

Towards a Research Agenda for the EU Mission “Climate Neutral and Smart Cities”

Valencia June 25th, 2024

Save the Date!

As researcher, you have been actively working with NZC Pilots or Mission cities, therefore you are cordially invited to join us for a collaborative event geared towards advancing research on the EU Mission “Climate Neutral and Smart Cities” initiative. The event is aimed to develop and foster a robust network of universities and research institutions actively engaged in this endeavour, get to know the project and the cities better and potentially develop shared research outputs.

We are thrilled to provide an opportunity to present your work with cities part of the NetZeroCities project, bringing together universities, thought leaders, and diverse EU networks and associations to explore a variety of perspectives, advanced research, and key case studies in support of accelerating research on the climate transition.

Who should attend:

- Universities and research institutions involved in the NetZeroCities (NZC) Pilots and Mission Cities, with a focus on maximizing their contribution to the Mission “Climate Neutral and Smart Cities”;
- EU associations and networks of universities, with an emphasis on expanding research partnerships to support both Pilot and Mission Cities.

Objectives:

- Encourage deeper involvement of universities and research institutions, encompassing a spectrum of perspectives, in the implementation of NZC Pilots and Mission cities at all levels;
- Coordinate and exploring various approaches, actors and domains, emerging dynamics to drive the implementation of the “Climate Neutral and Smart Cities” mission;
- Analyse key case studies from across Europe showcasing innovative research methods aimed at accelerating the climate transition;
- Organize joint scientific publication opportunities;
- Gain a deeper and shared understanding of the project.

Concept:

This one-day event aims to craft a Research Agenda for the “Climate Neutral and Smart Cities” Mission. The expected outcomes include the initiation of a network of universities and research institutions eager to fuse critical scientific insights with pioneering policy and practice recommendations. Such a Research Agenda will serve as a cornerstone for doctoral students, researchers and scholars seeking to be at the forefront of climate neutral cities and communities.

Presenting participants will be invited to submit their scientific work for an edited book and a special issue on the topic of co-design for climate neutrality of the journal Sustainability.

This event will feature two main sessions:

State of the art: this half-day session will spotlight existing research endeavours within NZC Pilot Cities Programs, highlighting universities' contributions to the advancement and deployment of the Mission. Universities and research institutions will have the opportunity to present their work in relation to NetZeroCities Pilot projects in a fast-paced format.

Co-creation of a Research Agenda for the Mission "Climate Neutral and Smart Cities": through collaborative efforts, participants will work towards drafting a research agenda for the Mission "Climate Neutral and Smart Cities", along with key strategies for disseminating it to policymakers, thereby integrating it into the research and innovation agenda of EU and Member States.

Format:

Morning 9.30 -13.15 | State of the art

- Presentation of the vision for the network
- All participating institutions are invited to present "elevator pitches" (5 minutes each). After the event, a call for papers will be launched for the development of an edited book. Participants will be invited to submit a chapter that will be peer-reviewed.

Networking lunch 13.15-14.30

Afternoon 14.30-17.00

- In the first half of the afternoon, participants will co-create in different tables to provide proposals for a research agenda for the Mission Cities.
- During the second half of the afternoon participants will convene together to draft key steps for proposing a research agenda to policy makers for scaling the research impact of the Mission and provide proposals to integrate it into the Research and Innovation agenda of EU and MS.

The event will take place at the Universitat Politècnica de València (Faculty of Business Administration and Management). Participation is free and not sponsored. More details to follow.

Together, let's shape the future of Mission Cities and pave the way for sustainable and impactful change.

Save the date of June 25th, 2024, to be part of this transformative conversation!

RSVP by April 5th, 2024, by registering at [this link](#)

Organizers/for further information:

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