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**Proceedings of NetZeroCities conference n°1**

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### Summary

This deliverable is a summary of the first conference, workshops and feedback sessions that were held on M9. This deliverable is connected to Task 12.6 which aim is to organise three open conferences, possibly connected to existing events, between M4 and M48. The objective for each event is to attract a minimum of 150 participants and to target a wide range of stakeholder groups in order to ensure dissemination of the project findings, including local, regional and national public authorities; EU institutions; policy makers; research and academia; businesses including SMEs; industry; civil society and finance.

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### Approval

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## Abbreviations and acronyms

Acronym	Description
WP	Work Package
EU	European Union
NZC	NetZeroCities
MEL	Monitoring Evaluation and Learning
CCC	Climate City Contract

## Summary

This deliverable is a summary of the first conference, workshops and feedback sessions that were held on M9.

This deliverable is connected to Task 12.6 which aim is to organise three open conferences, possibly connected to existing events, between M4 and M48. The objective for each event is to attract a minimum of 150 participants and to target a wide range of stakeholder groups in order to ensure dissemination of the project findings, including local, regional and national public authorities; EU institutions; policy makers; research and academia; businesses including SMEs; industry; civil society and finance.

## Keywords

NetZeroCities, event, workshops, conference, information, climate-neutrality, net zero



## Introduction

In order to maximise our Mission City engagement and officially launch the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission and NetZeroCities we held two complementary events consecutively:

- **Let's Go! Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission Kick Off, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022:** An in-person event in Brussels where the focus was on launching the Cities Mission and providing a space for cities to meet each other and network.
- **NetZeroCities Online Conference, 20<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022:** A series of focused webinars. Deep diving into some of the core concepts and details of the NetZeroCities programme.

In this document we will summaries each of these events before concluding with the 'Post Event Survey' and lessons learnt.



# 1 Kick-Off event – 13<sup>th</sup> of June

## 1.1 Introduction

On 13 June 2022, NetZeroCities and the European Commission hosted the **Let's Go! Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission Kick-off**, an event that brought together the 112 cities selected to participate in the Mission for 100 climate-neutral and smart cities by 2030, the European Commission 'Climate Neutral and Smart Cities' Mission team and the NetZeroCities consortium, with the aim of facilitating networking and experience sharing between cities, and introducing the services provided by NetZeroCities, the Mission Platform.

The event was held in Brussels at the BluePoint Business Center and partially online (morning sessions online). In total, over 350 people attended the event physically in Brussels, and around 698 people participated online. 110 cities attended in person and the remaining cities participated online.

The event was the first-time representatives from the selected cities met each other in person to begin working on the ambitious target of reaching climate neutrality by 2030.

The morning session was composed of varying speeches and session while the afternoon was dedicated to the Mission City Lounge Session workshops.

Please see Figure 1: Kick Off Event Full Agenda, below:

AGENDA	
9:00 – 10:00	<b>Registration, tea &amp; coffee break and Information Stations</b>
9:30 – 10:00	Mission City Photo Opportunity
10:00 – 10:05	<b>Opening and welcome</b> Katharina Moser (Event Facilitator) and the EU Cities Mission: Meet the Cities Video
10:05 – 10:10	<b>Frans Timmermans – Vice-President of the European Commission</b>
10:10 – 10:40	<b>Mission City Journey</b> • Thomas Osdoba, NetZeroCities Programme Director at EIT Climate-KIC • Matthew Baldwin, Deputy Director-General in the Directorate-General for Energy
10:40 – 10:55	<b>TBC</b>
10:55 – 11:25	<b>NetZeroCities Climate City Contracts</b> • Marina Littek - Climate Neutral Cities, Governance & Social Innovation at ICLEI • Olga Kordas: Director, Viable Cities and Associate Professor at KTH Royal Institute of Technology
11:25 – 11:30	<b>NetZeroCities Announcement of the Launch for Pilot Cities</b> • Katharina Moser, Event Facilitator • Joanna Kiernicka-Allavena, Cities Lead, EIT Climate-KIC • Will Wade, Designer & Producer, Innovation Grantmaking, EIT Climate-KIC
11:30 – 12:00	<b>Tea &amp; Coffee Break</b>
12:00 – 12:05	<b>NZC Video</b>
12:05 – 12:30	<b>Facilitated Voice of the People Session, Katharina Moser</b>
12:30 – 13:00	<b>The News Desk</b> • <b>Mission Innovation</b> - Rosalinde van der Vlies, Director - Clean Planet, European Commission, Deputy Manager of the EU Mission Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities • <b>New European Bauhaus</b> – Ruth Reichstein, I.D.E.A. Advisory Board to the President Green Deal & New European Bauhaus • <b>REPower</b> – Matthew Baldwin, Deputy Director-General in the Directorate-General for Energy
13:00 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00 – 16:00	<b>Mission City Lounge Session</b> • Katharina Moser and 32 Facilitators from the NZC consortium
16:00 – 16:10	Introduction to Matthew Baldwin's Successor
16:10 – 16:15	<b>Closing remarks,</b> • Katharina Moser & Thomas Osdoba, NetZeroCities Programme Director at EIT Climate-KIC
16:15 – 17:00	<b>Information Stations</b>
16:00 – 17:00	<b>Tea &amp; Coffee Break</b>
18:30 – 22:00	<b>Drinks:</b> Au Bassin, Baksteenkaai 74 Quai aux Briques, 1000 Brussels

Figure 1: Kick Off Event Full Agenda





## 1.2 Name badges

Each person who attended the event physically in Brussels received a personal badge indicating his/her name, organisation and job title. On the other side of the badge was the agenda of the day.

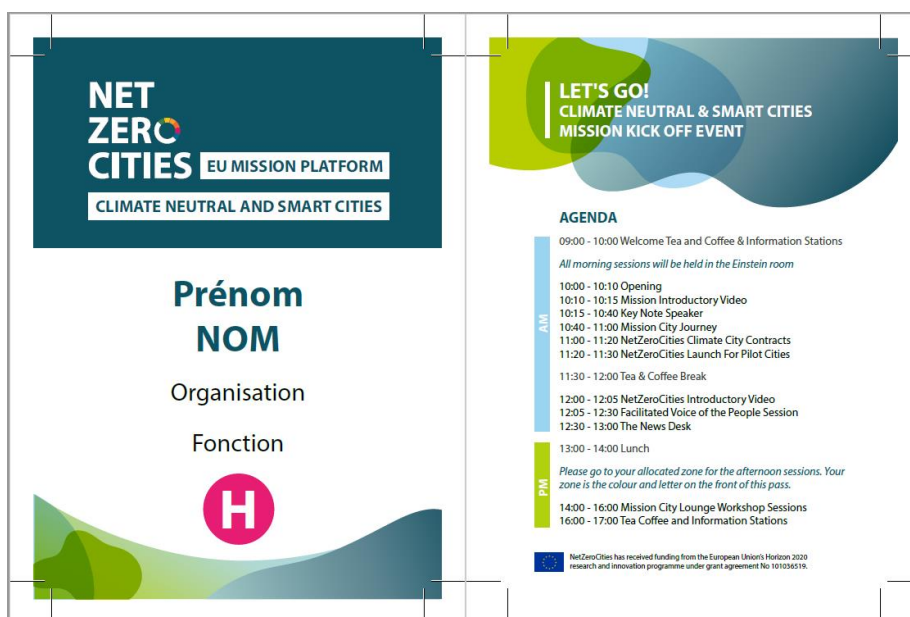


Figure 2: Badge template



Figure 3: Badges Station

## 1.3 Facilitation

To get the most out of the Kick Off event with its packed and varying schedule we appointed a professional facilitator. We interviewed three different facilitators for the role of which a clear front runner stood out. Katarina Moser - [Katharina Moser - Moderating.EU](#).

Katarina brought a real energy and professionalism to the proceedings and held guide the attendees through the morning schedule and afternoon workshops. She particularly excelled during the 'Facilitated Voice of the People Session' where she encouraged the whole audience to take part in a 'thumb war' to highlight the benefits of cooperation over competition when tackling complex challenges.





Figure 4: 'Thumb War' Demonstration

## 1.4 Group photo

To mark the first in person event of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission, a group photo was organized with one representative from each Mission City before the morning sessions started.



Figure 5: Mission City representatives

## 1.5 Live stream

The event was live streamed between 10am and 1pm and available in 6 different languages: English, French, German, Spanish, Polish and Italian. In order to cater for multiple languages to be translated live at once we procured a translation specialist, Dixit Interpreters & Translators sprl.

Dixit Interpreters provided two translators per language and the Translation feature on Zoom webinars was used to facilitate the translations. Online attendees could log into the live stream of the Event in English and then choose a Breakout Room with the language of their choice.

The recorded morning session in English can be viewed via the links below:

- Part 1 - ["Let's Go! Climate Neutral & Smart Cities Mission Kick Off Event" - PART 1 - YouTube](#)
- Part 2 - ["Let's Go! Climate Neutral & Smart Cities Mission Kick Off Event" - PART 2 - YouTube](#)



## 1.6 Morning sessions – plenary sessions

The spotlight event, organised at BluePoint in Brussels, kicked off with a **video presenting the 112 Cities Mission** and the challenge ahead, followed by a short video message from **Frans Timmermans**, Vice President of the European Commission, who congratulated the selected cities for leading the way on climate action and highlighted the importance of the Cities Mission for the just transition and the European Green Deal.

*“Cities are at the heart of our fight against the climate crisis. Greening urban spaces, tackling air pollution, reducing energy consumption in buildings, advancing clean transport...there are so many ways in which cities are the hubs of the changes and innovation we need for this transition”,* said Timmermans.

The floor was then given to **Kirsten Dunlop**, CEO of EIT Climate-KIC, who claimed that a lot of imagination and collective effort will be needed to lead systemic change and change the way we do things at all levels.

*“The mission is not just about the ‘what’, but also the ‘how’. It’s about solid, thoughtful collaboration”,* emphasised Dunlop.

**Thomas Osdoba**, NetZeroCities Programme Director at EIT Climate-KIC, and **Matthew Baldwin**, Deputy Director-General in the Directorate-General for Energy, presented the Mission City Journey. They both stressed the need for cities to learn from each other and to be open to new ways of tackling challenges. They also encouraged selected cities to benefit from the experience, knowledge and expertise brought by the 33 organisations that are part of NetZeroCities and reminded cities that were not selected to join the Cities Mission that they are also part of the climate neutrality journey as all EU cities are expected to follow suit by 2050.



**Figure 6: Thomas Osdoba and Matthew Baldwin**

The Kick-Off event was also the occasion to introduce attendees to the recently appointed Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission Manager, **Patrick Child**. Patrick Child will replace Matthew Baldwin who is stepping down from the Cities Mission to work as Deputy-Director General for Energy to implement REPowerEU: a plan to rapidly reduce dependence on Russian fossil fuels and fast forward the green transition.



Figure 7: Patrick Child - New mission Manager

Before the first Coffee Break there was a talk on the NetZeroCities Climate City Contracts (CCC). **Marina Littek** from ICLEI Europe and **Olga Kordas** from Viable Cities presented on the CCC in the context of the overall plan for climate neutrality across sectors. The Climate City Contract will be a live document that will contain three interlinked elements: commitments, actions, and investment. Selected cities will work with NetZeroCities, citizens and stakeholders to co-create the Climate City Contracts that will constitute a political commitment to the EU, national governments, regional authorities and citizens.



Figure 8: Marina Littek and Olga Kordas

The kick-off event was also the occasion for NetZeroCities to announce the launch for Pilot Cities that will open on 5 September. It was announced that in the upcoming weeks after the Event:

- A Pilot Cities Guidebook will be released to support cities in preparing proposals for submission to the call.
- Call Guidelines will be published on the NZC website, on the Mission Portal and on the EU Funding and Tenders Portal.
- Selected pilot cities will be announced in February 2023.

After the first coffee break attendees benefited from presentations on other initiatives linked to the Mission, such as the International Branch Mission Innovation, presented by **Rosalinde Van Der Vlies**, Director – Clean Planet, European Commission; the New European Bauhaus, presented by **Xavier Troussard**, Head of the New European Bauhaus Unit at the Joint Research Centre, and REPowerEU, presented by **Matthew Baldwin**, Deputy Director-General in the Directorate-General for Energy.





Figure 9: Rosalinde van des Vlies and Xavier Troussard

## 1.7 Afternoon sessions - Workshop Sessions

After lunch the event featured the 'Mission City Lounge Session' that consisted of facilitated table discussions and activities to encourage interaction between cities, allowing them to have "radically honest" conversations around 4 different topics:

- **Quality of Life for All:** How to frame and achieve the multiple benefits of climate action?
- **Radical Honesty:** What is hardest about reaching the climate goal and what does that mean for the Mission?
- **By and For Everyone** - Elevating the power and possibility of achieving a NetZero City 'by and for everyone' in the city.
- **Getting to Know You:** What climate achievements are you proudest of so far and why?

Participants were divided by groups of 12 people to facilitate discussions. Each group had 35 minutes to discuss each topic with the help of a facilitator. For more information on the content of the workshops please see Appendix 1 – Workshop Facilitation Guide.



Figure 10: Workshop Sessions





Figure 11: Radical Honesty discussions

## 1.8 Information Stations

The event also provided many networking opportunities between different cities, Cities Mission representatives and NetZeroCities partners, and gave them the opportunity to exchange on Mission-critical concepts and ideas. During the Coffee Breaks, seven **information stations** were set up for participants to be able to discuss and ask questions about different topics:

- The Climate City Contract,
- Acting and financing the Mission,
- The City Advisors' role,
- Systemic change for climate-neutral cities,
- Measuring, evaluating and applying what matters the most for climate-neutrality,
- Using the Mission platform,
- The NetZeroCities Pilot Cities programme.

The Information Station titles were aligned to the Quick Read Resources that were prepared and shared with the Cities in advance of the Kick Off Event. The titles were also reflected in the themes of the Online Conference Session listed below. This provided a clear content link between the Kick Off Events and the Online Conference.



Figure 12: Information Station on using the Mission Platform



## 2 Online Conference – From 20<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of June

### 2.1 Introduction

The NetZeroCities Online Conference was organised to follow on from the Kick Off Event and provide complimentary webinars that went in to more detail on key concepts. The online sessions took a deeper dive into the NetZeroCities programme and the Mission Platform.

6 different sessions were held between June 20<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss the following topics:

- Unlocking systemic change for Climate Neutral Cities
- Climate City Contract
- Financing the Mission
- Monitoring & Learning for Impact
- Using the Mission Platform
- Pilot Cities.

On average, the Online Conference sessions gathered 329 participants.

### 2.2 Online Conference sessions

#### 2.2.1 Session 1 – Unlocking systemic change for Climate-Neutral Cities

This first session of the Online Conference was held online on June 20 and gathered 584 participants.

The aim of this session was to answer the following questions:

- What is needed to accelerate the way to climate-neutrality?
- Why is a systems innovation approach essential to our success and how does it work?

In this session, the first of the NetZeroCities online conference, we explained NZC's collaborative, portfolio-based approach and share inspiration, know-how and first steps to get you started.

[Find here the recording of the session 1.](#)

#### 2.2.2 Session 2 – Climate City Contract

This second session of the Online Conference was held online on June 21 morning and gathered 292 participants.

It was dedicated to the key innovative instrument of change for Mission Cities that 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 in the Climate City Contract process and explored the Commitment and Actions elements in more detail.

[Find here the recording of the session 2](#)

#### 2.2.3 Session 3 – Financing the Mission

This third session of the Online Conference was held online on June 21 afternoon and gathered 238 participants.

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.

[Find here the recording of the session 3](#)



## 2.2.4 Session 4 – Monitoring & Learning for impact

This fourth session of the Online Conference was held online on June 23 and gathered 201 participants.

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 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.

[Find here the recording of the session 4](#)

## 2.2.5 Session 5 – Using the Mission platform

This fifth session of the Online Conference was held online on June 27 and gathered 218 participants.

The Mission Platform shall be demand-driven, aiming to foster exchange, mutual learning, and access to relevant support accelerating Climate Neutrality. This workshop gave an overview of our vision and proposed design for the Platform, showing what our NetZeroCities digital services can look like and how our staff will work with cities to promote collaboration and joint learning. We looked at designs for:

- 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

[Find here the recording of the session 5](#)

## 2.2.6 Sessions 6 – Pilot Cities

Prior to the launch of the NZC Call for Pilot Cities on 5th September, a series of information sessions were organised to help interested cities prepare their applications. The first information session was included as the last session of the Online conference. It was held online on June 27 and gathered 439 participants.

[Find here the recording of the session 6](#)

## 3 Post-event surveys

A survey was shared with all the participants (physical and online) of the Kick-Off Event to get their feedback on the different sessions and to ask them some follow-up questions in order to be able to better assess their situation and support them in the best possible way.

[Find here the post-event survey](#)

In total 29 people answered this survey, from 26 different cities:

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Aarhus                 | • Kozani                |
| • Amsterdam              | • La Louvière           |
| • Angers Loire Métropole | • Leuven                |
| • Bergamo                | • Limassol Municipality |
| • Bristol                | • Marseille             |
| • Capital City Podgorica | • Münster               |
| • Copenhagen             | • Parma                 |
| • Dortmund               | • Rzeszów               |
| • Eilat                  | • The Hague             |
| • Gozo                   | • Trikala               |
| • Groningen              | • Turin                 |
| • Ioannina Municipality  | • Vitoria-Gasteiz       |
| • Istanbul               | • Wrocław               |





## 3.1 Results and Outcomes of The Post Event Survey:

### 3.1.1 About the Kick-Off Event

Feedbacks regarding the Kick-Off event show that the event greatly increased Mission Cities' understanding of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission and of the role of NetZeroCities in supporting them on their journey to climate neutrality by 2030. Half of the Mission Cities confirmed being more confident in achieving Net Zero by 2030 after the Kick-Off Event, and they were overall satisfied with the format of the afternoon workshops. The main suggestions for the next workshop were to focus on depth and concrete information and to have longer sessions in order to go deeper into the subjects.

5. Did you attend the 'Let's Go! Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission Kick off Event' in Brussels on 13 June?

[Plus de détails](#)

Yes, in person	23
Yes, online	6
No	2



6. How much did the Kick Off Event improve your understanding of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission?

[Plus de détails](#)

Aperçus

29  
Réponses

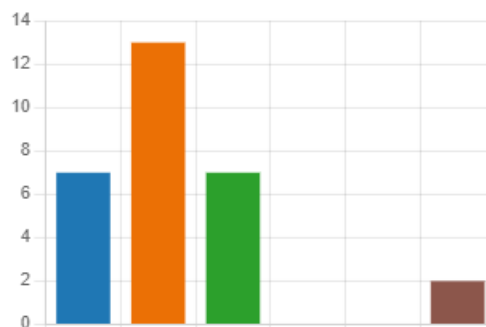


Note moyenne : 3.97

7. To what extent do you agree that Kick Off Event improved your understanding of the role of the NetZeroCities in supporting you on your journey to climate neutrality by 2030?

[Plus de détails](#)

Strongly agree	7
Agree	13
Neutral	7
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0
Autre	2



8. Did the Kick Off Event increase your confidence in achieving Net Zero by 2030?

[Plus de détails](#)

[Aperçus](#)

● Yes 14  
● No 13



9. Did you participate in the afternoon workshops held during the EU Mission City Lounge Session from 14:00 – 16:00?

[Plus de détails](#)

[Aperçus](#)

● Yes 19  
● No 10



10. How satisfied were you with the format of the afternoon workshops?

[Plus de détails](#)

[Aperçus](#)

19  
Réponses



Note moyenne : 3.84



11. Do you have any suggestions on how we can improve future EU Mission Cities events?

10 Réponses

ID ↑	Nom	Réponses
1	anonymous	It seems necessary to have soon a city advisor in order to ask direct questions on technical issues.
2	anonymous	no suggestions
3	anonymous	Don't serve meat during lunch and increase the amount of vegan portions; find a locations closer to large train station
4	anonymous	The first par of the meeting lack a little bit of more concrete information. The workshops were useful and interesting but quite short to really be able to go deepen into a subject
5	anonymous	more concrete exercices
6	anonymous	The afternoon session/workshops were not very substantive. I had expected more detailed information about the mission and the development of the contract in our cities. Discussions about the contract and the transformation process would have been helpful as well.
7	anonymous	It would be helpful to present to the participants specific seminars with case studies.
8	anonymous	You could offer and facilitate more (and longer) in depth conversations on certain topics. The afternoon sessions were interesting. However, due to the limited time and set format it was not possible to go further than just scratch the surface of these topics.
9	anonymous	Clearer information on technical/operational issues, such as pilot city-project or funding opportunities.
10	anonymous	Maybe focus on more in depth information, being as specific and concrete as possible, with good examples to illustrate.

### 3.1.2 About the Session 1 of the NZC Online Conference “Unlocking collaborative systems change”

More than 70% of the participants confirmed the Online Conference session on “Unlocking collaborative systems change” increased or strongly increased their understanding of systems change in the context of Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission, and 90% are confident about their understanding of what NetZeroCities mean by having a systemic approach towards climate-neutrality. Most participants (around 70%) are also confident in reusing the workshops activities canvas in their local context.

12. Did you attend the Session #1 of the NZC Online Conference "Unlocking collaborative systems change for climate-neutrality" on June 20?

[Plus de détails](#)

Aperçus

● Yes 23  
● No 8



13. To what extent do you agree that the 'Unlocking Collaborative Systems Change' webinar increased your understanding of systems change in the context of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission?

[Plus de détails](#)

Strongly agree	4
Agree	12
Neutral	5
Disagree	1
Strongly disagree	0



14. How satisfied are you with the format of this session?

[Plus de détails](#)

Aperçus

22

Réponses



Note moyenne : 3.68

15. Which part of the session was the most useful to you?

[Plus de détails](#)

1. The introduction presentation	10
2. The activities in breakout roo...	6
3. The interactive questions on ...	4
4. I did not find any particular m...	2



16. Are you confident you understand what NetZeroCities mean when we talk about having a systemic approach to working toward climate-neutrality?

[Plus de détails](#)

1. Very confident	8
2. Somewhat confident	12
3. Neutral	2
4. Somewhat unconfident	0
5. Not confident at all	0



17. Would you be confident in reusing the workshop activities canvases we used in breakout rooms, in your local context, in the near future, to start understanding which local actors might need to be part of your local coalition for change and which actors might be strategic to create a multi-actor Transition team?

[Plus de détails](#)

1. Very confident – I'm intereste...	4
2. Somewhat confident – I'm int...	11
3. Neutral – I'm not sure what to...	5
4. Somewhat unconfident – I ne...	1
5. Not confident at all – I'm not i...	1



### 3.1.3 About Session 2 of the NZC online Conference “Climate City Contract”:

The great majority (over 80%) of the participants of the Session 2 of the Online Conference confirmed this webinar increased their understanding of Climate City Contracts. However more than 50% of the Mission Cities still lack an internal “Mission Team” with a strong mandate or a city-wide “Climate Transition Team” and the great majority (over 86%) do not have a 2030 Climate Neutrality Action Plan.

18. Did you attend the Session #2 of the NZC Online Conference "Climate City Contract: Commitment & Actions" on 21 June?

[Plus de détails](#)

 Aperçus

- Yes 24
- No 7



19. To what extent do you agree the 'Climate City Contract: Commitment & Actions' webinar improved your understanding of Climate City Contracts in the context of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission?

[Plus de détails](#)

 Aperçus

- Strongly Agree 3
- Agree 16
- Neutral 3
- Disagree 1
- Strongly disagree 0



20. Do you already have an internal team ‘Mission team’ with a strong mandate (i.e. a cross-departmental team with a senior champion)

[Plus de détails](#)

 Aperçus

- Yes 10
- No 13



22. Do you already have a city-wide ‘Climate Transition team?’

[Plus de détails](#)

 Aperçus

- Yes 9
- No 14



24. Do you already have a 2030 Climate Neutrality Action Plan?

[Plus de détails](#)

 Aperçus

● Yes 3  
● No 20



26. Do you have a requirement to finish your Climate City Contract by a specific date?

[Plus de détails](#)

 Aperçus

● Yes 6  
● No 16



27. If so which date? Please leave your details if you would like to be contacted about this.

8 Réponses

ID ↑	Nom	Réponses
1	anonymous	By the end of 2023
2	anonymous	We would like to finish it on May/April 2023 in order to have a first version and be able to have the Mission Label
3	anonymous	Not a strong requirement, but our internal goal at the moment is September 2023. Finishing for us means signing it with all relevant partners and receiving the mission label.
4	anonymous	December 2022
5	anonymous	end 2025
6	anonymous	It's very difficult to set a specific date, because in our city and region concept of climate neutrality is young and we still learning.
7	anonymous	We intent to finalize our Climate City Contract by the end of the February 2023. My email account is vinikaterina@gmail.com
8	anonymous	As it is mentioned on webinars and Guidebook, CCC will be prepared by an iterative approach. Since we are a unique city in terms of population (15.6 million), we need a wider time period due to the wide scope of our work.

### 3.1.4 About Session 3 of the NZC Online Conference “Investment Plan”

This webinar increased the understanding of the investment plans in the context of Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission among the majority of Mission Cities. The survey highlighted the fact that the great majority of Mission cities is not aware of a climate action focused data analytics provider their city could be engaged with, and that less than 40% of them are somewhat confident their city has the level of finance capacity and expertise needed to develop a mission investment plan. Almost all city see the mobilisation of private capital as a critical step in achieving net zero by 2030.



28. Did you attend the Session #3 of the NZC Online Conference "Investment Plan - Financing the Ambition" on 21 June?

[Plus de détails](#)

 Aperçus

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Yes	22
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> No	9



29. To what extent do you agree the 'Investment Plan: Financing the Ambition' webinar improved your understanding of the investment plans in the context of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission?

[Plus de détails](#)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Strongly Agree	2
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Agree	11
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Neutral	6
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Disagree	2
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Strongly Disagree	0



30. Are you aware of a climate action focused data analytics provider that your city is engaged with?

[Plus de détails](#)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Yes	4
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> No	9
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Maybe	2
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Don't Know	6



32. How confident are you that your city has the level of finance capacity and expertise needed to develop a mission investment plan?

[Plus de détails](#)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Not confident at all	1
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Somewhat not confident	6
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Neutral	6
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Somewhat confident	8
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Extremely confident	0



33. Does your city see the mobilisation of private capital as a critical step in achieving net zero by 2030?

[Plus de détails](#)

 Aperçus

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Yes	14
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> No	1
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Maybe	6
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Don't Know	0



35. To what extent do you agree the "Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning" webinar improved your understanding of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning in the context of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission?

[Plus de détails](#)

 Aperçus

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Strongly Agree	5
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Agree	11
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Neutral	7
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Disagree	0
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Strongly disagree	0



36. Do you actively utilise Standards and Protocols (CDP, MyCovenant, BISCO, etc.) for greenhouse gas emissions data reporting on a periodic basis?

[Plus de détails](#)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Yes	13
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> No	6
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Maybe	0
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Don't Know	4



### 3.1.5 About Session 4 of the NZC Online Conference “Monitoring Evaluation and Learning”

Following the session on “monitoring Evaluation and Learning” (MEL), the survey shows that most Mission Cities do not have an obvious MEL practice directly connected with a clear logic/vision/roadmap for achieving short, medium and long-term impacts and co-benefits for climate-neutrality, or process to critically analyse and interpret the monitoring data and feed these insights into the decision(making and policymaking processes. However, the majority of them frequently engage in peer-to-peer learning, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing session.

34. Did you attend the Session #4 of the NZC Online Conference "Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning" on 23 June?

[Plus de détails](#)

 Aperçus

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Yes	24
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> No	7





38. Is your monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) practice directly connected with a clear logic/vision/roadmap for achieving short, medium and long-term impacts and co-benefits for climate-neutrality?

[Plus de détails](#)

● Yes	6
● No	4
● Maybe	7
● Don't Know	6



40. Do you frequently engage in peer-to-peer learning, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing session within or outside of your organisation?

[Plus de détails](#)

[Aperçus](#)

● Yes	14
● No	3
● Maybe	4
● Don't Know	2



42. Do you have processes to critically analyse and interpret the monitoring data and feed these insights into the decision-making and policymaking processes?

[Plus de détails](#)

● Yes	7
● No	7
● Maybe	6
● Don't Know	3



44. Do your learning practices create a safe space to connect and reflect on the risks, barriers, what is not working as intended or even failures to avoid?

[Plus de détails](#)

● Yes	8
● No	3
● Maybe	10
● Don't Know	2



### 3.1.6 About Session 5 of the NZC Online Conference “Using the Mission Platform”:

Most of the Mission Cities confirmed the Session 5 of the Online Conference increased their understanding of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission Platform.



46. Did you attend the Session #5 of the NZC Online Conference "Using the Mission Platform: Finding your Way / How Can We Help?" on 27 June?

[Plus de détails](#)

 Aperçus

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Yes	20
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> No	9



47. To what extent do you agree the 'Using the Mission Platform' webinar improved your understanding of the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission Platform?

[Plus de détails](#)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Strongly Agree	6
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Agree	13
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Neutral	10
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Disagree	0
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Strongly Agree	6



## 4 Conclusion

Overall feedback on the Kick Off Event and the Online Conference has been positive. The Kick Off Event provided a fantastic opportunity to gather face to face and start building the relationships and connections needed to successfully deliver on the Mission. It also provided a platform for the Cities to hear first hand from senior representatives at the European Commission such as Matthew Baldwin, Franz Timmermans and Patrick Childs. There was an excitement and energy in the room that felt Mission orientated.

The Online Conference provided the detailed deep dives needed to compliment the Kick Off Event and provide more information on the 'how'. The series of Webinars provided a solid introduction into some of the complex topics in the NZC programme. The recordings of these webinars have also proven to be a valuable resource for Cities to reference throughout the summer.

As presented in this document we have gathered some excellent feedback and data from these events that will provide valuable guidance going forward.

One thing that became apparent throughout June is that cities are moving a different speed. With The Kick Off Event and the NZC Online Conference we endeavoured to find the right balance between the resources we have available to engage with 112 cities and the desires of some of those cities to move fast. The Post Event Survey and anecdotal evidence highlights a strong desire from Cities to get into the detail of the Mission and to have more clarity on specific questions particularly around the Climate City Contract.

This is something that we have fed into our Autumn 2022 schedule and by the time we get to the 2023 Conference, we will be in a good position to provide focused workshops as part of the schedule. There was also strong desire from some Mission Cities to send more than two representatives to the Kick Off Event. We will look to cater for larger numbers and a longer schedule for the 2023 and 2024 conferences, if budgets allow.

In summary, delivering both the Kick Off Event and the NZC Online Conference not only provided a great platform for cities to engage with the programme it also stimulated the NZC Consortium to work collaborative and communicate effectively on cross work package Mission critical concepts. Overall



evidence would suggest that these events were well received however there are some key take aways and lessons learnt that will feed into future NZC Events.



# Appendices

## 5 Appendix 1 – Workshop facilitation Guides

### 5.1 Facilitation guide – By and For Everyone

Facilitation Guide			
Achieving a NetZero City ‘By and For Everyone’			
<p><b>Workshop Framing:</b> Elevating the power and possibility of achieving a NetZero City ‘by and for everyone’ in the city.</p> <p><b>Facilitator’s Intention:</b> Create the conditions in each session to encourage:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Initial connections amongst participants from different cities; and</li> <li>(2) A sense of motivation and eager curiosity in each participant to pursue a NetZero City that is made by and for everyone in their city.</li> </ol> <p><b>Desired Outcomes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>(Further) Motivate workshop participants</b> from each city to act <i>with</i> citizens and other urban stakeholders in their efforts and processes to achieve a NetZero City</li> <li>• <b>Connect participants</b> from across cities, i.e., help create relationships between cities</li> <li>• <b>(Further) Establish participants’ trust</b> in the NetZero Cities Mission, process, and consortium members as stewards of the process.</li> <li>• <b>(Further) generate a sense of collective grit</b> amongst participants (and facilitators) to achieve NetZero Cities by and for everyone.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Materials Needed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pens</li> <li>• Postcards</li> <li>• Post-it Notes</li> <li>• Clip Boards (<i>if possible</i>)</li> </ul>			
Workshop Method Statement			
Time	Activity	Structure + “Script”	Facilitator Notes
Pre-Work	Setting up the Space	Facilitator preps/refreshes the space for each session -----	Event Staff will Remove table <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepare 10 chairs in a circle</li> <li>2. Put one postcard and a few post-it notes under each chair with a pen.</li> <li>3. [After each session] Arrange the postcards in an organised way in the centre of the circle of chairs. Leave room for participant’s feet.</li> </ol>



14.00 5mins	Welcome	<p>Facilitator welcomes participants and provides brief overview of agenda -----</p> <p><b>Agenda Overview:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Today is a kick off</li> <li>- It is about helping us all meet And, sharing some of the excitement and motivation we have to do the work, together, to achieve NetZero Cities.</li> <li>- So, we will focus on doing a few things that will allow us to do just those things.</li> <li>- No heavy lifts, just a moment to reflect, a moment to meet, and a moment to share our ambitions.</li> <li>- With that, we'll get started with some quick introductions. Could everyone please share your name, your city, your role, and your favourite space/place in your city.</li> </ul>	<p>Give people time to arrive.</p> <p>Welcome them with genuine excitement and appreciation for joining.</p> <p>Might need to cut the question about fav spaces, but it is a useful way to gauge the personalities in the group.</p>
14.05 ~5mins	<b>Part 1:</b> Individual Reflection	<p>Facilitator introduces the individual reflection exercise and answers any questions people may have. -----</p> <p><b>Instructions:</b> Everyone has one postcard and a pen under their chair. These postcards are addressed to the people, organisations, and other institutions of their city. Participants should take a moment to reflect on the prompts and then fill in each of the blanks :</p>	<p>While participants are working on their postcards, Facilitator should try to cluster groups of three based on seemingly complementary city demographics, personality types, 'value' of speaking to each other.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To the extent possible, try to set up conditions for the most generative/connective trios of participants.</li> </ul> <p>Facilitator should keep an eye on the time. Try not to rush participants, but give them a 2m and 1m notice, i.e., when they have two minutes left and one minute left. Ask if they need more time at each announcement. Adjust the schedule as</p>



			necessary, but do not go over 8 minutes on this activity.
14.10 ~15 mins	<b>Part 2:</b> Naming Conditions that will need to Change  (Groups of 3)	<p>Facilitator introduces the activity.</p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Instructions:</b> In order to achieve a NetZero City by and for everyone, we need to recognise and acknowledge what is missing an/or what conditions need to change to get there.</p> <p>In your groups of three, discuss what you each feel is missing or will need to change--both internal to your own departments or within your city government and with actors across the city--to achieve a NetZero City.</p>	<p>This is, probably, the most meaningful time the participants will have to get to know each other. Facilitator should be mindful to give the trios sufficient time to have a conversation and keep them in the loop as time is winding down.</p> <p>Facilitator can add time here, if it feels important for relationship development reasons, but if they do, they need to adjust how quickly the following exercises will need to be executed.</p>
14.25 ~5-10 mins	<b>Part 3:</b> Naming What We Will Do  (Full Group)	<p>Facilitator introduces the activity.</p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Instructions:</b> Each person will share what they aim to do with the other actors in their city to achieve a NetZero City by and for everyone.</p> <p>If they have ideas of what kinds of support would help them achieve this aim, please ask them to share.</p>	Facilitator should try to take notes—or record, if participants are comfortable with them doing so—to gather insights into the <i>aims</i> and <i>needs</i> of different cities.
14.35 ~5 mins	Reflective Check Out	<p>Facilitator introduces the activity.</p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Instructions</b> Each participant will write a few words on a post it</p>	Question should be printed in large print and put in a place where all participants can see it as they write their post-it notes..



		<p>note responding to the following question:</p> <p><i>What have you come to recognise about your city's pathway to achieve a NetZero City?</i></p> <p>If there is time before participants leave, please take a photo of them all together, each holding their postcard.</p>	
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## 5.2 Facilitation Guide – Radical Honesty

<b>Facilitation Guide</b>
<b>Radical Honesty</b> - what is hardest about reaching the climate goal and what does that mean for the Mission?
<p><b>Intention:</b> To create an open and honest space for participants to voice difficult questions and thoughts about the climate transition in your city. The underlying logic is that scepticism, criticisms or even just difficult questions have a much higher likelihood of being resolved if they are brought to the surface in an early stage. In order to get beyond incremental change we need to get to the root causes of what is hard in accelerating the climate transition. Moreover, connections between individuals often get stronger if they emotionally open up. If our intention is to create lasting bonds between city representatives its good to create space for meaningful exchange.</p> <p><b>Desired Outcomes - Emotions:</b> Sense of deep connection, the feeling that others share the same problems, motivated that there is a whole room of likeminded people, increased sense of shared ambition.</p> <p><b>Desired Outcomes - Tangible:</b> Map/List of issues that were raised when summarizing the small conversations taking place between 2-3 people. Ideally, patterns that result from that.</p>
<p>Resource Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Like and Heart Buttons on Sticks (Dependent on sourcing in advance of the event)</li> <li>• Cards on the table with the following questions on them (bullet list): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In your experience / in your city, what are the barriers to the climate transition that we do not talk about enough? And why do you think is that?"</li> <li>- Given what you know of the Mission so far, where do you have doubts or concerns; what do you feel sceptical about?</li> <li>- When you think of the Mission goal 2030, what are your fears?</li> <li>- Reflecting on this work, where do you see your and your city's insecurities / vulnerabilities?</li> <li>- What are the hardest issues your city would have to overcome to meet the 2030 climate goal? And what makes them so hard?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



<p><b>If each table has 10 participants we need at least 5 cards per table. Each card shall have all questions on them.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flip Chart Paper</li> <li>• Post-it Notes</li> <li>• Pens</li> </ul>			
Workshop Method Statement			
Time	Activity	Structure	Facilitator Notes
5mins	Welcome	Facilitator welcomes participants and provides brief overview.	<p>Give people time to arrive. Wait until they are sitting properly. Holding eye contact without speaking yet will make them more present. Then welcome (and perhaps note with a wink that they have chosen the table for the brave).</p> <p>Explain that this table is supposed to surface what's perhaps a little tricky and difficult so that it can be resolved, or at least brought to the next level.</p> <p>Explain that most of the session will be in smaller groups of 2-3 individuals and point them to the cards that are lying on the table. Each card has 5 questions on it. Its up to the group to decide which questions they think are most relevant for them. They also do not need to go through all 5 but choose those that they prefer. The only requirement is to be "radically honest" as this is the theme of the table, of course.</p> <p>Choose one of the questions as facilitator and answer it. Try to be extra brave to set the tone. If you open up it will be easier for other to follow.</p> <p>Tell them that they will have 20-25 min minutes for the chat in small groups. Afterwards there will be an opportunity to share (of what they would like to share, no obligations, of course) for 10 minutes.</p> <p>After the overview, ask them to form groups of 2-3 and give them a sign to start the conversations.</p> <p><b>On timing:</b> The introduction should not take you longer than 5 minutes. Shorten the time for discussion (e.g. 20 rather than 25 min) in small groups if they take longer to find their seat and be present.</p>





13.35 20-25 mins	<b>Part 1:</b> Reflection in groups of 2-3	Facilitators to hold the space (in the background)	Facilitators are just asked to be present and hold the space. Watch the mood on your table, don't drift off on your phone. Perhaps tell them that they have 5 min to go when you can see that time is coming to an end. Intervene (e.g. "How are you doing?") if you can see a group is not getting into the flow.
13.50/5 5 10mins	<b>Part 2:</b> Sharing Conversations	Facilitator thanks all and invites those that would like to share important themes to do so.	<p>Suggested text:</p> <p>"Thank you for your honest conversations. I was able to hear a bit a few snippets that seemed very interesting. Would anybody like to share?"</p> <p>Is there anything that was discussed in the group that really spoke to you, and felt relevant to where you are? If so, would you like to share it?"</p> <p>Take notes of key themes on post-its.</p> <p>Note on Attitude: If difficult themes and perhaps criticisms are voiced don't jump to justifications. In most cases criticism says more about the sender than the receiver. Just hear the message and perhaps repeat it to give the sender the feeling of being heard. ("I can see that you are angry/frustrated/annoyed by...") Ask for details if you feel you don't understand it yet. Active listening.</p> <p>Also, not all questions need or can be solved straight away.</p> <p>The German poet Rainer Marie Rilke said it wonderfully "that you might live into the answers of you are patient enough to live the questions". Full German version of the poem <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
14.05 2 min	Thank and Close	Facilitator to close and thank	Thank the participants for being present and open. Be positive, particularly if difficult themes were discussed. Wish them a good session at the other tables.

## 5.3 Facilitation Guide – Getting to know you

**Materials:** Pens, Questionnaire sheet with questions below

### Introduction

The aim of this table is very simple: for city representatives to get to know each other.



Participants speak to the person next to them and ask them the questions suggested, then swap and finally introduce each other to the rest of the group.

If odd numbers: facilitators sit with the spare person.

Information to the participants: write your notes on the sheet provided. **Participants are to leave the sheets on the tables, we will be collecting them in at the end.**

### Suggested timings

- **5 minutes:** Facilitator introduce and explain
- **15 minutes:** Speak to the person next to you, find out their name, role and which city they represent/are from and ask them the 4 suggested questions.  
>Remind pairs to swap half way
- **15 minutes:** Participants present the person next to them to the rest of the group  
Wrap up- thank participants. **Participants to leave the sheets on the tables, we will be collecting them in at the end**

If you finish early: time to speak to each other / coffee

### Questions for Interview Sheet:

Name, City, Role

1. When and why did you start working on climate issues?
2. Is there any work that particularly inspires you? (A person, a project, a place)
3. What would you most like to learn from other Mission cities?
4. What could other Mission cities learn from you?

## 5.4 Quality of Life for All

Facilitation Guide
‘Quality of Life for All’ (co-benefits)
<p><b>Intent:</b></p> <p>Enable thinking about a holistic vision of ‘climate-neutrality’ which encompasses not only essential GHG mitigation and climate adaptation, but also a range of co-benefits and indirect impacts that helps achieving an optimum quality of life for all citizens and communities.</p> <p><b>Desired Outcomes:</b></p> <p>Imagination and shared understanding about which co-benefits participants consider critical for their city; explore how climate ambitions and visions are being communicated within cities for a non-technical audience to gather support and momentum.</p> <p><b>Intangible Outcomes:</b></p> <p>Expand the MEL conversation to include both technical monitoring as well as evaluating impact on overall liveability of respective cities.</p> <p><b>Leave participants:</b></p> <p>Inspired, imaginative and connected through finding commonalities within their outlined impacts and co-benefits.</p>



<b>Material Needed:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set of about 30 blank sheets (There will be pads and flip chart paper available)</li> <li>• Post-it Notes</li> <li>• Pens and markers</li> </ul>			
<b>Workshop Method Statement</b>			
Time	Activity	Structure	Facilitator Notes
Pre-session	Setting up the Space	Prep the space for each session -----	Place 10 blank sheets of paper (to draw on) on table with a pen.
14:00 5 mins	Welcome and warm-up	Facilitator welcomes participants and provides brief overview of agenda or very short playback from last round. -----	Give people time to arrive.  Welcome them with excitement and appreciation for joining.
14.05 5-7 mins	<b>Part 1:</b> Individual reflection and describing through a quick sketch/drawing or key words.	Facilitator introduces the individual reflection and drawing exercise and answers any questions people may have. -----  Each participant has one black sheet of paper and a pen for them to draw or write one or two bold words.  <b>Guiding question:</b>  <i>Imagine yourself in 2030 in your favourite place in your city - what is the most important change are you able to imagine and describe?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The quality of drawing doesn't matter nor is the exercise about drawing skills!</li> <li>- Emphasise imagination and description/ visualisation and thinking about net-zero GHG emissions <u>AND</u> beyond.</li> <li>- Ask participants to close their eyes and contemplate if needed!</li> </ul>



		(Pick one meaningful object to draw or describe if you would like to simplify the exercise.)	
14.10 15 mins	<p><b>Part 2:</b> Sharing your vision of positive change in terms of climate-neutrality and connecting them to current vision or plans by the city.</p> <p>(Smaller groups of 3 around the table)</p>	<p>Facilitator introduces the activity.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>To achieve a Quality of Life for All, we acknowledge that our personal future imagination of positive change as citizens must connect to the 'climate-neutrality' vision of the city in the present.</p> <p>In your groups of three, share your drawing with others and talk about:</p> <p><b>Guiding question 1:</b> <i>How is enhanced quality of life or liveability (including co-benefits) currently addressed in your city's vision of climate-neutrality?</i></p> <p>AND</p> <p><b>Guiding question 2:</b> <i>How is your city communicating or using storytelling around co-benefits of climate-neutrality to gather wider support (social/political)?</i></p>	Need Note-takers to collect insights from group discussion.
14.25 10-12 mins	<p><b>Part 3:</b> Collective framing of Quality of Life for All in the context of climate-neutrality Mission.</p> <p>(Full Group synthesis)</p>	<p>Facilitator introduces the activity.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Participants/note-takers from the three sub-groups will share with the wider table their key insights. Followed by a short follow-up discussion if time allows.</p>	Need Note-takers to collect insights from group discussion.



		<b>Guiding question:</b> <i>What is your one most important take-away or insight from the exercise?</i>	
14.35	Check Out	<p>Facilitator introduces the activity.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Each participant places their drawing or one-word description (with name of their city clearly mentioned) on the table next to the one from other participants that closely relates to their own.</p>	Facilitator to arrange the drawing in clusters of patterns emerging and ensure there is space on the table for next round of participants.
<p>Note: First round ends at 14:40 (40 mins total) and same cycle of activities repeat for the next two rounds until 16:00.</p>			

## 6 Appendix 2 – Kick-Off event invitation

[You can download the invitation to the Kick-Off Event here](#)

## 7 Appendix 3 – NetZeroCities Event Guide

[You can download the NetZeroCities Event Guide here](#)

## 8 Appendix 4 – Online Conference Invitation

[You can download the invitation to the Online Conference here.](#)

