

Online Discussion Groups

NetZeroCities is extending online and peer-learning opportunities to all cities that are interested in accelerating their climate action. For that purpose, **Online Discussion Groups** provide an online space where all cities can learn from Mission Cities' practical experience and receive technical support from experts across sectors. The programme is structured around key thematic areas essential for decarbonisation and offer cities the opportunity to explore innovative climate-neutral solutions.

Curious to learn more about the Online Discussion Groups? Find out more about the previous edition, which brought together 180 participants.

Valongo, Portugal

The projects of Leuven have huge relevance in terms of learning for Valongo Municipality, especially in the following aspects:
Sharing strategies for involving citizens in decision-making processes (presentation of different solutions for streets);
Technical solutions for experimenting temporary changes in urban context.
These will help in implementing Valongo's Climate Action Plan.



WHAT IS IN IT FOR YOUR CITY?

- Gain first-hand experience from leading Mission Cities, climate actions, and projects and acquire practical insights from real-world examples.
- Access the NetZeroCities Portal and its resources on reaching climate neutrality.
- Join tailored technical support sessions on your specific themes of concern.
- Join study visits hosted by Mission Cities which have received the EU Mission Label.

ONLINE DISCUSSION GROUPS PHASES & TIMELINE

ONBOARDING SEPTEMBER 2025

Recurring Orientation Sessions will be organised to help new cities joining the Thematic Groups familiarise with the EU Cities Mission. These sessions will introduce the support and learning opportunities available through the Mission Platform and will consist of two online meetings.

PHASE 1 LEARN FROM ACTIONABLE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS FROM MISSION CITIES NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2025

Four peer-learning groups will be established to strengthen cities' capacities on innovative climate action, showcasing case studies from Mission Cities in thematic webinars open to all cities:

- Innovative financing - Florence and Malmö,
- Decarbonising the energy sector and district heating - Pécs, Lund, and Espoo.
- Built environment (including circular construction and building renovation) - Helsinki and Oslo.
- Citizen engagement and behavioural change - Helsingborg and Grenoble-Métropole.

ONLINE KICK-OFF

14 OCTOBER 2025 – 11:00-12:00 CEST

Introduction of participants, presentation of the programme and showcase of the cities' climate action.

PHASE 2 PROBLEM SOLVING TECHNICAL SESSIONS JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2026

A series of problem-solving workshops will guide the cities in an interactive format, to reflect on new local interventions by tackling technical barriers. Each workshop will be tailored to the specific needs expressed by participating cities.

Take the next step on your learning journey and apply to join a Group Study Visit in Mission Cities!

Cities that have been actively involved in the Online Discussion Groups, will have the opportunity to apply to the different group study visits in Mission Cities, to go in-depth on the knowledge exchange upon completion of phase 2. The travel costs will be covered by the NetZeroCities budget and the exchanges will be supported by facilitators.

Are you interested in joining NetZeroCities' Online Discussion Groups?

9 Mission-minded cities have been selected in the first cohort of Group Study Visits to join the visits in Mannheim, Guimarães and Bucharest, after having actively engaged previously in the Online Discussion Groups.

Please contact our Helpdesk: infocities@netzerocities.eu

