



Co-designed capacity mapping template

Deliverable 4.1

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Funded by
the European Union

This project has received funding from the European Union's
Horizon Europe Programme under grant agreement no 101056927

Document Information

Grant Agreement Number	101056927
Project Title	Building Capacities for the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission
Project Acronym	CapaCITIES
Project Start Date	01 October 2022
Related Work Package	WP4 - Multi-Level Capacity and Climate Action
Related Task(s)	Task 4.1
Lead Organisation	ICLEI Europe
Submission Date	31 December 2022
Dissemination Level	Public

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CapaCITIES self-assessment template

The CapaCITIES project would like to better understand and identify ways to support the core country partners in creating their national platforms for climate neutral cities. The template aims to support the national partners in the self-assessment of the current national framework for climate neutral cities in their countries as well as in mapping key barriers and opportunities for supporting cities. The self-assessment results will inform our upcoming activities within the CapaCITIES, including capacity-building training for the core countries, Transition Labs, learning materials as well as opportunities linked to other EU projects and initiatives.

We encourage you to work on the self-assessment templates together in your country teams and use it as an opportunity to learn more about the current national frameworks for climate neutral cities in your countries. We hope that this exercise will also help you reflect on the next steps and prioritise your action points.

Your privacy will be taken seriously, and the information will only be used to support the work of the CapaCITIES. We might contact you to follow-up on the information you have provided in this template. The information collected will be available to the European Commission who oversees the CapaCITIES and the consortium of partners coordinating the CapaCITIES project. If you have any questions, please contact olga.krajewska@iclei.org.

About your country team

1. What are your names?
2. What country do you represent?
3. What organisations / institutions do you represent?
4. What are your functions / positions?
5. What are your email addresses?

Part A: National platforms for climate neutral cities

In this part of the self-assessment template, we would like to better understand the current state of play regarding the national platforms for climate neutral cities in your country. By a **national platform** we mean support structures provided by the national and regional governments to cities in order to help them reach their 2030 climate neutrality goal. While such support structures may take different forms, like concrete commitments, vertical and / or horizontal collaboration, partnerships between different stakeholders and many more, all of them will have a certain degree of formalisation. National platforms have a clear objective - climate neutral cities by 2030, and coordinate different actions to help local governments achieve this goal, such as conferences and meeting opportunities, services,



(financial) support and others.

A.1 Is there a national platform for climate neutral cities established in your country?

- Yes
- It is being currently established
- No
- Not sure

A.2 What does the national platform for climate neutral cities currently look like in your country? Please elaborate briefly on the following criteria in your answer: *support structures / target / degree of formalisation / form of the support / types of stakeholders / vertical & horizontal collaboration.*

A.3 What stakeholders are part of the national platform for climate neutral cities in your country? Please use the [sense making map](#) developed by Viable Cities to indicate key stakeholders.

A.4 What roles do different stakeholders play in the national platform for climate neutral cities in your country? Please use the [stakeholder mapping table](#) to provide us with more detailed information about indicated stakeholders (Table 1) and reflect on the stakeholders relevant for the development of the national platform who are not yet included in it (Table 2).

A.5 What did the process leading up to the creation of the national platform look like? Please describe it briefly.

A.6 What are the key activities / achievements of the national platform in your country so far? It can be a conference bringing together diverse stakeholders, a strategy or plan, concrete commitments from the national government and many more.

A.7 How does the national platform in your country strive to bring together different forms of support for climate neutral cities, like technical assistance, financing, policy alignment, and others?

Part B: Enabling and hindering factors for climate neutral cities

In this part of the self-assessment template, we would like to better understand the current national framework for climate neutral cities in your country. Does it support or prevent cities from achieving their mission? You will have an opportunity to address the following topics:

- Current national policy frameworks for climate neutral cities
- Quantitative impact measurement and reporting for climate neutral cities
- Current financing capacities for climate neutral cities



B.1 How strong is the multi-level support for cities in your country at the national level to become climate neutral?

- The national governments actively support cities in reaching climate neutrality
- The national governments take some action to support cities in reaching climate neutrality
- The level of support from the national governments is very low
- Not sure

B.2 How strong is the multi-level support for cities in your country at the regional level to become climate neutral?

- The regional governments actively support cities in reaching climate neutrality
- The regional governments take some action to support cities in reaching climate neutrality
- The level of support from the regional governments is very low
- Not sure

B.3 Please describe briefly the level of national and regional support for climate neutral cities in your country based on your answers in B.1 and B.2. For example, if the level of support is generally low, please explain why.

B.4 What are the key barriers for climate neutral cities in your country? You can select more than one answer.

- Lack of the shared climate neutrality ambition at the local, regional and national level of government
- Lack of or hindering national and regional climate policies and strategies
- Lack of multi-level governance framework
- Lack of or hindering legal and regulatory framework
- Lack of emission monitoring and reporting framework including reporting from the local level
- Lack of support for capacity development in cities
- Lack of national and regional financing and funding for climate neutrality
- Lack of national and regional programmes for technical assistance in cities
- Others (What others? Please specify below.)

B.5 Please describe briefly the indicated key barriers and if possible, share links to relevant websites and documents.

Section B1: Current national policy framework for climate neutral cities

B1.1 What are the key national policies in your country that refer to climate neutrality? Please describe them briefly, including the following aspects and if possible, share links to



relevant websites and documents:

- *What are the targets and the timeframes for implementation?*
- *What elements do they include?*
- *Are they strategies or laws? Are they legally binding?*
- *Do they include a concrete mechanism in case the promised actions were not delivered?*

B1.2 Do the policies described above include specific sections focused on local governments? Please describe briefly the key messages included in these sections.

B1.3 Do the policies described above include specific sections on financial support for cities to achieve climate neutrality? Please briefly describe the key messages included in these sections.

B1.4 Is there any other form of national / regional support for cities to reach climate neutrality? Please describe them briefly.

Section B2: Quantitative impact measurement and GHG reporting for climate neutral cities

B2.1 Who is collecting the national GHG data in your country?

B2.2 How are the local governments' emission reductions included in the national GHG monitoring and reporting framework?

B2.3 How do national or regional governments support reporting platforms for cities, like *MyCovenant* or *CDP-ICLEI Track*, if at all?

B2.4 How do the national or regional governments support cities in GHG reporting, if at all?

B2.5 How do cities in your country collect GHG data? Do they collect their own data or use the aggregated national data?

B2.6 How do the national and regional governments support cities with GHG data collection and data access, if at all?

Section B3: Current financial and financing support for climate neutral cities

B3.1 How would you evaluate the financial (eg. state aid, financial programmes, tax transfer) and financing support (eg. investment facilities, guarantees, funds) that local governments receive from the national level?

- **High** - tax transfers are directly linked to climate neutrality objectives and financial programmes are directed to support cities' climate-neutrality programmes;
- an advisory body or agency at national level is responsible to actively support cities and regions in developing and financing climate neutrality projects;



- national investment banks have established technical assistance programmes and financing facilities for climate-neutral cities;
- the national government supports piloting of innovative financing instruments to support climate-neutral cities
- **Medium** - national investment banks have established financing facilities for climate-neutral cities;
 - an advisory body or agency at national level is responsible to support cities and regions in developing and financing climate neutrality projects upon request;
 - an advisory body or agency at national level supports cities and regions in accessing EU funds supporting climate-neutrality
- **Low** - national investment banks have established financing facilities for climate-neutral cities;
 - an advisory body or agency at national level supports cities and regions in accessing EU funds supporting climate-neutrality
- **None** - no financial programme or other support for cities' climate-neutrality programme is available at national level;
 - upon request, a national focal point provides advice on EU funding programmes

B3.2 If there is a national level body mandated to support cities in attracting and using capital for climate neutrality in your country, please briefly describe its role, competencies and assess its relevance for cities.

B3.3 What financial resources are allocated to local governments specifically to finance climate neutrality projects?

- % of annual national budget directly devoted to climate neutral projects in cities
- total amount (in million €)
- if a national / regional financing plan / programme is forthcoming, please describe it briefly

B3.4 What types of climate finance instruments implemented in cities or regions are supported by the national / regional government and how? In your answer, please refer to some of the following finance instruments: *green or sustainable bonds / local tax levies / regional or local funds / PPPs / climate insurance instruments / debt financing / private lending*.

B3.5 Is there a national climate fund supporting climate neutral cities in your country? If so, please describe briefly how it works, including the following aspects:

- Overall yearly budget: in €
- Type of support: PDA; Guarantee fund; DRR fund; Climate neutrality fund;
- Type of financing: revolving fund; PPP (public-private partnership); debt swap; fiscal incentive etc.



- Financing mechanism: loan; grant; equity etc.

Part C: Support from CapaCITIES

C.1 What type of support would you like to get from the CapaCITIES consortium?

C.2 The CapaCITIES consortium will offer capacity-building training. What topics would you like to learn more about in order to advance the national platform for climate neutral cities in your country? You can select more than one answer.

- Guidance in how to engage stakeholders
- Guidance in how to connect with the EU level initiatives and partnerships (e.g. NetZeroCities, Driving Urban Transitions, other EU Missions - in particular the EU Mission on Climate Adaptation, EU Covenant of Mayors, EU Climate Pact, New European Bauhaus, Smart City Market Place, NetworkNature)
- Guidance in how to access funding (e.g. EU initiatives, leveraging taxonomy, private funding)
- Guidance in how to access services
- Guidance in standards and certification schemes (development, application)
- Good practices on integrated planning (e.g. SECAPs, Urban Greening Plans)
- Good practices in climate reporting (e.g. reporting platforms, supportive national reporting frameworks)
- Good practices from other countries on how to build / advance national platforms for climate neutral cities
- Innovative multi-level governance approaches (e.g. Climate City Contracts, Local Green Deals)
- Innovative financing instruments (e.g. revolving funds, SPVs)
- Others (What others? Please specify below.)

C.3 The CapaCITIES consortium will provide you with training materials on quantitative impact measurement and reporting for climate neutral cities. What would be most helpful for you in regard to this topic?

C.4 What is your ambition for the next 2 years? What are your hopes and expectations in regard to the development of the national platform for the climate neutral cities in your country?

C.5 Is there anything else you would like to share with us?

