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Horizonte 2020

Convocatoria Green Deal

Topic: LC-GD-1-2-2020: Towards Climate-Neutral and Socially Innovative Cities

Jornada Castilla y León, 10 de noviembre 2020

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Portal español del Programa Marco de Investigación e Innovación de la Unión Europea

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What is the challenge:

- Ambitious target of a 55% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030
- Climate-neutral EU by 2050, i.e., an EU economy with net-zero greenhouse gas emissions

What is at stake:

- Cities occupy 2% of the planet's landmass, consume over 65% of the world's energy and account for more than 70% of the global CO₂ emissions
- 75% of the European citizens live in cities and possibly 80% by 2050: Cities will play a crucial role in reaching the targets of the Green Deal

Objective of the action:

- Support cities in their systemic transformation towards climate neutrality leveraging, in particular, technological, non-technological and social innovation.



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Scope:

- Develop a one-stop shop platform to help cities implement their climate action plans and related social innovation action plans providing the necessary technical, regulatory, financial and socio-economic expertise and assistance

Who can be involved:

- research organisations, academia, industry including social entrepreneurs, the financial sector including impact financiers, investors, philanthropists, NGOs, national and local authorities and citizens.

Four Activities – each and every one to be addressed in the proposal

1. Climate action plans and Green Deal innovation
2. Investment project preparation and finance
3. Social innovation and citizens' engagement
4. Research and Innovation for climate-neutral transformation of cities

Activity 1. Climate action plans and Green Deal innovation

- Develop: science-based indicators for assessing cities' climate neutral action plans (emissions reduction); innovative urban greening assessment methodologies for planning & monitoring emissions reduction; inter-operable and comparable cities evidence repositories
- Identifying regulatory, institutional, governance, financing, public acceptance, and other barriers preventing progress towards climate neutrality
- Design (in close collaboration with the cities and the European Commission) a concept for a climate-neutral city contract corresponding to climate action plans that includes the application process and assessment criteria.
- Support cities in innovating their local governance and building capacity to implement systemic and integrated climate-neutral policies
- Sharing of experience and good practices between cities

Activity 2. Investment project preparation and finance

- Provide information and consulting services to cities on preparing and financing investment projects for the transition to climate neutrality
- Build on existing practices developed by global, European and national initiatives and programmes
 - e.g. (non-exhaustive list): Horizon 2020, ELTIS, ELENA, CIVITAS, EIP on Smart Cities and Communities (EIP-SCC) Marketplace, EIT Climate KIC, Intelligent Cities Challenge (ICC), European City Facility, JPI Urban Europe, Positive Energy Districts, Green City Accord, the European Green Capital award
- Explore financial instruments under, e.g., InvestEU, EIB, EBRD, European Structural and Investment Fund.
- Explore collaboration with national development banks as well as commercial banks

Activity 3. Social innovation and citizens' engagement

- Support cities and local communities in testing solutions (including new technologies, non-technological, and social innovations) stemming from R&I.
- Combine existing R&I results with social innovation
- Support cities in reinforcing citizens' engagement activities to make them actors of the ecological and social transition
- Enable cities and local communities to exchange experiences and learn from each other when testing and implementing solutions

Activity 4. Research and Innovation for climate-neutral transformation of cities

- Support large scale pilots for deployment of systemic solutions combining technological, social, nature-based, cultural, regulatory and financial innovation and new business and governance models, building on good practices available at local, national and/or European level
- Facilitate upscaling and replicability of solutions through twinning & mentoring of at least 2 other cities and/or districts from different EU Member States or H2020 associated countries facing structural disadvantages or with a size smaller than 50 000 inhabitants

What is a city:

- A city district (neighbourhood or zone of special interest of a city administered or governed by some type of “district council”),
- A city represented by a government unit (e.g. municipality) or
- an urban area (conglomeration or a functional area composed of many neighbouring cities or government units, represented by the respective government units).

Targeted Impacts:

- Contribution to achieving climate neutrality by 2050 in the participating leading cities and districts
- Systemic transformation of cities towards climate neutrality
- Implementation of the Green Deal through social innovation that empowers cities and local communities
- Mobilise the demand (citizens’ needs) to lead the transition to climate neutrality

- **Type of Action:** Research and Innovation action
- Only 1 proposal will be selected
- **EU contribution:** Up to **EUR 53 M**
 - 60% dedicated to Activity 4 for financial support to third parties
 - Pilots range between EUR 0.5 and EUR 1.5 M depending on expected impact
 - Rules and conditions for open calls laid out in Annex K of the Work Programme “Actions involving financial support to third parties”

Evaluation criteria:

Quality and efficiency of the implementation: in addition to its standard sub-criteria, the following aspect shall constitute a major element: *The Quality of the proposed financial support mechanism to third parties (re-granting), notably in view of assuring fair, European-wide access for potential applicants.*

Para cualquier consulta

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