

# CAPACITIES

Advancing national support  
for climate neutral cities

# CapaCITIES

## POLAND

Since 28 April 2022, five Polish cities (Łódź, Warszawa, Wrocław, Kraków, Rzeszów) participate in the EU Mission for climate-neutral and smart cities.

Polish Cities Mission are underway with their Climate City Contracts, an innovative governance tool to accelerate transformative change in cities towards climate neutrality by 2023.

CapaCITIES Poland aims to support national and regional authorities to advance their governance structures and strengthen dedicated support for cities to achieve the climate-neutral cities mission. The project is funded under the mission program of Horizon Europe.

- 1. Multi-level and cross-sectoral governance**
- 2. Knowledge exchange between cities and between ministries and supervised units on activities related to climate neutrality**
- 3. Creation of a national platform and working groups**

# Local government in Poland

## commune

provision of basic public services – „first contact government”

2 478 gminas (66 of them cities with poviat rights)

## county

providing public services, the scale of which exceeds the capacity of the community, eg.: health, secondary schools, public safety

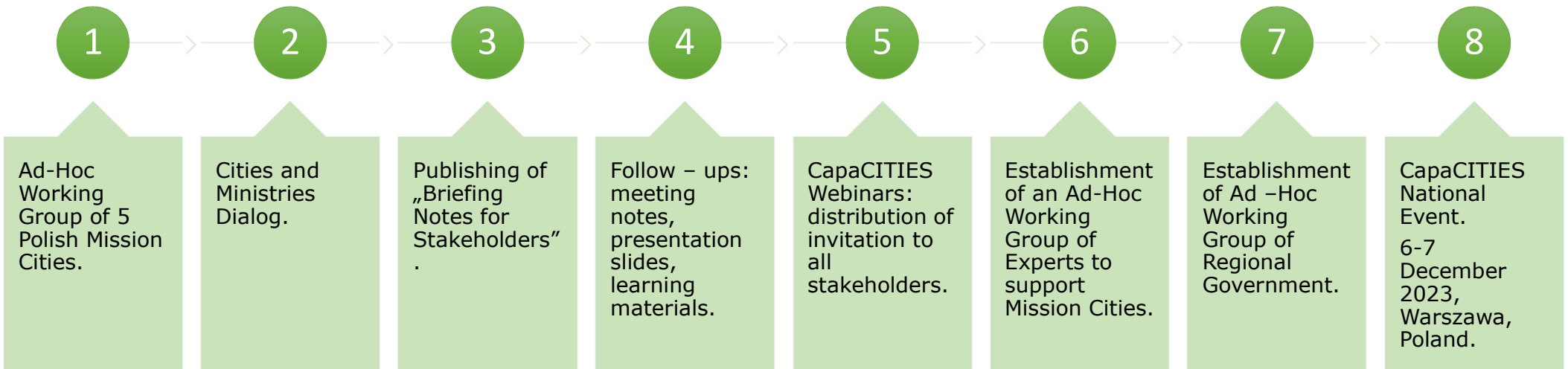
314 poviats

## region

planning and supporting long-term development, among others, through the use of european funds

16 voivodeship local governments

# Poland: Enhancing multi-level and cross-sectoral governance



## Ad Hoc Working Group of Polish Mission Cities

The Ad Hoc Working Group of Polish Mission Cities was established in February 2023 to prepare for the implementation of climate neutrality and for the convening of the first CapaCITIES National Event in December 2023.

5 Polish Mission Cities nominated their focal points to participate in CapaCITIES Group discussions and workshops. It is a small group of city representatives allowing an effective environment for discussions.

- Focal Points are given certain tasks and requested to discuss with their Teams and report back to the Group.
- The Group meets regularly. There is also an option for consultation with Polish CapaCITIES Team.

**NEXT STEPS** Cities will start working on their Climate City Contracts



Including climate action plan and investment strategy



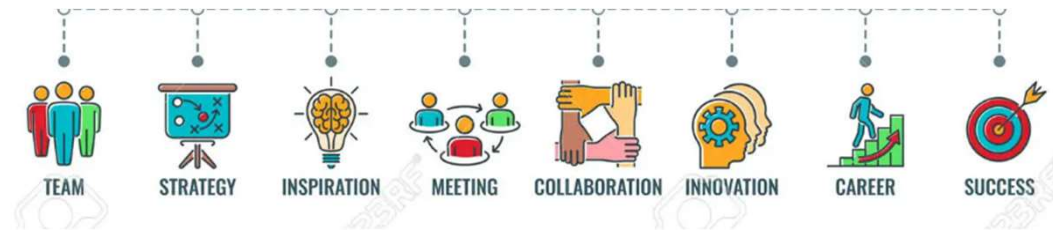
Innovative city governance and citizen engagement



Involvement of EU, national and regional level

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Climate City Contracts are drawn up by cities, involving citizens and partners, and set out their plans to achieve climate neutrality by 2030. The contracts are a clear and highly visible political commitment, but not legally binding.



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## Topics covered by Cities Ad-Hoc Working Group

- Taking stock of progress made by the cities in their work on the climate city contract.
- Workshops on stakeholders mapping.
- Workshop on the role of ambassadors as communication support.
- Workshop on topics that require the involvement of experts – challenges with implementation of Climate City Contracts.

### Examples of specific tasks:

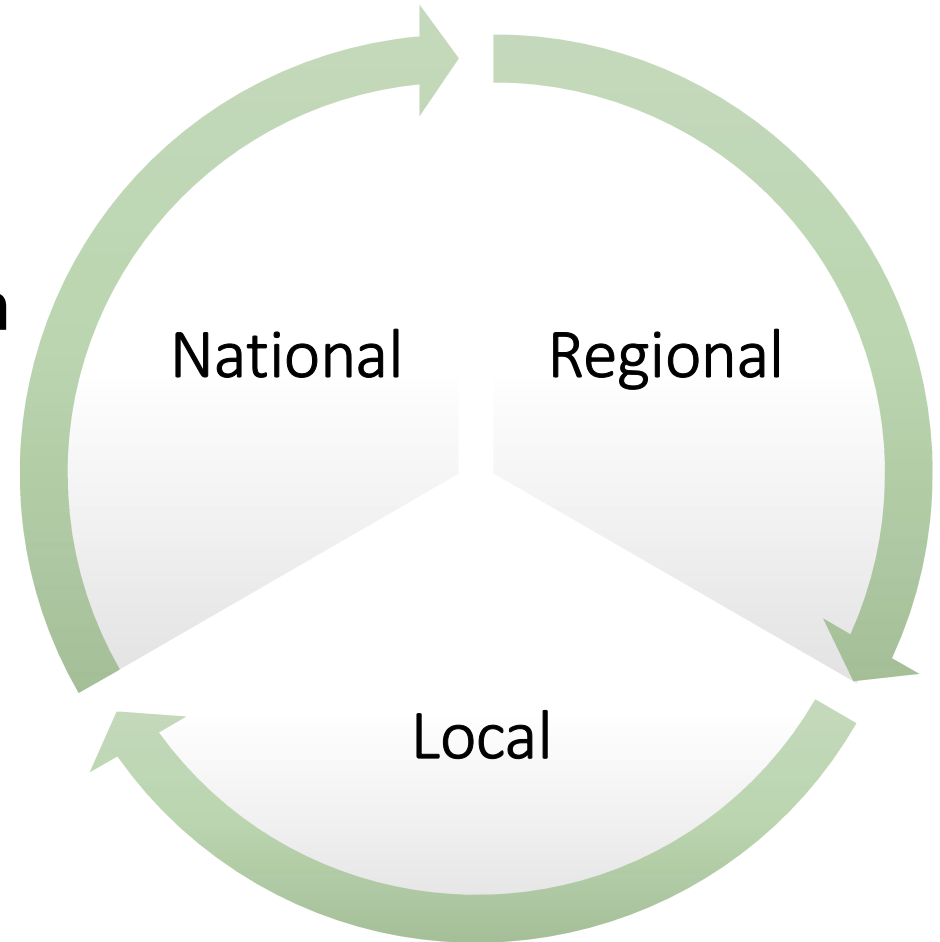
To write a job description for a city official responsible for the implementation and coordination of climate neutrality processes.

Local ambassadors' nomination and the plan of their cadencies.

Survey to outline specific expertise that cities require.



**Knowledge exchange between cities and between ministries and supervised units on activities related to climate neutrality**



# Creation of a national platform and working groups





## Ad-hoc working groups to properly involve the right stakeholders

- Multi-level governance allows for the application of **many different methods of stakeholder engagement**. Some entities may participate in the process of co-creation in a more intensive way, however, other selected stakeholders can be asked to contribute to specific parts.
- For policy consultation you can in particular, invite targeted groups of participants, while wide opening channels to the public and comments can bring even a broader collection of opinions.
- Beneficial effects of multi-level governance governments can be multiplied even more when **participants several opportunities will be created to get involved**. Several rounds providing feedback to stakeholders can provide more freedom in the context of time (because they will have many possibilities to make a contribution if other commitments make their time limited) and will allow multiple exchanges of opinions.

# Strategic choice: CapaCITIES National Event

- CapaCITIES National Event, Poland, Warszawa is planned for **6-7 December together with an annual conference called: *National Urban Forum*** – to enable a broad debate between representatives of government, regions and cities, as well as experts and researchers dealing with the development of urban centers.
- Polish Mission Cities consider reporting on progress, challenges, and good practices in the transition towards climate neutrality.
- The ceremony of the appointment of city ambassadors and country ambassador. Press release and media invited.
- Panel discussion on Green Regions. Call for speakers.
- Climate Neutral Cities. Call for speakers from cities that are granted the EU label.
- COP 28, UN Climate Change negotiations will take place 30 -12 December 2023
- October: Parliamentary elections will be held in Poland in October 2023 to elect members of the Sejm and Senate.



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Thank you!

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