

Smart Sustainable Districts – Southern Europe Call

Expression of Interest

(announced 13th March 2017)

Does your city district have ambitious sustainability goals? Then apply to become a Smart Sustainable District!

The **Smart Sustainable Districts (SSD)** is a Climate-KIC flagship programme that works closely with ambitious city districts across Europe to identify integrated solutions to their climate and sustainability challenges. SSD is a catalyst for districts that want to go the extra mile - empowering district stakeholders to build innovation capability.

Our existing SSD districts lead the way by example. They implement low carbon mobility concepts, operate smart grids, build energy neutral buildings, promote efficient water management and improve public and green spaces. Above all, they promote the well-being and sustainable lifestyles of their inhabitants through a participatory and technology-enabled approach. Is this what your district is trying to achieve? Then express your interest.

Becoming part of the SSD programme will enable your district to exchange and collaborate with international top experts and other districts and give you access to innovative planning tools. This elevates existing capacities and promotes co-investment by bringing key players together to facilitate the discovery and development of new approaches, products, services and tools.

How does it work?

Through SSD's pioneering three-step District Challenge (DC) process, **we help districts to identify opportunities, connect with some of Europe's best technical and academic experts and leverage the experiences from other outstanding districts.**

By joining the SSD programme, the district will receive in-kind EU support for:

- Facilitation of integrated opportunity assessment and project planning exercises
- Access to innovative training and integration modules
- Mentoring support from other districts

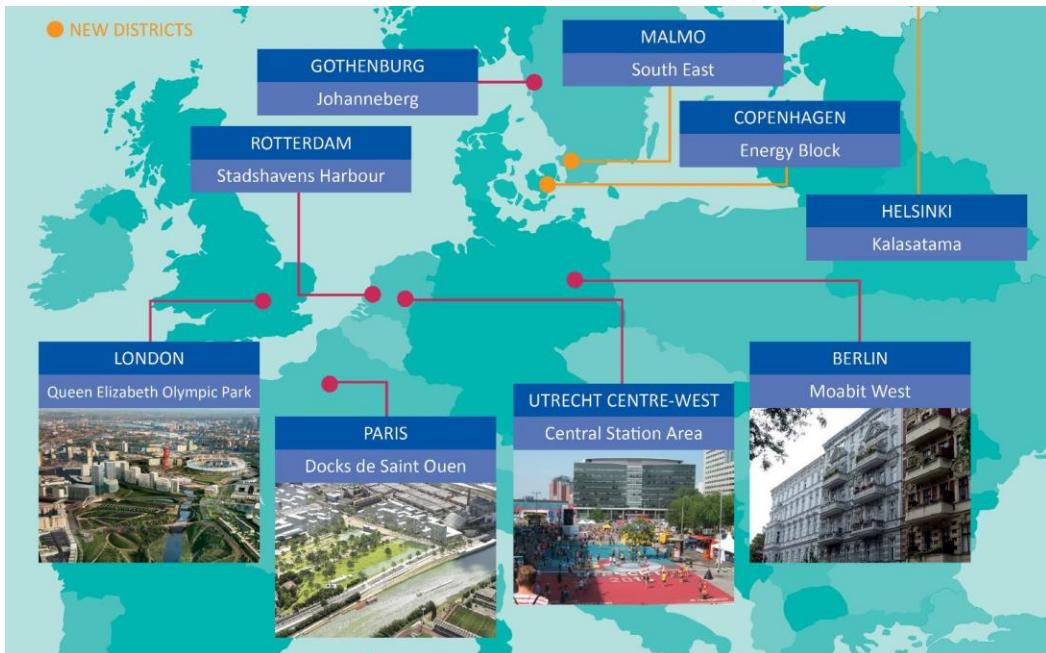
The SSD process revolves around three levels of District Challenges over a period of up to 15 months. After that, the districts are invited stay a member of the SSD network and benefit from regular networking opportunities and even become a mentor to new districts. The three-step process of District Challenge is described below:

- **District Challenge 1 – Context setting and opportunity identification** (3-6 months)
Relevant experts from the SSD network join local experts to identify key opportunities in the district that could lead to long-term projects tackling integrated local district challenges. The key component of this stage is a stakeholder workshop to identify the opportunities and challenges that will be the basis for project workstreams.
- **District Challenge 2 – Integration scoping** (3-6 months)
Developing the integration potential of the opportunities and solutions identified in District Challenge 1. The workstreams come together in a second workshop focused on integration across workstreams, projects and sectors.
- **District Challenge 3 – Solution and value testing/implementation planning** (around 6 months)
Builds on the two previous stages, where SSD and local experts conduct a quantitative in-depth analysis of how to implement the opportunities from DC1 and DC2 and develop the stakeholder understanding of associated added value. The last workshop communicates the outcomes of these studies and lays the foundations for subsequent co-created stakeholder implementation.

What are the benefits for your district?

- By applying, your district achieves international visibility as part of a pioneering network of high-profile sustainable district developments across Europe.
- You will gain valuable insights and lessons learned from a close network of experienced practitioners with first-hand knowledge of what works and what doesn't
- We help you identify potential solutions and turn these into shared priorities and projects, applicable to your district, citizens and stakeholders, that can be supported with resources and funding from Climate-KIC and others
- We help you identify expertise gaps, provide experts to close these in the short-term, and in the long-term, help your local district develop these locally by sharing knowledge and expertise
- You receive comprehensive support to define project goals, convene partners, and investment actions on the ground
- Selected districts will benefit from our proven District Challenge approach for delivering and managing district systems in a collective and holistic manner
- We provide you with access to our international communications and marketing channels to promote your achievements.
- Funding (additionally to the co-funding) to deliver the SSD program (the benefits above)

Which districts are already benefitting from SSD?



Current Districts in the Smart Sustainable Districts programme

There are currently nine districts from European cities that are benefitting from the SSD programme: Utrecht The New Centre, London's Queen Elizabeth Park, Paris' Les Dock de Saint-Ouen, Berlin Moabit West, Rotterdam, Gothenburg's Johanneberg, Malmö Sofielund and southeastern area, Helsinki's Kalasatama and Copenhagen Energy Block.

During 2017, Smart Sustainable Districts will be looking for new districts across Southern, Central and Eastern Europe to join the programme. We are currently inviting districts in Southern Europe to submit an application to join the SSD network.

Is my district eligible & who can formally apply?

In this call we are looking for several new districts in Southern Europe, in particular the following countries:

Cyprus
Portugal

Greece
Slovenia

Italy
Spain

Malta

The application can be made by either a Climate KIC Partner city/district or another type of Climate KIC partner who has strong links with a non-Climate KIC Partner city/district.

The value of support available through the SSD programme (for Climate-KIC and SSD partners) will depend on the scale and ambition the selected districts and the level of co-funding they are able to provide. Typical sums for District Challenge 1 are €50.000. During the process of District Challenge 1, the level of further SSD funding for the following two stages of the process would be agreed.

What is the application process and timeline?

Expression of Interest (EoI) call announced: 13th March 2017

- If you are interested in applying, please first contact your relevant Climate-KIC Geo and RIS office (contacts provided below)
- For more information on the application format, see the below section “Format of your Expression of Interest”
- Climate-KIC partners and interested cities/districts putting forward the bid should begin to create a network of local stakeholders who would be interested in supporting the application and subsequent work

DEADLINE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: 31st March 2017 (midnight)

Note: 14-17 March in Cannes at the MIPIM (www.mipim.com) conference will be a chance to meet key SSD personnel (Brian Kilkelly and Clare Wildfire)

Announcement of shortlisted districts: 14th April 2017

Throughout April the SSD team will work with shortlisted districts to support the creation of full bids:

- For each shortlisted district, the Climate KIC Partner(s) creating the bid are assigned an advisor from the SSD team. The advisor will help to identify a set of areas of high potential and interest. For each of those the local key stakeholder network should be identified and preferably engaged.
- Climate-KIC Geos and RIS will help outline additional resources such as demonstrator opportunities or national funds to include.

DEADLINE FOR FINAL BID SUBMISSIONS: 1st May 2017 (midnight)

Independent assessment of final applications & announcement of selected districts: Mid-Late May

Kick-off meetings with selected districts: June

- The applying partner together with the SSD advisory team and the Climate KIC Geo meet to devise a detailed project plan.

First workshop in the district (District Challenge 1): Summer 2017

- Designed by SSD advisors and the local project manager, facilitated and delivered by SSD
- In this first District Challenge workshop the local stakeholders, partners and SSD experts come together to work on the areas of opportunity to identify specific opportunities/projects and project teams to work on.
- Based upon this work, the total budget (a combination of the SSD funding and the district co-funding) will be allocated against the projects identified.

Format for your Expression of Interest

Following on from initial discussions, the local Climate KIC Geo team carry out a first vetting process of interested parties and city districts, including matching up potential districts and Climate-KIC partners where there are several relevant parties for a single district. With support from their local Geo or RIS team, the identified lead Climate-KIC Partner is requested to submit an Expression of Interest.

Expressions of Interest should be a **maximum of 6 pages** that includes:

- **A general description/overview of the district**
 - General information, a summary of the district characteristics, including commentary on population, climate, amenities and economy, and scope with map.
 - What are the ambitions, challenges and opportunities in the district? What current projects are being carried out to achieve these?
 - Information on actual plans agreed at municipal level or included in the partner's industrial plans
- **Project Partners**
 - Description of the project-leading partner who is applying and who will provide the SSD project management. Details of the proposed project manager(s) and other personnel.
 - Description of Climate-KIC Partners who are part of the bid, and who will play a role in the delivery.
 - Description of other non-Climate-KIC key partners who will be involved in the project
- **Description of the opportunity and the potential programme**
 - An outline of the current ambitions of the district in relation to climate change and innovation
 - An outline of proposed activities, opportunities and challenges, and an explanation of why this district has been identified by the project partners as a potential SSD district
 - An indication of where the bidders expect that SSD program might create added value, for example including potential integrated systems opportunities, and the suitability of the proposed partners to lead these interventions
- **Overview of drivers and enablers**
 - Current or recently ceased activities in the district that could enable greater impact and around which the SSD opportunities would be created.
 - A timeline outlining the activities and events in the district for the next 12-15 months that are already happening and could provide opportunities.
 - Evidence of commitment of local key stakeholders, including local authorities/governments, key industrial and commercial partners as well as local champions (letters of support are encouraged)
 - Outline of potential external co-funding and third party contributions for the proposed SSD project

The Expression of Interest should be then send to the address: urban.theme@climate-kic.org

Interested in applying? Get in touch with us.

We strongly advise to get in contact with your respective Climate-KIC Geo or RIS representative for initial questions and CKIC support:

- RIS:
 - Mike Cherrett (mike.cherrett@climate-kic.org)
 - Julia Panny (julia.panny@climate-kic.org)
- MED Geo:
 - Thanh-Tam Le (thanh-tam.le@climate-kic.org)
- Spain Geo:
 - Jose-Luis Munyoz (jose-luis.munyoz@climate-kic.org)
 - Ignacio Chanzá (ignacio.chanza@climate-kic.org)
- Italy Geo:
 - Angelica Monaco (angelica.monaco@climate-kic.org)
 - Arianna Cecchi (arianna.cecchi@climate-kic.org)

For general information on the Smart Sustainable Districts programme and the Southern Call, please contact Christoph Mazur (c.mazur@imperial.ac.uk).

About Climate-KIC

Climate-KIC is the EU's largest public private partnership addressing climate change through innovation to build a zero carbon economy. Our members range from well-known academic institutions to international corporations and city regions.

We run programmes for established practitioners and academics as well as students, developing start-ups and innovators across Europe via centres in major cities. Our approach starts with improving the way people live in cities. Our focus on industry creates the products required for a better living environment, and we look to optimise land use to produce the food people need.

Climate-KIC is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union.

Supporting documents and additional information

- SSD project page (<http://www.climate-kic.org/programmes/smart-sustainable-districts/>)
- SSD video / YouTube page (on the SSD project page)
- District Challenge manual (attached)
- Slide packs on the initial stages of the Smart Sustainable District Program (attached)
 - SSD Programme Outcomes and Success Factors - March 2017
 - SSD First steps of the SSD work