



## Agenda

Timing	Session and content
13.30 – 13.40	<b>Introduction and policy context</b>
13.40 – 14.00	<b>Update on ICC activities + Q&amp;A</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State of play and progress</li> <li>• Local Green Deal Blueprint and Mayors Summit</li> <li>• Cities Guide on Reskilling of the local workforce</li> <li>• Tech4Good initiative</li> </ul>
14.00 – 14.55	<b>Discussion on digital and decarbonisation transition, implementation and funding</b>
14.55 – 15.00	<b>Next steps and time plan</b>

## Participation

Organisation	Participants
Advisory Board Members or replacements	<p><b>Alice Charles</b>, World Economic Forum</p> <p><b>Bob Bennett</b>, Cities Today Institute</p> <p><b>Carlo Ratti</b>, MIT SENSEable City Lab (including Emma Greer)</p> <p><b>Christophe Rouillon</b>, European Committee of the Regions, Rapporteur for Recovery and Resilience Facility, Coulaines, Mayor of Coulaines (including Matthieu Hornung, Audrey Parizel and Lucia Alfano, European Committee of the Regions)</p> <p><b>Daniel Gonzalez-Bootello</b>, Smart City Cluster</p> <p><b>Federica Bordelot</b>, Policy Advisory, Knowledge Society, Eurocities</p> <p><b>Jean-Baptiste Buffet</b>, United Cities and Local Government</p> <p><b>Frank Lee</b>, European Investment Bank – excused</p> <p><b>Jorn Verbeeck</b>, Head of Research &amp; Innovation, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy</p> <p><b>Hugh Lim</b>, Executive Director, Centre for Liveable Cities, Singapore (including Lisa Teo-van Kuijk, Nicole Lum and Yi Xuan Tan, Centre for Liveable Cities, Singapore)</p> <p><b>Leonie van den Beuken</b>, Amsterdam Economic Board</p> <p><b>Margit Tünnemann</b>, German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community (including Gudrun Schwarz, German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community)</p> <p><b>Mark Hidson</b>, Deputy Regional Director, Global Director Sustainable Procurement, ICLEI</p> <p><b>Martina Otto</b>, United Nations Environment Programme - excused</p> <p><b>Soo-Jin Kim</b>, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities</p>
European Commission	<p><b>DG GROW</b>: Dana Eleftheriadou, Natalia Gkiaouri, Ilona Lelonek Husting, Alessia Di Gregorio</p> <p><b>EISMEA</b>: Lucia Masarova</p> <p><b>DG CNECT</b>: Eddy Hartog</p>
Contractor	<p><b>Technopolis Group</b>: Nikos Maroulis, Morten Rasmussen, Paresa Markianidou, Owen McColgan</p> <p><b>Capgemini</b>: Niels van der Linden</p> <p><b>John Higgins</b>: advisor to the consortium</p>

## Key takeaways and highlights from the advisory meeting

---

### Local Green Deals

There was a consensus among the advisory board members on the importance of providing the right support to help cities with the Local Green Deals. Mark Hidson, ICLEI, introduced the blueprint for Local Green Deals which aims to give cities a step-by-step approach for building and implementing Local Green Deals at city-level. Christophe Rouillon, European Committee of the Regions, highlighted the Local Green Deals as key to achieve climate goals, and that it will require engagement from all stakeholders and reskilling of the local workforce to facilitate it. Several advisory board members, including Daniel Gonzalez-Bootello, Smart City Cluster, Alice Charles, World Economic Forum, and Jorn Verbeck, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, all called for good governance at local city levels so that the 2030 and 2050 climate goals for cities can be reached. Leonie van den Beuken, Amsterdam Economic Board, further called for a fund, similar as they have done in the region, set in place so that cities, especially smaller cities, can achieve the climate targets. Further to this, Hugh Lim, Centre for Liveable Cities, Singapore, described how they worked with power companies to collect over 20 years' worth of data just to have enough to be able to complete the green buildings initiative in Singapore. He used this as an example for other ICC cities to highlight the vital importance of data and depth of which that will be needed to complete environmental projects effectively.

### Reskilling and Upskilling

Niels van der Linden, Capgemini, introduced the ICC's pragmatic guide to support cities' reskilling initiatives, which describes a phased approach to developing and implementing a reskilling strategy of the local workforce. Several members underlined the importance of upskilling and reskilling for the future. Among others, Christophe Rouillon, European Committee of the Regions, issued the point that green change is going to happen and that all industries need to help in the reskilling and upskilling of local workforces so that cities can keep up with these demands. Margit Tünnemann, German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community, stressed the point that while the pandemic has reduced finance and people resources, digital and technology skills need to be developed and promoted.

### Tech4Good Marketplace

Dana Eleftheriadou, DG GROW, introduced the Tech4Good marketplace which provides technology powered solutions and business models designed to advance economic, social and environmental causes. Many advisory board members welcomed the initiative.

It was recommended by several advisory board members, including Bob Bennett, Cities Today Institute, Leonie van den Beuken, Amsterdam Economic Board, and Margit Tünnemann, German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community, that the Tech4Good marketplace should also put emphasis on enabling cities to join forces and it should facilitate joint development and public procurement by cities of digital/technology solutions.

## High-level overview of feedback and suggestions by advisory board members

Speakers	Suggestions and recommended initiatives
<p><b>Dana Eleftheriadou</b>, DG GROW</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided a brief introduction of the ICC and overall policy context focussing on the EU Green Deal, Digital transitions and Recovery and Resilience Facility.</li> <li>• She presented the <a href="#">14 Industrial Ecosystems</a>, which includes the Proximity, social economy, and civil society among others.</li> <li>• She discussed how the <a href="#">Recovery Plan for Europe</a> and the scope of <a href="#">Recovery and Resilience Facility</a> is aimed at supporting economic recovery, creating jobs and laying the foundation for a stronger, more resilient Europe. Dana added that each recovery resilience plan will have to include minimum spend requirements for the twin transitions of green and digital initiatives.</li> <li>• Dana provided a city mapping of ongoing EU supported activities and policy initiatives targeting cities.</li> <li>• Lastly, Dana outlined the <a href="#">Tech4Good Marketplace</a>, serving as a marketplace of technology-powered solutions and business models designed to advance economic, social and environmental causes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Morten Rasmussen</b>, Technopolis Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morten gave an update of the state of play and progress of the ICC. The ICC core cities have finalised the preparation and assessment phase (Phase I), concentrating on assessing local needs and mobilising local ecosystem players. Currently ICC core cities are at the final stages with the Ambition and roadmap phase (Phase II), where cities are defining a detailed roadmap, setting KPIs and beginning collaborations with peer cities.</li> <li>• Based on a preliminary typology, an overview of the ICC phase I solutions was provided, for which a substantial part relates to citizen participation, digitisation of public administration, green economy and local green deals. However, also a good share of solutions linked to reskilling, tourism and logistics were identified among others.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mark Hidson</b>, ICLEI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mark presented the <a href="#">ICC's Local Green Deal Blueprint</a>. It was outlined as building on 4 founding principles, covering governance, integrated goals, partnerships, and action. The need for better integrated governance and delivery mechanisms to accelerate and scale-up implementation was highlighted.</li> <li>• The ICC Blueprint on Local Green Deals comprise a 7-step approach to help cities get started with a LGD, including more than 8 best practice examples from cities pioneering LGD mechanisms to deliver on their sustainability goals.</li> <li>• Mark discussed up-coming events and invited the advisory board members to take part in the <a href="#">Mayors event on Local Green Deals</a>, that took place on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Niels van der Linden</b>, Capgemini</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Niels presented on the main objectives of the <a href="#">re-skilling</a> in ICC and how they went about completing these objectives. The focus is on preparing cities for transformation, supporting implementation, mobilising the community, and fostering cross-city collaboration to support cities' journey to successful skilling strategies.</li> <li>• He further presented the pragmatic guide to support cities' skilling initiatives, which is currently being finalised. It serves as a guide to launch a local or regional skilling initiative, and thereby it supports cities and regions with a phases approach to developing and implementing a skilling strategy. The guide covers good practices, lessons learned and tools and instruments among others.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Daniel Gonzalez-Bootello</b>, Smart City Cluster</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stressed that good governance leadership is needed if the 2030 and 2050 climate goals for cities are to be reached.</li> <li>• Daniels also stated that with complexity comes impracticality, emphasising the need to keep simplicity at the heart of all policies and decisions. Thus, design and user interaction need to be at the core.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Alice Charles</b>, World Economic Forum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Underlined the need for local capabilities and the role of cities as regulators and as a convener of stakeholder mobilisation. It was stated that big areas for climate action are linked to buildings, mobility, and energy at city-level.</li> <li>• Commented that cities are usually broken up into districts of more local governance rather than one large body and emphasised that all districts need to come together so that the climate goals can be achieved. Three main tools were especially important: welfare, planning and finance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Jorn Verbeck</b>, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jorn built on Alice Charles’s points and stressed how cities need support in getting an overview of what is happening as sometimes the big picture is missed. This factors in the large number of initiatives that are ongoing, providing challenges for cities about where to put the focus.</li> <li>• The need to support scale up activities and also to concentrate on backcasting, with a view to understand what is needed for the future, were also highlighted. This included the need for a legislative and budgetary blueprint/roadmap by local authorities, local businesses, and citizens, to help anticipate future needs and attract investments. Jorn also stated that tools such as data, finance and governance are being worked on to scale up for the 2030 and 2050 climate goals.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Margit Tünnemann</b>, German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Margit underlined some main challenges that cities will face to achieve the climate targets – this included in particular reduced human and financial resources also due to the pandemic. The need for technology skills was underlined, including the need for a strategic and integrated approach as well as long-term view.</li> <li>• It was also emphasised how important good data governance is for a successful integration and the need for smart city dialogue with respect to the use of data. She stated that there is a need for national guidelines and recommendations for urban development for the greater good and translate it to local level.</li> <li>• Margit further referred to respectively the <a href="#">German smart city dialogue platform</a>, which provide cities with recommendations and best practices, and a new national networking project seeking to connect German cities and to empower them to better participate in EU smart city initiatives.</li> <li>• In the context of the <a href="#">Tech4Good marketplace</a> it was recommended to also facilitate joint development by cities of digital/technology solutions, and to allow citizens to join forces.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Leonie van den Beuken</b>, Amsterdam Economic Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leonie discussed the ecosystem that they have in <a href="#">Amsterdam</a> between corporate, society and government. It was stressed that an ecosystem don’t emerge on its own – targeted efforts are needed. There is further a need for funding to achieve the sustainability goals, especially for small cities with limited budgetary means, and cities need to align interests with public and private stakeholders alike for climate goals.</li> <li>• She also discussed how they are trying to link the <a href="#">Tech4good marketplace</a> up with their own platform. Picking up on the point by Margit Tünnemann, it was agreed that supporting cities in joining forces should also be in focus for the Tech4Good marketplace.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leone also invited all the advisory board members to take part in the <a href="#">200 intelligent climate neutral cities jam</a> – an workshop initiative by Amsterdam Smart City - on Monday 21st.</li> </ul>
<b>Federica Bordelot</b> , Eurocities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frederica explained that she had two main points to add to the session, the first being that there is a need to work specially on enabling good governance for citizens and for public administration to evolve. This also serves to overcome solo thinking, by moving towards a more integrated and holistic cross-city based approach. In this context, there is also a need to promote experimentation and to support project management and technical capabilities.</li> <li>Her second point was linked to recognising and empowering city governance as enablers, connectors and intermediaries between the various stakeholders and players. Cities should for instance be empowered to serve as data intermediaries in the data ecosystem and be supported to set up data transfers and help them scale up from local level to EU level. This is also about fostering the free flow of data at city-level.</li> </ul>
<b>Hugh Lim</b> , Centre for Liveable Cities, Singapore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hugh shared his experience in Singapore with respect to green buildings. He gave insights and advice on how their projects were successful and emphasised the need to phase and segment and build it up slowly. He also stated the importance of data to help push forward green projects.</li> <li>The need to support scale up activities was emphasised. He discussed how they paired financial institutions with small businesses by the government guaranteeing the loans. This help them upgrade their buildings to make them more environmentally friendly which would have been difficult otherwise.</li> </ul>
<b>Christophe Rouillon</b> , European, Committee of the Regions, Recovery and Resilience Facility, Coulines, Association of French Mayors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christophe highlighted the importance of the Local Green Deals and stressed the need for engagement from all stakeholders and reskilling of the local workforce as well as awareness of funding opportunities to facilitate it. He also stated that there is a risk there could be a divide between cities performances and that we all need to work together to ensure this does not happen.</li> <li>The Local Green Deals also serve as a growth strategy, concentrating on a more sustainable way of operation. Among the success factors mentioned were: stakeholder support and participatory governance, smart specialisation, integrated policy approach and use of a structure to monitor transformation. Initiatives such as <a href="#">Joint Boost Sustain</a> and ESPON’s indicator framework at local-level were also highlighted.</li> <li>Christophe highlighted the <a href="#">Mayors event on the Local Green Deals</a> – organised jointly by ICC and the European Committee of the Regions.</li> </ul>
<b>Bob Bennett</b> , Cities Today Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bob stressed the relevance of Local Green Deals and reskilling for government and cities. A similar initiative was referred to with Phoenix in the US. Focus should be on implementation and funding for these initiatives.</li> <li>It was emphasised how each city start from a unique place and the importance of facilitating cities to interact with other cities. In this context, the Tech4Good marketplace also serves as an enabler.</li> </ul>

## Next advisory board meetings

---

It was informed that the next two advisory board meetings will take place on November 17th, 2021, and June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, both being scheduled for 1.30-3pm CET (Brussels time).