



EUROPEAN UNION



EU MISSIONS

CLIMATE-NEUTRAL & SMART CITIES

Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges





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
- Air and noise pollution; congestion; dangerous roads increasing problems in cities – not just GHG.
- The **European Green Deal** at local level – where policy meets people.
- Cities have the **ambitions** to go further – but few have declared readiness to be climate neutral by 2030. We have 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;

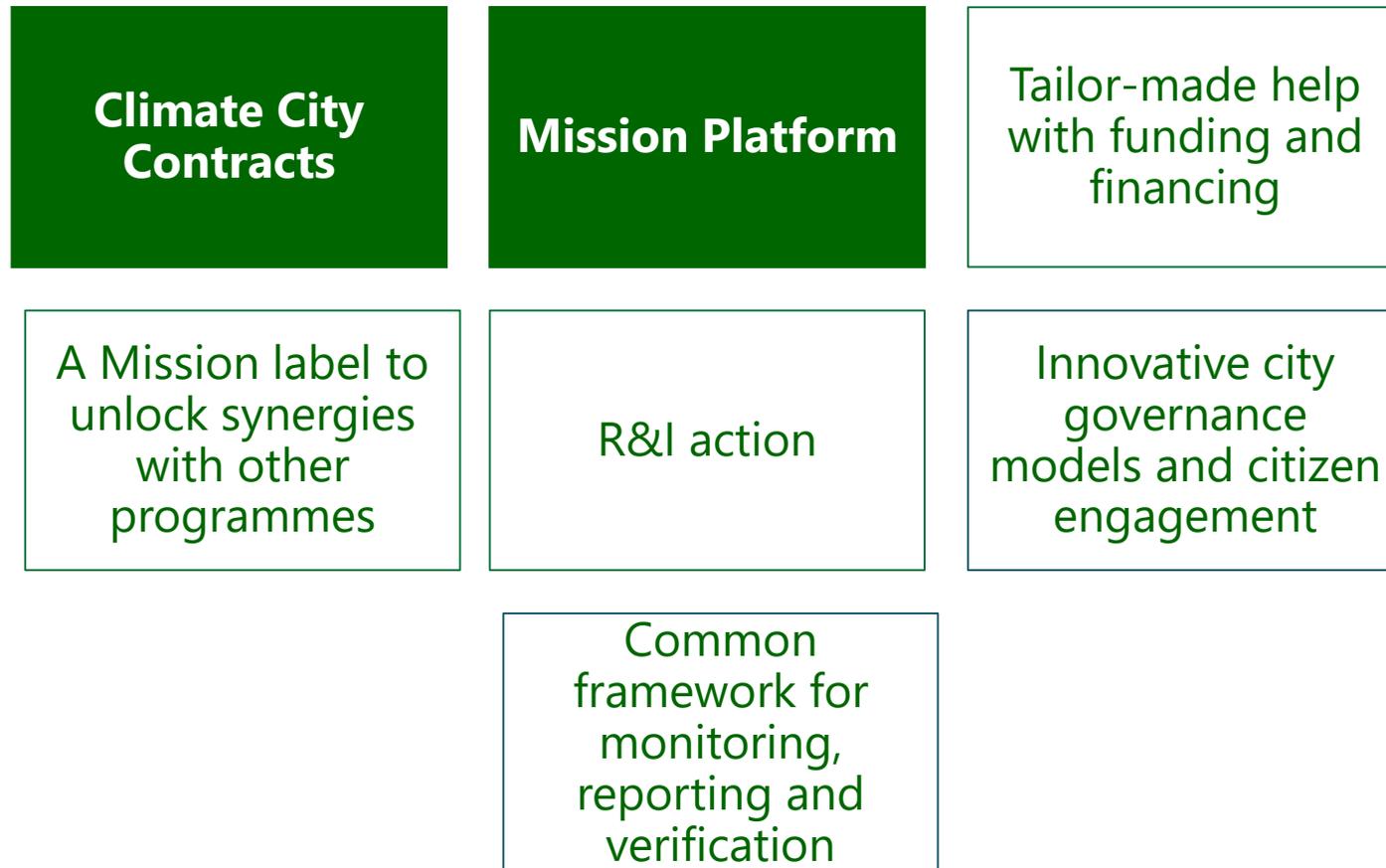
2

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

Actions to deliver climate neutrality will bring massive and more visible co-benefits: better air quality, less road congestion, more livable spaces



MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE MISSION





MISSION PLATFORM

- Run by the NetZeroCities consortium who started to work on 1 October
- Co-creation of **Climate City Contracts** with citizens, stakeholders and authorities
- Tailor-made **investment plans**, project preparation and financial advice
- **R&I pilots and demonstrators:** launch calls for proposals for large scale pilots in lead cities that will twin with and mentor other cities



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** 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



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



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



WORK PROGRAMME 2021/2022

- Mission Platform
- Development and scaling up of R&I activities (based on co-creation work under «Cities and Communities»):
- Urban planning and design for just, sustainable, resilient and climate neutral cities by 2030
- Unleashing the innovation potential of public transport as backbone of urban mobility
- Positive Clean Energy Districts
- Designing inclusive, safe and sustainable urban mobility
- International cooperation and outreach
- JRC grant



HOW WILL THE APPLICATION PROCESS WORK?

- October 2021: Publication of comprehensive info kit for cities to help cities prepare for the Call
- November 2021: Publication of Call for Expression of Interest addressed to cities (questionnaire)
- January 2022: Call closes
- By March 2022: Selection of participating cities
- As of mid 2022: Mission Platform works with first cities to develop Climate City Contracts



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Web Page:

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

Recording from: [Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission - webinar | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)



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Thank you!

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