



European Committee  
of the Regions

# EU initiatives to support climate and energy transition

## Interactive overview

# Looking for ways to navigate the wide array of EU climate- and energy-related initiatives?

Look no further than our support tool!

With the inclusion of 30+ initiatives, our tool can help you filter initiatives based on their function, topic(s), and intended beneficiaries or participants.

Whether you're interested in access to finance, support services, climate transition, or clean energy, our tool can guide you towards the initiatives that may be the best fit for your needs. Simply click on the categories you are interested in, and we will provide you with short descriptions and useful links.

Let us help you take the first step towards a cleaner, greener future!

*Discover the initiatives according to their...*



Function(s)



Topic(s)



Actors

Or, check the  
full list of  
initiatives [here](#).



*Previous*

# Discover the initiatives according to their...

Function(s)



Political incentives

Platform

Access to financing

Interest representation

Support mechanism



Topic(s)



Actors



Home

# Discover the initiatives according to their...



Function(s)



Topic(s)

Clean energy

Circular economy

Climate action

Green / Digital transition

Sustainable transport

Multiple focus



Actors



Home

# Discover the initiatives according to their...



Function(s)



Topic(s)



Actors

Regions  
and / or  
cities

Islands

Multiple  
stakeholders



Home



# Political incentives

[CIVITAS](#)

[Green City Accord](#)

[EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy](#)

[EU Mission for Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities](#)

[EU Mission for Adaptation to Climate Change](#)

[European Green Capital Award](#)

[European Green Leaf Award](#)

[Clean Energy for EU Islands](#)

[Green Cities Europe](#)

[European Mobility Week Awards](#)

[European Capital of Innovation](#)



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# Platform

<a href="#"><u>CIVITAS</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>European Urban Initiative</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Intelligent Cities Challenge</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>URBACT</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Living-in.eu movement</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>JPI Urban Europe</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>EU Mission for Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>NetworkNature Nature-based Solutions Platform</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>EU Mission for Adaptation to Climate Change</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Clean Energy for EU Islands</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>European Green Capital Award</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>European Energy Efficient Platform (E3P)</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>European Green Leaf Award</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Coal Regions in transition</u></a>
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<a href="#"><u>Energy Poverty Advisory Hub</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Big Buyers for Climate and Environment</u></a>
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# Access to financing

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<a href="#"><u>Intelligent Cities Challenge</u></a>	
<a href="#"><u>EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>European Capital of Innovation</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>EU Mission for Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>EU City Facility (EUCF)</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>EU Mission for Adaptation to Climate Change</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Affordable Housing Initiative</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Smart Cities Marketplace</u></a>	
<a href="#"><u>Circular Cities and Regions Initiatives</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>European Urban Initiative</u></a>



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# Interest representation

[CIVITAS](#)

[Living-in.eu movement](#)

[Green Cities Europe](#)



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# Support mechanism

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<a href="#"><u>Living-in.eu movement</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform</u></a>
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<a href="#"><u>EU City Facility (EUFCF)</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>European Mobility Week Awards</u></a>



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# Clean Energy

[Energy Poverty Advisory Hub](#)

[EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy](#)

[Clean Energy for EU Islands](#)

[EU City Facility \(EUCEF\)](#)

[European Energy Efficient Platform \(E3P\)](#)

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# Circular Economy

[Circular Cities and Regions Initiatives](#)

[European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform](#)



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# Climate Action

[EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy](#)

[EU Mission for Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities](#)

[EU Mission for Adaptation to Climate Change](#)

[NetworkNature Nature-based Solutions Platform](#)



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# Green / Digital Transition

[Green City Accord](#)

[Intelligent Cities Challenge](#)

[Living-in.eu movement](#)

[European Green Capital Award](#)

[European Green Leaf Award](#)

[Green Cities Europe](#)



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# Sustainable Transport

CIVITAS

European Mobility Week Awards



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# Multiple focus

Smart Cities Marketplace

European Urban Initiative

URBACT

JPI Urban Europe

European Capital of Innovation

Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy, Agri-Food and Industrial Modernisation (S3P)

Affordable Housing Initiative

Big Buyers for Climate and Environment



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# Regions and / or Cities

Regions	Cities	Both
<a href="#"><u>Coal Regions in transition</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>CIVITAS</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy</u></a>
	<a href="#"><u>Green City Accord</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Circular Cities and Regions Initiatives</u></a>
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	<a href="#"><u>Green Cities Europe</u></a>	
	<a href="#"><u>European Mobility Week Awards</u></a>	
	<a href="#"><u>European Capital of Innovation</u></a>	
	<a href="#"><u>EU City Facility (EUCF)</u></a>	



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# Islands

Clean Energy for EU Islands



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# Multiple stakeholders

[NetworkNature Nature-based Solutions Platform](#)

[European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform](#)

[Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy, Agri-Food and Industrial Modernisation \(S3P\)](#)

[European Energy Efficient Platform \(E3P\)](#)

[Affordable Housing Initiative](#)

[Big Buyers for Climate and Environment](#)

[JPI Urban Europe](#)

[URBACT](#)



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# European Green Capital Award

Recognises and rewards local efforts to improve the environment, and thereby the economy and the quality of life in cities. The Award is given each year to a city which is leading the way in environmentally friendly urban living. The European Green Capital Network (2014) consists of winners and finalists of the European Green Capital Award. This network is an opportunity for social learning from the best cities in Europe, and activities include workshops, site visits, advocating local needs on the world stage, and the development of good practices and guidelines. Outputs such as toolkits and guidelines are available to the public.

15 winning  
cities  
since 2010

**Valencia**  
earned the  
award for 2024



**Key functions:** Political incentives; Platform; Support mechanisms



**Main topics:** Green transition



**Main participating actors:** Cities

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# Green City Accord

A movement of European mayors committed to making cities cleaner and healthier. It aims to improve the quality of life for all Europeans and accelerate the implementation of relevant EU environmental laws. By signing the Accord, cities commit to addressing five areas of environmental management: air, water, nature and biodiversity, circular economy and waste, and noise.

100 signatories  
reached in 2022

**Not a city?**  
**Become a supporter**  
and join the community  
of over 30 supporters  
from all over the EU

## Green City Accord

Clean and Healthy Cities for Europe



Key functions: Access to financing; Political incentives



Main topics: Green transition



Main participating actors: Cities

Find out more on the initiative [here](#).

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Established with the aim of recognising the sustainable efforts of small cities (from 20 000 to 99 999 inhabitants), the award aims at boosting green actions in European cities and encourage cities to actively develop citizens' environmental awareness and involvement. The recognised city should demonstrate a good environmental record and commitment to generating green growth. Winning cities act then as a 'green ambassadors'.

14 winning  
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Elsinore  
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An initiative of the  
European Commission



Key functions: Political incentives; Platform



Main topics: Green transition



Main participating actors: Cities

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# Green Cities Europe

Providing tools and technical background for decision-makers and politicians to communicate about sustainability and climate change to their citizens. A range of methods are employed to achieve the goal, including congresses, seminars, B2B meetings, a comprehensive website, PR activities and the establishment of the European Green Cities Award.

13 countries  
currently  
participating

**Alkmaar**  
won the Green  
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**Key functions:** Support mechanisms; Political incentives; Interest representation



**Main topics:** Green transition



**Main participating actors:** Cities

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# European Capital of Innovation (iCapital)

To recognise and reward cities in Europe that promote innovation and experimentation in their governance practices to improve the quality of life for their citizens. Winners receive a monetary prize as well as increased public interest and media coverage, making them role models for new cities to follow.

**Métropole Aix-Marseille Provence**  
won the 2022 edition

EUROPEAN  
CAPITAL OF  
INNOVATION A place to bring  
ideas to life



Key functions: Political incentives; Access to financing



Main topics: Multiple focus



Main participating actors: Cities

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Key functions: Political incentives; Access to financing



Main topics: Multiple focus



Main participating actors: Cities

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# CIVITAS

To make sustainable and smart urban mobility a reality and empowering cities to prioritise mobility in their decarbonisation efforts, by facilitating peer exchange, networking and training. Projects encompass a range of thematic areas, such as behavioural change & mobility management, clean & energy-efficient vehicles, demand & urban space management, public participation & co-creation; smart, sustainable, connected and shared mobility.

More than  
**300 cities**  
are already  
members

Over 200 tools  
and methods  
available to help  
local authorities



Key functions: Platform; Political incentives;  
Interest representation; Support mechanisms



Main topics: Sustainable transport



Main participating actors: Cities

Find out more on the initiative [here](#).

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Main topics: Sustainable transport



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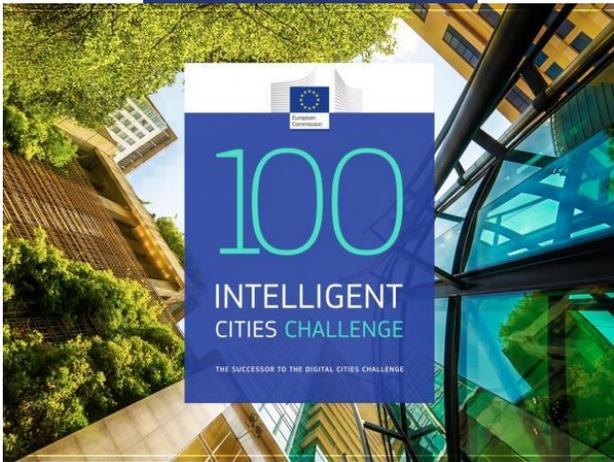


# Intelligent Cities Challenge

To improve the quality of life and accelerate the implementation of relevant EU environmental laws. It is a European Commission initiative that brings together 136 cities to achieve intelligent, socially responsible and sustainable growth through advanced technologies. Fields include citizen participation and digitisation of public administration; Green economy and local green deals; Upskilling and reskilling; Green and digital transition in tourism; Supply chains, logistics and economics of mobility.

€ 1.9 billion  
in funding  
for ICC cities  
action

More than  
130 cities  
already  
participate



**Key functions:** Support mechanisms; Access to financing; Platform



**Main topics:** Green transition; Digital transition



**Main participating actors:** Cities

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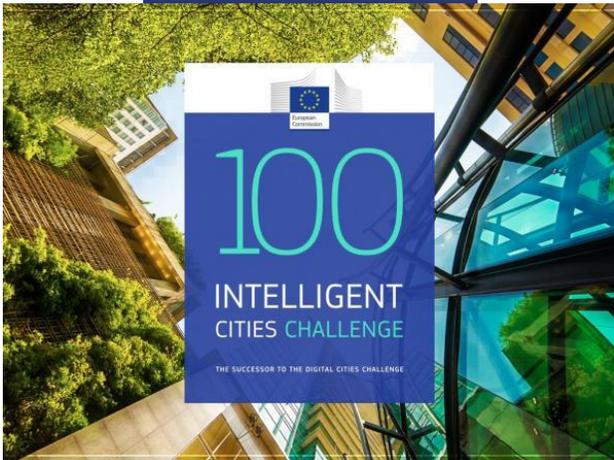


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To improve the quality of life and accelerate the implementation of relevant EU environmental laws. It is a European Commission initiative that brings together 136 cities to achieve intelligent, socially responsible and sustainable growth through advanced technologies. Fields include citizen participation and digitisation of public administration; Green economy and local green deals; Upskilling and reskilling; Green and digital transition in tourism; Supply chains, logistics and economics of mobility.

€ 1.9 billion  
in funding  
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action

More than  
130 cities  
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**Key functions:** Support mechanisms; Access to financing; Platform



**Main topics:** Green transition; Digital transition



**Main participating actors:** Cities

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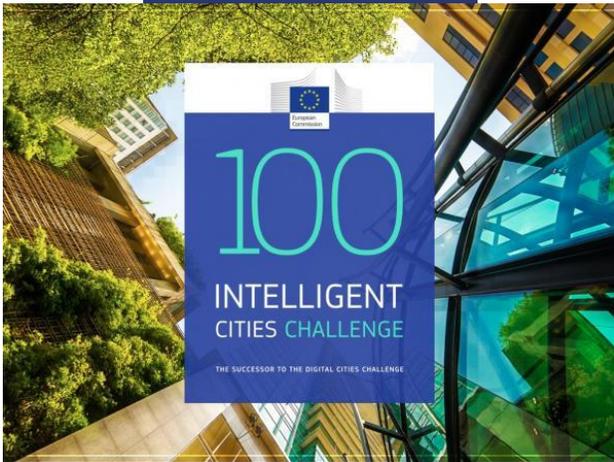


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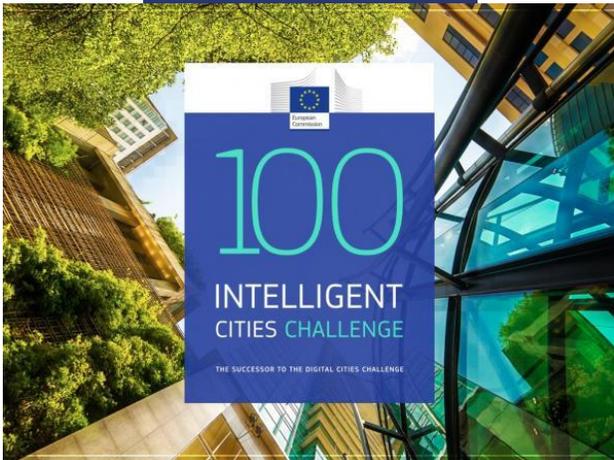


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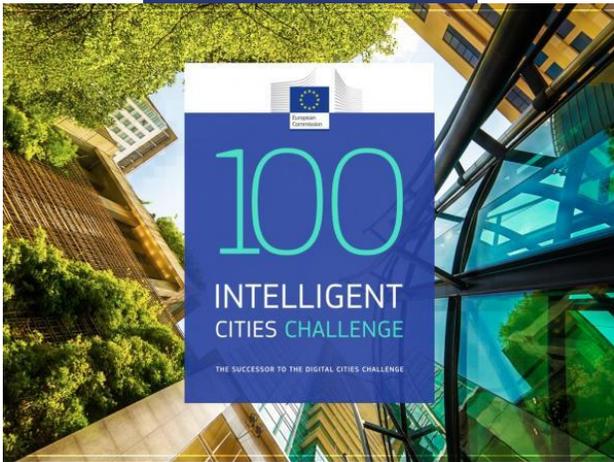


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# Living-in.eu movement

To bring the economic and social benefits of the digital transformation to all local communities and implement an inclusive digital Europe, with powerful digital services, technologies, infrastructures and skills. Signatories of the Declaration commit to developing sustainable measures in the fields of: education & capacity building, monitoring & measuring, financial, technical, and legal.

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**Become a supporter**  
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**Key functions:** Platform; Support mechanisms; Interest representation



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The initiative connects local governments across Europe (and beyond) with the objective of implementing EU climate and energy objectives. The aims are to boost reduction of GHG emissions by 55 % by 2030, strengthening resilience and alleviating energy poverty. By joining the initiative, local governments commit to securing a better future for their citizens and contribute to global and European climate and energy objectives.

More than 10 000  
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More than  
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100 cities selected among 377 that expressed interest



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The focus is on supporting EU regions, cities and local authorities in their efforts to build resilience against the impacts of climate change. The Mission objective is, by 2030, to accompany at least 150 European regions and communities towards climate resilience.

More than 300 authorities have already signed the Mission Charter



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It contributed significantly to expediting the green transition of European cities. The cities involved have common goals of enhancing citizens' quality of life, bolstering the competitiveness of European cities and industries, and helping to attain European energy and climate objectives.

More than € 600 million matched with investor interest

More than 15 investor network members



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A leading EU initiative aiming to eradicate energy poverty and accelerate the just energy transition of European local governments. The initiative provides supporting mechanisms by identifying and sharing best practices from all authorities across Europe (and beyond) and providing, seminars, handbooks and online training.

**More than 200  
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**EU**  
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**Key functions:** Support mechanisms; Platform



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**More than € 250 million available for financial support**



Circular  
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More than  
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Key functions: Platform; Support mechanisms



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Main participating actors: Multiple stakeholders

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**Main topics:** Multiple focus



**Main participating actors:** Cities

Find out more on the initiative [here](#).

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# European Urban Initiative (EUI)

Represents a new multi-level working method, for urban policy and practice, promoting cooperation between Member States, cities, the European Commission, and other stakeholders. The focus of the initiatives is on boosting sustainable urban development via capacity-building, knowledge sharing, and financial support.

More than 90  
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Up to 80 % of  
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EUROPEAN  
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**Key functions:** Platform; Support mechanisms; Access to financing



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**Main topics:** Multiple focus



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# Network Nature

## Nature-based Solutions Hub

Working with local partners to establish and support the launch of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) Hubs. The hubs bring together stakeholders from the public and private sector to share knowledge, build relationships and find nature-based solutions to local issues.

**Member State  
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**Key functions:** Platform; Support mechanisms



**Main topics:** Climate action



**Main participating actors:** Multiple stakeholders

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# European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform

A virtual platform for submitting content (e.g. good practices, strategies and knowledge), discussion forum, activities and events (e.g. EU Circular Talks) in the field of circular economy.

More than 800  
good practices  
and strategies

More than 40  
EU Circular  
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# JPI Urban Europe

Tackling urban issues by building research and innovation hubs in Europe. The aim is to connect public institutions, scientists, innovators, civil society, businesses and industries to establish a new research and innovation environment. The initiative provides experimental zones and long-term research infrastructure.

More than 550  
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More than  
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Key functions: Platform, Support mechanisms



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Main participating actors: Multiple stakeholders

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# Clean Energy for EU Islands

Central platform for the clean energy transition of more than 200 inhabited European islands. The initiative connects island communities and provides support on project development in the field of energy transition.

More than 80 islands are participating



**Key functions:** Support mechanisms; Political incentives; Platform



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**Main participating actors:** Islands

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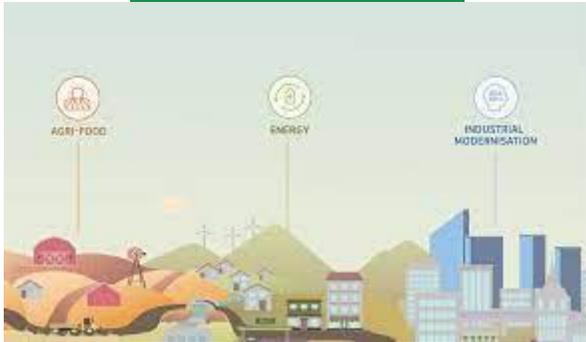
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# Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy, Agri-Food and Industrial Modernisation (S3P)

Enabling tool to coordinate, rationalise and plan energy strategies, develop a shared vision on knowledge-base and set up a strategic agenda of collaborative work. The thematic S3Ps are contributing to building an increasing number of interregional partnerships across the EU. These networks analyse and tackle together various obstacles related to the implementation of smart specialisation strategies.

More than  
**200 regions**  
(EU and non-EU)  
have registered



**Key functions:** Support mechanisms; Access to financing



**Main topics:** Multiple focus



**Main participating actors:** Multiple stakeholders

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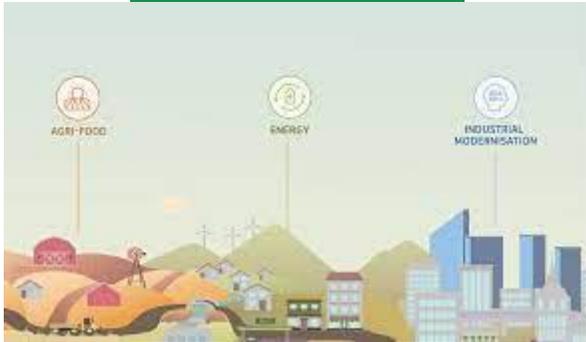
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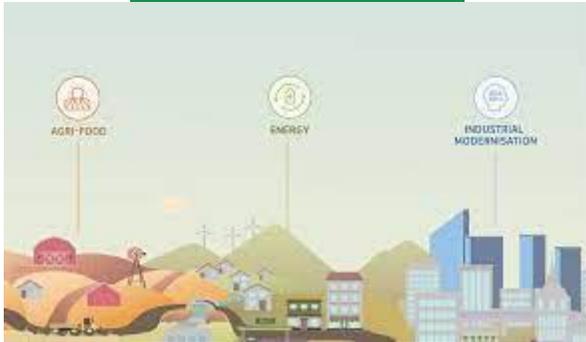
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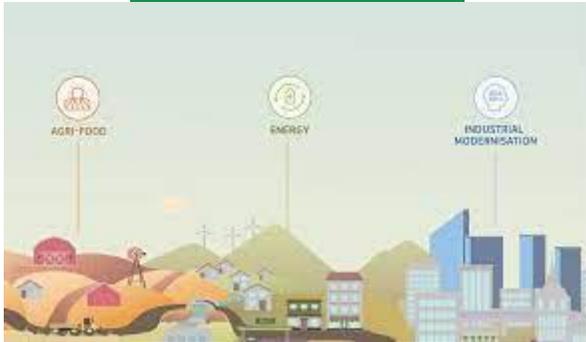
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# European Energy Efficiency Platform (E3P)

Platform and collaborative tool for a strong and connected energy efficiency community. The content in it is divided in six thematic and four cross-thematic areas. The aim is to facilitate the practical implementation of the Energy Efficiency Directive at national, regional and local levels, with data collection and analysis.

More than 10  
communities  
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Key functions: Platform



Main topics: Clean Energy



Main participating actors: Multiple stakeholders

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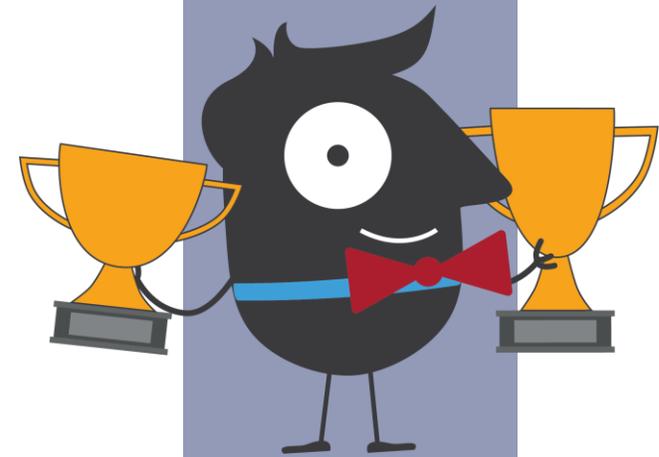
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# European Mobility Week MOBILITY AWARDS

The annual awards celebrate municipal administrations and a diverse array of entities that have showcased outstanding performance in promoting sustainable mobility or devising mobility plans. Awards categories include: European Mobility Week Award and Mobility Action Award. The Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning (SUMP) Award was terminated in 2021.

**Tampere**  
won the 10th  
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**Key functions:** Political incentives; Support mechanisms



**Main topics:** Sustainable Transport



**Main participating actors:** Cities

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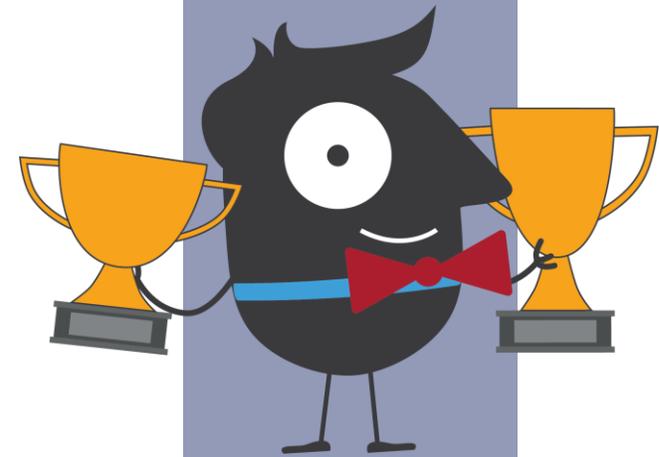
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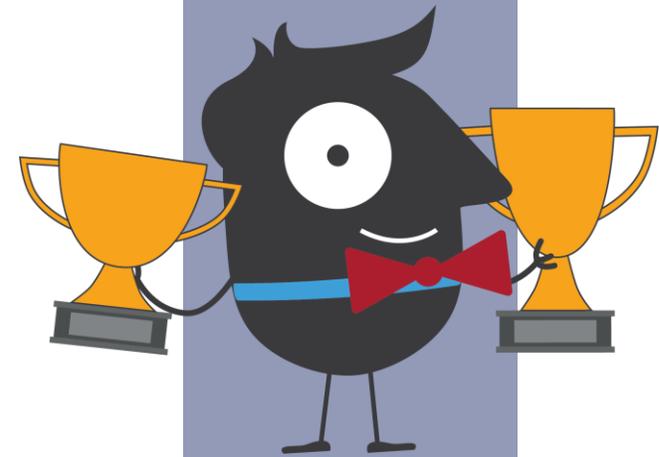
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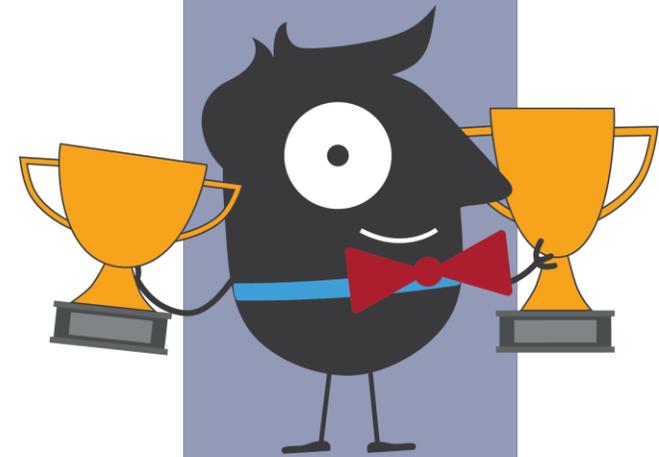
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# European City Facility (EUCF)

To facilitate the transition towards low carbon economy in coal regions via providing support to public administrations and other relevant stakeholders through (i) connecting stakeholders, (ii) delivering tailored technical assistance, and (iii) providing supportive resources (e.g. material and information sharing).

More than  
200  
beneficiaries



Key functions: Access to financing; Support mechanisms



Main topics: Clean energy



Main participating actors: Cities

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# Coal regions in transition

To provide tailor-made, simplified financial support in the form of EUR 60 000 lump sums to municipalities, local authorities, agglomerations and local public entities in Europe to help them develop investment concepts related to the implementation of actions identified in their climate and energy action plans.

More than 30 EU coal, peat and oil shale regions participating



Initiative for coal regions in transition

SUPPORTING A JUST TRANSITION



Key functions: Platform; Support mechanisms



Main topics: Clean energy



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# Affordable housing initiative

Focuses on the implementation of green buildings, and resource-efficient innovation to create jobs and improve lives and it is part of the Commission's renovation wave strategy for Europe. The initiative guarantees access to the necessary technical and innovation capacity to local social housing projects.

More than 100  
lighthouse  
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Key functions: Support mechanisms; Access to financing



Main topics: Multiple focus



Main participating actors: Multiple stakeholders

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# Big Buyers for Climate and Environment

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Leaders in energy transition

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To support local and regional energy actors in Europe, such as public authorities and energy agencies, to help them develop and implement sustainable energy policies and actions. It offers a range of services including technical assistance, training, networking and access to funding opportunities.

**12 Master  
Classes**  
to be held until  
2026

**More than 20  
Expert Mission**  
will be  
implemented



Key functions: Support mechanisms; Platform



Main topics: Clean energy



Main participating actors: Cities; Regions

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Initiative	EU participants	Types of services provided	Theme covered
<a href="#">CIVITAS</a>	Cities	Platform; Political incentives; Interest representation; Support mechanisms	Sustainable Transport
<a href="#">Green City Accord</a>	Cities	Facilitation of financing; Political incentives	Green transition
<a href="#">Intelligent Cities Challenge</a>	Cities	Support mechanisms; Facilitation of financing; Platform	Green and digital transition
<a href="#">Living-in.eu movement</a>	Cities	Platform; support mechanisms; Interest representation	Green and digital transition
<a href="#">EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate &amp; Energy</a>	Cities and Regions	Platform; Support mechanisms; political incentives; Facilitation of financing	Climate action; Clean energy
<a href="#">EU Mission for Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030</a>	Cities	Platform; Support mechanisms; Facilitation of financing; Political incentives	Climate Action
<a href="#">European Green Capital Award</a>	Cities	Political incentives; Platform; support mechanisms;	Green transition
<a href="#">European Green Leaf Award</a>	Cities	Political incentives; Platform	Green transition
<a href="#">Smart Cities Marketplace</a>	Cities	Platform; Support mechanisms; Facilitation of financing	Multiple-focused initiatives
<a href="#">Energy Poverty Advisory Hub</a>	Cities	Support mechanisms; Platform	Clean Energy
<a href="#">Circular Cities and Regions Initiative</a>	Cities and Regions	Support mechanisms; Facilitation of financing; Platform;	Circular economy
<a href="#">European Urban Initiative</a>	Cities	Platform; Support mechanisms; Facilitation of financing	Multiple-focused initiatives
<a href="#">URBACT</a>	Multiple stakeholders	Platform; Support mechanisms	Multiple-focused initiatives
<a href="#">NetworkNature Nature Based Solutions Platform</a>	Multiple stakeholders	Platform; Support mechanisms	Climate Action
<a href="#">European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform</a>	Multiple stakeholders	Platform; Support mechanisms	Circular economy
<a href="#">JPI Urban Europe</a>	Multiple stakeholders	Platform, Support mechanisms	Multiple-focused initiatives
<a href="#">Clean Energy for EU Islands</a>	Islands	Support mechanisms; Political incentives; Platform	Clean Energy
<a href="#">Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy, Agri-Food and Industrial Modernisation (S3P)</a>	Multiple stakeholders	Support mechanisms; Facilitation of financing	Multiple-focused initiatives
<a href="#">European Energy Efficiency Plaform (E3P)</a>	Multiple stakeholders	Platform	Clean Energy
<a href="#">Green cities Europe</a>	Cities	Support mechanisms; Political incentives; Interest representation	Green transition
<a href="#">European Mobility Week Awards</a>	Cities	Political incentives; Support mechanisms	Sustainable Transport
<a href="#">European Capital of Innovation (iCapital)</a>	Cities	Political incentives; Facilitation of financing	Multiple-focused initiatives
<a href="#">EU City Facility (EUCF)</a>	Cities	Facilitation of financing; Support mechanisms	Clean Energy
<a href="#">Coal regions in transition</a>	Regions	Platform; Support mechanisms	Clean Energy
<a href="#">Affordable housing initiative</a>	Multiple stakeholders	Support mechanisms; Facilitation of financing	Multiple-focused initiatives
<a href="#">EU Mission for Adaptation to Climate Change</a>	Cities and Regions	Support mechanisms; Platform; Facilitation of financing; Political incentives	Climate Action
<a href="#">Big buyers for climate and environment</a>	Multiple stakeholders	Support mechanisms; Platform	Multiple-focused initiatives
<a href="#">ManagEnergy</a>	Cities and Regions	Support mechanisms; Platform	Clean Energy