Adaptation Mission in call topics "greener cities" (overall budget EUR 120 million) and “energy transition” (overall budget EUR 90 million)
- **Regional Operational Programmes:** References to the Cities Mission in some national and regional programmes, joint meetings with national and regional managing authorities



Overview on national Cities Mission platforms

Austria – National Climate-Neutral Cities Mission

Cyprus – Mission Cities Network Cyprus

Finland – National Cities Mission Network

France – French Mirror Group

Germany – National Cities Mission Platform

Greece – Network of Municipalities for Climate Neutrality (Climanet)

Italy – Expert Working Group, National Ambassadors Network

Netherlands – Dutch National Support Structure (NSS)

Poland - National Platform for Polish Mission Cities

Portugal - Policy Hub for the Cities Mission

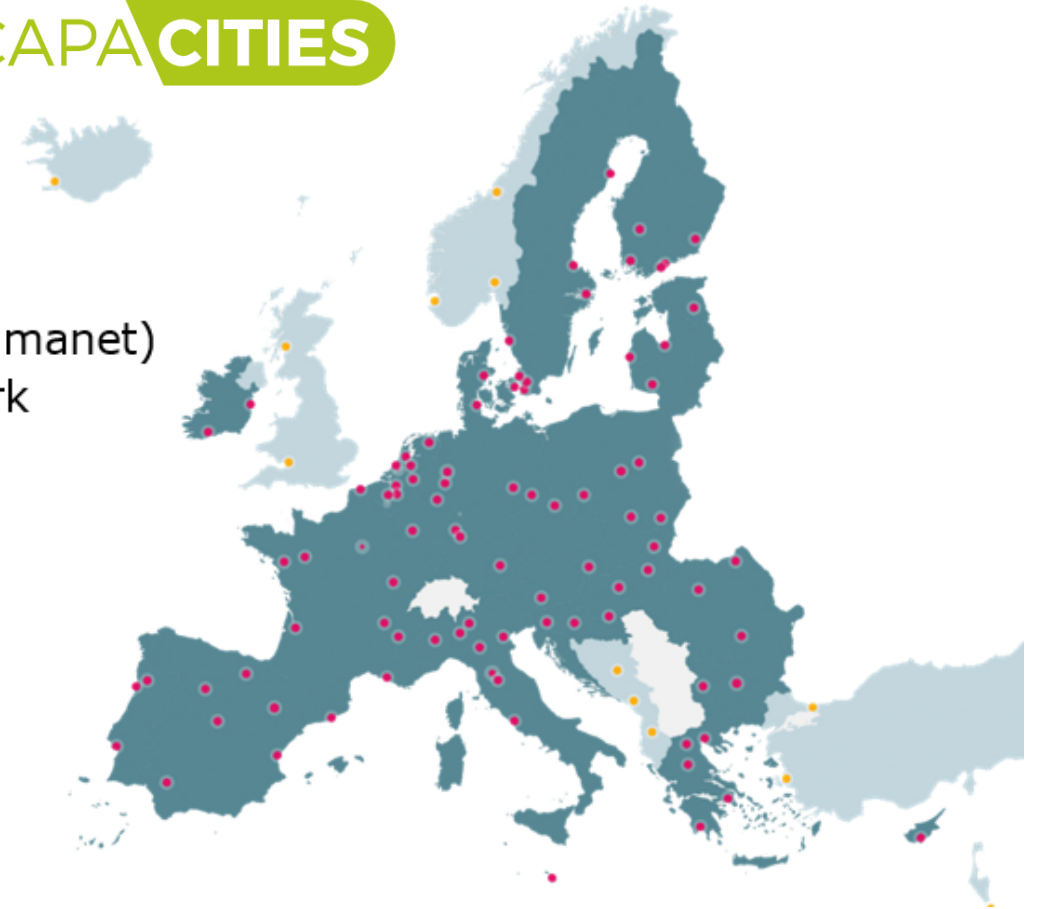
Romania - Mirror Mission Cities Hub (M100)

Spain – citiES2030

Sweden – Viable Cities - Climate-neutral Cities 2030

Strong engagement formats in Czech Republic and Türkiye

CAPACITIES



dutpartnership.eu/capacities/

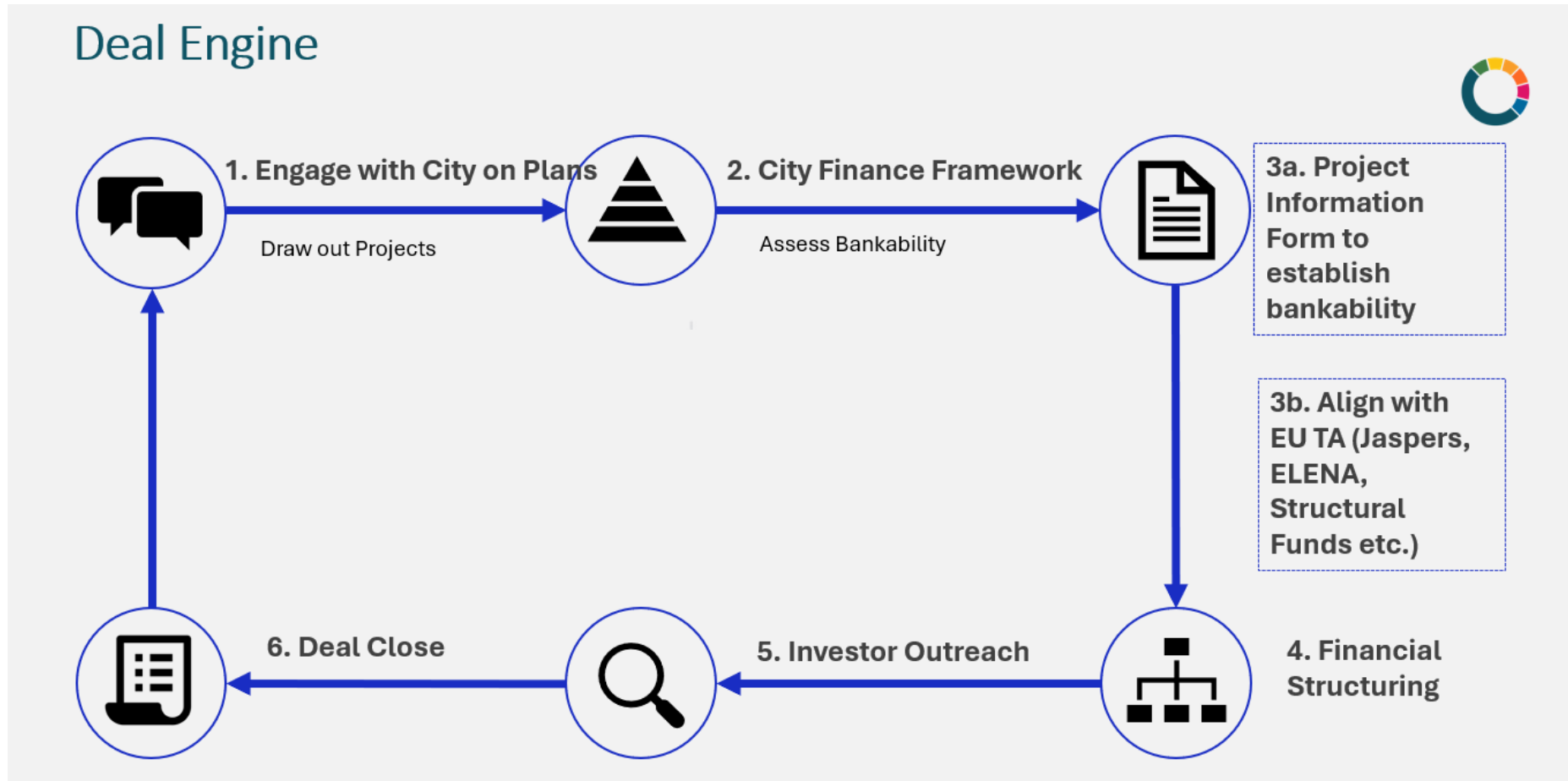


Help with access to funding and finance

- Involvement of different services of the European Investment Bank in the **review of Investment Plan** components of CCCs
- **EIB advisory**: Central access point in EIB for different services (ELENA, JASPERS, InvestEU Advisory Hub)
- **NEW** EUR 2 billion **lending envelope** from the EIB for cities with the Mission Label



NEW The Climate City Capital Hub





Work with the private sector

- Involvement of **private partners** in cities' Climate City Contracts
- Analysis of **aggregate needs** for products and services in CCC Investment Plans by the Mission Platform to allow companies to gauge future demand and to lower prices for cities
- National **industry roundtables** as a follow-up to «**Clean Transition Dialogue**» for cities, hosted by EVP Šefčovič in March 2024



What's next?

- 25 October 2024: Fourth and last submission window for CCCs
- 6-8 May 2025: Annual Cities Mission conference, Vilnius

Raffaele Fitto

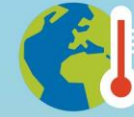
- To harness the potential of cities as innovation, growth and competitiveness engines, you should put forward an **ambitious policy agenda for cities**. This agenda should provide a clear vision for the future of the cities, looking at issues such as housing, climate action, digitalisation, mobility, social inclusion and equality.

Ekaterina Zaharieva

- As part of this task, you will intensify our effort to make sure **EU Missions** achieve their goals by 2030, and that all the instruments of our Framework Programmes, such as Joint Undertakings, are used to their full potential.



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Thank you!

#MissionCities

#EUmissions

#HorizonEU

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