## Accelerating learning through Transition Lab Forums

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A number of CapaCITIES core countries have organised national multi-level stakeholder meetings during 2023. These have been designed in various ways with regards to activities and participants, in accordance with the national contexts. Invitations to and reports from such meetings can be found at the CapaCITIES website.

At a workshop at the Consortium Meeting in Cluj in December 2023 experiences, success-factors and ideas for the future were discussed. After a few introductory highlights from the present countries group discussions followed and the following success-factors were identified:

## **Invitations**

- Make the invitation list using a multi-level governance perspective: EU Commission, national authorities or ministries, regions, and municipalities.
- Invite not only people from the public sector but also academia, the civil society and the business sector.
- Make sure to invite people with experience from funding and investments, in order to make progress regarding climate investment planning. A plan without a budget is a wish list.
- Invite the NetZeroCities City Advisors and expert organisations involved in Net-ZeroCities or CapaCITIES.
- Invite people from other countries engaged in CapaCITIES to pick up ideas and experiences, and also create a foundation for cross-border collaboration.





## Content

- Focus on the mission and milestones to reach it.
- Ensure oversight and strategic direction from the Mission Board to maintain coherence with broader national objectives and long-term vision.
- Create a mix between political / institutional discussions and sharing operational reflections and methodologies.
- Mix concrete results with ideas for the future.
- Connect the mission "climate neutral and smart cities" to other missions.
- Focus on acceleration and systemic change, not only isolated examples.



## **Format**

- Foster open discussions that involve various levels of government, enabling collaboration and idea-sharing between local, regional, and national bodies.
- Make room for informal networking.
- Use a mix of formats such as short presentations, interviews, videos, round table discussions etcetera.
- Have a long-term perspective focusing on a series of events.
- Make use of the city where the event takes place as a showcase to provide concrete and joint experiences.
- Consider having the event back-to-back with another event.

Check out the list of past and upcoming events for more examples and inspiration! https://dutpartnership.eu/capacities/#events

