

Supporting public authorities to implement the Energy Union

Local 2050 Roadmaps to benefit the Energy Union

Citizens, local stakeholders and local authorities to create pilot local energy transition roadmaps

Project Summary:

LC-SC3-EE-16-2018-2019-2020: Supporting public authorities to implement the Energy Union	Open: 25 Jan 2018 – close: 04 Sept 2018
Budget available: 8M (2018) – 10M (2019)	Average project size: 1-1,5 M
Energy Cities : leader	
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Type of Action: Coordination and support action	<i>Horizon 2020 - Work Programme 2018-2020 Secure, clean and efficient energy</i> Part 10 - Page 45 of 195

WHY?

International and EU context

At the Paris Climate conference in December 2015, 195 countries in the world agreed to tackle climate change by limiting global warming to 2°C. To reach this target, **the EU has agreed upon a long term commitment of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80-95%**, when compared to 1990 levels, by 2050.

This long term commitment serves as basis for the **2050 Energy Roadmap** which explores the transition to a secure, competitive and decarbonised energy system in Europe. It also very much influences the way the **Energy Union** is to be established, “*with citizens at its core, where citizens take ownership of the energy transition, benefit from new technologies to reduce their bills, participate actively in the market, and where vulnerable consumers are protected*”.¹

Citizens participation in shaping the Energy Union strongly depends on local authorities’ commitment to EU long-term objectives and implementation of long-term energy transition roadmaps.

Cities and towns looking towards 2050

In addition to the Paris agreement, EU and national legislations, many European cities are facing a social pressure to become more sustainable and liveable. The social demand of an energy transition towards a resource efficient system and a clean and healthy environment is growing stronger and is already carried on at local level by citizen initiatives.

Long term vision and planning are intrinsic to political life in cities and towns and has been encouraged by initiatives such as the Covenant of Mayors, Smart Cities, the Green Capital award to name just a few.

With a 2050 vision of “*accelerating the decarbonisation of their territories, strengthening their capacity to adapt to unavoidable climate change impacts, and allowing their citizens to access secure, sustainable*”

¹ [Communication of the European Commission “a framework strategy for a resilient Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy”](#)

and affordable energy”, **Covenant of Mayors signatories** are paving the way, although, in this framework their planning exercise is limited to 2030.

2050 local transition roadmaps should be planned and used as an effective tool for cities to better develop mid-term action plans through back-casting. Not only are such roadmaps crucial to align the long-term ambition of the Paris Agreement, but they are also key to broaden the scope of action plans currently developed.

Local 2050 Roadmaps to benefit the Energy Union

The Energy Union is based on the following 5 key pillars: *energy security, solidarity and trust; a fully integrated European energy market; energy efficiency contributing to moderation of demand; decarbonising the economy and research, innovation and competitiveness*. Those 5 pillars all have resonance at local level. By engaging into energy savings, efficiency or renewable energy, cities and towns are not only decarbonising our economy but they also contribute to providing secure and affordable energy to all citizens. Besides, through direct involvement (e.g. re-municipalisation of energy services) or by supporting prosumers, they help integrate the energy market. Finally, they offer the environment and are key players of the necessary innovation (e.g. technological, societal, financial) the energy transition needs.

These roadmaps will depict a future path that needs fundamental system changes within economic, politic, governance and social spheres. Therefore, it is essential to co-construct them with the participation of the community and a broad stakeholder panel to ensure empowerment, commitment and support.

WHAT?

Energy Cities has been supporting, for almost 30 years, cities’ transition to low- energy cities for a better quality of life for their citizens. Through the IMAGINE initiative (from 2006 onward), we initiated a broad and open dialogue with key city makers and changers in order to (re)think the future of our cities and the path of a democratic energy transition. Within the “Imagine... low energy cities” INTERREG IVC project, we have accompanied eight cities in co-building their local energy roadmaps 2050. We have also witnessed/observed and supported cities and towns developing innovative governance approaches worth being replicated (e.g. Nantes’ energy transition debate; Leuven 2030 governance; Stuttgart or Paris long-term climate & energy plans). We believe that a common local vision is a powerful back-up to join forces and act at local level. These initiatives have led the way. However, they still need to be recognised locally as driving agents of the local development and as engaging strategies that need the involvement of all stakeholders. For that, the roadmaps need to be supported at the highest political level and be at the heart of a deep movement of participation in order to make sure all voices are heard, different opinions and views are considered so as to engage and empower all local stakeholders in developing more liveable and sustainable cities.

Drawing on the above, Energy Cities intends to focus on the EU ambitious and innovative policies and the Paris Agreement to support cities in drafting 2050 Roadmaps with the voluntary engagement of citizens and local stakeholders.

With this project, **Energy Cities with the active contribution of 1 or 2 lighthouse cities, intends to accompany a group of about 5 cities** to experiment the development of an engaging Local Energy Transition Roadmap process based on citizen and local actors participation with the financial support of the EU.

Participating cities will have to demonstrate:

- a strong political commitment,

- their wish to implement a transversal approach within administrations (create a specific internal taskforce),
- their willpower to engage with the public and allow the participation of all local stakeholders.

Those are key ingredients of the recipe-book for transition roadmaps that will be developed.

Based on the results of the group of cities, a campaign will aim at engaging other European Cities (e.g. Energy Cities members, Covenant Signatories, cities involved in the Smart Cities and Communities initiative...) into long term transition roadmaps.

The whole process could ultimately result in providing valuable inputs to the development of the post 2030 Covenant of Mayors and its possible role as an instrument of the Energy Union.

Outcomes

- » 5 cities have developed their 2050 transition roadmap and start implementing
- » A larger group of about 20 follower cities will engage in a learning process of developing a 2050 transition roadmap within 2 training sessions organised at the end of the project
- » The Covenant of Mayors initiative benefits from recommendations for its post-2030 development
- » The Energy Union is truly reflected at local level with cities developing and implementing 2050 transition roadmaps and integrating the pillars of the Energy Union within the roadmaps

HOW?

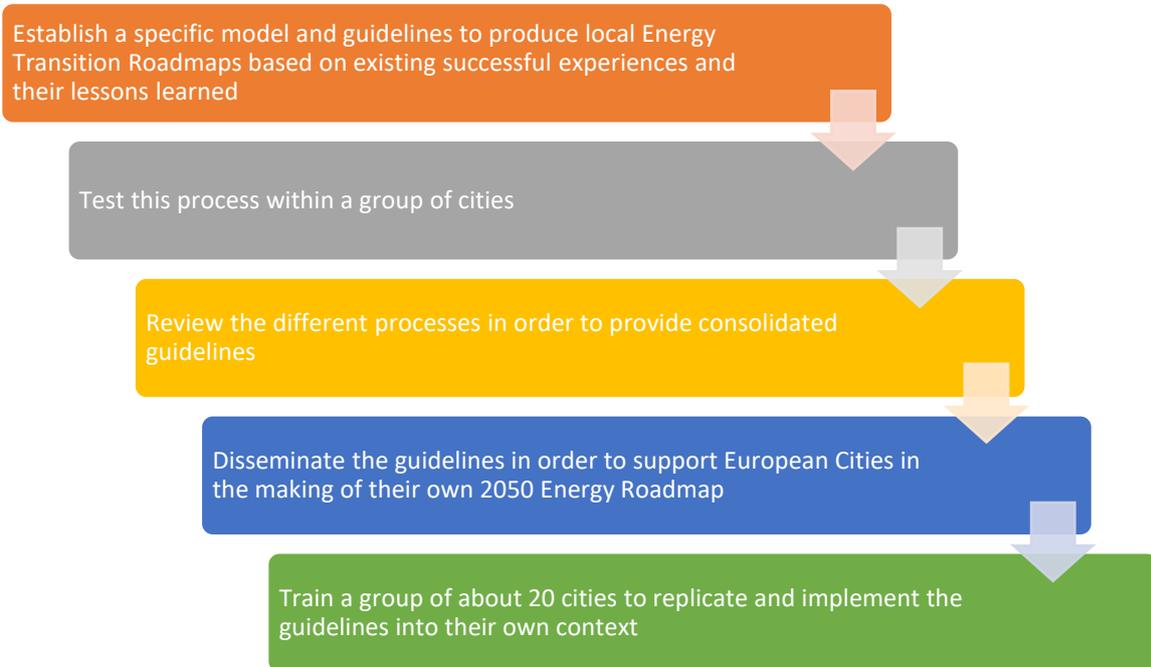
The project proposal will be based on **a strong and committed consortium** (this step is done prior to the H2020 project implementation): Implementing such initiative requires a clear commitment of multi-level and transversal governance within administrations and councils. In order to secure the success of the project, Energy Cities will launch a call for interest to its whole membership and beyond. Using tangible selection criteria such as geographical balance and size to allow a good representability and replicability, members will also be examined on their political commitments and previous actions.

The project proposal will suggest the following steps to be implemented:

1. Define with participating cities (lighthouse cities and pilot cities) a **process / methodology for developing long-term transition roadmaps**, based on a review of existing methodologies and identification of innovative citizens' participation and governance approaches, notably of the lighthouse cities.
2. Test these guidelines in the group of about 5 pilot cities developing their own Local Energy Transition Roadmaps
3. Review and evaluate the methodology, collect and gather policy recommendations, and consolidate the guidelines
4. Communicate via an **EU campaign** targeting other cities in order to engage in developing long term transition roadmaps and advocate for their benefits to implementation of the Energy Union and post-2030 Covenant development.
5. Train a group of about 20 cities based on the guidelines and the lessons learned during their implementation in order to build capacity within a larger group of cities for implementation and dissemination later on.

Outputs

- » 5 transition Roadmaps 2050
- » Guidelines on how to co design with local stakeholders 2050 transition roadmap
- » Policy recommendations
- » EU wide Communication campaign
- » Training including two sessions



Possible lighthouse approaches

Leuven 2030

Grand Débat in Nantes

Stuttgart Energiewende

Växjö Fossil Fuel Free

Rough project structure

Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Methodology consolidation through analysis of exemplary experiences - Preparation of local co-construction process - Setting up a learning platform for pilot cities on long term planning, internal governance and breaking silos, stakeholder and citizen involvement practices - 	Communication and engagement campaign
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of local roadmaps in the 5 pilot cities - Parallel peer-to-peer support process 	
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation and review of the pilot local roadmaps - Training of a group of about 20 cities 	

Possible budget structure (total: € 1.5 million)

Exemplary city 1	Peer-to-peer participation Evaluation Interviews	75.000 EUR
Exemplary city 2	Knowledge sharing Methodological support Travels	75.000 EUR
Pilot city 1	Implementation of co-construction process	250.000 EUR
Pilot city 2	Peer-to-peer participation	250.000 EUR
Pilot city 3	Evaluation and reviewing	250.000 EUR
Pilot city 4	Subcontracting for methodological support Travels	250.000 EUR
Project coordinator	Methodological inputs Analysis of exemplary practices Reviewing of local processes Methodological and organisational support Creation of guidelines Organisation of peer-to-peer learning Coordination of activities Financial project management Travels Training organisation	275.000 EUR
Communication partner	Communication and engagement campaign	75.000 EUR