

# High-level Conference on Civic Engagement in EU Missions

## Organizer

Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation

## Location

Conseil économique, social et environnemental, 9 place IENA, Paris, France

## Date

21 March 2022

## 11.00 WORKSHOP: Civic Engagement in the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission

### Agenda

#### Introduction: Co-Moderators (10 minutes)

**Matthew Baldwin**, Manager of the Cities Mission, Deputy Director-General of DG MOVE, European Commission

**Françoise Guaspere**, Member of the Cities Mission Assembly, Senior policy advisor at the Île-de-France Representation to the EU

The first part of the workshop will give a definition of civic participation and the forms it can take in the low-carbon city context, allowing us to go beyond received ideas. In the second part, the experiences of European cities and associations will be presented, demonstrating the interest of these participants in enriching projects and encouraging innovation, especially user-focussed innovations. The actors will present the barriers already identified and their expectations of the Mission platform. How can we capitalise on existing experiments and solutions already tested in cities within the framework of the Cities Mission? How can we overcome obstacles previously encountered by stakeholders and use these lessons to enhance the work of the Mission platform? These questions will be addressed in the third part of the workshop, in particular by the scientific community, who will present their work to inform the reflections and further enrich the initiatives being developed by the Mission platform.

**Keynote speaker: Rosalinde van der Vlies**, Deputy Mission Manager, Director of the Clean Planet Directorate, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission

To achieve a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, cities must implement strong and ambitious measures in the areas of housing, mobility, energy, resource production and consumption and waste management, radically transforming urban lifestyles. To be both acceptable and accepted, this transition must be inclusive and fair to all and so it must involve and engage all citizens. In this context, the Mission platform NetZeroCities will provide support to cities to define concrete actions to strengthen citizens' commitment. These actions will be included in a contract which, once established, will be signed by the city and the platform. The participation of citizens in the process of addressing environmental issues, as well as in the implementation of their solutions is not new - this approach is developing in many European cities.

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## **Part 1: Civic participation and the forms it can take in the carbon neutral city (15 minutes)**

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How can we develop a common vision of the low-carbon city, free from a discourse of fear and guilt, and ensure that the action plans create the necessary support to benefit everyone?

**Magali Reghezza**, Lecturer at ENS and member of the High Council on Climate

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## **Part 2: Presentation of initiatives, identification of barriers & stakeholders' expectations (45 minutes)**

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### **How can a citizen become an active player in their territory?**

Cities are already exploring various low carbon citizen solutions, such as: participatory budgets, citizen funds, reward systems, green finance mechanisms, support for local emission reduction projects, citizen committees, citizen debates, self-assessment of the carbon footprints. Representatives from four cities will provide examples of how they work together with their citizen, and stakeholders, towards the common goal of climate neutrality.

#### **Speakers:**

**Risto Veivo**, Climate Director at the City of Turku, Finland.

**Olha Bondarenko**, Strategic Advisor on Citizen Engagement, City of Eindhoven

**Agnès Grandou**, COP21 Project Manager, Rouen Metropole

**Berta Molnár**, Urban planner, senior fellow in the field of mobility, BKK, Centre for Budapest Transport

**Stéphane Fournier**, General director of the French association 'Construire au futur, habiter le future'

#### **Dialogue with youth delegates**

Based on their participation in the European Youth Conference held in Strasbourg and in particular in the workshop on sustainable development, the youth delegates will comment on initiatives carried out by cities to strengthen citizens' commitment to climate neutrality and indicate if they meet their expectations.

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## **Part 3: Dialogue with the scientific community (35 minutes)**

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Representatives of the scientific community will present their work on participatory approaches that can go further than current initiatives to better build the inclusive and participatory cities of tomorrow. The presentation of their work will provide food for thought and initiate a dialogue with the members of the Mission platform.

#### **Speakers:**

**Charlotte Halpern**, Tenured researcher in political science at Sciences Po, Centre for European studies and comparative politics (CEE)

**Alice Mazeaud**, Master of conferences in political sciences at Université Lumière Lyon-2

**Douglas Robinson**, Senior Research Scientist, French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), supported by **Marzia Mazzonetto (Stickydot)** from the Horizon 2020 project MOSAIC, which is developing an Open Innovation methodology for mission-oriented challenges to be tested in the context of Mission Cities.

#### **Conclusions: Matthew Baldwin (5 minutes)**

**Afternoon session**

Workshop resumption.

Presentation of recommendations and ideas for strengthening civic engagement in the framework of the Cities Mission.

Presentation of recommendations and/or lines of work that could complement events organised during the PFUE such as the Informal Youth Council planned for April and informal Council in June.