Smart cities in a green, digital and resilient EU

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The EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL

Transforming the EU’s economy for a sustainable future

- Increasing the EU’s Climate ambition for 2030 and 2050
- Supplying clean, affordable and secure energy
- Mobilising industry for a clean and circular economy
- Building and renovating in an energy and resource efficient way

Mobilising research and fostering innovation

- A zero pollution ambition for a toxic-free environment
- Preserving and restoring ecosystems and biodiversity
- From ‘Farm to Fork’: a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system
- Accelerating the shift to sustainable and smart mobility

Financing the transition

Leave no one behind (Just Transition)

The EU as a global leader

A European Climate Pact

The EU will:

- Become climate-neutral by 2050
- Protect human life, animals and plants, by cutting pollution
- Help companies become world leaders in clean products and technologies
- Help ensure a just and inclusive transition

European Commission
Why do cities matter?

Cities shape the future of the EU
Since 2016, the Urban Agenda for the EU brings together EU countries, the European Commission and other stakeholders to stimulate growth and innovation in EU cities and to tackle social challenges.

Cities are drivers of green & digital transition
Twin transition = new opportunities to decarbonise the economy and create resilient and sustainable economic sectors.

Sustainable development is a core principle of
the Treaty on European Union and a priority objective for the EU's internal and external policies.

~72% of EU population lives in cities
And that number will increase to 84% by 2050

Cities make ~80% of global GPD...
...and 70% of Global CO2 emissions

Source: C40, Eurostat

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Smart cities and EU related policies

Energy and smart cities

Transport and smart cities

Digital transformation of cities
The Intelligent Cities Challenge

One of EU's biggest initiatives supporting European cities towards the green and digital transition of their local economies

Harness the power of **digital and clean tech**, while strengthening sustainable competitiveness, social resilience and the European citizens’ quality of life.

Local Green Deals are a **promising governance approach** to **strengthen partnerships** with the cities’ stakeholders.

New phase will build on lessons learned in the first phase with a revamped approach to generate **more impact tailored to cities’ needs**:

- **Focus on three core sectors** of strategic importance and five secondary sectors based on their preferences
- **Follow the programme at different speeds**, in accordance with their available resources
- Collaborate with smaller group of cities facing similar challenges.
The Intelligent Cities Challenge 1 - achievements

€1.9 billion
Funding earmarked for ICC cities' actions

€247 million
Leveraged public funding from EU, national and regional sources

42
Cities on their way to launch a Local Green Deal

35
Cities signing the Pact for Skills and other skills initiatives

23
Cities among the 100 cities selected for the Cities Mission

336
Actions planned by 136 Core cities
The goals and vision

**Tailored guidance** and **expert support**, access to advisory and city peer networks (European and international), and capacity building tools, to drive priority policy goals and the implementation of Local Green Deals.

Through its action oriented and collaborative approach, the ICC helps cities to:

- Identify local strengths and formulate priorities and real needs
- Leverage cutting-edge technologies to bring innovation to the city
- Engage in long-lasting collaborations to co-create and co-design
- Learn from and share experiences
- Scale up visibility, recognition and business opportunities for their city
- Get their voices heard
Core cities will receive world-class support from leading experts and EU and international mentor cities – in person, online and as a community – to transform their strategies into effective action by empowering their ecosystems and developing concrete agreements with businesses, Local Green Deals. Support and activities will include expert consultant support on the ground, facilitated sessions at several high-profile multi-city events, and a suite of online tools.
The Intelligent Cities Challenge

ICC support all participating cities’ transition across predefined sectors of intervention:

- **three core sectors of strategic importance**, where cities have a high degree of local influence (in order of preferences across 3 sectors):
  1. Construction & built environment
  2. Energy & renewables
  3. Mobility & transport

- **five secondary sectors of influences**, where cities will identify areas they wish to build their involvement in the ICC on; secondary sectors focus include:
  1. Tourism
  2. Small/Local retail
  3. Agri-food
  4. Textiles
  5. Cultural and creative industries
The Intelligent Cities Challenge

Whilst the formal application period is now closed, if your city is still interested in getting involved with the ICC programme, please contact the Intelligent Cities Helpdesk (helpdesk_icc@technopolis-group.com) to explore the possible options.

To be eligible to participate in the ICC, you must be:

- A local public government entity (i.e. municipalities, districts) that are either responsible for or involved in the funding and/or implementation of a policy or programme of a city related to digital transformation, smart / intelligent city, sustainable urban development
- Located within the European Union
- Representing cities with more than 50,000 inhabitants, exceptions:
  - Cities located in an EU-27 country with less than 1.5 million habitants
  - Cities located on an island in an EU-27 country (excluding Ireland)
- Stand-alone applicant*

*This eligibility criteria does not apply to existing ICC cities (edition 2020-2022)

The existing ICC cities (edition 2020-2022) that show a high level of commitment and interest will be selected to continue in the second phase of the Challenge. They must nevertheless present a complete and satisfactorily completed EOI.
Cities on a journey to climate neutrality

- 100 climate-neutral and smart 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

- Being part of a powerful community of ambitious cities, which fosters learning and exchange of experiences
- Enhanced development of local cross-sectoral net-zero solutions, through tailored advice and assistance from a Mission Platform
- Attracting investments from EU and national programmes, as well as private investors, including Research & Innovation funding opportunities
- Engagement with national governments through national coordination networks
- Boosted support from citizens and local communities through citizen and stakeholder involvement
- Higher visibility and political profile, attractiveness for skilled workers, and international outreach
The climate city contracts

All Mission Cities develop a Climate City Contract (CCC)

CCCs are tools for cities to plan and implement concrete actions in a collaborative way to reach climate neutrality by 2030

Through CCCs, cities deliver on the Mission’s objectives by engaging with citizens and partners at the local, national and EU level

Cities whose CCCs are reviewed positively by the Commission will be awarded with the EU Mission Label acknowledging the quality of the CCC process and the commitments made by the city

The Mission Label is intended to facilitate access to further funding and finance at EU, national and regional level, and in particular to private investment
Clusters and Smart Cities

European Expert Group on Clusters provided policy recommendations on cluster policy in December 2022

- Leading the green transition
- Accelerating the digital transition
- Building resilience
European Cluster Collaboration Platform

- Unique one-stop shop for news, learning and collaboration opportunities for industrial clusters across Europe
- Boosting visibility + showcasing impact of European clusters in cutting-edge industries + expanding markets throughout the world
- Supporting business competitiveness through information on resource efficiency & innovation
Thank you

ECCP’s European Cluster Panorama and Policy Toolkit - YouTube
Policy background

- **March 2020**: EU Industrial Policy

  - **GREEN TRANSITION**: The European Green Deal is Europe’s new growth strategy. At the heart of it is the goal of becoming the world’s first climate-neutral continent by 2050.

  - **GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS**: The right conditions are needed for entrepreneurs to turn their ideas into products and services and for companies of all sizes to thrive and grow. The EU must leverage the impact, the size and the integration of its single market to make its voice count in the world and set global standards.

  - **DIGITAL TRANSITION**: Digital technologies are changing the face of industry and the way we do business. They allow economic players to be more proactive, provide workers with new skills and support the decarbonisation of our economy.

- **July 2020**: European Skills Agenda for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience (November 2020: launch of Pact for Skills)

- **2021**: Updated EU Industrial Policy

- **2023**: Green Deal Industrial Plan
LONG-TERM COMPETITIVENESS OF THE EU: LOOKING BEYOND 2030

Based on 4 PILLARS

Sustainable competitiveness
Economic security
Open strategic autonomy
Fair competition

NINE DRIVERS FOR COMPETITIVENESS

1. Access to private capital & investment
2. Public investment & infrastructure
3. Research & innovation
4. Energy
5. Sustainable competitiveness
6. Circularity
7. Digitalisation
8. Education & skills
9. Trade & open strategic autonomy

Sustainable Competitiveness

Productivity
Wellbeing for all
Fairness
Environmental sustainability
Growth enhancing regulatory framework
Join, disseminate info on our activities 2022-2023

- 15 workshops over 2022 - 2023 in EU Regions which have to apply to host such event
- Facilitate clusters active role in regional economic transition
- Create + promote collaborations between clusters and regional stakeholders for the industrial development of EU regions
- 11 physical (5 outgoing + 5 incoming + 1 intra-EU)
  8 virtual intra-EU
- Ad hoc basis
- Team up with other cluster organisations from Europe and third countries to find new collaboration opportunities as well as new markets for EU business
- Exchange knowledge + discuss topics significant to the EU business community.

Every 6 months (2/year), alongside an existing cluster main event organised outside ECCP
- Stimulate and scale-up project cooperation to create new cross-border + sectoral value chains
- Develop concrete project roadmaps with participants

Hybrid event, 2 days online + 2 days presential onsite
- Once a year. Training provider, university or Region to apply for hosting it
- Support cluster managers in developing their skills by providing tailor-made trainings with the help of professional trainers
- Strengthen clusters capacities to deliver the green & digital transitions + strengthen resilience of their industrial ecosystem
EU Clusters Expert Group
European Expert Group on Clusters

- Started work in October 2019
- Twelve formal meetings
- Mandate expires in December 2022

- Main deliverables:
  - 2021 - Cluster Policy Toolkit

- Working webinars:
  - 2020 – green transition, digital transition, resilience
  - 2021 – one on each recommendation of the cluster policy report (15)
  - 2021 – focus group on the link between clusters and the EEN
  - 2022 – transition pathway on tourism (further sessions)
Policy recommendations on cluster policy

Fifteen specific recommendations, along with examples of good practices. It offers ideas for policymakers at European, national, regional, and local levels on how to leverage and support clusters.

- Leading the green transition
- Accelerating the digital transition
- Building resilience

clustercollaboration.eu/content/recommendations-cluster-policies-boost-resilience-and-foster-green-and-digital
**Lead the green transition**

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<th>Use clusters as drivers of change, accelerators and enablers of the green transition through mobilising and facilitating cooperation among stakeholders in industrial ecosystems.</th>
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<td>Use clusters to develop and implement circular economy strategies and action plans, detect opportunities for circular solutions and bring circularity in the business processes.</td>
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<td>Recognise clusters as essential contributors to European alliances and missions relevant for the green economy mobilising their members and engaging in sustainable development.</td>
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<td>Develop capacity-building programmes to help clusters provide sustainable advisory services and convince business about the importance of the green transition.</td>
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<td>Use clusters as intermediaries to support the green transition and channel expertise and financing to SMEs for becoming more resource-efficient and carbon neutral.</td>
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### Accelerate the digital transition

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<th>Mobilise clusters to participate in digital and green skills related initiatives such as the EU Pact for Skills and embedding them to local education and training structures.</th>
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<td>Increase cluster capacity to provide advanced business services shifting from knowledge-based intelligent manufacturing to data-driven/knowledge-enabled smart manufacturing.</td>
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<td>Make clusters an integral part of Digital Innovation Hubs through incorporating clusters into their governance and operations in a continuous collaboration on the digital transition.</td>
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<td>Use clusters to initiate new and to reinforce existing Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) for boosting digital and advanced technologies value chains and technological platforms.</td>
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<td>Use clusters as strategic agents for the implementation of European digital policies and development of initiatives reaching out to SMEs and other users of digital solutions.</td>
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Build resilience

Use collective intelligence of EU clusters to make value/supply chains more resilient to anticipate developments and prepare for new opportunities and challenges.

Develop an active role of clusters in local labour markets through building their capacities for reskilling and upskilling and participating in the implementation of the Pact for Skills.

Promote clusters which implement shared value projects to solve local societal challenges and help companies construct new products and services with the community stakeholders.

Reinforce activities to develop a strategic approach to international cluster collaboration and build a critical mass of SMEs, businesses and researchers to enter global markets.

Initiate cross-sectoral, interdisciplinary and transnational cluster collaboration to develop new products/services which guarantee EU companies critical inputs and technology.
EU Cluster Policy Toolkit

Aim: Strengthen cluster policy practice and leverage clusters for the green and digital transition and for resilience

Database of around 200 practices from EU27 countries and beyond

Practices tagged
- Geography
- Thematic Priority
- Strategic Challenge
- Cluster function
- EG Recommendations

Users can mix and match among the options on these five filters to return inspiring examples that correspond to their specific context and/or challenges ...

https://clustercollaboration.eu/policytoolkit
https://clustercolloboration.eu/policytoolkit
European Cluster Partnerships & Euroclusters
European Cluster Partnerships | COSME

European Cluster Partnerships | Innovation
The European Cluster Partnerships | Innovation addresses the challenge to develop new cross-sectoral industrial value chains across the EU, by supporting the innovation potential of SMEs.

European Cluster Partnerships | International
The European Cluster Partnerships | International facilitates collaboration on internationalisation strategies and helps European SMEs access markets beyond Europe.

European Cluster Partnerships | Excellence
The European Cluster Partnerships | Excellence supports the development of cluster management excellence and strengthens strategic cross-regional collaboration between industrial clusters across Europe.

European Cluster Partnerships | Smart Specialisation
The European Cluster Partnerships | Smart Specialisation facilitates cluster cooperation in thematic areas related to regional smart specialisation strategies.

https://clustercolaboration.eu/eu-cluster-partnerships
European Cluster Partnerships | Excellence

- 4 Generations of Excellence Partnerships
- 39 partnerships made of 200+ partners
- Total budget = 12+ millions EUR

- MATERIALIX
- RUE AERO
- CECIL
- 5forEXCELLENCE
- CLUSTEM
- TCE
European Cluster Partnerships | International

- 4 Generations of Cluster Go International Partnerships
- 90 partnerships supported
EU funding supporting cluster organisations

**From**

COSME + H2020

- **INTERNATIONAL**
  - 78 Partnerships (4 generations) of European Cluster Partnerships | International

- **EXCELLENCE**
  - 38 Partnerships (4 generations) of European Cluster Partnerships | Excellence

- **SMART SPECIALISATION**
  - 9 Partnerships European Cluster Partnerships | Smart Specialisation

- **INNOVATION**
  - 30 Partnerships INNOSUP-1 HORIZON 2020

**To**

SMP

- Joint Cluster Initiatives

EURO CLUSTERS

2021-2027

2014-2020
Euroclusters in a nutshell

**WHAT FOR?**
to help in the implementation of the EU Industrial Strategy: green & digital transitions + resilience

**HOW?**
by creating collaboration networks at EU-level that will develop and implement supporting measures for SMEs

**WHO?**
consortia of cluster organizations teaming up with other types of organizations
Specific objectives

**NETWORK**
- Resilience preparedness/business continuity plans

**ADOPT**
- SMEs supported which undertook business process innovation

**GO INTERNATIONAL**
- Collaboration agreements signed with third countries
- SMEs benefited from internationalisation

**30 Euroclusters**

**INNOVATE**
- New-to-firm products/services identified

**TRAIN**
- Cluster organisations which received training
- SMEs investing in skills development

**COMMUNICATE**
- Social media followers
- SMEs supported coming from countries/regions different from those of Euroclusters partners

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DDL for Submission: 7 Dec 21
Evaluation panels: Jan-Feb
Evaluation results: April 22
Grant Agreements: July
Project Kick-offs: Sept/Oct
Up to 36 months
2nd call: 2024

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**Objective: 30 Euroclusters**
30 Euroclusters started work in September 2022

171 partners

23 different countries

Activities:
1. Networking
2. Innovating
3. International
4. Adopting
5. Training
6. Outreach