



**NET
ZERO
CITIES**

CCC Online Training Sessions for Cities Recording

Deliverable D 1.5

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Featuring the collective work of partners from Net Zero Cities WPs 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12



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Abbreviations and acronyms

Acronym	Description
WP	Work Package
CCC	Climate City Contract
M	Month
T	Task
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
D	Deliverable
FPA	Framework Partnership Agreement
AP	Action Plan
IP	Investment Plan

Summary

This deliverable summarises the content of the online training sessions for CCC Cities on the contracting process; local stakeholder governance processes; social innovation; climate action planning; participatory target setting; and how to leverage the support provided by NetZeroCities. This deliverable is connected to Task 1.2.3.

Keywords

Climate City Contracts, Cities Mission, webinars, engagement, communications, training, co-design, service offer, platform, demand driven, stakeholders, climate transition, climate neutrality



1 Introduction

This deliverable summarises the content of the online training sessions for the Mission Cities on the CCC contracting process, local stakeholder governance processes, social innovation, climate action planning, participatory processes and how to leverage support provided by NetZeroCities.

Originally envisaged as four online training sessions to cover the above topics, the consortium had to more than quintuple the effort on this, with over 20 sessions linked to the CCCs in the period running between June 2022 and June 2023. Additionally, a series of dedicated sessions on the Investment Plan were conducted as part of the Investment Plan Training programme (work package 7), which have already been reported separately. Webinars and large online meetings were the most common communication means with Mission Cities, underpinned by the crucial 1:1 support provided by the City Advisor team and email communications. This was due to the need to reach a large audience on limited resources, the necessity to bring everyone together on one page at the start of the programme, and to ensure that key information was made accessible to all.

2 Overview of CCC webinars June 2022 - June 2023

2.1 Introduction to the CCCs

Climate City Contracts (CCCs) were mentioned in several webinars in the run-up to the Mission Cities selection process, as well as the welcome webinars for new cities. The CCCs were then more officially introduced at the “Let's go!” kick-off event organised by NetZeroCities and the European Commission in Brussels on 13 June 2022, which was also recorded and followed by viewers online. This session was a very broad introduction to the concept of Climate City Contracts, during which the Climate Transition Map and the wider aims of the CCCs were introduced, as well as lessons learned from Swedish Cities, where the concept was initially prototyped.

The recording is available at the link here: [Let's Go! Climate Neutral & Smart Cities Mission Kick OffEvent" - PART 1](#) (from hour 0.58.07).

2.2 Webinar series and other sessions

After the above initial introductory sessions, three series of detailed webinars were developed and delivered by the consortium between June 2022 and June 2023 to gradually dive deeper into the Climate City Contract, both as a process and as a document. The webinar series are described in further detail in the Appendix (section 5). As a brief overview these included the following themes and sessions:

- 1) **June 2022 series: Net Zero Cities online conference** (5 sessions, multiple work packages)
- 2) **Autumn 2022 series: Refresh, Climate Transition Map and CCC output series** (9 sessions, multiple work packages)
- 3) **Spring 2023 series: Best practice from Window 1 CCCs** (3 sessions, various partners)

In addition to the above:

- 4) **Four Q&A sessions** on the CCC were offered to all Mission cities.
- 5) Dedicated online training sessions on the **CCC submission** process were delivered by ICLEI, Climate KIC and the Mission team in March 2023.
- 6) Several deep dives on the **Investment Plan** were delivered by Work Package 7 and reported separately.

2.3 Session Participation

Sessions were advertised to the Cities in advance by the communications team via email as well as well as through the portal. The number of participants registered for each session is included in the Appendix.

On average between 80 and 100 participants signed up to take part in these sessions. These figures exclude the June 2022 Net Zero Cities online conference, as that was delivered before the portal sign up system was fully operational.



3 The rationale for CCC webinars

The role of city facing webinars to support the development of Climate City Contracts was both to introduce the CCC concept, and to provide the general framework and context on the CCCs. Three key factors underpinned the rationale for relying primarily on online training and webinars during the initial city facing phase of the Cities Mission and the Net Zero Cities programme are detailed below.

3.1 Scope

Running several webinar series enabled the consortium to reach a large number of city representatives at once over a short time period and with limited resources. This became a necessity after the number of cities to be directly informed, trained, and brought up to speed on the Climate City Contract increased from 30 in the proposal to the full cohort of 112, with limited resources for direct city facing interaction.

3.2 Content

One challenge that needed to be solved was to provide clear and adequate level content to a very broad audience. This was addressed by offering sessions that all Mission Cities could join and participate in, notwithstanding their level of experience, background and resourcing. Cities could watch the sessions live or access them later online via shared recordings. They could also access all slide decks and supporting information at their own pace. The June 2023 series also offered recordings in “bite size” length, i.e., shorter recordings organised by topic or speaker, to make them more accessible and user friendly.

3.4 Narrative

The structure of the majority of the online training sessions was underpinned by the logic of the Climate Transition Map (CTM), as well as the three elements of the Climate City Contract: Commitments, Action Plan, and Investment Plan.

It was apparent from the Expression of Interest (EOI) stage and became even more so after the start of the Mission that participating cities were all at very different stages of the transition to climate neutrality. Mission Cities differ vastly amongst each other not only in terms of their experience and progress on the climate transition. They differ in terms of size, geographical location, local and national political frameworks, governance, level of civil society and stakeholder engagement, and last but not least amount of internal municipality staff dedicated to the climate transition and the Mission. However, the primary goal of the mission is a shared goal, to enable cities to progress towards climate neutrality by 2030.

In order to bring everyone onto one page, a unifying framework and narrative had to be found. One unifying framework that was devised by the consortium is that of the Climate Transition Map, which captures some essential elements on the city-wide pathway to climate neutrality and offers a broad (and non-prescriptive) framework for approaching this process of transition. The aims and the outputs of this process are then captured in the Climate City Contract documents.

4 A Cross-Consortium Effort

Partners from across the consortium were involved in the delivery of online training sessions and webinars, either individually or as part of small teams. The variety of areas of focus and expertise across the consortium really came to life during the planning and the delivery of these sessions. Ranging from social innovation to inventories, and the entire spectrum of expertise in between. Deep dives on individual subjects, as well as sessions where the areas of expertise interplayed and complemented each other were offered. Additional sessions provided the opportunity to explore cities’ own experience and concrete examples, captured and shared both success stories of change, as well as barriers faced.



The webinar delivery teams changed according to the focus areas of the sessions, and primarily included the partners below as well as several other colleagues across relevant work packages:

- **LGI**, with a focus on communications, content checking, technical support, and inputs about the portal.
- **ICLEI**, with a focus on the overarching Climate City Contract framework, Commitments and Action Plan, as well as key elements of the CCC submission process.
- **Climate KIC**, with a focus on general orchestration and links with the EC Mission team.
- **Dark Matter Labs**, with a focus on systems innovation and portfolio approaches.
- **BwB**, with a focus on the Investment Plans.
- **Eurocities**, with a focus on portal development, and inputs on the CCC framework.
- **Polimi**, with a focus on social innovation.
- **Demsoc**, with a focus on citizen engagement and activating an inclusive ecosystem for change.
- **Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT)**, with a focus on MEL (Monitoring Evaluation and Learning) and Action Plans.
- **As well as the EC Mission Team**, in a variety of roles.

Mission cities that took part as speakers included cities at all stages of their climate transition journey.

5 Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

5.1 Delivery

Delivery methods included a range of approaches. Most sessions were organised as formal presentations. The presentations can be found in the links below. The sessions also interspersed interactive elements such as the use of the Q&A function in the webinars as well as "Slido" polls to engage with the audience. Breakout rooms and interactive Miro whiteboards were also used in sessions where the delivery method was a Zoom online meeting, to encourage further interactivity and participant engagement.

A small number of sessions were organised as a panel format with speakers sharing their knowledge and experiences. For instance, in the Autumn 2022 "Commitments" session, in which representatives from several Mission cities, as well as a small number of consortium experts were invited to share their knowledge and insights on a series of questions.

City case studies, often presented by the cities themselves, were a central feature of the "Climate Transition Map" series in Autumn 2022. Sessions such as "Mandate Setting" were structured around case studies and the sharing of real-life examples, which brought the topic to life and were very well received.

In terms of length, most sessions ran above 1.5 hours and even up to 2.5 hours occasionally. During the webinar series, sessions were scheduled on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. Organisers recognized that for many participants it would be unrealistic to attend every session, so all the webinars were recorded and made accessible on the NetZeroCities Portal. Links to resources and support on the specific topic areas were also provided. From the Spring 2023 series onwards, the recordings were made available in a "bite size" format in the form of short clips on specific topics.

The process to collect city feedback and conduct post event survey was however only carried out for the first series of five webinars conference series, in June 2022.



For future sessions, the following is recommended:

- All sessions should be as interactive as possible, keeping frontal presentation times to a minimum.
- Subject to capacity, in-depth topics should be reserved for smaller and more tailored groups.
- The sharing of cities' own expertise during online sessions, which was the focus of several sessions in the Autumn and Spring series', should be maintained and expanded.
- In terms of length, webinars should not last longer than 1 hour to reduce the risk of overloading participants and/or dropping off the sessions. By advertising the webinars as 1 hour or less, more participants are also likely to register and take part. Data on commercial webinars shows that the average webinar attendance time is around 50 minutes, and 45-minute webinars are recommended (source: Waas 2023)
- Webinar recordings should be shared in a short and targeted format.
- Key messages and objectives should be outlined at the beginning and summarised again at the end.
- Sharing "bite size" webinar recordings on specific topics, as was done for the Spring 2023 webinar series, should be continued for future sessions.
- It is recommended that in the future, a feature to provide feedback and rate the webinars is included for all webinars and other major city facing sessions.

5.2 Content and Narrative

The information shared on the Climate City Contracts gradually became more detailed and each session, where feasible, built upon the previous ones. The narrative was much more open-ended at the beginning, for instance during the online conference sessions in June 2022, and then became more specific and at times prescriptive during the Autumn 2022 series. This reflects the evolution of the CCC framework - from a concept to a practical delivery tool - and a response to cities and EU requests for clarity on the approach proposed. The level of detail on the Climate City Contract also evolved as a reflection of the corresponding resource pack and templates published in Autumn 2022.

Although the content became more detailed over time, the nature of the sessions and the necessity to keep them open and accessible to all, meant that sessions were often quite general and "aimed at the middle" in terms of level and detail of content. In some cases, they aimed "too low" for cities that were already very advanced in their journey to climate neutrality, or "too high" and detailed for cities that were just at the very beginning of this journey.

In general, the common challenge of balancing flexibility / innovation and requirements for detail in the climate transition is reflected in the Cities Mission, and this in turn is reflected in the development of the webinar's narrative. It is recommended that the Cities Mission narrative is strengthened going forward as Mission cities are at a crucial moment in their transition journeys. Mission cities need to continue to be inspired, especially by each other, and to share their own success stories. Thus, maintaining a positive and empowering narrative and frequent opportunities for peer learning will be crucial to that end. On the other hand, technical details as well as expectations and the offer for tailored support need to be clarified and well communicated, ideally keeping this brief, specific and backed up by well-structured and easily accessible guidance, as well practical pointers for the journey to climate neutrality. These should be sourced and orchestrated by both consortium experts and fellow Mission Cities.



6 Conclusion and next steps

NetZero Cities' main objective is to enable the 112 participating cities to progress towards climate neutrality by 2030. The challenge of bringing this very diverse group of cities up to speed in a short time frame was and remains considerable. City facing webinars and other online sessions open to all cities were one key method the consortium utilised to reach as many city representatives as possible within the resources and time available. Some elements of the city facing online sessions worked very well, but there are also many lessons learned for the future. These include:

- **Cities at the centre:** Ensure there is a speaker providing a direct and practical city perspective in all or most sessions.
- **Less is more:** Keep the number and length of sessions to a minimum, and the amount of content in each session focussed to key areas. Less "talking at" and more "engaging with" the audience, to allow for sufficient interactivity and exchange, recognising we are often talking to a very knowledgeable and experienced audience.
- **Tell a compelling and empowering story:** Ensure there is consistency and vision in the narrative. Technical aspects should always be balanced by a positive and empowering message about the local co-benefits of the climate transition, and vice versa aspirational messages should always be balanced by factual and pragmatic inputs.

In addition to this, the consortium could explore further opportunities for bringing data to life through visualisations, from static charts and maps to interactive infographics and motion graphics and employ these more efficiently in future sessions. This will also be of benefit to cities as a showcase of some additional approaches to add to their own communication tools.

As the consortium now moves into a new phase with more direct city engagement, with the additional resources provided by the SGA1 (Supplemental Grant Agreement) and the resources to carry out more tailored sessions aimed at smaller cohorts of cities, the need for large scale sessions aimed at the full cohort of 112 cities will likely diminish. There will still be occasional need to hold large scale sessions however, and for these instances, the consortium will be able to look back on the lessons learned from the initial phase of the Mission and ensure that our offer is as user friendly and effective as possible.

7 Appendix:

7.1 Detailed overview of sessions



a. June 2022 series - NZC Online Conference

Session title and date Video recording and slides	Registrations	Lead partner/s and contributors	Summary of session
Session #1 Unlocking collaborative systems change for climate-neutrality 20/06/2022 <u>Recording</u> <u>Presentation</u>	12	Dark Matter Labs Climate KIC	This session explored the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is needed to accelerate the way to climate-neutrality? • Why is a systems innovation approach essential to our success? • How does it work? In this session, the first of the NetZeroCities online conference, we explained NZC's collaborative, portfolio-based approach and shared inspiration, know-how and first steps to get cities started.
Session #2 Climate City Contract: Commitment & Actions 21/06/2022 <u>Recording</u> <u>Presentation</u>	13	ICLEI Demsoc	A key innovative instrument of change for Mission Cities is the Cities Mission Climate City Contract. This is a process designed to systemically approach the challenge of accelerating the transition to climate neutrality by 2030. Cities participating in the Mission will lead this process locally with support from the Mission Platform. The Climate City Contract is the output of a systemic approach to accelerate local climate action and consists of three integrated processes and outputs: Commitments, Actions and Investments. In this webinar we took an initial deep dive into the Climate City Contract process and explored the Commitment and Actions elements in more detail.
Session #3 Investment Plan - Financing the Ambition: Barriers, Investment Planning, Capacity Building & Sourcing Private Capital 21/06/2022 <u>Recording</u> <u>Presentation</u>	14	BwB and wp7	This webinar focused on the proposed Investment Plan Framework for cities to achieve Net Zero. Given the scale of the financial challenge to achieve Net Zero, the purpose of the Investment Plan is to facilitate sufficient scale of capital to flow towards the implementation of activities to achieve climate neutrality. The plan will provide the city and stakeholders with an overview of the cost to achieve the required impact, incorporating various aspects into the planning process, including policy and risk analysis.
Session #4 Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning	12	AIT ICLEI	This session presented the methodology, structure and processes covered by the NZC MEL Framework, which is aimed at guiding cities in their monitoring, evaluation, learning and reporting activities. The session also covered how cities can envision their systemic pathways



23/06/2022 <u>Recording</u> <u>Presentation</u>			to climate-neutrality based on early to mid-term outcomes and long-term impacts, which will enable them to generate actionable insights and share learnings.
Session #5 Using the Mission Platform: Finding Your Way / How Can We Help? 27/06/2022 <u>Recording </u> <u>Presentation</u>	12	Eurocities LGI	This session introduced the Mission Platform. This session was demand-driven, aiming to foster exchange, mutual learning, and access to relevant support accelerating Climate Neutrality. An overview of our vision and proposed design for the Platform was provided, showing what our NetZeroCities digital services can look like and how our staff work with cities to promote collaboration and joint learning. The session looked at designs for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Peer-to-Peer Collaboration Space online portal module • The Knowledge Repository online portal module • The City Dashboard online portal module • The Introduction & Onboarding Tool online portal module • How the Climate-Neutral City Advisors will work with cities

Table 1: June 2022 series - NZC Online Conference

b. Autumn 2022 Series

Session title and date Video recording and slides	Registrations	Lead partner/s and contributors	Summary of session
Session #1 NetZeroCities Refresh Webinar – 1 st 22/09/2022 Recording Presentation	112	CKIC Mission Manager ICLEI	This session included a recap of key concepts and tools, and an overview of the next steps. As we came back from the summer period, this session was the opportunity to refresh Mission Cities on the key elements of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission and NetZeroCities as the Platform Manager. This webinar started with an update from Patrick Child, the Mission Manager of the Mission for Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities, and Thomas Osdoba, the NetZeroCities Coordinator. We then took a closer look at the Autumn Schedule, in particular the events we lined up to support cities with their Climate City Contract and their applications to the Call for Pilot Cities. Finally, this session included an overview of how the City Advisors will be



			engaging with cities over the coming months.
Session #2 CCC Refresh Webinar 20/09/2022 Recording Presentation	112	ICLEI Climate KIC	A short review of the CCC Webinar held in June and a look forward to the programme of events throughout Autumn.
Session #3 Mandate Setting Webinar 22/09/2022 Recording Presentation	109	Climate KIC, Dark Matter Labs	<p>The mandate setting webinar explored how to build a strong mandate in City, this included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up or strengthening the internal team • Mobilising resources and capacity • Developing a multi-actor transition team • Building new collaborative governance structures and networks • Strengthening buy in with other governmental actors • Clarifying mutual commitments
Session #4 Ecosystem Development Webinar 27/09/2022 Recording Presentation	93	DEMSOC	<p>The ecosystem development webinar explored the continuous engagement with stakeholders and actors in the local context including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing and mobilising the ecosystem • Building a shared vision • Cultivating collaboration • Building the capability to act • Stewarding the shared vision
Session #4 Understanding the System Webinar 29/09/2022 Recording Presentation	85	Polimi	<p>This phase was about developing a holistic understanding of the current state of affairs, as well as developing future scenarios.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering a GHG Emissions Inventory • Analysing action gaps and capital needs • Mapping the system and resource flows and identifying key obstacles • Identify the levers for change



<p>Session #5</p> <p>Co-Creating Portfolio Webinar</p> <p>4/10/2022</p> <p>Recording Presentation</p>	79	Dark Matter Labs	<p>The Co-Creating Portfolio Webinar focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-created design of cross-cutting systemic interventions • Clarifying possible actions and financing /funding options • Estimate co-benefits and impacts • Selecting impact indicators • Connection interventions across policy and finance
<p>Session #6</p> <p>Autumn series: Commitment</p> <p>11/10/2022</p> <p>Recording Presentation</p>	108	ICLEI	<p>This webinar was an in-depth recap of the Climate City Contract with a focus on the Commitments templates and guidance. It also aims to take stock of inputs insights and content shared so far by Net Zero Cities this autumn, and to offer a chance to integrate these into the Climate City Contract process and documents and ask questions. The second part of this webinar featured a panel of experts and practitioners reflecting on key potential challenges, solutions and next steps on the implementation of the CCC and the Commitments in particular. The webinar addressed mainly strategic as well as operational staff from Mission Cities, e.g., environmental directors, climate strategy managers or officers, planning directors or further staff dedicated to managing the cities' activities in the Mission.</p>
<p>Session #7</p> <p>Autumn series: Action plan</p> <p>19/10/2022</p> <p>Recording Presentation</p>	127	Climate KIC ICLEI AIT	<p>The Action Planning Webinar aimed to convey the main elements of the 2030 Climate Neutrality Action Plan to the Mission Cities, making a deep dive into the Action Plan Template as well as the related concepts, methods and activities. The webinar shall provide Mission City representatives with a deeper understanding of how the template should be filled out and what will be the crucial tasks of the Action Plan, informing and engaging policy- and decision makers as well as the public audience. The webinar shall also provide an opportunity for Mission City representatives to ask further questions and for the NZC Consortium to obtain a better understanding of challenges and weak points for the cities in designing the action plan, to tailor additional support if required.</p>
<p>Session #8</p>	112	BwB and wp7	<p>This session covered three key sections related to the investment plan template and</p>



<p>Autumn series: Investment Plan</p> <p> Recording Presentation</p>			<p>guidance documents which cities received ahead of time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part A: Current State of Climate Investment • Part B: Investment Pathways to Climate Neutrality • Part C: Enabling Conditions for Climate Neutrality <p>The objective of the Investment Plan is to mobilise capital at scale for the city to reach Net Zero by 2030 and forms a crucial element for cities to obtain a mission label as a part of the process. As such it was highly recommended that it is attended by individuals working within the financial department of the municipality as well as those involved in budgeting and city financial plans.</p>
<p>Q&A Session 1</p> <p>16/11/2022</p> <p>CCC Governance & Commitments Q&A Drop-in Session 1</p>	73	ICLEI, Climate KIC	
<p>Q&A Session 2</p> <p>CCC Action & Investments Plan Q&A Drop-in Session 2</p>	67	BwB and wp7	
<p>Q&A Session 3</p> <p>CCC Governance & Commitments Q&A Drop-in Session 3</p>	98	ICLEI, Climate KIC	
<p>Q&A Session 4</p> <p>CCC Action & Investments Plan Q&A Drop-in Session 4</p>	104	BwB and wp7	

Table 2: Autumn 2022 Series



c. Spring 2023 Series

Session title and date Video recording and slides	Registra- tions	Lead partner/s and contributors	Summary of session
<p>Action Plan Webinar – 30/05/2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: Introduction and Presentation from Valencia Watch >> • Part 2: Presentation from Mannheim Watch >> • Part 3: Lessons Learnt from Window 1 Watch >> <p>Download presentations >></p>	100	Cartif, CKIC, Mission Cities (Valencia, Mannheim)	<p>Topics addressed in this webinar included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes for a solid Commitment Document, Action Plan or Investment Plan? • How to best capture the unprecedented efforts that your city is undertaking to transform towards climate neutrality in your CCC? <p>Mission Cities were invited to take a deep dive into how to accelerate their city's transition to climate neutrality with lessons learnt from cities who submitted some of the first climate city contracts.</p> <p>This session included the presentation of one of the Action Plans submitted in April, and an overview of lessons learnt from the Spring Window Action Plans from NetZeroCities. Both were followed by a Q&A.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction: Thomas Haddock (NetZeroCities Programme Manager, EIT Climate-KIC) • Presentation from Valencia, followed by Q&A: Jordi Peris (City Strategies Coordinator of the Mayor's Office) and Fermín Cerezo Peco (Head of Innovation Department). • Presentation from Mannheim, followed by Q&A: Agnes Schönfelder (Local Green Deal Office – Spokesperson EU Green Deal, International Climate Policy Advisor and CEO Climate Action Agency) • Lessons learnt from window 1 Actions Plans, followed by Q&A: Andrea Galbadon Moreno (CARTIF) and Eugénie Cartron (Dark Matter Labs).
<p>Investment Plan Webinar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: Introduction & Presentation from Stockholm Watch >> • Part 2: Presentation from Cluj-Napoca Watch >> 	111	BwB , Frankfurt School	<p>This session included the presentation of one of the Investment Plans submitted in April, and an overview of lessons learnt from the Window 1 Investment Plans by NetZeroCities. Both were followed by a Q&A.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction: Sabine Schneider (Frankfurt School of Finance & Management) • Presentation from Stockholm, followed by Q&A: Björn Hugosson (Chief Climate Officer) and Susanna Höglund • Lessons Learnt from window 1 Investment Plans, followed by Q&A: Bankers without Boundaries



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 3: Lessons Learnt from Window 1 Watch >> • Download presentations >> 			
<p>Commitments and next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1: Watch >> • Part 2: Lessons Learnt from Window 1 Watch >> • Part 3: Window 2 Support and Timelines Watch >> • Download presentations >> 	102	<p>ICLEI Climate KIC Mission team</p>	<p>This session included the presentation of one of the Commitment Documents submitted in April, and an overview of lessons learnt from Window 1 Commitment Documents from NetZeroCities. Both were followed by a Q&A. The session will end with a presentation of the CCC Window 2 Timeline and Process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 1 Commitments Document <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Introduction: Philippe Froissard (Head of Unit, European Commission) ○ Presentation from Valladolid, followed by Q&A: Francisco Benito Sánchez (Agency for Innovation and Economic Development of Valladolid) ○ Lessons Learnt from window 1 Commitments Documents, followed by Q&A: Olga Krajewska (ICLEI) • Part 2 CCC Window 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Window 2 Support and Timelines, followed by Q&A: Julie Yang

Table 3: Spring 2023 Series



d. Submission process webinars			
Session title and date Video recording and slides	Sign-ups	Lead partner/s and contributors	Summary of session
CCC Submission Info Session 4/9/23 Recording	39	Mission team CKIC, ICLEI LGI	<p>This session was intended for cities planning to submit their CCC in Autumn 2023. On 6 September, a dedicated space opened on the Portal for cities to upload their CCC Documents prior submission to the European Commission.</p> <p>Cities planning to submit their CCC in this window had until 15 September to finalise the upload of their documents on the Portal.</p> <p>This session guided them through the CCC space on the Portal and the next steps for your CCC. You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions you might have about the CCC submission in this window.</p> <p>Questions related to the CCC development process were not addressed during this information session, as these need to be brought to the City Advisors.</p>

Table 4: Submission process webinars

7.2 Examples of webinar presentations

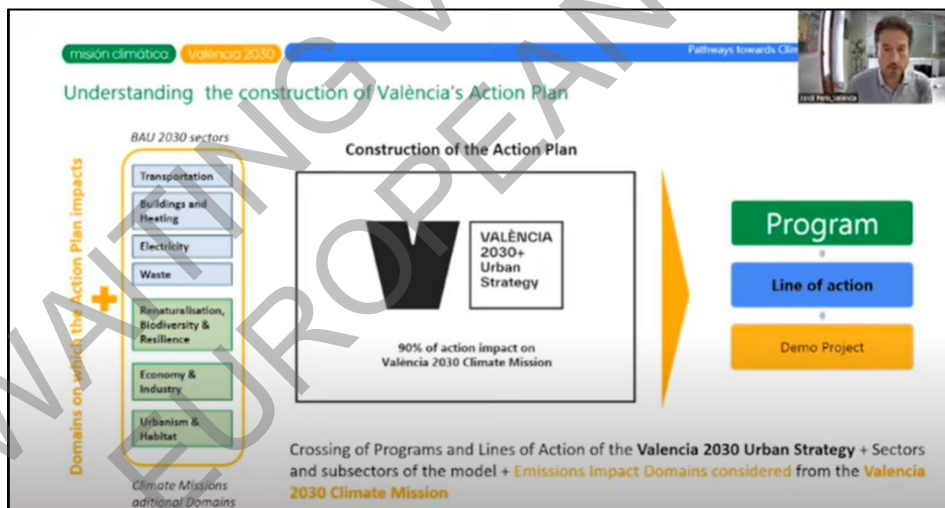


Figure 1. Action Plan Webinar – 30 May 2023, Valencia Presentation

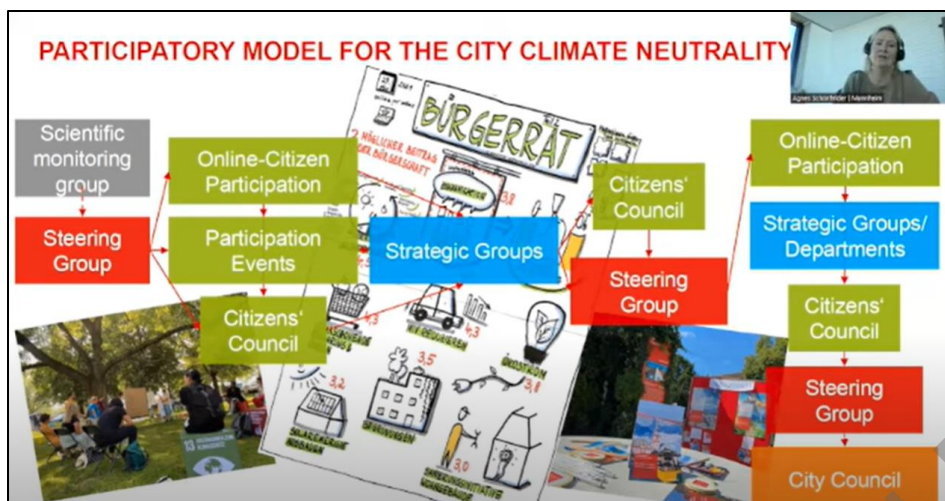


Figure 2 Action Plan Webinar- 30 May 2023, Mannheim Presentation

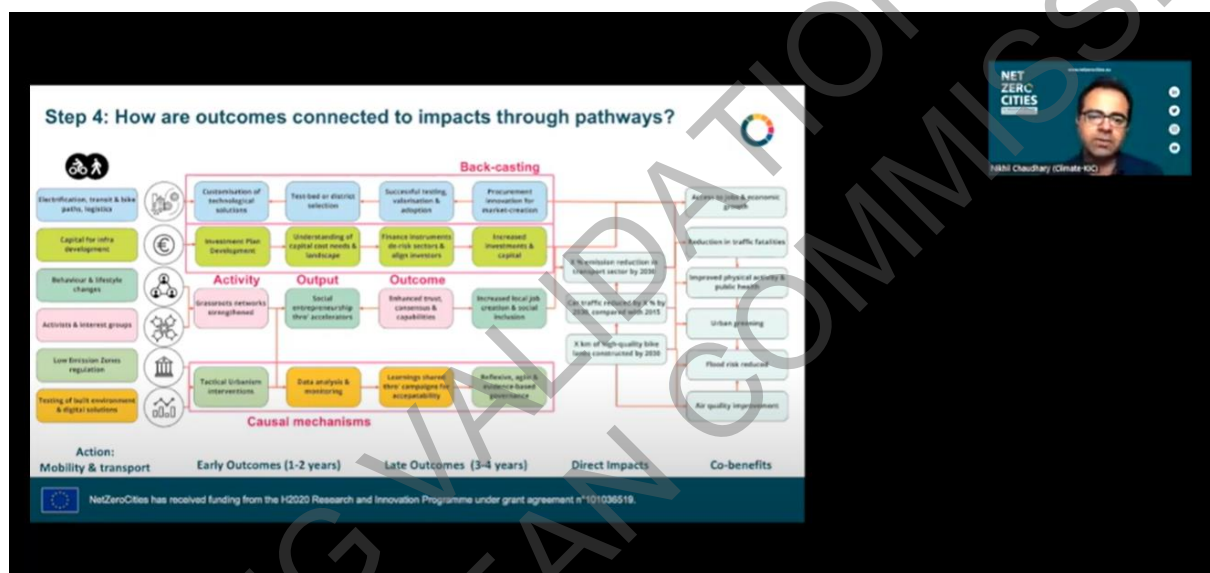


Figure 3. Action Plan Webinar- 19 October 2022, Impact Pathways

7.3 In-depth summary of selected sessions

7.3.1 NetZeroCities Refresh Webinar

This webinar took place on the 1st of September, 2022. Here is a link to its [Recording](#) and to its [Presentation](#).



The Refresh Webinar's aim was to provide an update to the Mission Cities of what was coming in the following weeks and months, present the Autumn programme, and share updates from the EU Mission Team. During the webinar, the City Advisor team was introduced to the cities for the first time.

The webinar's agenda was divided into three parts:

Part 1: Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission Update

10:00 – 10:10 Introduction: Thomas Osdoba

10:10 – 10:20 Mission Team Update: Patrick Child

10:20 – 10:40 Mission Update Question and Answer

Part 2: Autumn Programme Update

10:40 – 11:10 Autumn Programme Update: Thomas Haddock, Luise Fischer and Olga Krajewska

11:10 – 11:25 Autumn Programme Question and Answer

Part 3: Introduction to City Advisors

11:25 – 12:00 Introduction to the City Advisors: Natalia Altman and City Advisors

The session was kicked off by the NetZeroCities Manager, Thomas Osdoba, who assured cities that 'we really start this journey where each of you are' and want to provide support where its most needed. He emphasised that we are all part of a learning-focused mission dedicated to exploring, innovating, learning, adapting and improving along the way. At the core of the programme, there is a Mission Platform, which serves as a dynamic tool to learn, exchange, discuss, and collaborate. The NZC also offers peer-based city learning programme and shared work opportunities via Twinning programme and national platforms.



The Mission Manager, Patrick Child, shared three immediate priorities for the Mission Team and the NZC programme and provided updates on each of them:

1) Developing and approving the Climate City Contracts

- Working out the details of the CCC validation process
- Working out the details of the Mission Label that should serve as a 'vote of confidence' for future investors

2) Making progress on synergies between Horizon Europe R&I programmes and other sources of EU and national funding

- Linking different EU initiatives, e.g., special status for the Mission Cities in the "Connecting Europe Facility"
- Connecting better with the national and regional funding programmes, e.g. Greek Green Fund

3) Using the Mission Cities to establish national networks within the Member States to exercise leadership and show inspiration to other cities who are eager to join the journey towards climate neutrality

- Connecting with the national ministries and agencies
- Encouraging more support from the national level
- Encouraging sharing knowledge with the non-Mission cities
- Launching the CapaCITIES project
- Establishment of the Mission Board

In the next part of the webinar, the NZC partners presented the Autumn programme comprised of online sessions dedicated to different work streams in the NZC, like the Pilot City Programme and the Climate City Contract.

Climate City Contract Autumn Webinars

- Climate City Contract Refresh Webinar | 20 Sept, 14:00 – 15:30
- Climate Transition Map Webinar Series | 22 Sept – 4 Oct
- Climate City Contract Output Webinars Series | 6 Oct – 19 Oct

City Mini Webinar Series



- Part 1 - 25 October, 14:00-16:00 CEST
- Part 2 - 2 November, 14:00-16:00 CEST
- Part 3 - 8 November, 14:00 - 16:00 CEST

Climate City Contract In-Depth Sessions

- Climate City Contract Refresh Webinar - November

Finally, the cities had an opportunity to meet the NZC City Advisors, with whom they would work very closely along the process.

7.3.2 CCC Output Series – Commitments, Autumn 2022 series

11 October 2022 | [Recording](#) | [Presentation](#)

This webinar was an in-depth recap of the Climate Transition Map and the Climate City Contract with a focus on the Commitment part of the CCC. It also aimed to take stock of inputs, insights and content relevant for the CCC process that were shared by NetZeroCities in autumn 2022, including:

- Mandate setting webinar
- Ecosystem development webinar
- Understanding the system webinar
- Co-creating portfolio webinar

Several practical examples from cities' work towards climate neutrality were shared as an inspiration for the future work and collaboration. Then, the structure of the Commitment part of the CCC was shared again. This was comprised of the following sections:

- Introduction
- Goal: Climate Neutrality by 2030



- Key priorities and strategic interventions
- Principles and process
- Signatories and signatures

The second part of the webinar featured a panel of experts and practitioners reflecting on key potential challenges, solutions and next steps on the implementation of the CCC and the Commitments in particular. Amongst the panellists there were:

- Elina Ojala, City of Lahti
- Alessandra Barbieri, City of Florence
- Bob D'Haeseleer, NZC City Advisor
- Asa Minoz, Viable Cities
- Julio Lumbreras, UPM
- Thomas Osdoba, NZC Programme Director

The webinar addressed mainly strategic as well as operational staff from Mission Cities, e.g. Environmental directors, Climate Strategy managers or officers, planning directors or further staff dedicated to managing the Cities' activities in the Mission.

7.3.3 CCC Output Series, Action Plans, Autumn 2022

19 October 2022 | [Recording](#) | [Presentation](#)

Summary

1. Introduction by Thomas Osdoba

- Acknowledged the abundance of information to be covered.
- Emphasized the goal of adapting and tailoring climate action plans to the mission.
- Highlighted the importance of understanding how action plans will interact with commitments and investment plans.

2. Nikolai Jakobi (ICLEI)- Template Walkthrough

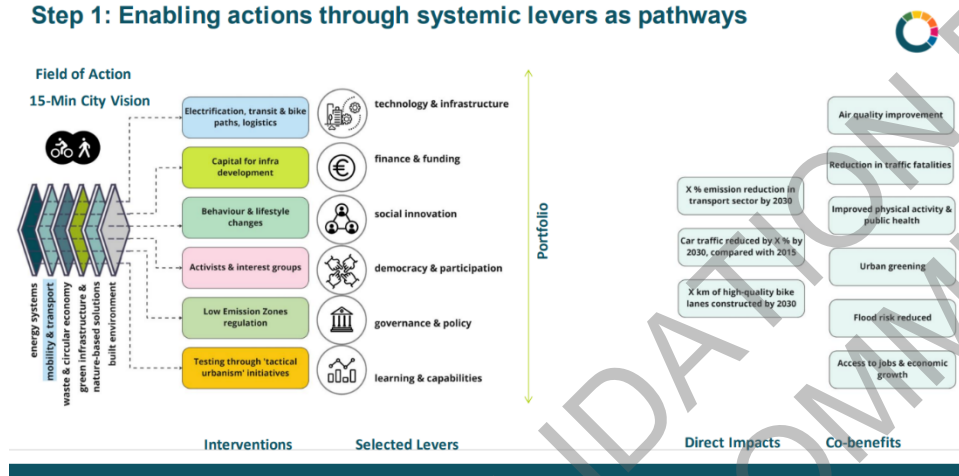


- Introduced a modular approach to climate action plans, including current state assessment, pathways, and enablers.
- Stressed that the CCC AP is a living document built on existing strategies.
- Provided an overview of each module in the template.

3. Nikhil Chaudhary (CKIC)- Impact Pathways

- Presented an example of a "15-minute city" vision.

Step 1: Enabling actions through systemic levers as pathways



Discussed splitting the vision into different temporal stages.

- Highlighted the importance of scenario building and action prioritization.

4. Wolfgang Loibl (AIT)- Action Planning System Understanding and Developing a Portfolio of Actions

- Explanation of the need to take stock of the framework conditions impacting GHG emissions.
- How to use that information to develop a portfolio of actions for the city.

Actions by emission source group (example)

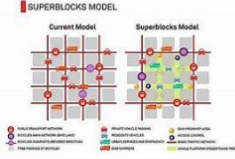
Transportation / Mobility

Current state:

- Intensive private car use for commuting and cargo
- Main road network shows all day heavy traffic loads
- Lacking public transport lines
- Less use of public transport

Mix of measures:

- Urban Planning, Transportation Planning:**
 - Compact urban development and multifunctional land use
 - Establish **superblocks** with few roads for through-traffic
 - Establish attractive **routes for non-motorized traffic** reduces travel time and distance and enhances attractiveness for walking and cycling, etc.
- Infrastructure:**
 - Establish a dens(er) **network of public transport services**
 - Enhance **frequency of courses**, and establish a system of hubs
 - E-vehicle **charging facilities**
- Technology:**
 - e-vehicles** for passengers and cargo, introduce new **driverless transportation**
- Governance / legal restrictions, tax, subsidies, tariffs:**
 - Establish / enhance e-vehicle friendly taxation, subsidizing
 - Establish attractive tariff systems,
 - Establish regulations to stop fossil fuel use
 - Establish inner city access regulations
- Social / Behaviour**
 - Changing mobility habits** towards use of public transport and non-motorized transportation



NetZeroCities has received funding from the H2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement n°101036519.

5. Ghazal Etminan (AIT)- GHG Inventories

- Introduced GHG inventories, covering the sectors, scopes and reporting methods that are encouraged by the Mission

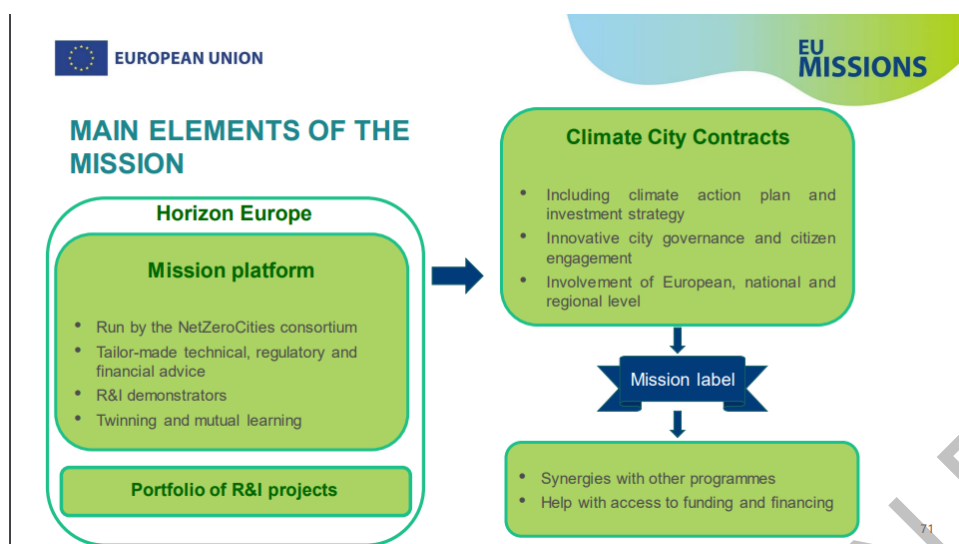
6. Breakout Room Reports

- Participants expressed doubts about the length of the Action Plan but understood the importance of guidance to initiate the process.
- Discussed how to instigate the necessary mindset change required for successful climate action.
- Emphasized that not all components need to be addressed; focus should be on areas where the need is greatest and aligning with the city's context.
- Considered residual emission calculations and their applicability to different sectors.
- Highlighted the need to test logic pathways in practical situations.
- Recognized that cities are approaching climate action planning from varying stages, with some not having GHG inventories yet.

7. Philippe Froissard, EC Mission team - Mission Label

- Discussed the main elements of the mission label:





- Mentioned preferential treatment for LIFE and Connecting Europe Facility funding.
- Noted that the value of the Mission Label may differ for cities in Associated Countries.

The webinar provided a comprehensive overview of climate action planning, including templates, impact pathways, and practical considerations for cities. However, it was a lot of information over 2 hours plus breakout room time. This session would have benefited from being broken down in several shorter sessions, with further emphasis on examples and case studies to help understanding of the concepts.

7.3.4 CCC Spring Series 2023, Action Plans

30 May 2023

- Part 1: Introduction and Presentation from Valencia [Watch >>](#)
- Part 2: Presentation from Mannheim [Watch >>](#)
- Part 3: Lessons learned from Window 1 Action Plans: A systemic perspective [Watch >>](#)
- [Download presentations >>](#)

In this webinar, we were provided with valuable insights and presentations from Window 1 cities (i.e. cities that submitted in spring 2023) regarding their current strategies and plans.



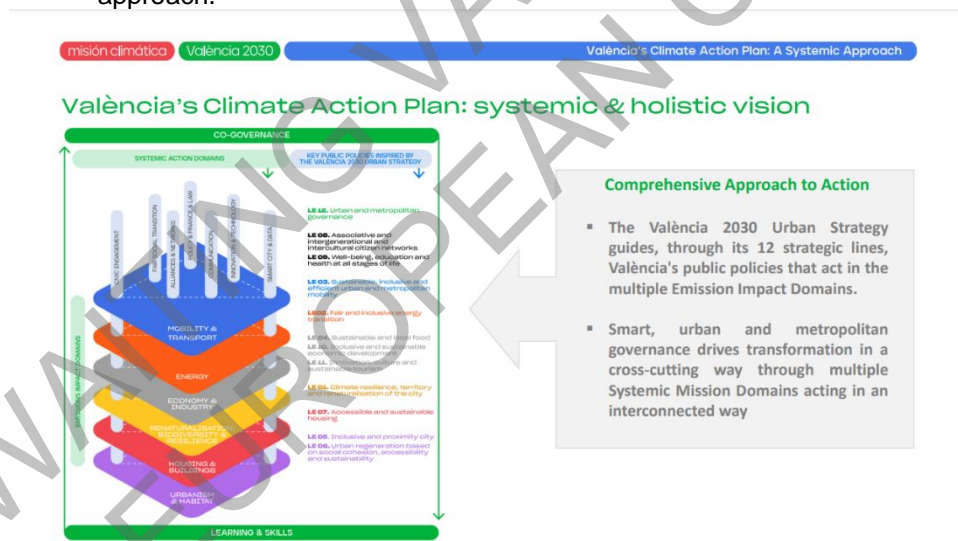
1. Introduction by Thomas Haddock

- Acknowledged the short notice for Window 1 submissions.
- Commended the impressive efforts of the participating cities.

2. Valencia's presentation by Jordi Peris and Fermin Peco

Highlighted key focus areas:

- Utilizing universities as Living Labs.
- Leveraging the port and innovation hub.
- Enhancing the Horta of Valencia (historical agricultural area surrounding the city)
- Identified exemplary sectors, such as tourism and public administration.
- Introduced a city model for 2030 based on six pillars.
- Detailed plans, goals, and indicators are in place.
- Emphasized an integrated economic model, accounting for population growth and GDP.
- Used this model to compare the current state with the 2030 Business as Usual (BAU) scenario.
- Showcased a portfolio of actions, including the largest urban solar plant in Spain and pedestrian space recovery.
- Discussed innovative governance structures implemented, emphasizing a multilevel approach.



3. Mannheim's Presentation by Agnes Schoenfelder

- Built upon and legitimized Local Green Deal work.
- Mentioned the existence of a Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) for 2030.
- Provided a comprehensive breakdown of the Climate Change Coordination and Action Plan (CCC AP).
- Presented a participatory model for creating the action plan.



- Introduced CoLAB, which tests for innovative emissions reduction strategies focusing on consumer behavior where the municipality has no direct impact.



4. Lessons learned from Window 1 Action Plans: Eugenie Cartron from Dark Matter Labs and Andrea Galbadon from CARTIF explored key overarching lessons learned, with a focus on systemic perspectives. Some key lessons include:

- The importance of seeing the CCC as a governance innovation tool.
- The strongest CCCs leverage the template to the city's advantage, going beyond filling tables to present a true strategy.
- Include visualisations of the city's barriers, priorities and its portfolio, of how they interact, which demonstrate a sense of clarity and direction

This session also included detailed lessons learned on inventories.

7.3.5 CCC Spring Series 2023, Commitments Documents and Window 2 Timelines

6 June 2023

- Part 1: [Watch >>](#)
- Part 2: Lessons Learnt from Window 1 [Watch >>](#)
- Part 3: Window 2 Support and Timelines [Watch >>](#)
- [Download presentations >>](#)



This webinar was a part of the CCC series dedicated to reflections and key learnings from the first CCC submission window and focused on the Commitment part of the CCC. Having analysed the Commitment documents submitted by several cities in April 2023, the NetZeroCities consortium compiled a list of relevant lessons learnt to share with cities working on their CCCs towards the second submission window and beyond. The aim of the session was to reflect on both ‘the good’ and ‘the bad’ in the submitted Commitment documents. The NZC showcased good practices and interesting approaches applied by different cities as well as weaknesses of the submitted Commitments. All points were supported by concrete examples.

The webinar included the following presentations:

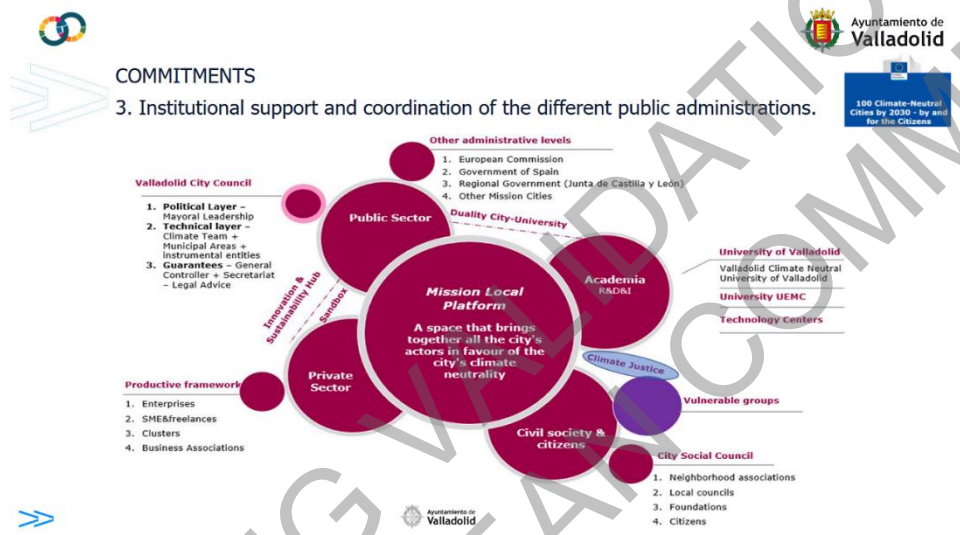
- A **brief introduction** by Philippe Froissard from the EU Cities Mission Team
- **Valladolid’s Commitment document** by Ana Maria Ramos Valverde and Francisco Benito Sanchez from the city’s Transition Team + **Q&A**
- **Lessons learnt from the Commitment documents submitted in window 1** by Olga Krajewska from ICLEI Europe + **Q&A**
- **Window 2 Support and Timelines** by Julie Yang from Climate KIC + **Q&A**

The City of Valladolid kicked off the presentation of their Commitment document by explaining how sustainability became a central concept in their municipality, what strategies and documents were already in place, like SECAP, SUMP and Urban Agenda 2030, and how the Climate City Contract was aligned with these. Based on the city’s priorities and strategies, Valladolid has outlined five key systemic changes related to different sectors/areas – built environment, mobility, circular economy, biodiversity and nature-based solutions, and new models of governance. Then, the city team highlighted the importance of setting a clear climate neutrality target in the Commitment document.

In the case of Valladolid, the 2030 climate neutrality target was formally approved by the highest political body of the City Council in 2021, which was described in the Commitment document. The goal was illustrated by the number of emissions that need to be reduced to become climate neutral by 2030 as well as by the foreseen impacts and co-benefits of the planned climate interventions. At the end of this chapter in the Valladolid Commitments, the city emphasizes the relevant role of the municipality in promoting climate action, bringing diverse stakeholders on board and facilitating conversations between them, and creating enabling conditions for them to act.



Valladolid also dedicated much space in their Commitments to the governance process and relationships between different actors, embracing both the multi-level (EU-national-regional-local levels) and multi-stakeholder (public sector – private sector – academia – civil society and citizens) approaches. A lot of attention was given to work at the intersections and collaborative spaces for different actors united by the same goal (Transition Team, Mission Local Platform). In the case of Valladolid, the commitments of diverse stakeholders towards climate neutrality are collected in a form of the Letters of Endorsement. In June 2023, over 40 Letters of Endorsement were linked to the Valladolid's CCC, for example, from the regional government.



The city team also spoke about the milestones in municipality's commitment towards climate neutrality as well as to principles that guide them in their day-to-day work, like public-private collaboration model, participation and co-creation and social justice.

In the 'lessons learnt' presentation, the NZC consortium shared general learnings on how to create a coherent Commitment document and what to avoid when writing this part of the CCC. During the session, the partners also demonstrated concrete examples of good practices for every section of the



Commitment document: Introduction – Goal: Climate Neutrality by 2030 – Key priorities and strategic interventions – Principles and process – Signatories and stakeholder commitments.

In the general learnings shared with cities, NZC recommends looking at a Commitment document as:

- A **public-facing document** written in an **accessible** and **inclusive language**
- A document that demonstrates a **clear commitment** and creates space for diverse stakeholders to join the process
- A document that has a **clear identity and narrative** throughout (including strong logic, visual ID; anchored in the local context)
- A document that **tells the story** of how the city is going to reach its goal (short, clear, direct, looking ahead)
- A document that is an **invitation to stakeholder mobilisation**
- A document that articulates a **clear sense of direction** unique to the context (e.g. resilience, economic sustainability, just transition, etc.)
- A document that provides a **comprehensive summary of the Action Plan and the Investment Plan**
- A document structure which **leverages the template to the city's advantage**, going beyond filling sections

Among the 'things to avoid', the NZC consortium included:

- A document that reads like an **academic paper** presenting itself as: "our goals are, our findings are, our method was"
- A **cold bureaucratic text** that is overly technical for a Commitment
- A **copy-paste of other documents**, like the Action Plan
- A document that is cluttered with **too much detail**
- **Municipality-only narrative**, process and priorities
- A document which **externalises barriers without exploring solutions**: "we can't do X because it's Y's fault / because Z is problematic" (right, let's include Y then and focus on commitments to work on unblocking Z)

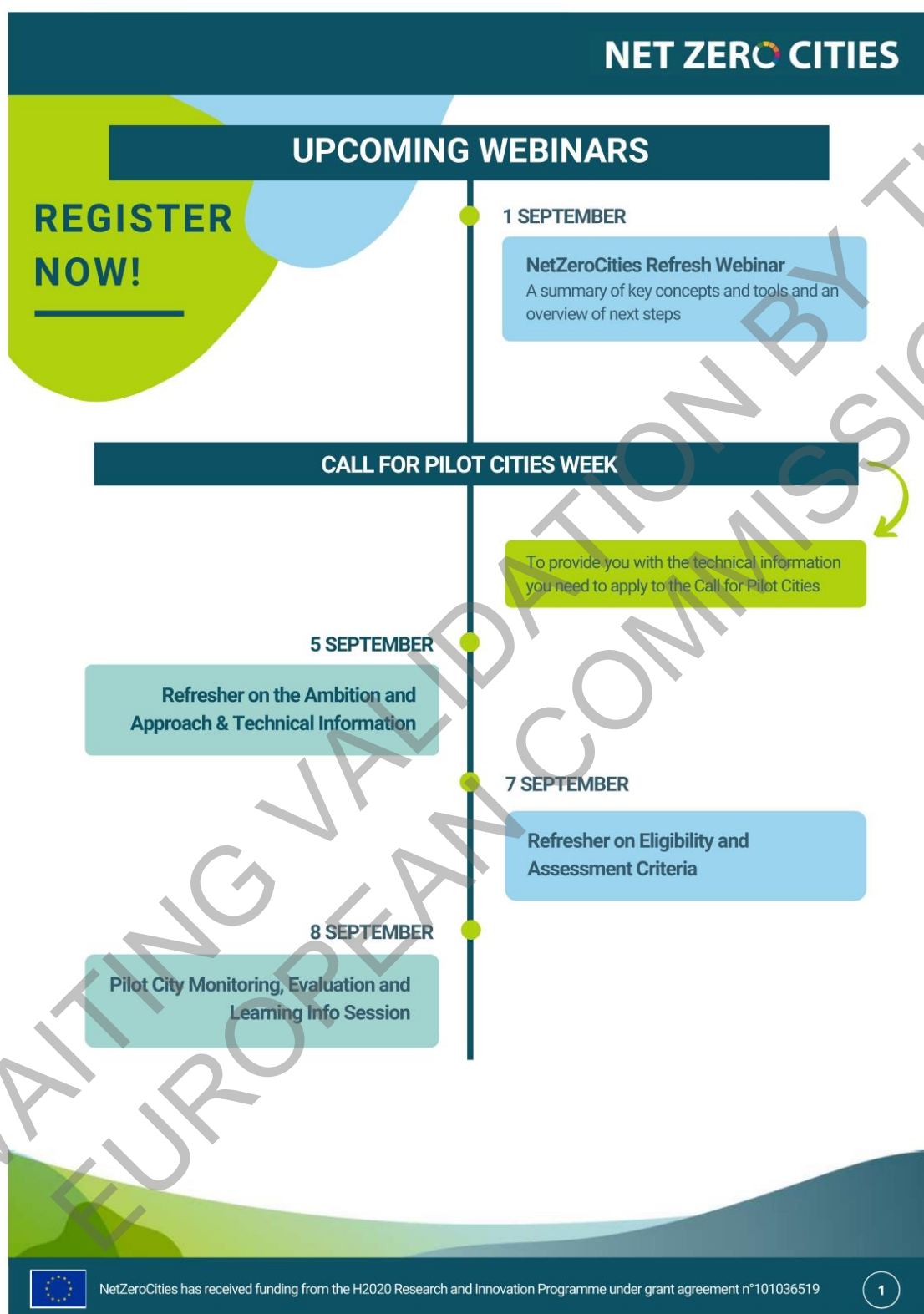


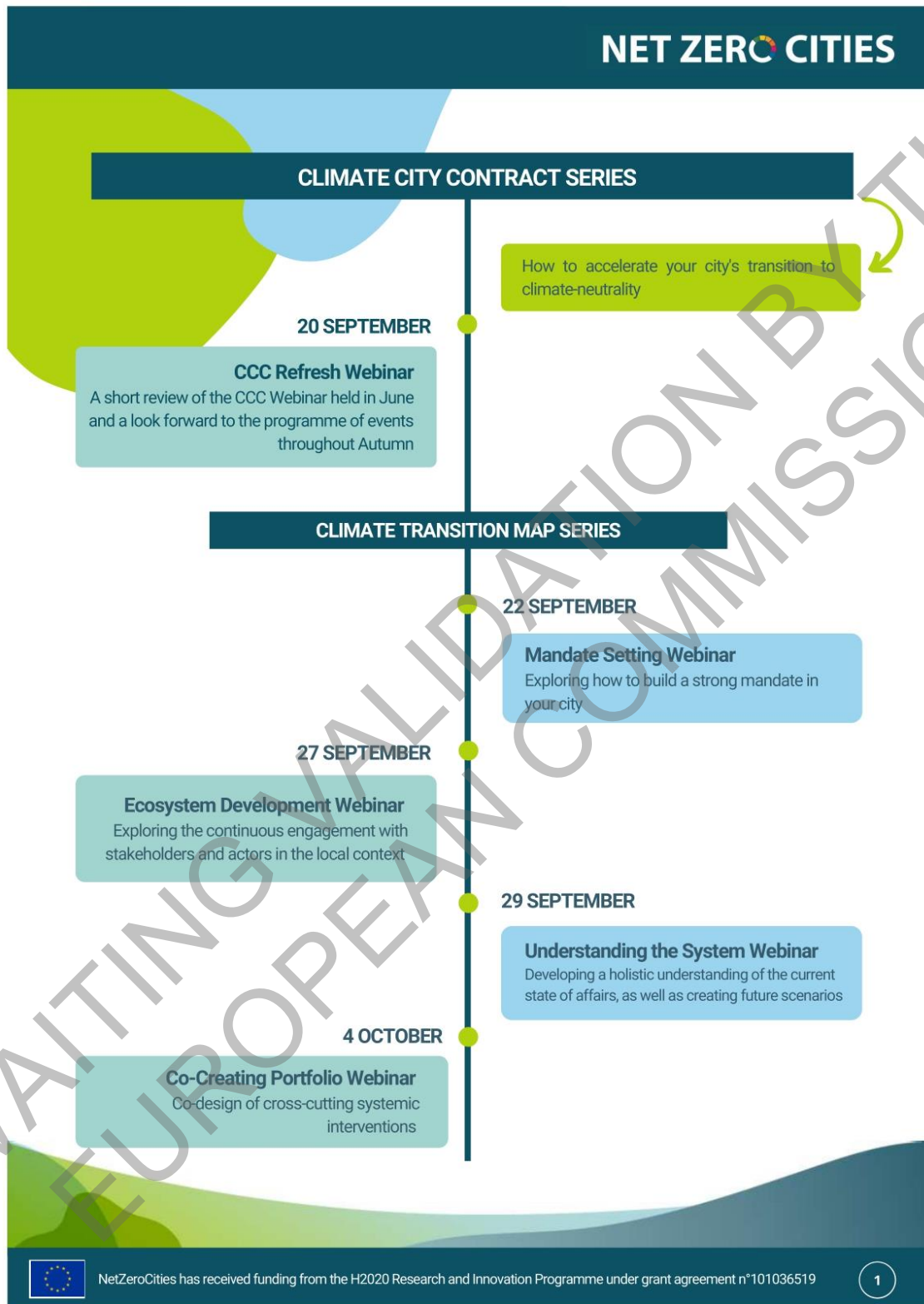
To summarise, this session helped cities capture strengths and weaknesses of the Commitment documents submitted in the first window and learn from the experience of window 1 cities. It was appreciated that the high-level reflections were complemented with concrete examples of good practices. This way, the participants could see different approaches that window 1 cities applied in their Commitments as well as how they framed and covered different issues, e.g. co-benefits or governance process. It was also helpful to dive deeper into a well-written Commitment document during the city's presentation. It allowed not only to learn more about the document itself, but more importantly to better understand the process behind writing the document in Valladolid, including the administrative process, stakeholder engagement, building on existing strategies and regulations, and aligning the CCC with the city's context.

Although the session was very beneficial, it should be treated as 'a starting point' rather than exhaustive learning process between cities. It is advised that learnings from window 1 as well as future submissions, including concrete examples of 'the good' and 'the bad', become a part of the NZC city services. If feasible, it would be very valuable to invite window 1 cities to share their experiences again, in a more extensive format.

7.4 Annex: Autumn Webinars Visualisation







NET ZERO CITIES

CLIMATE CITY CONTRACT OUTPUTS SERIES

REGISTER NOW!

6 OCTOBER

Commitments
Exploring pathways to political and stakeholder commitments to climate neutrality by 2030

11 OCTOBER

Action Plans Session 1
A review of key climate neutrality action planning theory and concepts

13 OCTOBER

Action Plan Session 2
Practical examples of action planning for climate neutrality by 2030

17 OCTOBER

Investment Plans Session 1
Understanding your capital needs and how to build your capacity and capabilities

19 OCTOBER

Investment Plan Session 2
How to build an effective approach to organizing public and private capital for implementing your transition to climate neutrality

NOVEMBER

CCC In Depth Q&A Sessions
Join for interactive Q&A with NetZeroCities on an as-needed basis

CITY MINI WEBINAR SERIES

25 OCTOBER, 2 & 8 NOVEMBER

A space for Mission Cities to present to each other on your ambition, strategy, and progress so far

NetZeroCities has received funding from the H2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement n°101036519

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AUTUMN WEBINARS PROGRAMME



NetZeroCities Refresh Webinar

A summary of key concepts and tools and an overview of next steps

1 September, 10:00 - 12:00 CEST

This session is an opportunity to **refresh Mission Cities on the key elements of the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission and NetZeroCities as the Platform Manager**. This webinar will begin with an update from Patrick Child, Mission Manager for Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities, and Thomas Osdoba, NetZeroCities Director. We will then take a closer look at the **Autumn' schedule**, in particular the events to support you with early Mission activities. These sessions are designed to help with Climate City Contracts and preparing an application in response to the Call for Pilot Cities. We will also provide an overview of how the **City Advisors** will be engaging with you over the coming months. [Link to webinar >>](#)

Call for Pilot Cities Week

3 sessions to help you with your application

3 Information and Q&A sessions are organised to help you prepare your application to the Call for Pilot Cities. Participation in this Call requires meeting specific criteria and following a specific application process. These 3 sessions will help you to understand how to successfully submit an application.

- **Refresher on the Ambition and Approach & Technical Information - 5 September, 15:00 - 16:30 CEST**
- **Refresher on Eligibility and Assessment Criteria - 7 September, 15:00 - 16:30 CEST**
- **Pilot City Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Info Session - 8 September, 15:00 - 16:30 CEST**

[Registration link for all 3 webinars >>](#)

The Call for Pilot Cities opens on 5 September at noon CEST and closes on 4 November at 23:59 CET.

The Pilot Cities Programme provides €32 million in grants and hands-on support to cities to foster large-scale piloting activities to exploit, deploy and scale R&I and systems solutions with the goal of underpinning the transition to net zero.

Climate City Contract (CCC) Series

How to accelerate your city's transition to climate-neutrality

- **CCC Refresh Webinar - 20 September, 14:00 - 15:30 CEST**

A short review of the CCC Webinar held in June and a look forward to the programme of events throughout Autumn. [Link to webinar >>](#)



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AUTUMN WEBINARS PROGRAMME



Climate Transition Map Series (CCC Series)

- **Mandate Setting Webinar - 22 September, 14:00 - 16:00 CEST**

This webinar will explore how to build a strong mandate in your city by mobilising resources and capacity (e.g., establishing or strengthening the internal team and developing a multi-actor transition team). We will also look at building new collaborative governance structures and networks, as well as strengthening the engagement of key actors across national, regional governments. [Link to webinar >>](#)

- **Ecosystem Development Webinar - 27 September, 14:00 - 16:00 CEST**

This session will address the ongoing engagement of stakeholders and actors in the local context through ecosystem analysis and mobilisation, building and stewarding a shared vision, fostering collaboration and building capacity for action. [Link to webinar >>](#)

- **Understanding the System Webinar - 29 September, 10:00 - 12:00 CEST**

This event is designed to help build a holistic understanding of the current situation in your city, and explore future scenarios for driving toward climate neutrality. We will include topics such as building a GHG Emissions Inventory, and identifying key barriers and levers for change, action gaps and capital needs. [Link to webinar >>](#)

- **Co-Creating Portfolio Webinar - 4 October, 14:00 - 16:00 CEST**

This session will focus on working with stakeholders to design and implement cross-cutting, systemic interventions. As part of this session, we will include aspects such as possible funding and finance opportunities, impact indicators, and connection interventions across policy and finance. [Link to webinar >>](#)

Climate City Contract Output Series (CCC Series)

- **Commitments - 6 October, 14:00 - 16:00 CEST**

Exploring pathways to political and stakeholder commitments to climate neutrality by 2030. [Link to webinar >>](#)

- **Action Plans Session 1 - 11 October, 14:00 - 16:00 CEST**

A review of key climate neutrality action planning theory and concepts. [Link to webinar >>](#)

- **Action Plan Session 2 - 13 October, 14:00 - 16:00 CEST**

Practical examples of action planning for climate neutrality by 2030. [Link to webinar >>](#)

The Investment Plan webinar series will follow on from the Action Plan series, highlighting the key linkages between the three main components of the Climate City Contract (CCC - Commitment, Action Plan, Investment Plan). The webinar series will then dive into more detail on the building blocks that make up the Investment Plan, which aims to support cities in their ability to secure and mobilise transition capital for carbon neutral and climate resilience projects. The webinars will help cities evolve their thinking on how to design an effective approach to develop their individual Investment Plans.



NetZeroCities has received funding from the H2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement n°101036519

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AUTUMN WEBINARS PROGRAMME



Climate City Contract Output Series (CCC Series)

- **Investment Plans Session 1 - 17 October, 14:00 - 16:00 CEST**

Understanding your capital needs and how to build your capacity and capabilities. [Link to webinar >>](#)

- **Investment Plan Session 2 - 19 October, 14:00 - 16:00 CEST**

How to build an effective approach to organizing public and private capital for implementing your transition to climate neutrality. [Link to webinar >>](#)

CCC In Depth Q&A Sessions - November

Join for interactive Q&A with NetZeroCities on an as-needed basis

City Mini Webinar Series

A space for Mission Cities to present to each other on your ambition, strategy, and progress so far

- **Part 1 - 25 October, 14:00-16:00 CEST** - [Link to webinar >>](#)
- **Part 2 - 2 November, 14:00-16:00 CEST** - [Link to webinar >>](#)
- **Part 3 - 8 November, 14:00 - 16:00 CEST** - [Link to webinar >>](#)

As we did in May, we want to give cities the opportunity to get to know each other and share learnings. This series will address specific topics, allowing for more in-depth presentations and discussion. We will confirm the topics and invite cities to contribute in September.



NetZeroCities has received funding from the H2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement n°101036519

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