



## NZC Policy Lab at EU level

### #7 Decarbonizing Industry

Wednesday, 13 November 14:00-16:00 CET (online)

#### Introduction to the NZC Policy Labs at EU level

NZC Policy Labs are designed to empower Mission Cities' representatives to raise their climate-related policy needs to EU decision-makers. The labs focus on both informing participants about the latest developments in EU climate policy that have an impact on our Mission Cities' road towards climate neutrality, and diving into valuable real-case city challenges to extract policy recommendations to advocate for the needs of our cities at the EU level.

Through these sessions, NZC supports Mission Cities in the identification of gaps that must be addressed at the EU level and promotes a space (online or in-person) for knowledge exchange with peer cities. Policy labs allow cities to learn from one another on similar policy challenges, formulate policy recommendations, and ensure that the needs of cities are effectively communicated to EU representatives via the dissemination and sharing of final output after each lab: Policy Brief.

#### Previous Policy Labs at EU level

After having successfully organised six Policy Labs since December 2023 on topics ranging from Circular Economy to Nature Based Solutions and Built Environment (see Figure 1), our next policy lab will tackle the decarbonisation of industry in Mission Cities.

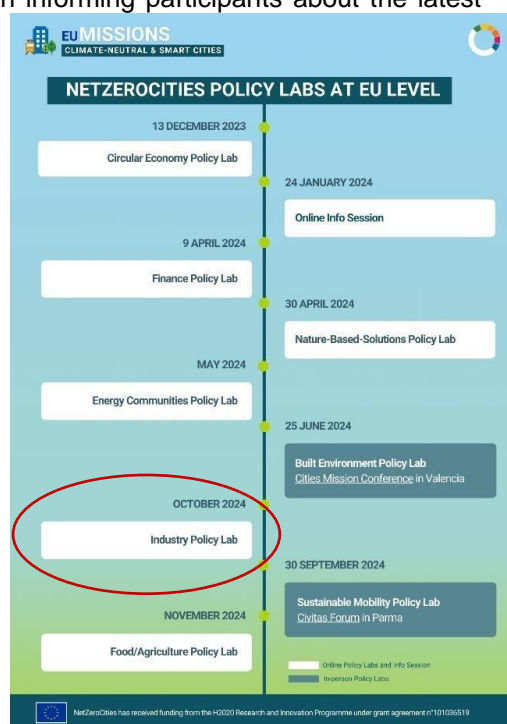


Figure 1: Series of NZC Policy Labs at EU level

#### Background: EU Industry Decarbonisation Strategy

The new term of the European Commission has just started. Ursula Von Der Leyen was reelected as President of the Executive body of the European Union, and with this reelection new goals were set, and old goals will be reinforced.

One of the key political guidelines of the new Commission is the promotion of Prosperity and Competitiveness for the EU. However, this goal does not come free of climate and environmental obligations, as the new Commission has highlighted the target to lower 90% of EU emissions by 2040. With the aim to support the achievement of such a milestone, President Von der Leyen has put forward the need to build a **Clean Industrial Deal** to ensure the investment in **sustainable competitiveness**. This Clean Industrial Deal will be enhanced through the upcoming publication of the following files:

- **The New Clean Industrial Deal**
- **The Industrial Decarbonisation Accelerator Act**
- **The Circular Economy Act**

This was also evidenced with the [9 Clean Transition Dialogues](#) (2023) on hydrogen, energy-intensives industries, clean tech, energy infrastructure, critical raw materials, forest-based bioeconomy, cities,

clean mobility, and steel with the aim to transform Europe into a clean, resource-efficient, fair and competitive economy.

Therefore, the current context represents a great opportunity for European cities, in particular for the 112 Climate Neutral and Smart Cities, to **push forward a set of messages** with their challenges, needs and strengths to **condition the texts that will be developed**. It is a crucial moment to stand together and bring forward the urban perspective to help European cities adapt to the new political landscape and contribute to the overall achievement of climate neutrality in the EU and the implementation of EU Climate Policy.

### Mission Cities “Challenge Owner” and focus on decarbonizing industry

The following policy lab aims at bringing real-case policy challenges in Mission Cities , with practical examples of local efforts in decarbonizing the industrial sector, to steer the follow-up discussion and formulation of policy recommendations, in three dedicated break-out rooms with peer cities, led by each “challenge owner” Mission City.

Mission City (challenge owner)	Topic (decarbonizing industry)
Differdange	Lack of national support to decarbonize steel industry
Dunkirk	Stakeholder Engagement in Decarbonizing the Automotive Manufacturing Industry
Kosice	International Market Competition in the Decarbonisation of the Steel Industry (non-EU)

### Agenda (draft)

#### Agenda: #7 Policy Lab at EU level, decarbonising industry in Mission Cities [online]

14:00 -14:10	Introduction & NZC Policy Lab objectives – Moderator, <b>NZC Partner</b>
14:10 -14:25	Setting the scene for EU Policy Landscape – European Commission (speaker tbc)
14.25 – 14.35	Institute for Climate Economics - <a href="#">I4CE</a> Dorthe Nielsen, Director of Strategic Engagement (tbc)
14:35 - 14:50	Presentation from Mission Cities – <i>challenge owners</i> (5 mins each) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Differdange:</b> Lack of National Support to Decarbonize the Steel Industry</li> <li>2. <b>Dunkirk:</b> Stakeholder Engagement in Decarbonizing the Automotive Manufacturing Industry</li> <li>3. <b>Kosice:</b> International Market Competition in the Decarbonisation of the Steel Industry</li> </ol>
14:50 - 14:55	Short Q&A
15:00 -15:30	Co-creative discussion and formulation of EU Policy Recommendations in 3 breakout rooms on each challenge – <b>all cities, moderators and notetakers</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Generating strategies and solutions to address the policy challenges</li> <li>2. Defining the policy asks to EU decision-makers, to provide input for the policy brief</li> </ol>
15:30 – 15:45	Pitching the formulated EU policy needs/requests from the breakout rooms – <b>by each challenge owner city</b>
15:50 – 16:00	Wrap up and next steps – <b>Moderator, NZC Partner</b>

