

Group Study Visits - Cohort 2

Built as a next step to the Online Discussion Groups, Group Study Visits offer a chance to deepen the peer-learning between Mission Cities and Mission-minded cities (sharing the EU Cities mission mindset), through real-life exposure to climate action. These visits connect cities actively engaged in the programme with hands-on examples, sparking practical exchange and collaboration beyond the Mission network.

OBJECTIVES

Bridge the gap between online and first-hand exchanges

During the site visits to Mission Cities, participants will learn about concrete actions and understand contextual nuances that might not be evident in online format exchanges.

Enable systemic transformation

Mission Cities will organise a dedicated workshop on-site to reflect on the local context, barriers and enabling factors.

Enhance two-way learning

Mission-minded cities will work on specific climate challenge(s) identified in their application and reinforce their capacity to tackle them. Mission Cities also get to enhance and scale their climate action by learning from their peers.

VISIT FORMAT

9 MISSION CITIES WILL WELCOME EACH 3 MISSION-MINDED CITIES

Mission Cities: Espoo/Helsinki, Glasgow, Krakow, Oslo, Pecs, Podgorica, Prato, Sarajevo, Zagreb

EACH VISIT SPANS 3 DAYS, FEATURING:

- Site visits to discover innovative actions on the ground
- Presentation on systemic transformation and Mission Cities' key climate actions
- Action planning sessions facilitated by NetZeroCities for cities to work on scaling and replicating the key learnings



CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Mission-minded cities must submit an application to participate in the Group Study Visits. Please note that cities that have completed Phase 2 of the Online Discussion Groups will receive priority in the selection process.

The visit can accommodate a maximum of 3 representatives for each Mission-minded city.

The applicant must be a city located in an EU Member State or Horizon Europe associated country. The 112 cities already involved in the EU Cities Mission are not eligible.

The applicant city must share the Mission's mindset and have made an official commitment to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 at the latest. Formal evidence of this commitment will be required to complete the application.

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THEMATIC FOCUS

When applying to Group Study Visits, Mission-minded cities are asked to reflect on their priority areas, systemic barriers, challenges and opportunities to achieve climate neutrality in their local context.

Example of themes covered by the Group Study Visits:

- **Main emission sectors:** mobility, built environment, energy, circular economy, decarbonising industry, nature-based solutions.
- **Strategic enablers:** internal governance and regulatory framework (national, regional, and local level), stakeholder and citizen engagement, knowledge/capacities, innovative finance and procurement practices, data and digitalisation, technology and infrastructure.

TIMELINE

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - MISSION CITIES DECEMBER 25 - JANUARY 26

Applications open for Mission Cities to host a Group Study Visit; an info-session was held in January. Nine cities were selected.

SELECTION AND MATCHING OF CITIES APRIL 26

Mission-minded cities will be matched to Mission Cities based on their learning interests and common climate good practices.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - MISSION-MINDED CITIES FEBRUARY - MARCH 26

Applications open for Mission-minded cities to join a Group Study Visit; an info-session will be held in March. 27 cities will be selected.

KICK-OFF MAY 26

GROUP STUDY VISITS SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 26

Group Study Visits take place

PARTICIPANTS FROM COHORT 1

Discover Cohort 1 visits: [Guimarães](#) and [Mannheim](#)

MAP LEGEND:

- Valongo (Portugal)
- Prague (Czechia)
- Marmaris (Turkiye)
- Coimbra (Portugal)
- Lviv (Ukraine)
- Torres Vedras (Portugal)
- Debrecen (Hungary)
- Ústí nad Labem (Czechia)
- L'Aquila (Italy)

Topic:
Green Transition
through nature-based
solutions and
zero-carbon district C

GUIMARAES, PORTUGAL

Topic:
Energy transition and
urban greenery

MANNHEIM, GERMANY

BUCHAREST DISTRICT2, ROMANIA

Topic:
Rethinking Mobility,
Energy, and Buildings
for a Sustainable City

Are you interested in joining NetZeroCities' Online Discussion Groups?

Please contact our Helpdesk: infocities@netzerocities.eu