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Horizonte 2020 Convocatoria Green Deal Topic: LC-GD-1-2-2020: Towards Climate-Neutral and Socially Innovative Cities

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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



- 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 <u>systemic transformation towards climate</u> <u>neutrality leveraging</u>, in particular, technological, non-technological and social innovation.









Scope:

➤ Develop a <u>one-stop shop platform</u> 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
- 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: <u>science-based indicators</u> for assessing cities' climate neutral action plans (emissions reduction); <u>innovative urban greening assessment</u> <u>methodologies for planning & monitoring emissions reduction</u>; interoperable and comparable cities evidence repositories
- ➤ <u>Identifying</u> regulatory, institutional, governance, financing, public acceptance, and other <u>barriers</u> 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 <u>local governance and building capacity</u> to implement systemic and integrated climate-neutral policies
- Sharing of experience and good practices between cities





Activity 2. Investment project preparation and finance

- Provide <u>information and consulting services</u> 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 <u>national development banks</u> as well as <u>commercial banks</u>





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 <u>large scale pilots for deployment of systemic solutions</u> combining technological, social, nature-based, cultural, regulatory and financial <u>innovation</u> and <u>new business and governance models</u>, building on good practices available at local, national and/or European level

➤ Facilitate <u>upscaling and replicability of solutions</u> 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
- ➤ <u>an urban area</u> (conglomeration or a functional area composed of many neighbouring cities or government units, represented by the respective government units).

Targeted Impacts:

- Contribution to achieving <u>climate neutrality by 2050</u> in the participating leading cities and districts
- Systemic transformation of cities towards climate neutrality
- Implementation of the Green Deal through <u>social innovation that empowers cities</u> 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, Europeanwide access for potential applicants.

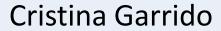




Para cualquier consulta

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