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# EU MISSIONS

**CLIMATE-NEUTRAL & SMART CITIES**

**Concrete solutions for our greatest challenges**



#EUmissions #HorizonEU #MissionCities



## WHY A MISSION ON CLIMATE-NEUTRAL CITIES?

- **75%** of EU citizens live in cities (projected to increase to about 85% in 2050)
- More than **65%** of energy consumption and more than **70%** of CO2 emissions worldwide
- Rooted in **R&I** and delivering concrete results within a limited timeframe
- Co-benefits – lower air/noise pollution, congestion and fewer road deaths. Loveable and **livable cities!**
- The **European Green Deal** is set at EU / national level, but will be implemented at local level – particularly in cities and regions: where policy meets people!
- Cities have the **ambition** to go further – we want to help cities achieve their goal of climate neutrality by 2030



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## OBJECTIVES OF THE MISSION

1

Deliver at least 100 climate-neutral and smart European cities by 2030;

2

Ensure that these cities act as experimentation and innovation hubs to put all European cities in a position to become climate-neutral by 2050.



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## CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

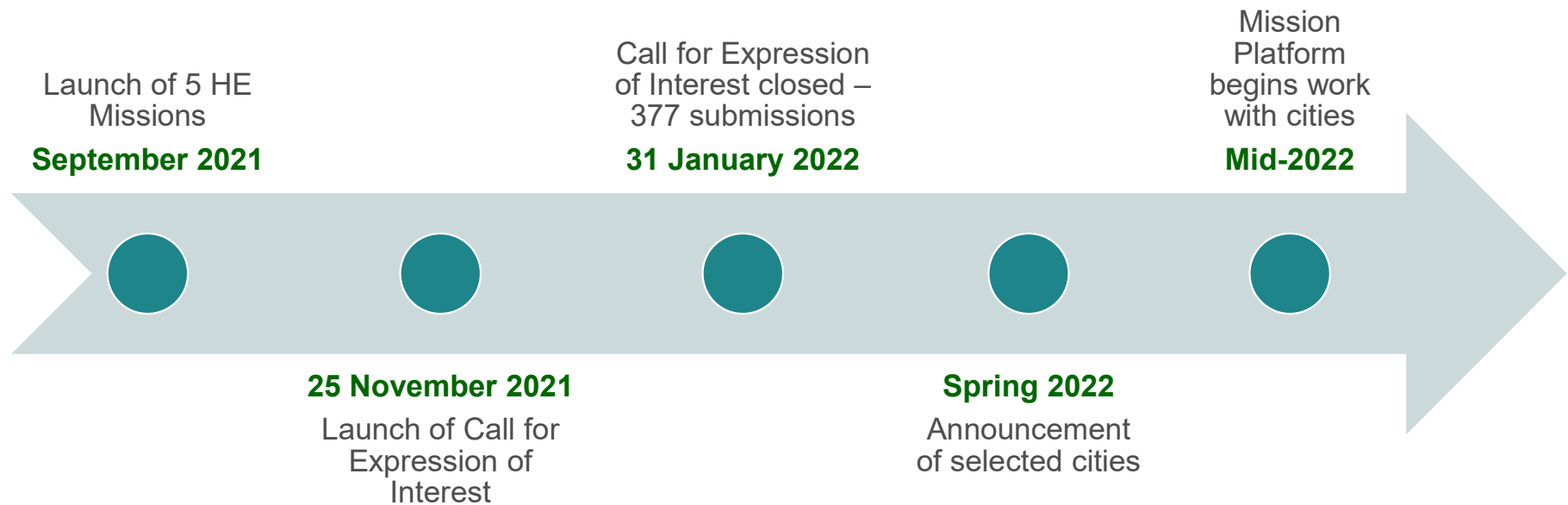
- **377 cities** from **all EU member states** and 9 associated countries submitted expressions of interest
- Evaluation process supported by **independent experts**, determining
  - cities' level of ambition and preparedness
  - cities' commitment to involving citizens and stakeholders
- Based on the assessment, the **Commission will select the participating cities**, representing
  - true geographic diversity and inclusiveness
  - range among cities, regions, urban characteristics and sizes
- Selected cities will be **announced in spring 2022**



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## TIMELINE





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## MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE MISSION





## CLIMATE CITY CONTRACTS

- **Tailor-made plans** on how to reach climate neutrality, adapted to the individual needs of the city, supported by the Mission Platform
- Non legally binding – **Memorandum of Understanding**
- To be **co-created in spirit of multi-level governance**, with the involvement of national authorities, regions and local stakeholders, including citizens and local economic actors
- Focus on innovative (“holistic”) city governance, investment plan, and monitoring and reporting
- Signed by the Mayor (or equivalent), witnessed by the Commission and others
- Unlocks **Mission label**



## FUNDING AND FINANCING

- Individual **city investment plan** to be developed with help of the Mission Platform as part of CCC
- Support expected from different **EU funding programmes**
- Cooperation with the **European Investment Bank Group** and national Promotional Institutions (e.g. financial advisory, possibly Blending Facility)
- **Private investors** (individuals, private companies, commercial banks)
- **EU sustainable finance agenda** offers new opportunities to encourage investors to invest locally





## R&I CONTENT

- **Goals**: develop capacity and showcase possibilities of scale-up and replicability
- Portfolio of R&I activities targeting cities and communities in the **Horizon Europe Work Programme** for Missions
- **Complementarity** and **synergy** with ongoing and upcoming initiatives, e.g. partnerships
- **R&I pilot projects** supported by the Mission Platform through open calls for proposals (to be launched after summer 2022) addressed to cities.



## SYNERGIES WITH OTHER PROGRAMMES FOR CITIES

- The Mission will not replace involvement in other programmes, such as the Covenant of Mayors or Climate Pact, but **build synergies** with them
- The Mission aims to build synergies with existing programmes to **add value on both sides**, without creating unnecessary additional work for cities.
- All **relevant initiatives** in which cities are participating and relevant to the Mission's objective are taken into account as they contribute to achieving its successful implementation (e.g. Circular Cities Declaration)
- A **Mission label** will help create funding opportunities in EU & other programmes
- **National networks** will ensure synergies with national and regional programmes



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## GET IN TOUCH

### **Cities Mission newsletter:**

<https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/rtd/user-subscriptions/2551/create>

### **Email:**

[RTD-HORIZON-EUROPE-MISSION-CITIES@EC.EUROPA.EU](mailto:RTD-HORIZON-EUROPE-MISSION-CITIES@EC.EUROPA.EU)

### **Web page:**

<https://ec.europa.eu/mission-cities>



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# Thank you!

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