CLIMATE CITY CAPITAL HUB

NET ZERO CITIES

Climate City Capital Hub – Adaptation Offering

The neutral platform turning cities' climate ambitions into bankable investments.

MISSION AND SCOPE

The Capital Hub is an innovative platform aimed at facilitating both public and private finance for sustainable urban development and advancing Europe's transition to climate neutrality and climate resilience. It empowers cities to achieve their climate goals and drive impactful projects, through both project preparation and capital facilitation. The Capital Hub works closely with Mission Cities and the Adaptation Mission to move from climate action planning to implementation, with a range of support services and tools across mitigation and adaptation.

What is Climate Adaptation?

Climate adaptation refers to actions that reduce vulnerability and increase resilience to current and future climate impacts. It focuses on preparing communities, infrastructure and ecosystems for hazards such as heatwaves, floods, droughts and sea-level rise.

Why Adaptation matters for Regions & Cities

Climate adaptation is increasingly integrated into urban planning, infrastructure design and investment decisions across Europe. The European Union actively promotes adaptation as a key component of resilient and climate-proof development.

Adaptation complements climate mitigation by addressing the impacts of climate change that are already occurring or cannot be avoided. Both approaches are necessary to achieve long-term climate resilience and sustainable development.

CAPITAL HUB ROLE & SERVICES

The Capital Hub can help regions and cities identify adaptation investment priorities, quantify resilience benefits, develop investment cases based on avoided losses, and structure financing approaches that combine public funding, grants and private capital in order to turn investment plans into investable projects. Through structured investor engagement, the Capital Hub develops innovative financing structures that address the financing gap for adaptation.

Technical Assistance — project definition, feasibility assessments, co-benefits and economic modelling

Financing Assistance — financial modelling, risk allocation and investment structuring.

Ecosystem Coordination — connecting EU programmes, technical assistance and financiers.

Scalable Models — designing replicable investment architectures such as city climate funds and climate bonds, built to mobilize capital for adaptation.

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ADAPTATION PROJECT EXAMPLES

City Blueprints

European cities are proving how adaptation planning can be successfully institutionalised and executed.

Rotterdam

Climate adaptation is directly integrated into urban planning through long-term flood resilience investments.

Paris

Actively executing the expansion of cooling infrastructure and urban greening to directly address severe heatwaves.

Barcelona

Operates a dedicated climate shelters programme providing resilient public spaces during extreme heat events.

Typical adaptation projects

Green-Blue Infrastructure

Urban parks & waterways to manage stormwater flooding and sequester carbon

Building Retrofits

Improved insulation to increase resilience to extreme heat and reduces energy use

Nature-based Solutions (NbS)

Reforestation, rewilding, afforestation of erosion-prone slopes or renaturation of riverbanks

Sustainable Urban Mobility

Green transit corridors that reduce urban heat island effects and cut emissions

Flood & Coastal Defence

Sea walls, dykes, flood barriers, storm-water tanks, canals protecting against flooding

Digital & Tech Solutions

Early warning systems, earth observation technologies, smart IoT sensors, new materials

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR SUPPORT?

Cities that are part of both the EU Cities Mission and the EU Adaptation Mission

Regions that are part of the EU Adaptation Mission and include at least one city from the EU Cities Mission

ENGAGE THE HUB

Whether your project is well defined or at an early stage, the Capital Hub team can help you scope the next step.

If you have any questions or would like to request support, please get in touch at CapitalHub@netzerocities.eu.

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