

Dear Smart Cities Marketplace Community,

Welcome to the Smart Cities Marketplace newsletter! The Smart Cities Marketplace aims to give many climate-neutral and smart city initiatives a voice and a platform. In that spirit, we have agreed to offer like-minded EC initiatives the opportunity to contribute directly to our newsletter by drafting a guest editorial. This contribution is from NetZeroCities.

The European Commission launched the <u>Mission on Climate-Neutral and Smart</u> <u>Cities</u> (Cities Mission) in September 2021, which aims to accelerate 100 European cities' transition towards climate neutrality by 2030. <u>NetZeroCities</u> manages the Cities Mission Platform and supports the 112 Mission Cities on their decarbonisation journey.

While helping Mission Cities to drastically and systemically reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, NetZeroCities also shares resources with all cities committed to accelerating the transition to climate neutrality and supports the sharing of experiences and learnings deriving from the Mission Cities to all interested cities. The NetZeroCities Portal is the online component of the Cities Mission Platform. It brings all of the latest on urban climate neutrality under one roof. This space enables all cities committed to reaching climate neutrality to connect with each other and to access online solutions as they work to reduce their emissions. Get started setting up your user profile

and start exploring! The Portal is first and foremost a collaboration space where every city, regardless of where it finds itself in its journey to climate neutrality, can share experiences and build relationships with other cities to learn together.

In early March 2023, NetZeroCities also announced the start of its <u>Pilot Cities</u> <u>Programme</u> to support European cities to test and implement innovative approaches to rapid decarbonisation. A first cohort of <u>53 cities</u> are now embarking upon unprecedented climate action. They will implement systemic and locally designed innovative actions that span multiple areas, from buildings to waste, and levers of change, including governance, finance and policy, addressing all urban systems contributing to climate-neutrality. In May, NetZeroCities will be opening a call for Twin Cities to transfer knowledge and build capacities across Pilot and Twin Cities engaged in the programme. Each Pilot City will be paired with two or three Twins that share a similar background and might face similar challenges.

Collaboration with the Smart Cities Marketplace will be essential to helping cities and we encourage you to engage with us. We seek to build cities' capabilities to better shape markets for replication and scaling, and to develop policies and projects for deeper impacts. Success on our part will mean increased activities by cities to engage the marketplace. You can help by joining in our efforts through a <u>community of practice</u> to complement market activity through mutual support and general advocacy from you to help cities take the needed actions and better work with their national governments on key policy and capital needs.

Visit our website, social media, and sign up for our newsletter <u>here</u> to keep in touch!

NetZeroCities

# Smart Cities Marketplace News

## **Explore:** Recording available - Smart Cities Marketplace Call for Applications Info Session



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Matchmaking Info Session 14 March 2023 We are excited to announce that the Smart Cities Marketplace recently held an informative session regarding the call for applications for their matchmaking services.



### Explore: Smart Cities Marketplace, Spring Matchmaking: We are here to help!



The first matchmaking event of the Smart Cities Marketplace took place online on 21 March 2023. With over 60 meetings booked via the online platform during the matchmaking slots, the event was a success for the Marketplace.



# **Explore: Smart Cities Marketplace, Spring Matchmaking: How t o join and cooperate within the Investor Network**



A panel discussion among representatives from Smart Cities Marketplace, Covenant of Mayors, European Cities Facility, EIT Urban Mobility and Suma Capital.



### **Explore: Smart Cities Marketplace, Spring Matchmaking: How t o prepare a bankable project**



Smart Cities Marketplace Experts explained the support available to achieve climate neutrality through matchmaking events, financial masterclasses, and one-to-one consultancy services. They highlighted the importance of involving multiple stakeholders.

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# **Explore: Smart Cities Marketplace, Spring Matchmaking: Accelerating city-business cooperation**



This session focused on the market engagement process in public procurement and described the opportunities for sustainable public procurement in smart city project development.



# **Explore: Smart Cities Marketplace, Spring Matchmaking: Inspiring projects & strategic approaches** to accelerate investment to power cities sustainably



Presentations of a selection of inspiring projects were given followerd by a discussion about strategic approaches to accelerate investment in projects to power cities sustainably network with innovators and prospect project ideas.



# **Explore: Smart Cities Marketplace, Spring Matchmaking:** The future is green



In this session, presentations of successful implementations of mobility solutions that increase air quality, reduce congestion and promote multimodality were given.



**Explore: Smart Cities Marketplace, Spring Matchmaking:** Inspiring traffic & fleet real live implementations for cleaner, better-connected cities



In this session, the participants got to know three EIT Urban Mobilitysupported products that have worked with cities to promote smart EV charging, improve traffic flow, and implement dynamic public transport.



#### **Shape: Join the Smart Cities Marketplace**



The Smart Cities Marketplace helps cities and towns of all sizes to deliver more sustainable urban environments and offers all the information needed to explore, shape and set up successful smart city projects – in one place.



#### **Explore: Cities Forum Torino - a joined success**



The Smart Cities Marketplace had a successful showing at the Cities Forum 2023 in Torino, Italy. The Smart Cities Marketplace partnered up with the Covenant of Mayors Europe and the European Green City Accord for a joint stand at the Cities Forum Torino.



# News from the Community of the Smart Cities Marketplace

# Shape: Getting t o Climat **e Neutrality - 53 Pilot Cities Offer** a Path Toward Transfor mation

Fifty-three cities from across twentyone European Union and Horizon 2020 Associated Countries have been invited to embark upon unprecedented climate action, through the NetZeroCities Pilot Cities Programme, managed by the Mission Platform of the EU Mission on Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities (EU Cities Mission).



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# Explor e: Covenant of May ors P**odcast Episode 3 - How t**o assess the imp act of climat e measures?

In the third episode of the podcast series on adaptation, the Covenant of Mayorsbrought in a technical expert, environmental engineering lon Sola Torralba, to help us tackle the complex question of assessing adaptation.





# Beyond the Smart Cities Marketplace

Explor e: The ME TABUILDING platfor **m - Innov**ating Together for a Sustainable Built Envir onment. Join and regist er now!



The METABUILDING innovation ecosystem brings together stakeholders from construction and 4 emerging industrial sectors; recycling & circularity, additive manufacturing, nature-based solutions and digital industry.

#### **Explore: Applications now open for ICC 2.0!**



The Expression of Interest for the second phase of the Intelligent Cities Challenge is now open! Apply now to accelerate the Twin Transition in your city and join one of the EU's largest city support programmes.

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# Smart City Projects News

#### Shape: Atelier - Energy Austerity Measures in Riga

One of the consequences of Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine taking place on the other side of Latvia's borders has been to precipitate what is shaping to be a real energy crisis, after a dramatic rise in energy prices affecting every single resident of Riga city.



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# Explore: Enable eVeryone's Engagement in the eneRgY transitiON (Every1)

Launched in late 2022, the EUfunded Enable eVeryone's Engagement in the eneRgY transitiON (Every1) project is dedicated to developing training and networks for the digitalisation of the energy transition.





# Events

#### **Explore: Masterclasses on smart city financing**

The Smart Cities Marketplace offers masterclasses aiming to bridge the 'Shape' and 'Deal' phases focusing on the financial aspects, by providing knowledge for improving the maturity of a project idea from the point of view of its value-formoney, affordability, and bankability assessments.

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## **Explore: polisMOBILITY**

polisMOBILITY is the international event that takes a whole-system approach to the future of mobility and urban life. The Smart Cities Marketplace will offer its matchmaking services to participants of the conference. Meet us at the EIT Urban Mobility stand, book a free 1on1 meeting with the matchmaking team via the ticket system of the event and join our financing workshop in the speaker lounge. More info coming soon



### **Explore: European Sustainable Energy Week**

EUSEW returns in a hybrid format, in Brussels and online. It comprises a highlevel Policy Conference, the EUSEW Awards, and the fourth European Youth Energy Day as well as opportunities to forge connections with the EUSEW community at the Energy Fair.



### **Explore: REALCORP 2023**

28th International Conference on Urban Planning and Regional Development in the Information Society.



## **Explore: URBIS SMART CITY FAIR**

URBIS SMART CITY FAIR brings a clever combination of the fair with an exclusive conference program, which will introduce the leaders in the field of Smart city.

