Climate KIC



Annual Report 2025

A turning point in a changing world



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Letter from our CEO

2025 defies easy description. Global relationships and dynamics shifted as a long-standing rules-based world order broke into the unpredictability of a power-based order. The fabric of much that once felt stable was laid threadbare. The most violent year since the Cold War was marked by sickening harm and terror done to vulnerable communities across the world, in Gaza, Sudan and Ukraine, largely ignored by the global community. Climate action was reframed in many places not as a collective public good but as a contested cost - to be postponed, diluted, instrumentalised - even as 2025 became the costliest year on record for climate-related disasters and the 1.5°C threshold was temporarily breached.

And yet, signals of change, solidarity and community action persisted. Across Europe, Asia, Latin America and Africa, Climate KIC's partners stepped into the work with a clarity, urgency and willingness to collaborate that was striking. Hope and despair walked closely together this year - political setbacks collided with new forms of civic mobilisation, and progress emerged in places many had learned to overlook. When established pathways are blocked, new ones can still be paved.

For Climate KIC, 2025 was the year we stepped into a new chapter - both as an institution and in the way our portfolio of work evolved to respond to significant geopolitical and climate policy change.

Over sixteen years, Climate KIC has nurtured more than 8,500 ventures, helping them attract EUR 14.6 billion in investment and mobilise EUR 5.8 billion in dedicated climate finance, a leverage ratio of roughly 8:92 for every euro of our own funding committed. In addition, we have supported innovation projects that now avoid an estimated 13 million tonnes of CO2-equivalent emissions every year, and have brought 1,081 innovative products and services to market. Our work has contributed to the creation of more than 50,000 jobs, and we have welcomed over 98,000 participants into our learning programmes.

This is the first year we are presenting Climate KIC's full portfolio-wide impact in this Annual Report, rather than the narrower set of figures attributable specifically to our EIT grant agreement. As our funding base has grown over the years to include a wider community of governments, foundations and private partners alongside EIT, our impact figures have grown to reflect that full community's contribution. EIT's own reporting, applying its own eligibility criteria appropriate to its grant accountability requirements, remains the authoritative record of activity funded directly through that grant; the figures above represent the total impact of Climate KIC's work across all funding sources over sixteen years.

This year, that work 'came of age' as we recast Climate KIC into a new institutional form and business model. The Group restructure on 1 January 2025 established Climate KIC International Foundation (Stichting Climate-KIC International) as the principal entity of Climate KIC Group, with EIT as one funder among many, rather than its anchor. The Foundation Supervisory Board took up its role under the new structure, and a new Strategic Advisory Council, with wide-ranging international perspectives, was constituted for formal appointment from 1 January 2026.

Our portfolio of climate innovation also went through a series of critical transitions. In Europe's cities and regions, the EU Missions matured from planning into delivery: more than 100 of 112 Mission Cities received the Mission Label, and 39 regions through Pathways2Resilience moved from baseline diagnostics into investment-ready resilience plans. In Ireland, the Comhar BIA cooperative biorefinery network launched. In Slovenia and Gipuzkoa, Spain, place-based work doubled down on implementation work in high GHG emitting sectors, while introducing climate resilience as an integrated requirement of regional government planning process. Our investment portfolio grew to 71 ventures across 26 countries with two successful exits, and Una Terra, an Investing for 1.5C initiative partner, reached its EUR 50 million first close for the Circular Economy Growth Fund in July 2025.

Importantly, our commitment to radical collaboration took on new dimensions and horizons, building on the founding principle of Climate KIC as a knowledge and innovation community, and responding to a geopolitical context in which divisiveness and resistance to climate action suddenly intensified. The Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action (The Collaborative), nurtured by Climate KIC from 2023, onboarded 13 new partners in 2025, taking its membership to 27; and as a founding member of the Systems Transformation Hub, Climate KIC engaged members of key European Commission services in more robust policy recommendations. Climate KIC is one of fifteen founding partners of the Coalition for Planetary Well-being and Human Flourishing, led by the No. 17 Foundation, part of Singapore-based Tsao Pao Chee (TPC) Group. The Coalition's goal is to tackle a root cause of today's environmental and social problems, an economy built on extracting resources rather than regenerating them, by helping build a more regenerative, wellbeing-focused economy, bringing together partners from both Asia and the West.

Underpinning all of this, we consolidated our evolution to a multi-funder model to sustain and expand Climate KIC's impact. Philanthropic income developed in the care of a professional team, with momentum across European, Asian and global funders. Service contracts and commercial offers emerged as a new revenue line. Climate KIC closed 2025 in line with our forecast budget - with the governance architecture of an independent foundation fully in place.

If I were to distil what 2025 has taught me, three lessons stand out.

First lesson. Delay is itself a decision, and it is an increasingly expensive one. The costs of inaction are no longer theoretical; they are already shaping fiscal space, political stability and human wellbeing across the cities and regions we work with. 2025 made plain that the price of postponement is being paid, not in the abstract, but in floods, fires, lost crops and failing insurance markets. The question now facing public and private institutions is 'how fast to invest in climate response, resilience and adaptation, and through what coalitions?' This is a race against time and circumstance, before effective action becomes prohibitive or no longer possible, compounded by confusing policy signals and political headwinds.

Second lesson. Positive transformation is happening, just not always where we are used to looking. While national and multilateral processes have struggled, communities, cities, regions and coalitions of local actors are quietly building the future. Across Europe - and increasingly across Asia, Latin America and Africa - the most durable and beneficial progress is being made at the meso level: by cities aligning planning, finance and citizen engagement; by regions integrating adaptation into long-term investment plans; by funders and implementers working more closely together and learning by doing. The signal for the year ahead is to keep investing where the work is actually happening.



Third lesson. This is a decade that demands courage of a different kind. Moving beyond bold targets towards the institutional bravery to build certain things, and stopping others. Whilst we need to keep on innovating, we also need to retire what no longer serves the planet, or causes active harm. And we need leadership at all levels distributing the benefits of transformation across society. Climate KIC's work in the year ahead is to keep convening, supporting, and providing safe haven to those prepared to act with that kind of courage.

These lessons are the starting point for the work ahead. 2026 will be a year of mounting challenge as the consequences of political choices in 2025 begin to take hold. The institutions, instruments and partnerships needed for systemic climate action are taking shape - through the EU Missions, the Collaborative, the Impact Coalition in Asia growing in strength, and Climate KIC's own consolidated operating model and community. The next chapter begins from a stronger foundation than at any moment in our history and will be needed as the signs of climate change onset become clearer and more devastating.

Thank you to our partners, supporters and funders.

To all those with whom we work, thank you for staying engaged through a year marked by uncertainty and discomfort. Systemic change is neither linear nor tidy at the best of times, in the current context it takes significant force of will to hold a steady course, knowing that we do not have the luxury of pessimism. Your willingness to invest for the long term, through volatility and uncertainty, is what makes this work possible. The Climate KIC of 2026 is built on what you have made possible.

With gratitude, and with resolve,

Dr Kirsten Dunlop
Chief Executive Officer, Climate KIC

Fifteen years on: stepping into a new chapter

In February 2025, EIT Climate-KIC became, simply, Climate KIC, evolving from its foundational fifteen years as a Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC), funded by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), into an independent organisation with a vision of a just, climate-resilient, beautiful future, with multiple, diverse partners and funders from across the globe.

Fifteen years with EIT - and the journey to systems change orchestration

EIT Climate-KIC was founded in 2010 as one of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology's first three Knowledge and Innovation Communities, with a mandate centred on mobilising education, innovation and entrepreneurship, known as Knowledge Triangle Integration (KTI), to address climate change. We trained the people who would lead on climate, nurtured start-ups that could prove new approaches, and partnered with industry leaders and universities to accelerate technology transfer and sustainable industrial solutions.

Those fifteen years of work built a progressive, continent-wide community of cities and regions, a pipeline of climate mitigation and adaptation business talent and ventures, and a cohort of researchers, practitioners, public and private sector leaders with greater capability and capacity to take on the systemic challenges of tackling climate change.

We came to understand, however, that backing good ideas one at a time would never close the gap between climate ambition and reality at the pace or scale required. So we pivoted our approach, our methodology and our role. We moved from funding individual solutions to sustaining collaborative efforts in the contexts where they are needed, working backwards from the outcomes through which we aim to achieve holistic and systemic change.

We positioned and deepened our role orchestrating change across multi-level systems and places; cities, regions, industrial value chains and start up ecosystems, by convening the policymakers, financiers, businesses and communities needed to shift a whole place, and not just deliver a project. That shift in scope and ambition demanded a parallel shift in how we sustained ourselves: alongside our EIT partnership, we built the capabilities, credibility and relationships needed to draw on a more diverse funder base, so our mission no longer depended on a single source of support.



A poly-capital model

On 25 February 2025, Climate KIC became an independent, Foundation-led group, with EIT as one partner among many rather than its anchor. The Group restructure on 1 January 2025 established the Foundation (Stichting Climate-KIC International) as the principal entity.

That restructure was designed to give Climate KIC the flexibility and agility to draw on multiple sources of funding and capital, public and private, rather than depend on any one funder. Our relationship with EIT since the transition has continued through project-based collaboration under a new Memorandum of Cooperation rather than a core grant. 2025 marks the year Climate KIC moved decisively past reliance on any single funder.

Climate KIC has begun working with multiple funding sources and models: bringing investment capital into its work and, through its Capital and Investments team, advising investment funds on a remunerated basis. Grant funding, philanthropic funding and investment capital now sit alongside each other as parts of a broader model, a model better suited to the pace and scale climate action demands, and to the funding-cycle volatility that comes with project-led income.

The timing could not have been more apt. Through 2025, the climate challenge hardened into a polycrisis: a contested operating context in which geopolitical volatility, competitiveness, security and climate became increasingly tightly intertwined, and impossible to unpick from one another. Climate KIC's structural transformation could not have come at a more urgent moment.

The groundwork of the previous fifteen years is what made 25 February 2025 possible. Working as a formal EIT KIC gave us the foundations, the discipline, the expertise and the proof of concept. As an independent foundation with a global remit, we begin a new chapter of impact-focused work that is global in scope, yet local in implementation. It is the most significant institutional moment in Climate KIC's history, and the moment we must all rise to meet.

Carrying forward the EIT legacy

Greater financial and governance independence from EIT does not mean distance from it. Climate KIC remains a full and active participant in the EIT Community as a Knowledge Innovation Community (KIC) that acts as a long-term system orchestrator: recruiting, curating and actively managing ecosystems; supporting entrepreneurs and startups; aligning value chain actors; enabling policy innovation through systemic approaches to innovation deployment and integration of efforts; and maintaining the neutrality and trust required for pre-competitive collaboration. These ecosystems are strategic European assets, providing a ready-now capability to translate innovation into adoption, scale and systemic transformation aligned with EU policy and competitiveness priorities.

Our relationship with EIT continues under the terms of a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) agreed as part of the transition. Under the MoC, Climate KIC commits to an ongoing, active contribution to the EIT Community; sharing what we've learned, supporting fellow KICs, and helping the wider Community build on what we started. Climate KIC will continue to contribute learnings, insights, information flows and alliances across the EU innovation system that funded its creation.

That contribution takes concrete form. Through 2025, Climate KIC continued to play an instrumental role in the EIT Community New European Bauhaus, preparing, establishing and disseminating the NEB Junction - the Hub for Results and Impact - which supported 236 projects and start-ups across 40 countries, awarded EUR 5.9 million in subgrants and engaged more than 10,000 citizens. Alongside the other EIT KICs, we continued to co-deliver the EIT Higher Education Initiative, reaching over 90,000 students and staff across 88 institutions in 33 countries, with 1,700 start-ups in the pipeline. Climate KIC also remains an active contributor to the EIT-funded Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Network and the EIT Deep Tech Talent Initiative - the wider EIT Community fora through which our systems-innovation approach continues to reach European higher education, entrepreneurship and place-based innovation.

The year in context: transformation under pressure

A re-ordered global landscape

If 2025 had a single global signature, it was volatility. The return of Donald Trump to the White House in January 2025 marked a sharp change in the international climate finance and policy landscape. Within hours of taking office, the new administration signed an executive order beginning the United States' second withdrawal from the Paris Agreement. In the months that followed, implementation of the Project 2025 policy agenda proceeded at a pace few observers had anticipated, reshaping federal environmental regulation, climate-related science funding, and the US government's role in international climate cooperation.

The war in Gaza and Russia's invasion of Ukraine, now entering its fourth year, continued to inflict immense human suffering. Gaza saw sustained conflict through most of 2025 before a fragile, still-contested ceasefire took hold towards the year's end; Ukraine saw no comparable de-escalation, with fighting ongoing throughout. Alongside other persistent conflicts and humanitarian crises, both reinforced a pattern visible across the world: energy security, supply-chain integrity, food and water systems, mass migration and information ecosystems are becoming further intertwined within an interconnected risk landscape. Climate change impacts such as worsening drought, wildfires, heat health issues and migration act as an ever-destabilizing platform upon which the other issues compound and magnify.

The clearest expression of the geo-political volatility for organisations like Climate KIC was the dismantling of USAID, formally completed in July 2025, with its remaining functions absorbed into the State Department. For partners across our network, this meant the sudden loss of climate resilience and adaptation funding that many had built multi-year programmes around, and a broader erosion of the reliable, predictable support that international climate and development cooperation has historically depended on.

The effects did not stop at the US border. Several other long-standing donor governments reduced their aid commitments during the same period, often citing competing domestic and geopolitical priorities; the UK reduced its overseas development assistance from 0.5 per cent to 0.3 per cent of gross national income to fund increased defence spending, a reduction independent auditors project will reach around 42 per cent in real terms by 2027/28, with climate finance protected as a share of the total but declining in absolute terms. Sweden and other traditional donors have similarly scaled back overall aid envelopes. Whether or not the US shift was the direct cause in each case, it has undeniably changed the political calculation for governments weighing whether to sustain climate-related commitments by making retrenchment easier to justify.

Taken together, this has produced a period of paralysis, confusion and, for many people and organisations working in climate innovation and international development, fear about the future of their work. Climate philanthropy has, by most accounts, responded to this environment more cautiously and more quietly than it did to comparable shocks in the past. For Climate KIC and our peers, this is one of the most difficult periods for climate innovation funding that we have operated in.

Against that backdrop, partnership with the Singapore based No. 17 Foundation and Tsao Pao Chee (TPC) Group, as a founding member of the Coalition for Planetary Well-being and Human Flourishing, stands out as a highly progressive exception, a vote of continued confidence in our model at a moment when many organisations doing comparable work are seeing support withdrawn rather than renewed. It is a reminder that the case for systemic climate innovation remains compelling to funders willing to look past short-term political horizons.



Europe between competitiveness and ambition

In Europe, climate policy was recast around three framings: competitiveness, resilience and strategic autonomy. The Draghi3, Letta4 and Heitor5 Reports collectively reshaped the European Commission's economic agenda. The Clean Industrial Deal6 formalised the binding of decarbonisation to industrial renewal. The Omnibus simplification proposals7 tested the durability of Green Deal commitments. Negotiations over FP10 intensified, with the EU Missions repositioned outside the Research and Innovation funding environment.

These shifts created dangerously mixed signals at a time when climate risks for Europe are intensifying, and evidence grows of a new frontier for geopolitical competition in critical raw materials needed for sustainability, technologies, heat management, energy, food and water systems. On the other hand, the directional signal of greater attention to competitiveness and strategic autonomy in a time of conflict, disruption of rules-based behaviour and extreme political volatility created space for climate work to be re-framed through lenses that command broader political attention: energy security, food security and health security.

Europe's State of the Environment (SOER) 2025 report - to which Climate KIC contributed as a member of the Systems Transformation Hub, a Brussels-based partnership with Club of Rome, Metabolic, WRI and Systemiq of which Climate KIC is a founding member - reinforced this systemic diagnosis, making the case that Europe's competitiveness, resilience and prosperity increasingly depend on transforming the systems through which Europeans meet their needs, from energy and food to mobility, housing and materials. Environmental action is therefore not a constraint on these objectives but a pre-condition for achieving them: a healthy natural environment, resilient ecosystems and sustainable resource use are foundations of economic security, functioning public health and mid- to long-term competitiveness. Cities, regions and businesses continued to act with this logic through 2025, often ahead or even in contrast to national politics.

The significance for Climate KIC was clear: as environmental pressures increasingly interact across climate, nature, health, resources and the economy, the capacity to connect evidence, policy, finance, innovation and action across systems becomes itself a strategic European capability – which Climate KIC has been developing and testing for over 15 years now. Climate KIC's own policy work took place inside this contested space. Through the Systems Transformation Hub – work advanced across seven policy focus areas: land-use, cities and regions, democracy and AI in governance, science-based material targets, the '5th freedom' on the movement of knowledge, systemic capital deployment, and Europe in the world. President von der Leyen's 2025 State of the Union speech referenced the 5th freedom, partly in response to Hub input, and a December 2025 convening with former Italian Prime Minister Enrico Letta brought senior EU policymakers into dialogue on how to build institutional capacity for the concept.

Climate impacts on the fastest warming continent

Across Europe, extreme heat, wildfire, drought and flooding repeated and accumulated, moving from isolated events to a changing pattern of seasons pointing to the implications of Europe becoming the fastest warming continent on Earth.

The data from 2025 underlined this pattern. At least 95 per cent of Europe experienced above-average temperatures; Copernicus C3S/WMO confirmed Europe's second-most-severe heatwave year on record. The European Forest Fire Information System recorded the EU's most destructive wildfire season - approximately 1.08 million hectares burned, with Germany, Spain, Cyprus and Slovakia all hitting national records. The 29 October 2024 DANA floods in Valencia[8], (whose human and fiscal costs continued to shape Spanish climate politics through 2025), and the September 2024 central European floods, sharpened the public appetite for adaptation investment. Munich Re reported global insured natural-disaster losses around USD 108 billion for 2025.

The SOER 2025 found that 62% of European soils show signs of degradation while water stress affects around one third of Europe's population and territory. Beyond the individual statistics, the report set out the compounding pressures on ecosystems, soils and public health that no single policy instrument can address in isolation. Alongside long-running signals on biodiversity loss and land degradation, global scientific assessments continued to flag accelerating tipping-point risks in earth systems on which European resilience depends – from ice-sheet dynamics to ocean circulation and forest-carbon feedbacks. The European Commission's Joint Research Centre identified their potential crossing as an emerging security threat for Europe and called for anticipatory governance, early-warning systems, improved risk modelling and strategic foresight. The direction of travel is unambiguous: climate, nature and human wellbeing are inseparable systems, and the case for treating them as such is now urgent.

The Global Tipping Points Conference held in July 2025, synthesised the work of more than 160 scientists across 87 institutions and released a Report ahead of COP30 together (the Dartington Declaration). It concluded that the first Earth system tipping point had been crossed – widespread mortality of warm-water coral reefs – with global warming set to breach 1.5°C placing further thresholds within reach, including polar ice sheet melt, Amazon dieback and the collapse of key ocean currents. For Europe the most consequential finding concerned the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation, which recent modelling suggests could tip below 2°C and potentially this century, sooner than previously thought; a collapse would bring much harsher winters to north-west Europe, with scientists describing winter sea ice covering the North Sea and temperatures in Edinburgh falling towards minus 30°C, alongside disrupted agriculture and food security across the continent. The Report's governance conclusion, that preventing irreversible harm is a legal imperative requiring emissions to be halved by 2030 and net zero by 2050, was paired with its argument for deliberately triggering positive tipping points in technology and behaviour.



2025 in numbers: this year's signals of progress

PLACE-BASED TRANSFORMATION

103
of 112 Mission Cities labelled

100
European regions in the Pathways2Resilience pipeline

SOLUTIONS AND VENTURE DEVELOPMENT

≈900
start-ups supported across the Global South

€50M
first close for the Una Terra Circular Economy Growth Fund

EDUCATION AND LEARNING

1,212
participants enrolled in the Climate KIC Academy launch

Climate KIC Academy awarded the EIT Non-Degree Education Label

POLICY INNOVATION AND ADVISORY

9
European Commission consultations

5
Policy Labs

COMMUNITY, COLLABORATION AND CONVENING

184
active Community member organisations

27
partners spanning six continents in the Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action

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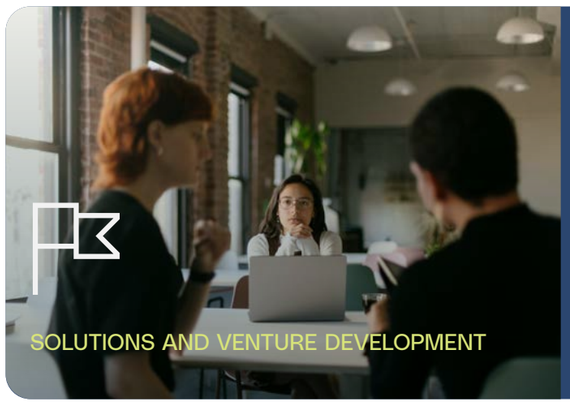
>8,500
ventures nurtured

€14.6bn
investment attracted



PLACE-BASED TRANSFORMATION

- **103 of 112 Mission Cities** held the EU Mission Label by year-end 2025 (39 labelled at the Vilnius Cities Mission Conference in May, further cohort in October); Mission Label unlocks access to the Climate City Capital Hub and a EUR 2 billion EIB lending envelope
- **Six Window 4+ Mission Cities** submitted Climate City Contracts in January 2025 (Elbasan, Gozo, Podgorica, Sarajevo, Tartu, Utrecht)
- **39 regions** advanced through Pathways2Resilience to investment-ready Climate Resilience Strategies and Investment Plans; 100 regions total across P2R cohorts 1 and 2
- **50 Türkiye cities** mobilised through a NetZeroCities-inspired sister initiative - first national Mission-style programme outside the EU
- **31 Irish local authorities** on bioeconomy; 10 co-developing regional plans for farm-and-forest transition
- Cities and Industry Lead Markets programme: **five European cities** engaged (Madrid, Santander, Łódź, Warsaw, Berlin); corporate participants including Saint-Gobain, Arup, Acciona, Veolia, Engie, Iberdrola and Schneider



SOLUTIONS AND VENTURE DEVELOPMENT

- **Nearly 900 start-ups** supported across Africa, Latin America and Asia; 1.2 Mt CO2e potential reduction validated
- ClimateLaunchpad 2025: **40 countries; 2,773 applications** - highest demand since 2019; in-person Vienna Final returned; SeaH4 (South Africa) named winner
- Una Terra Circular Economy Growth Fund reached **EUR 50 million** first close in July 2025; six investments in circular-economy ventures
- Climate KIC investment portfolio: **71 start-ups across 26 countries**; five new agreements in 2025; two exits; EUR 6.2 million equity holdings
- EIT Community New European Bauhaus (NEB Junction): **236 projects and start-ups** supported across 40 countries; EUR 5.9 million in subgrants awarded; 1,500+ applications to acceleration programmes; 39 per cent of start-ups founded or co-founded by women; 10,000+ citizens engaged



EDUCATION AND LEARNING

- Climate KIC Academy launched in 2025; awarded the **EIT Non-Degree Education Label** on 24 February 2026
- **1,212 participants** engaged across 2025 Academy and entrepreneurial education activities; 715 (59 per cent) from EIT RIS countries
- **632 EIT Label graduates** across 95 Higher Education Institutions
- **71 EU regions** in the Climate Academy training for policymakers, funded by the Joint Research Centre
- **J-StarX CleanTech Journey** delivered in partnership with the Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO)
- **EIT Higher Education Initiative** co-delivered with the other EIT KICs: 90,000+ students and staff across 88 institutions in 33 countries; 1,700 start-ups in the pipeline

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>8,500
ventures nurtured

€14.6bn
investment attracted

€5.8bn
climate finance mobilised

8:92
leverage ratio, per euro committed



POLICY INNOVATION AND ADVISORY

Climate KIC main impact at the EU level has been in both: providing evidence from the ground and from our practical activities across the various teams into (1) upcoming policy shaping (thought leadership, particularly through consultative pieces for the European Commission) as well as into (2) policy implementation. Towards the end of 2025 feedback to the European Parliament and Members of the European Parliament became crucial, because most of important files were either at the legislative stage in the EP or the Council (like the Omnibus) or where sustainability needs have been under attack (both domestically and globally).

- **Nine European Commission consultations**, including public procurement as a lever for systemic transformation and input to the new Multiannual Financial Framework proposal on the leveraging finance side; Climate Resilience and Risk Management on the strategic risks to Europe; Vision for Cities as a natural political framework for our Missions work; Circular Economy and Bioeconomy and especially how to implement them; Sustainable and Affordable Housing as a possibility rather than contradiction; renewed Startups and Scaleup strategy.
- **Five Policy Labs** (May–December 2025): on sustainable, digital textiles, orchestrating relevant stakeholders, leveraging finance, finding novel business models for delivering sustainable and affordable housing as an opportunity for Lead Markets; Beyond ESG, compliance and communications – embedding sustainability principles in modern risk management and business strategy setting; Policy Recommendation Report from our 2025 activities on 'Decarbonisation, Knowledge Triangle integration and EU Regional Innovation Gap shared with DG RTD, DG EAC and turned into an practice based thought piece on innovation ecosystems
- **Systems Transformation Hub** published 'Building a Secure and Thriving Europe' policy brief on the EU 2024–2029 strategic agenda; Climate KIC to become STH Host Organisation from January 2026
- **Co-led narrative framing** with the European Environment Agency on Europe's Environment 2025 as a member of the Systems Transformation Hub
- **High-Level Expert Group** on the Economic and Social Impact of Innovation and Research (ESIR): Kirsten Dunlop contributions on policy pressure points and FP10 architecture



COMMUNITY, COLLABORATION AND CONVENING

- Climate KIC Community: **184 active member organisations**
- **Four Community CoLabs** in Slovenia, Italy, Spain and Poland; 167 participants (96 per cent from EIT RIS countries)
- Community Connect: seven online sessions, **400+ participants**
- **Two new sector-specific networks** launched: Green Horizons (Farmers Network) and NextAdapt (resilience)
- Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action: launched 2023 with **13 founding members; 27 partners** across six continents by end of 2025
- Impact Coalition for Planetary Well-being and Human Flourishing launched with **15 partners**; three-year unrestricted core funding from TPC Group, No.17 Foundation and Tsao Family Foundation
- **Expanded COP presence**, anchored on information integrity and a fossil-fuel phase-out roadmap

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leverage ratio, per euro committed

Transformation in practice in 2025

2025 was the year Climate KIC's work in real life contexts and places matured - Mission Cities moved from contract-drafting into multi-year implementation; Pathways2Resilience regions integrated climate-resilience into long-term plans; Comhar BIA, the Slovenia CRM pilots and the Gipuzkoa Strategy each entered their operational phase.

Cities as engines of system change

2025 marked the conclusion of NetZeroCities' first four-year phase, which Climate KIC coordinates with a consortium of 34 partners. By year-end, 103 of 112 Mission Cities had signed Climate City Contracts (the 'Mission Label'), unlocking access to a EUR 2 billion EIB lending budget; 184 cities are in the EU Cities Mission peer-learning network through our Twinning Learning Programme; and the next phase (SGA3) launches in 2026 with substantially expanded finance workstreams.

Continued European Commission backing for the Mission Platform

The European Commission confirmed continued NetZeroCities funding through the next phase of the Mission Platform - endorsing the platform's coherence across city support, peer learning, the Capital Hub and the City Expert Support Facility, and the substantive progress against the 2030 Mission targets. The continued backing means Mission Cities can plan multi-year delivery from 2026 with funding certainty, and the Platform can scale services that were piloted across the first phase. The transition between funding phases involves the standard EU administrative cycle, with the next Grant Agreement on track to commence in early 2026.

The City Expert Support Facility: 53 live assignments by year-end

The City Expert Support Facility is Climate KIC's on-demand bench of senior experts that Mission Cities can draw on to design and implement their climate plans. By Q4 2025, 53 assignments were under way - and the nature of those requests shifted noticeably during the year, from technical questions about individual buildings or pilot schemes to whole-city investment cases, financing-instrument design and cross-departmental governance reform. That shift in complexity is itself a marker of where the Mission has moved to. Climate KIC also coordinated the Twinning Learning Programme, taking the EU Cities Mission peer-learning network to 184 cities, with a fourth cohort launched in 2025.

City-industry dialogues: the Cities and Industry Lead Markets programme

Through the Cities and Industry Lead Markets programme - supported by Stiftung Mercator and convened with ICLEI Europe and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development - Climate KIC stepped up city-industry dialogues across Europe in 2025. Six structured dialogues ran across 2024-2025 (Madrid, Łódź, Berlin, Santander, Warsaw and a pan-European convening at the European Forum Alpbach), bringing senior industry leaders - Saint-Gobain, Arup, Acciona, Veolia, Engie, Iberdrola, Schneider and others - into direct conversation with Mission cities, EIB and EBRD, and European policymakers. The programme was formally incorporated as a workstream of the Systems Transformation Hub, with growing institutional interest from Members of the European Parliament, the EU Cities Mission Board and European Commission decision-makers.

A new urban agenda: housing and governance

In response to the rapidly growing EU-level attention to housing affordability, Climate KIC engaged directly with the EU Housing Task Force and DG REGIO, and entered discussions with the Mayors for Housing coalition to co-design a challenge; blending urgent mitigation (rapidly bringing more housing to the market) with longer-term systemic moves to re-shape housing markets for climate, resilience and affordability. Conversations were initiated with European Urban Initiatives (EUI) and Driving Urban Transitions (DUT) to amplify impact. A formal challenge launch is targeted for Q2 2026.

Finance mobilisation: scaling the Capital Hub

The Climate City Capital Hub - launched in 2024 in cooperation with the European Investment Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development - continued to scale through 2025, providing tailored finance advice to Mission Cities. The Mission Label unlocks access to a EUR2 billion EIB lending envelope. The next phase of NetZeroCities funding, beginning in 2026, brings substantial new finance workstreams: a City Finance Framework Tool, training for cities on attracting private capital, and a Finance Expert Support Facility published in 2025.

Cities mobilising globally

Climate KIC's international reach in cities expanded notably in 2025. Through NetZeroCities-inspired activity, 50 cities mobilised in Türkiye under a sister initiative by year-end - the first national Mission-style city programme outside the EU. Global philanthropic partners highlighted Climate KIC's experience in coordinating place-based transformation as a reference model for translating climate ambition into city-level action. The 2025 Cities Mission Conference, held in Vilnius (6-8 May) under the theme 'Harnessing City Successes', drew over 100 European cities together to share lessons on moving from climate planning to climate delivery.



Case study

Valencia, Spain

A Mediterranean city that bore the brunt of devastating floods integrated systemic resilience into 36 of its formal Climate City Contract commitments, authored a new chapter on public procurement now being picked up by Valencia's professional architects' college, and anchored a European policy ask - now sitting with the President of the European Commission - that almost 60 Mission Cities across 15 EU Member States have endorsed. Valencia in 2025 shows what a Mission city can do when it speaks not just for itself, but for a continent.

Through 2025, the City of Valencia worked with the citiES 2030 platform - the Spanish national platform of Mission Cities - and the EU CINCO 2.0 initiative to iterate its Climate City Contract as a stress-test of every action against three lenses simultaneously: adaptation, just transition and embodied carbon. EU CINCO 2.0 is funded by Laudes Foundation and delivered through a consortium of citiES 2030, Climate KIC NEB, Dark Matter Labs and Democratic Society. The methodology the consortium designed in 2025 was a tool based on a simple set of targeted questions, which Mission Cities applied autonomously to challenge their internal teams at every level.

What changed in Valencia is significant. The city integrated a just transition approach into 23 of its Climate City Contract actions, and the consideration of embodied carbon and sufficiency measures into 13 further actions- a combined total of 36 actions - reshaped through systemic lenses - that did not exist in the original contract. The city's own teams identified the application of these three filters as a key success story in its recent iteration process, reporting that the tool was well received and considered useful by all relevant municipal departments. Crucially, Valencia commissioned the consortium to write a new chapter on public procurement for the city's Guía VERD (Green Guide), presenting 14 actionable strategies across three families: valuing quality and impact beyond price, incentivising ecological and bio-based materials, and fostering innovation through collaboration. Each strategy included a Spanish case study illustrating how municipalities are already applying these approaches. Following one presentation, the Colegio Territorial de Arquitectos de Valencia (CTAV) invited the team to explore integrating these strategies into the College's own processes - the methodology has begun to travel from one administration's plan into a profession's working practice.

The Spanish Mission cohort also reached a major milestone. At the fourth citiES 2030 Summer School in Santander in July 2025 - held within the Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo programme, with 150 participants from 66 organisations - city councillors from Madrid, Valencia, Seville, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Valladolid and Zaragoza renewed their commitment to climate neutrality, with the submission of iterated Climate City Contracts to the European Commission scheduled for September 2025. At the same event, the cities of Bilbao and Viladecans signed their new Climate City Contracts, becoming the official candidate cities to join the Mission. The milestone positioned Spain as the first country where additional cities are ready to join the Mission with a full commitment and a clear roadmap - a working precedent for how the Cities Mission can grow.

The most consequential outcome was European. The Valencia Green Charter - launched in June 2024 by the Spanish and Swedish Mission Cities together with the national platforms citiES 2030 and Viable Cities - is a joint declaration on the need for coherent governance, long-term funding, regulatory flexibility, and the conditions that allow climate-neutral solutions to be implemented and replicated at scale. In the months that followed, almost 60 Mission Cities, networks and national platforms across 15 EU Member States officially endorsed the Declaration. In late 2024, the Charter was submitted to the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen. Through 2025, work continued to raise awareness of the Declaration in relevant European fora, and dialogues with Swedish and Spanish Members of the European Parliament began. A city in recovery from one of the costliest climate-related disasters in its national history is now the anchor of the Mission community's most coherent collective ask in Brussels.



> *"What began as a collaboration between two national platforms and fourteen pioneering cities quickly evolved into a broader European call for support, visibility and higher-level collaboration.*
>
> – citiES 2030, EU CINCO 2.0 Impact Stories

Valencia in 2025 demonstrates what Climate KIC and partners can do when a Mission city is treated as a co-author of European climate policy rather than as a delivery target. The combination of place-based delivery - Climate City Contract actions reshaped through three filters, a procurement chapter picked up by a professional college - with consortium delivery (citiES 2030, Climate KIC NEB, Dark Matter Labs and Democratic Society), funder backing (Laudes Foundation), and European-scale voice amplification through the Valencia Green Charter, is the model that Climate KIC and citiES 2030 are now translating into the next phase of work with Spanish cities. Together, these ways of working turn a city's hardest year into Europe's clearest signal of what determined, collaborative climate resilience can look like.

Regions stepping into resilience

Through Pathways2Resilience, the 39 European regions in P2R cohort 1 moved from baseline diagnostics into integrated Climate Resilience Strategies, Action Plans and Investment Plans - most now investment-ready. The second cohort took the initiative to 100 regions in total, spanning 38 European countries and representing a combined population of over 100 million citizens.

The shift means that regional adaptation work in Europe has, for the first time, a common methodology, a comparable evidence base, and an investment-ready pipeline that European and national funders can engage with directly.

In 2025, Climate KIC led key work on governance innovation, experimentation and learning across Pathways2Resilience. A major Q4 sensemaking workshop convened all 39 actively-engaged regions to share learning on governance challenges, climate-risk assessment, capability gaps and multi-level coordination, with regional teams now embedding climate-resilience pathways into their long-term planning. Work continued through the year on the regional nature-based solutions portfolio - NBRACER (Atlantic), DesirMED (Mediterranean) and ARCADIA (Continental Europe) - supporting regional experimentation across the portfolio.

NextAdapt evolved through 2025 as the central coordination mechanism supporting EU Adaptation Mission implementation, with Climate KIC designing governance models and resilience pathways for participating regions.

Climate KIC's contribution to the 1000 Landscapes for One Billion People initiative - co-led with UNDP, Rainforest Alliance and EcoAgriculture Partners - advanced its 4 Returns framework across European and global landscape partnerships.

Food systems and soil

In 2025, Climate KIC's Ireland Deep Demonstration entered its third phase, focusing on carbon farming, sustainable dairy and value-chain scaling. The most significant new initiative of the year was the launch of Comhar BIA - a cooperative biorefinery network developed in partnership with Irish stakeholders - alongside advanced place-based finance work including the exploration of an impact bond to support long-term sector transition. Beyond Ireland, Climate KIC continued its work on the EU Soil Mission and launched Green Horizons, a pan-European farmers' network for climate adaptation.

In Ireland, Climate KIC's partnership with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine entered its third phase in 2025, with the launch of Comhar BIA as the defining moment - a cooperative biorefinery network designed to support farm-and-forest transition across the rural Irish economy. Climate KIC convened the second European Carbon Farming Summit in 2025, building on the first summit it organised and led in 2024. The 2025 Summit in Dublin advanced climate-smart agricultural solutions and EU Carbon Removal and Carbon Farming policy.

Project CREDIBLE advanced methodologies for soil carbon markets and EU Carbon Removal Certification. Climate KIC participated in EU-funded innovation projects co-developing systemic solutions across European farming systems - including ClieNFarms and HarvRESt. Green Horizons launched in 2025 as a pan-European network for farmers seeking climate adaptation solutions, with early regional activity in Greece, Spain and Poland.



Case study

Ireland

In a country where agriculture accounts for the largest single share of national emissions, three years of Climate KIC's Deep Demonstration partnership with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine reached a national tipping point in 2025: a Carbon Farming Framework co-developed with the Irish Government and launched in front of more than 1,000 stakeholders at Dublin Castle; a EUR 700,000 dairy methane-reduction expansion programme across 10 West Cork farms, funded by the Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action; and a pioneering co-operative biorefinery feasibility study with Arrabawn-Tipperary Co-operative - a working pattern for an integrated agri-food transition that Europe needs.

Ireland's national identity, exports and emissions are bound up in agriculture. The country's farmers, foresters and dairy co-operatives sit at the centre of a credible national climate transition. In 2022, Climate KIC and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) established a Deep Demonstration partnership to test how systems-innovation could move Irish farming from being part of the climate problem to being part of the solution. Five years on, that partnership delivered a series of major moments through 2025 - each evidencing a different dimension of what is now possible.

From 4 to 6 March 2025, Climate KIC convened the 2nd European Carbon Farming Summit at Dublin Castle in collaboration with the Project CREDIBLE consortium and the Government of Ireland. Over 550 participants joined in person, with over 500 more attending online - more than 1,000 stakeholders engaged across five plenary sessions and 42 parallel discussions. From a plenary stage shared with Climate KIC's CEO Kirsten Dunlop, Minister Martin Heydon framed Ireland's national approach to carbon farming - the framework that Climate KIC and DAFM had co-developed over the preceding years.

> *"Farmers and foresters are the custodians of our land. These are the people who can deliver the kind of ecosystem services that have the potential to attract investment in the future. For this reason, engagement with them will be a foundation of any policy development in this area.*
>
> – Minister Martin Heydon, Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine

On dairy farms, the partnership moved from framework into deployment. In July 2025, Climate KIC and Carbery - a West Cork based agri-food co-operative, owned by four Irish dairy co-operatives - announced a EUR 700,000 initiative to expand the deployment of next-generation methane-reducing technologies, including Glasport Bio's Slurry Abate system, on 10 additional dairy farms. The work extends Carbery's existing Farm Zero C project, run with BiOrbic Bioeconomy SFI Research Centre and Teagasc at Shinagh Farm in West Cork. The funding for the expansion was provided by the Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action; from whom the financial-innovation partners included Bankers without Boundaries, Community Arts Network and Metabolic. The initiative is structured to test methane-reducing technologies across 10 farms in Year One and scale to a second cohort in Year Two - building business models, narratives and practical insights that will enable scaling in 2026.

> *"We have been seeing what works on one farm, as part of Farm Zero C. This project is about taking what has been tested on one farm, and bringing it to more of them. We will see then what works practically and what will actually make a difference to the average farmer.*
>
> – John O'Donoghue, participating farmer

On industrial infrastructure, the partnership broke new ground with Comhar BIA - the Collaborative Bio-Industrial Alliance. In September 2025, Climate KIC, the Irish Co-operative Organisation Society (ICOS) and the Arrabawn-Tipperary Co-operative launched a feasibility study exploring a co-owned biorefinery model for the co-operative. The study is supported by a EUR 50,000 grant from Enterprise Ireland's Smart Regions Innovation Fund, with matched funding from the Golden Jubilee Trust, and co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Southern, Eastern & Midland Regional Programme 2021-2027. Technical engineering services are provided by AtkinsRéalis. Arrabawn-Tipperary was selected via a competitive expression-of-interest process, on the basis of access to suitable feedstock from dairy processing side streams, and its location within a discrete rural catchment area. The model is co-operative-owned by design - a pattern that could be replicated across Ireland's rural economy, as the country builds out a network of biorefineries and anaerobic digestion plants.

Across Ireland's regions, the Deep Demonstration team worked hand in hand with the Climate Action Regional Offices, engaging 31 local authorities and supporting ten of them to co-develop regional bioeconomy action plans. Three regional workshops mapped the bioeconomy's role in meeting Ireland's climate targets, and a Policy Impact Workshop charted pathways to scale innovations like biochar and other bio-based products. The bioeconomy programme also secured two successful proposals under the European Innovation Partnership call (on Carbon Farming and Nutrient Management) and convened a national Funding and Finance Working Group to support a systemic-finance approach to the agri-food transition.

The Carbery initiative is one of the place-based positions in The Collaborative's first portfolio - one of a number of investments through which the Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action is testing how a multi-funder, multi-implementer coalition can advance systemic transformation. What Ireland's 2025 work demonstrates is the convergence of multiple dimensions of that test in one country: ministerial-level partnership; place-based delivery through 31 local authorities; co-operative ownership of industrial assets; on-farm technology deployment; and capital diversification across public, philanthropic and corporate sources. Each thread has named partners, named funding and a documented role. Together, they are the pattern Europe's wider agri-food transition will need.

Industry value chains and circular economy

In 2025, industry value chains became a more concrete part of Climate KIC's work. Climate KIC's Industry Value Chains portfolio - bioeconomy, construction, materials, textiles, chemicals, and emerging green manufacturing ecosystems - became more deeply embedded in place-based delivery, with industry-cluster work in Slovenia, Spain, Poland and across the EU's Lead Markets Initiative now intersecting Mission city and region delivery, rather than running alongside it.

Within the Slovenia Deep Demonstration (2019-2026), the most significant 2025 milestone was the incubation of two strategic pilots focused on circular critical raw materials - rare earths and phosphorus - addressing requirements of the EU Critical Raw Materials Act, drawing on more than thirty research, industry and government organisations across Slovenia. The model is being designed for replication. In Gipuzkoa, the 2024-2027 Strategy entered operational phase in 2025.

During 2025, our industry transition work spanned textiles, construction, biobased materials, circular plastics and local manufacturing value chains. Climate KIC began developing a new generation of cross-value-chain initiatives connecting place-based transformations with the EU's Lead Markets agenda - work that intersects with the Cities and Industry Lead Markets programme described in the Cities sub-section above.

Finance: unlocking system change

In 2025, Climate KIC's finance work continued to scale in both direct portfolio activity and through the Investing for 1.5°C initiative. The Climate-SAFE direct-investment portfolio reached 71 start-ups across 26 countries; the Una Terra Circular Economy Strategy raised EUR 30 million during the year; the DeepTech Industrial Decarbonisation Fund (with Almanac Ventures) continued fundraising and made three first investments; and the new Carbon Removal Debt Facility entered into a structuring phase. Two successful portfolio exits during the year.

Climate-SAFE: scaling the direct-investment portfolio

The Climate KIC investment portfolio comprised 71 start-ups across 26 countries by the end of 2025, with five new investment agreements signed during the year and total equity holdings reaching approximately EUR 6.2 million. Two portfolio exits closed during 2025 - a maturity signal for the Climate-SAFE programme. The Capital and Investments team continued to develop adaptation venture infrastructure as a distinct asset class.

Investing for 1.5°C: the partner-fund model

Climate KIC continued to scale the *Investing for 1.5°C* initiative through 2025, working with specialised partner funds to mobilise capital for climate adaptation and resilience ventures. The 1.5 Pipeline deal-flow database expanded across investment instruments and asset classes, with the Capital and Investments team actively engaging the European institutional investor community on adaptation as a credible investment thesis.

Carbon Removal Debt Facility: a new instrument

Climate KIC launched the *Carbon Removal Debt Facility* in 2025 to help finance carbon-removal projects, expanding the range of financial instruments available to support climate innovation. During the year, work focused on structuring the facility and beginning initial discussions with potential funders, laying the groundwork for future investment in carbon-removal deployment from 2026 onwards.

Finance Mobilisation: the Climate City Capital Hub

Within the NetZeroCities Capital Hub - addressing the substantial finance gap facing EU Mission Cities to deliver their climate action plans - Climate KIC's investment team continued to embed their work in projects to provide finance mobilisation support: identifying investment opportunities, providing capacity-building to project proponents, and engaging with investors on novel structures. The Hub work scaled meaningfully through 2025.

Ireland: Enterprise Ireland feasibility funding for the Biorefinery Network

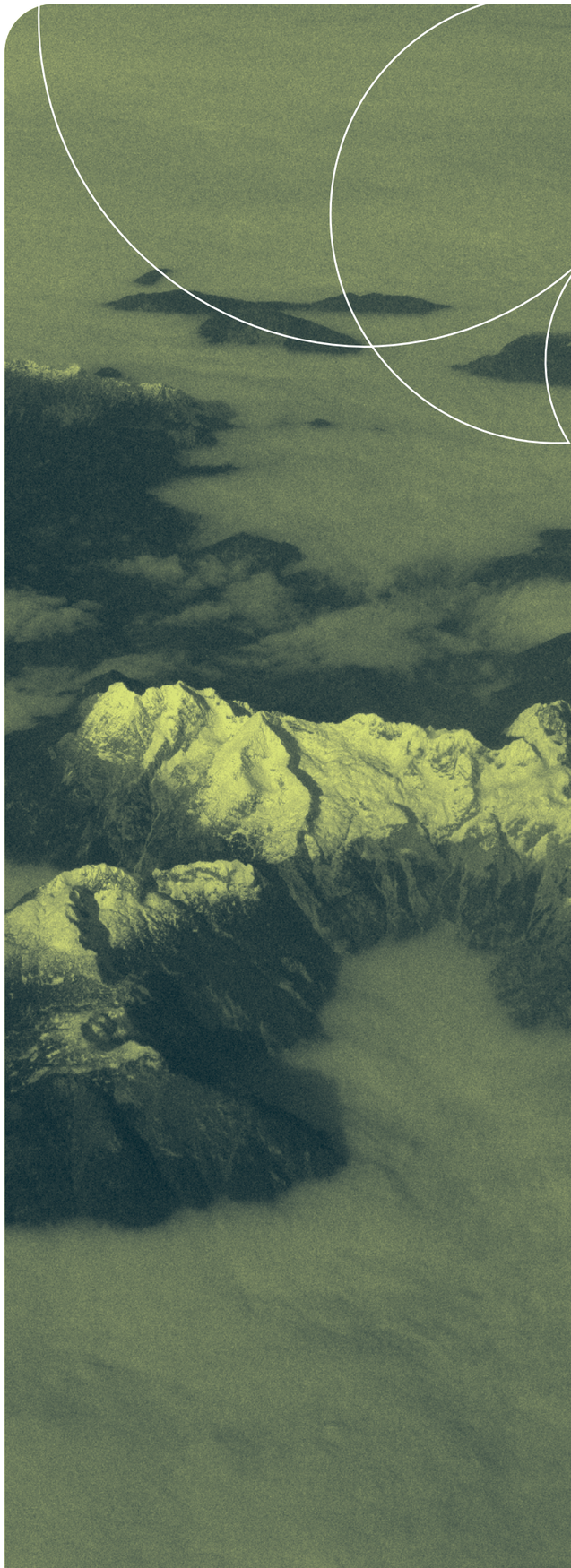
In Ireland, finance from Enterprise Ireland was secured during 2025 for the feasibility and roadmap phase of the Biorefinery Network. The cooperative-structures model used here - now formalised through Comhar BIA - points to a different approach to mobilising place-based investment. Work also advanced through 2025 on exploring an impact bond to support long-term Irish agri-food sector transition.

Looking to 2026: extending the investment offer

By year-end 2025, Climate KIC had set in motion three additional 2026 directional moves: expanding Climate-SAFE to Latin America and the Caribbean; designing a new blue-economy investment strategy; and expanding the 1.5 Pipeline deal-flow database to cover more investment instruments and asset classes.

Earth observation and climate services

Climate KIC's Earth Observation (EO) and Climate Services portfolio delivered through multiple active EU-funded projects, in partnership with the Copernicus Programme in 2025. *VALORADA* continued validating satellite-derived climate-risk products with regional decision-makers. *PCP-WISE* supported public authorities on Earth-observation-based water-monitoring services. *Climateurope2* developed a more transparent Climate Services market across its consortium. Climate KIC also extended Earth Observation work globally - supporting regions in Asia, Latin America and Africa to apply EO data to locally relevant Climate Services.



Renewed momentum for climate entrepreneurship

The Climate KIC investment portfolio grew to 71 start-ups across 26 countries in 2025, with two portfolio exits and Una Terra reaching its EUR 50 million first close in July 2025 - bringing place-based delivery and venture acceleration into a single integrated proposition for funders.

ClimateLaunchpad 2025: Vienna and 40 countries

ClimateLaunchpad's 2025 cycle recorded its highest application demand since 2019 - 2,773 applications from 40 participating countries. Around 1,400 participants joined the new mini-course; some 500 advanced into Boot Camps and pitching competitions. 37 per cent of applicants identified as women. The Global Grand Final was held in person in Vienna in October 2025 - the first in-person Final since 2019 - and was won by SeaH4, the South Africa-based team developing an algae-based fuel replacement.

The cycle's 2025 design built in tighter integration with national entrepreneurship ecosystems and a stronger pipeline link into the wider ClimAccelerator portfolio.



Expanded impact methodology

Climate KIC expanded its venture impact-assessment methodology in 2025 to include adaptation, resilience and circularity alongside emissions reduction, bringing it into closer alignment with the broader systemic transformation portfolio.

Practitioner's guide for inclusive innovation programmes

Climate KIC launched a practitioner's guide for designing inclusive innovation programmes in 2025 - extending beyond gender to broader dimensions of inclusion. The guide is being adopted across Climate KIC's Entrepreneurship Support Organisations, to make innovation ecosystems more equitable by design.

SeaH4, 2025 Global Grand Final winner; 40 countries participating in the 2025 programme

Strengthening ecosystems across the Global South in 2025

Climate KIC's 2025 work on innovation ecosystems concentrated on the continents of Africa, Latin America and Asia.

Tanzania, Egypt and Latin America were the areas of strongest focus in 2025. The Adaptation & Resilience Innovation Cluster, in partnership with Irish Aid, expanded its Tanzania network and continued to accelerate climate ventures, fund grants for early-stage ventures, and train smallholder advisors. In Egypt, Climate KIC equipped a cohort of Entrepreneurship Support Organisations through a GIZ-led international cooperation initiative, supporting green transformation of the Egyptian economy. Across Latin America and the Caribbean, Climate KIC strengthened Entrepreneurship Support Organisations with IDB Lab and the Clean Technology Fund, and applied impact-assessment tools to ventures across Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean, Colombia and Chile.

The Catalist1.5 programme - Climate KIC's partnership with GIZ on adaptation venture support - continued supporting early-stage ventures across West Africa and Latin America. FoodCoP convened a network of organisations across multiple countries on sustainable food systems, aligned to the EU's emerging rural-policy work. Circular Economy Clusters in Nairobi and Bengaluru - co-funded by the IKEA Foundation - delivered the Circular Venture Blueprint.



Climate KIC in the top 10 of Europe's start-up hubs

Climate KIC's investment portfolio continued to attract recognition for its impact performance through 2025, with multiple portfolio ventures featured in independent rankings and the EIT-commissioned impact analysis underscoring the systemic value of the KIC model.

EIT Community New European Bauhaus (NEB):

Climate KIC has played an instrumental role in preparing, establishing, and disseminating the NEB Hub for Results and Impact (NEB Junction). Funded as a CSA under the 2024 NEB Destination HE calls, this project enabled Climate KIC to cement its position as a key player in the NEB ecosystem. In NEB Junction, Climate KIC has a transversal role as an orchestrator and leading stakeholder engagement.

Results the end of 2025 for the NEB Junction:

€5.9M
Subgrants awarded

1500+
Applications for startup acceleration programmes

39%
Startups founded/ co-founded by women

236
NEB projects/ startups supported

40
Countries covered

10,000+
Citizens engaged

Strategic investment partnerships

Climate KIC's strategic partnerships with leading investors and corporations continued through 2025: the Salesforce x Climate KIC AI x Climate programme launched in April 2025, alongside continued partnerships with Amazon and Google.org.

The Salesforce x Climate KIC AI x Climate programme engaged 28 ESOs and start-ups across London and Dublin cohorts, plus a further 18 ESOs from Europe, Africa, Latin America and Asia, in expert-led masterclasses. 18 start-ups received tailored impact-measurement support, with the cohort's validated emissions mitigation potential reaching 160,000 tonnes CO2 equivalent per year. A Trinity Business School workshop in Dublin identified three priorities in Ireland's agri-food system, with a pilot data dashboard taken forward. By the end of the programme, 83 per cent of ESOs and start-ups reported improved confidence and ecosystem access.

Case study

Bengaluru, India and Nairobi, Kenya

Over three years, Climate KIC and the IKEA Foundation built two integrated circular-economy entrepreneurship ecosystems from the ground up. By the project's conclusion in December 2025, 53 circular business ventures were operating across Bengaluru and Nairobi, 927 informal-sector workers had been integrated into formal value chains, and a Circular Venture Blueprint, published in October, codified the approach for other entrepreneurship-support organisations across Africa, Asia, Latin America and Small Island Developing States to use and adapt.

Nairobi produces approximately 3,207 tonnes of waste per day - around 20 per cent of which is plastic and 50 per cent is organic. The informal sector handles much of this waste, and its workers carry both the value and the risk. The Kenyan National Waste Pickers Welfare Association (KeNaWPWA) represents over 46,000 waste pickers across the country, and in Nairobi's Kibera informal settlement, the Association's network serves 10,000 households with a team of 288 young people. Without these workers, Nairobi's circular economy would not function. With them, it is possible to design ventures that connect formal and informal markets - building livelihoods alongside material recovery and climate impact.



The Circular Economy Innovation Clusters (CEIC) project - a three-year collaboration funded by the IKEA Foundation, running from June 2023 to December 2025 - set out to build the local entrepreneurship-support infrastructure that circular ventures need to survive their early years, and to integrate informal-sector workers as participants in those ventures, rather than as adjacent labour. Climate KIC delivered the work with GrowthAfrica in Nairobi and SecondMuse in Bengaluru. Local entrepreneurship-support organisations were the agents of change; the cluster's role was to support the infrastructure they needed.

What the work delivered in Nairobi is, in essence, a different relationship between formal business ventures and informal-sector workers. In 2024 - the project's first full cohort year - ten Nairobi start-ups collectively supported 792 informal workers. Their innovations advanced circularity with a potential reduction of 21 kilotonnes CO2 equivalent per year across the joint Nairobi-Bengaluru cohort, equivalent to the emissions saved by six large wind turbines.

13 of the 17 start-ups improved their social inclusion strategies during their time with the cluster. Vintz Plastics - a Kenyan plastics recycling company led by CEO Mavji Varsani - is one of the cluster network's named ventures. In November 2024, Climate KIC also hosted a workshop for 17 Nairobi County Environment officers on circular economy and climate change, building public-sector capability alongside private-sector ventures.

> *"Waste pickers already know plastics by their own names and can identify materials efficiently. The government only needs to provide basic training, such as chemical awareness and terminology, to align waste pickers with formal systems. Without this integration, policies will fail. Waste pickers are the backbone of the recycling process and must be acknowledged and supported.*
>
> – Gisore Nyabuti, General Secretary, Kenyan National Waste Pickers Welfare Association

In Bengaluru, the cluster shifted the local circular-venture ecosystem from informal connection to formal infrastructure. Climate KIC's ClimAccelerator programme in Bengaluru selected three winners in late 2024 that exemplify the texture of the local circular economy. These were, Sunbird Straws, which makes multi-layered straws and pens from dried coconut leaves; Carbon Craft, which develops tiles made from upcycled carbon to reduce air pollution and foster circularity in construction materials; and Wheedle, an online platform for pre-loved baby and kids' products. Other ventures supported through the Bengaluru cluster include Saahas Zero Waste, which collects and upcycles textile waste into home decor and daily-use items; Saving Grains, which repurposes leftover spent grain from the brewing process into nutritious food products; and Bare Necessities, a social enterprise creating zero-waste personal care and lifestyle products. In May 2025, the Bengaluru cluster launched a Catalytic Grant Facility, providing eight ventures with USD 18,000 each in equity-free funding from a pool of nearly 100 applicants. In September 2025, Climate KIC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Bengaluru Center of Excellence for Technology, formalising the route between the cluster and the city's wider innovation infrastructure.

The most consequential 2025 output was codification. On 30 October 2025, Climate KIC published the Circular Venture Blueprint - a guide for entrepreneurship-support organisations co-created by 14 leading organisations from Bengaluru and Nairobi. The Blueprint compiles practical methodologies, tools and partnership models from the cluster's three years of work, designed for entrepreneurship-support organisations elsewhere to use and adapt. It is a working document, written by the organisations that built the ecosystems. Climate KIC, GrowthAfrica and SecondMuse coordinated the publication, with IKEA Foundation as the funder.

What Bengaluru and Nairobi demonstrate, is what Climate KIC and a patient philanthropic funder can build together, when local entrepreneurship-support organisations are in the lead. Two integrated circular-economy ecosystems now exist where they did not three years ago. 53 ventures are operating; 927 informal-sector workers are participating; 21 kilotonnes of CO2 equivalent per year of mitigation potential has been validated; and a Blueprint is now available to other Global South cities, navigating the same materials problem at the same scale. Climate KIC has opened a follow-on call offering grants of up to EUR 50,000 per city to entrepreneurship-support organisations in India and Kenya.

Learning to learn: the Climate KIC Academy

The Climate KIC Academy launched in 2025 as the organisation's platform-based capability-building offer, received the EIT Non-Degree Education Label, and engaged 1,212 participants across cohorts - 59 per cent from RIS regions - including 240 regional government staff under the JRC programme.

Education has been part of Climate KIC's mandate since the beginning. Knowledge Triangle Integration, bringing together education, innovation and entrepreneurship, was central to our founding brief as an EIT Knowledge and Innovation Community in 2010, and training the people who would lead on climate has run through everything we've built since, from the Climathon and Journeys programmes to leadership and entrepreneurship training delivered across our network.

In 2025, we brought this fifteen-year foundational knowledge into a new, more structured shape with the launch of the Climate KIC Academy. This was a consolidation of years of practice into a single offering, designed to expand our reach, and bridge the gap between technical expertise and the leadership capacities needed to drive climate transformation. In its first year, the Academy equipped individuals with climate resilience skills, knowledge and collaborative strategies to lead the green transition through concrete learning journeys across three major initiatives.

On 24 February 2026, the Climate KIC Academy was awarded the EIT Non-Degree Education Label, a very important external accreditation of our evolved approach to climate learning.

In addition to the launch of the Academy platform and its EIT Non-Degree Education Label, three flagship Academy initiatives ran through 2025:

EU regions advancing real place-based transformation (initiated 2025, continuing into 2026).

Climate Academy training for policymakers from 71 EU regions, funded by the Joint Research Centre (JRC), which empowered territories with the essential tools, skills, and networks required to drive systemic innovation and effectively address complex challenges within the broader policy landscape.

Rivne, Ukraine (initiated 2024, continuing into 2025)

A pilot programme within NetZeroCities, supporting Ukraine's ambition to be climate-neutral by 2030. The 2025 cohort worked, even in active conflict conditions, on mindset shift and on strengthening the collective capacity of city representatives to collaborate toward climate innovation.

Japan (2025)

The J-StarX CleanTech Journey, delivered in partnership with the Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO), supporting local cleantech leaders through immersive exchange, and the most prominent of 2025's new Academy initiatives

Across all 2025 Academy and entrepreneurial education activities, 1,212 participants engaged, 715 (59 per cent) of them from EIT Regional Innovation Scheme countries. The Academy's 2025 cohorts included 632 EIT Label graduates across 95 Higher Education Institutions, PhD students through the EIT-funded Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Network, 240 regional government staff in the Joint Research Centre's "Transformative Innovation for Climate Resilience" capacity-building programme, and a Moldovan cohort under UNDP Moldova's National Green Transition Project.

The next chapter of the Climate KIC Academy is grounded in a simple belief: climate transformation happens through people. By expanding learning opportunities across geographies, sectors and levels of leadership, the Academy will continue to equip change-makers with the capabilities needed to accelerate the green transition. In a world where thousands of daily decisions determine whether climate goals become reality, we will help leaders make those decisions well, together.



UNIDO Learning Academy and embedded learning

Work with the UNIDO Learning Academy for Industrial Decarbonisation continued through 2025, integrating systems-learning into industrial transformation curricula. Climate KIC's Leadership in Complexity workstream contributed to the Inner Development Goals Summit (October 2025) with a workshop titled 'Cultivating Inner Resources for Climate Action', and piloted at the Climate Reality Project Tour in Paris (March 2025), embedding systems-thinking and inner-development frameworks in adjacent leadership communities.

Higher Education partnerships continued in 2025

Three higher-education partnerships have the most material reach for Climate KIC in 2025: the EIT Higher Education Initiative, co-delivered with the other EIT KICs (90,000+ students and staff across 88 institutions in 33 countries, 1,700 start-ups in the pipeline); the EIT-funded Marie Skłodowska-Curie Doctoral Network, with European partner universities and graduates feeding into Mission city and Deep Demonstration teams; and the EIT Deep Tech Talent Initiative (450+ organisations in the network).

Case study

Rivne, Ukraine

Despite 2025 being the fourth year of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Rivne, a regional capital in western Ukraine, kept its long-term climate-neutrality strategy moving forward. The leadership programme that supported it is now one of Climate KIC's six published Outcome Stories - methodology that establishes how capability-building can sustain climate work in the hardest operating conditions in Europe.

Rivne is already ahead of many of its European counterparts. The city has equipped hospitals with solar panels and retrofitted public buildings with energy efficiency measures. In 2020, Rivne completed its first Sustainable Energy Action Plan and achieved an 18 per cent reduction in emissions. A year later, it joined the European Energy Award. In 2022, when Russian forces bombarded Kharkiv and advanced toward Kyiv, weaknesses in national infrastructure became more visible, and cities across Ukraine were forced to make difficult decisions about what to defer. Rivne chose to stay its sustainable course.

The Climate KIC Academy's contribution was designed for the binding constraint Rivne's team identified. Working with local partners - including United for Ukraine and the Rivne City Council - Climate KIC shaped a practical leadership programme around what an early mapping exercise confirmed: civil servants and local stakeholders needed upskilling and reskilling on the current energy landscape, existing strategies and the practical challenges of implementing climate action.

From September to November 2024, more than 20 Ukrainian officials participated in a programme that combined four expert-led workshops, online systems-innovation courses, peer-to-peer leadership coaching and policy-innovation practices. The programme was delivered in Ukrainian, with guest sessions from Maksym Karpash, Vice Rector for International Affairs and Strategic Development at King Danylo University; Oksana Udovyk from the Spanish energy institute INGENIO; climate adaptation expert Olha Lyashchuk; and external expert Andriy Hrytsevych.

What changed in Rivne is at the level of governance itself. Post-course surveys showed that climate awareness deepened, but more importantly, participants gained confidence in systems thinking: understanding how energy decisions ripple across city departments and long-term planning. Iryna Mykhaliuk, Chief Specialist of the Energy Efficiency Unit at the Municipality of Rivne, put it this way: 'For me, the Climate KIC Academy is the interconnection between environmental, social and economic aspects which together allow us to form solutions that will be aimed at achieving community energy sustainability and, in general, the sustainable development of any community.' For Deputy Mayor Artem Hanuschak, the full-scale invasion had uncovered problems which had not been resolved since 2014, including energy dependence on the state aggressor - gas and grid connections to Russia and Belarus. A systematic analysis of environmental issues, the integration of practical tools acquired during the training, and the adaptation of European experience in energy efficiency and sustainable planning, he noted, provide the foundation for developing a long-term climate neutrality strategy.





> *"Participation in the Climate KIC Academy has been not only an honourable opportunity for the city of Rivne but also a valuable tool for rethinking governance approaches in the context of climate challenges.*
>
> – Artem Hanuschak, Deputy Mayor of Rivne

The implication of Rivne's bravery and experience travels far beyond the city. The Climate KIC Academy exists on a hypothesis: that the binding constraint on climate transformation in Europe is rarely the absence of technology or capital - it is the absence of institutional capability, the leadership and systems literacy needed to act coherently at speed. Rivne tested that hypothesis in the hardest possible context. If a Ukrainian city can deepen its climate-neutrality strategy while the country it sits within is under sustained attack, the conditions elsewhere in Europe cannot reasonably be argued to be too difficult to surmount.

Climate KIC's MEL function published the Rivne case as one of the first six Outcome Stories in December 2025 - case studies that trace how systems change unfolds in practice, grounded in robust evidence and shaped through a clear narrative arc. The Outcome Stories collection is published on climate-kic.org alongside cases from Slovenia, Greece and elsewhere, and forms a methodologically validated body of evidence about what Climate KIC and partners are achieving across the portfolio.

A follow-up study with Rivne's participants is planned, to confirm sustained outcomes and inform how the Climate KIC Academy's work evolves through 2026. The Academy will continue working in this register: with cities and institutions whose operating environment is hardest, on the leadership capacity that lets a long-term climate strategy survive a short-term emergency. Rivne's continued investment in climate leadership through wartime is the kind of evidence about what is institutionally possible that the European energy transition will need.

Putting systems thinking into policy making

Climate KIC's policy work in 2025 positioned systems-innovation framings inside three of this Commission term's biggest debates - competitiveness, strategic autonomy and climate adaptation - with the EU competitiveness debate, the Clean Industrial Deal positioning, and the COP30 climate-information-integrity coalition the most consequential moments.

Shaping EU legislation from the inside

Climate KIC's policy team contributed to nine European Commission consultations in 2025, spanning the EU Startup and Scale-up Strategy, the Multiannual Financial Framework (with particular focus on FP10 and the Competitiveness Fund), the revision of Public Procurement, Cohesion Policy in terms of the Vision for Cities, elements of the Common Agricultural Policy reform, the EU Circular Economy Act and Circular Bioeconomy Strategy. Three of these carried particular weight: a substantial submission reframing public procurement as a lever for systemic transformation, which fed into the Commission's emerging procurement framework; a structured contribution to the Clean Industrial Deal framing competitiveness and decarbonisation as a single agenda rather than competing priorities; and evidence from Climate KIC's own portfolio that informed the Commission's understanding of climate-tech scale-up barriers within the EU Startup and Scale-up Strategy.

The Systems Transformation Hub, from member to host

Climate KIC is part of the Systems Transformation Hub, a coalition of European philanthropic and policy actors bringing systems-innovation framing into high-stakes EU debates. In 2025, the Hub published 'Building a Secure and Thriving Europe: A Systems Approach to the 2024–2029 EU Strategic Agenda' and, as a Hub member, Climate KIC contributed to a series of narrative-framing and consultation sessions with the European Environment Agency and European Commission teams working on the EEA's Europe's Environment 2025 report - helping sharpen the connection between a healthy economy and a healthy environment at a moment when the political space for evidence on biodiversity loss and environmental degradation has been narrowing. It was the first time Climate KIC's framing has appeared in the EEA's quinquennial report, strengthening the feedback loop between practice, evidence and policy. From January 2026, Climate KIC will step up from Hub member to Host Organisation.



Policy Labs

May	September	October	November	December
Łódź, Poland Textile sector circularity and digitisation, with the Fashion Innovation Centre.	**Brussels, Belgium** Efficient, circular and affordable housing, with the Mission city of Gävle and the Systems Transformation Hub.	**Tallinn, Estonia** 'From Pain to Profit: Business-Government Dialogue Towards the True Value of Sustainability', introducing the Beyond ESG paradigm.	**Warsaw, Poland** 'Communication of the future: authenticity as the currency of trust', co-delivered with the Polish ESG Association, with 223 participants.	**Warsaw, Poland** A second housing Lab, deepening the September findings with The Huge Thing accelerator.

2025

Policy Labs: testing systems thinking with the people who implement policy

Between May and December 2025, Climate KIC hosted five Policy Labs, bringing policymakers, industry and innovation ecosystems together to work through the practical, cross-sectoral challenges of implementing EU policy.

The cross-cutting recommendations from all five were consolidated into a Policy Recommendation Report, 'Decarbonisation, Knowledge Triangle Integration, and Europe's Regional Innovation Gap', shared with DG RTD, DG REGIO, DG EAC and the Innovation Pact community in late 2025. Two outputs are already having real-world effect: the Łódź Lab's procurement-tool design fed into a Polish national pilot now being scoped for 2026, and the Tallinn Lab's Beyond ESG recommendations have informed the Polish ESG Association's engagement with the revision of the European Sustainability Reporting Standards.

Engagement across the European Commission

Climate KIC deepened operational engagement through 2025 with Directorates-General whose mandates intersect most directly with the portfolio. DG REGIO worked closely with Pathways2Resilience and NextAdapt on European regional adaptation, and alongside DG ENER on the emerging climate-housing-cohesion framework, with the Mission city of Gävle as the worked example. DG RTD's Missions unit – home of the EU Cities Mission – remained a central interlocutor as the FP10 transition took shape, with the Missions to be repositioned solely outside the Research and Innovation funding envelope and into relevant policy DGs for more impact.

COP30 Belém

Climate KIC brought its largest COP presence to date to Belém. Two coalitions stood out for their influence: the climate information integrity coalition Climate KIC anchored with Reos Partners, Open Earth Foundation and a group of media organisations on counter-disinformation infrastructure; and the fossil-fuel phase-out roadmap coalition, through which Climate KIC supported the COP30 Colombian-led effort to include phase-out language in the Belém Declaration.

Climate KIC Community: deepened connection and practical collaboration

In 2025, Climate KIC's Community of 184 active member organisations convened across Europe through four Community CoLabs in EIT Regional Innovation Scheme countries, seven Community Connect online sessions, and the launch of two new sector-specific networks: Green Horizons for farmers and NextAdapt for resilient regions.

In 2025, Climate KIC's Community focused convening around closing the regional innovation divide across Europe - with a deliberate emphasis on member organisations in EIT Regional Innovation Scheme countries. Activity through the year combined four Community CoLabs (167 participants, 96 per cent from RIS regions); two new sector-specific networks (Green Horizons for farmers and NextAdapt for resilient regions); a refreshed value proposition for community members; and the redesign of the membership offer ahead of the 2026 platform launch.

For its members, the Climate KIC Community offers a five-part value proposition: connection to a Europe-wide network of climate leaders across cities, universities, research institutions, corporates, start-ups and public authorities; access to funding and investment opportunities generated through Climate KIC programmes and partners; shared learning through the Climate KIC Academy and peer exchange; access into EU policy processes and Missions delivery; and matching solutions to demand at the scale required for systemic transformation. The 2025 refresh sharpened these five offers ahead of the 2026 platform launch.

Four Community Collaborative Laboratories

Climate KIC convened four in-person Community Collaboration Laboratories during 2025, each in a different EIT Regional Innovation Scheme country: Ljubljana (legacy of the Slovenian Deep Demonstration); Cagliari (blue and green economy in Sardinia); Barcelona (community-led housing as driver for circularity, equity and climate justice, with Lacol, Holon and the Barcelona City Council); and Warsaw (green Public-Private Partnerships). Across the four, 167 participants engaged - 96 per cent from RIS regions. Cross-CoLab threads connecting housing, green Public-Private Partnerships and blue/green economy themes carried into 2026 work programmes.



Community Connect: seven sessions, over 400 participants

Seven Community Connect sessions ran online through 2025, attracting more than 400 participants from across the Community partnership. The sessions function as the working layer of the network - with cross-member collaborations developed through Connect sessions feeding into 2025 programmes, including the Salesforce partnership and the NextAdapt network.

Alongside Community Connect, the Climate KIC Community participated in the Deep Dives webinar series delivered jointly with the Climate KIC Academy, which surfaced themes such as diversity, equity and inclusion and brought the insights from the Warsaw CoLab on green public-private partnerships to a wider online audience. Community members were also invited to participate in the Climate KIC Academy's 'Working in Complexity' course, with peer-learning groups - partly Climate KIC-facilitated, partly self-organised - sustaining relationships in the online space.

The 2025 Community Connect programme closed on 11 December with 'Reflections on 2025 & Optimism for 2026', an end-of-year conversation between CEO Kirsten Dunlop and Christiana Figueres - founding partner of Global Optimism and chief negotiator behind the 2015 Paris Agreement - on the lessons of one of the most challenging years for climate action, takeaways from COP30 Belém, and how the Community can drive climate innovation and collaboration into 2026.

Two new sector-specific networks: Green Horizons and NextAdapt

Two new sector-specific networks launched in 2025. Green Horizons - the Farmers Network - ran four regional co-creation workshops in Greece, Spain and Poland with 120+ participants, and is being integrated with the Climate KIC Academy and aligned activities. NextAdapt - the Resilient and Competitive Regions Network - launched as an open framework supporting regions to align industrial transformation roadmaps with EU cohesion policies, with webinars engaging stakeholders from across RIS countries and a Madrid workshop linking to Pathways2Resilience, VALORADA, PCP-WISE and UNDERPIN.



Radical collaboration rising to this moment

By the end of 2025, Climate KIC's commitment to radical collaboration was in action across three continents - through the Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action's two portfolios and 27 implementing partners, the Asia-based Impact Coalition for Planetary Well-being and Human Flourishing, and a new regional alliance with Climate KIC Australia.

Different in shape and geography, these alliances share a common understanding: the pace and scale the climate crisis demands can only be reached through deliberate, sustained coalition-building. This is work no single organisation could do alone.

The Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action

Launching the first portfolio

Initiated and co-founded by Climate KIC in 2023, the Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action is a unique alliance of trusted Funding and Implementing Partners resourcing the bold systemic action this moment demands, with an intentional commitment to overcome the friction cost of competition for resources. Its 27 Implementing Partners from the Global South and North bring more than 15 complementary capability domains and 400+ years of cumulative experience into a single portfolio-based model that combines existing and new initiatives across multiple leverage points, connecting local action to regional and global scale. Grounded in trust and distributed leadership - and rare in that it was initiated by doers rather than donors - the Collaborative convenes Funding and Implementing Partners in curated settings to collectively decide on portfolios that prioritise impact ahead of individual organisational interests. Climate KIC has served as founding member and Secretariat since inception.



As co-founder and Secretariat of the Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action, Climate KIC continued in 2025 to advance the proposition that climate transformation requires deliberate coalition-building. In February 2025, the Collaborative launched its first portfolio, supported by two inaugural funders. Through consensus, partners selected a set of initiatives that weave together systems-change efforts across multiple places and sectors, integrated with interventions in policy, financial systems, and social and cultural norms and mindsets. Later in the year, a third funder joined the Collaborative, activating a further portfolio of initiatives and extending both the funding base and the scope of work.

At the heart of the Collaborative's approach is the understanding that no single intervention can shift the entrenched systems fuelling the status quo. Instead, the partnership leverages a portfolio of mutually reinforcing, catalysing initiatives. Throughout the year, the Collaborative ran three portfolio allocation processes, each facilitated as a shared learning practice rather than a one-off funding decision. Partner organisations moved from organisational advocacy towards shared stewardship and portfolio thinking.

Learning as everyday practice

The Collaborative's Learning Team, drawn from Climate KIC, Democratic Society, Reos Partners and Open Earth Foundation, designed learning to be embedded in everyday work, rather than treated as a separate evaluation activity. Bi-weekly Portfolio Pulses brought together those delivering portfolio positions for shared reflection, sensemaking and peer consulting; two in-person retreats created immersive learning environments where partners worked through tensions, surfaced assumptions and practised navigating complexity together. A Power Literacy course was designed and delivered to partner organisations, and made available beyond the Collaborative as a self-guided version. The team also piloted FUNGA, an AI-enabled learning tool that turns everyday work such as Slack conversations, documents and audio notes, into a shared, searchable Knowledge Management System.

> *"When you allocate resources together, you feel mutually accountable. I feel accountable to the other partners in what we've been selected to do. And for some reason that is really powerful to me. The relationship to the money is so different. I feel a much greater level of responsibility for spending that money wisely.*
>
> – Vision Keeper, Collaborative for Systemic Climate Action

Seven patterns from the first year

In late 2025, learning updates from across the portfolio were analysed to surface a set of cross-cutting patterns. Time, trust and sequencing emerged as themes, systemic change work cannot be rushed. Legitimacy is built locally, initiatives gain traction when communities see concrete action and feel ownership. Effective roles centre local agency, the Collaborative's role is catalytic rather than directive, supporting and amplifying existing local leadership rather than replacing it. Capacity and resourcing remain constraints. Visible progress builds belief: where there's a way, there's a will. Near-term, tangible outcomes help sustain engagement and unlock longer-term change. Narrative, emotion and relationships matter alongside policy, finance and technology. And cross-pollination of findings, successes and failures, accelerates learning. Shared spaces for reflection and exchange are emerging as accelerators of collective knowledge and understanding.

What 2025 signalled

The Learning Report identifies four headline signals from the Collaborative's first year. The Collaborative is taking shape: early signs of legitimacy, influence and recognition indicate that the model resonates with external actors. Tensions are expected and instructive, with challenges around pace, participation, governance and coherence reflecting the reality of building something novel. Learning is becoming a core part of doing the work. And partners consistently reported that the Collaborative unlocks new projects, deeper learning, expanded capabilities, and a greater ability to act with relevance to the systems it seeks to influence.

Looking to 2026, the Collaborative's partners have identified four priorities; building out governance and collaboration frameworks, deepening engagement to broaden participation in learning and sensemaking, enhancing the learning practices and infrastructure to better support coherent, adaptive, collective impact and evolving the impact assessment approach to be more flexible, developmental, and aligned with the emergent nature of systemic change.

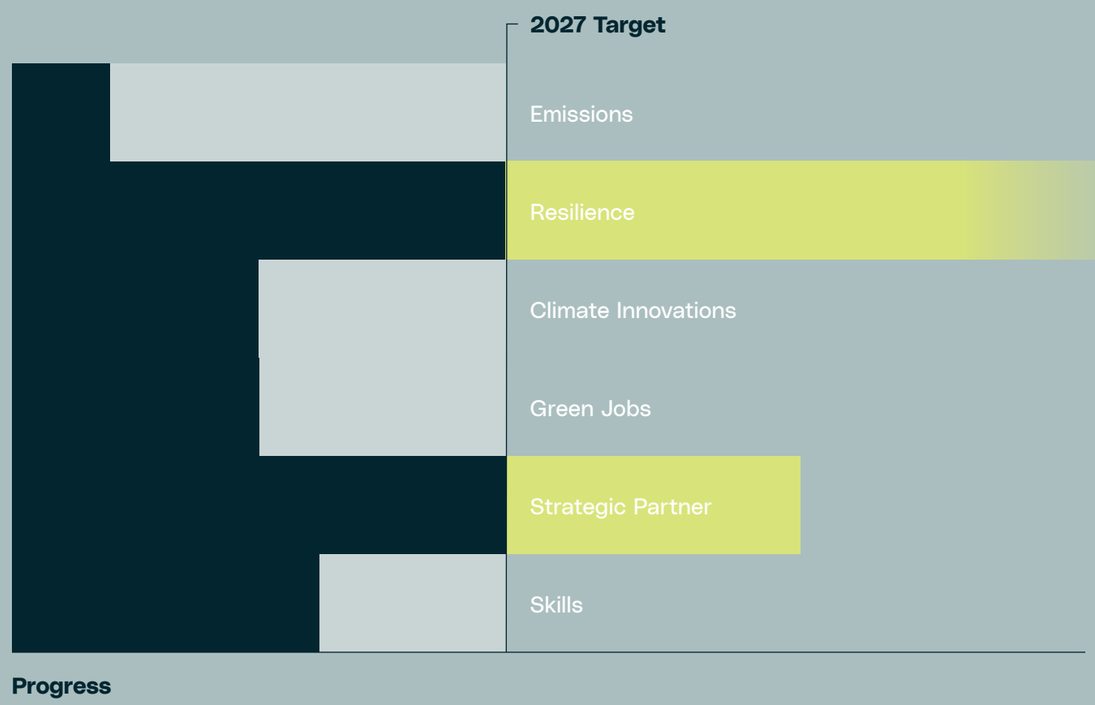
From North Star to South Star: the Impact Coalition for Planetary Well-being and Human Flourishing

In 2025, Climate KIC joined fifteen partners led by the Tsao Pao Chee (TPC) Group to launch the Asia-based Impact Coalition for Planetary Well-being and Human Flourishing - a long-term commitment to a values-aligned Asia-Europe philanthropic network, anchored in a vision of a life-affirming economy where nature and climate regeneration, social equity and economic resilience are inseparable and mutually reinforcing.

Alongside the Coalition launch, Climate KIC signed a three-year core funding partnership with the TPC No.17 Foundation and the Tsao Family Foundation - the first multi-year, patient, unrestricted philanthropic income in Climate KIC's history. This 'South Star' partnership will anchor our attention in 2026, opening Climate KIC's positioning beyond Europe and into a values-aligned Asia-Europe network of philanthropies.

Climate KIC Australia: a regional alliance

Climate KIC and Climate KIC Australia agreed a regional alliance in Q4 2025, positioning the two organisations to work in deeper coordination on shared programme delivery, Mission-aligned regional initiatives, and the broader Asia-Pacific climate-innovation agenda.



Impact signals and key outcomes

Measuring against Climate KIC's Strategic Agenda 2012-2027 impact targets, by year-end 2025 - two of its six headline impact targets have already been achieved: 165 cities, regions, countries and large-scale partners now work with Climate KIC as their strategic partner, against a target of 100; and its work has contributed towards improved climate resilience for 90 million people globally, against a target of 10 million. The remaining four targets are progressing - two on track, and two surfacing where the portfolio approach is evolving.

Progress against the 2024-2030 Strategic Agenda

Climate KIC's 2024-2030 strategy commits the organisation to six headline impact targets to be achieved by the end of 2027. The table below sets out verified progress at the end of 2025 against each target, drawn from the 2025 Strategic Agenda Implementation Report, submitted to EIT.

2027 Target	Status at end of 2025
Help Europe avoid over 500 million tonnes of CO_2 equivalent emissions	100.79 million tCO_2eq cumulative, comprising 92.12 million tonnes from supported ventures and 8.67 million tCO_2eq from cities supported through the EU Cities Mission Platform.
Strengthen the resilience of 10 million people to the impacts of climate change	90 million people benefitting from resilience measures associated with new or improved climate risk management policies and protection tools undertaken by Climate KIC's challenge owners (cities, regions). Overachieved against target.
Leverage over EUR 100 billion to support the scale-up of climate innovations	EUR 8.9 billion through investment-raising activities, plus EUR 41 million raised by the first cohort of NetZeroCities cities based on their City Investment Plans, including EUR 1.7 million in Bristol.
Generate 50,000 green jobs	25,139 jobs supported through Climate KIC's entrepreneurship activities.
Be the strategic partner of choice for over 100 cities, regions, countries and large-scale businesses across Europe	165 collaboration agreements with places and challenge owners, primarily through the EU Cities and Adaptation Missions and place-based Deep Demonstration projects. Overachieved against target.
Enhance the innovation and entrepreneurial skills of over 200,000 people across Europe, including 1,260 EIT Label graduates and 82 Higher Education Institutions	125,481 people equipped with new skills through non-labelled, non-degree education activities; 632 EIT Label graduates; 95 Higher Education Institutions engaged.

Outcome Stories: experience-based evidence of systemic contribution

In December 2025, Climate KIC published the first six Outcome Stories under its evaluation framework - experience-based evidence of behaviour and capability change. The six stories covered: peer learning preparing leaders for working in complexity; mainstreaming gender inclusion in climate venture accelerators (the 2025 ClimaTech Connect cohort); advancing the energy transition on Ukraine's frontline (Rivne); portfolio thinking shaping Slovenia's green transition; expanding participation in the future of Greece's ports (Piraeus); and small wins to big changes in sustainable city transport (FedEx). The Outcome Stories collection is published on climate-kic.org and forms an evolving body of real-world impact evidence, drawn from across the portfolio.

Capability outcomes built in 2025

Beyond programme-level outputs, 2025 built organisational capability. The coordinating function connecting business development, portfolio sensemaking and impact assurance consolidated; the Strategic Advisory Council was constituted; the Foundation Supervisory Board took up its role under the new entity structure; the Academy received its EIT Non-Degree Education Label; and the Climate KIC Australia regional alliance was agreed in Q4.

The consolidated portfolio-level evidence base across all of Climate KIC's 2025 work points to four headline outcomes: 60.6 million tonnes CO2e annual potential emissions reduction across the supported start-up portfolio; 144 European regions and local authorities in active climate-resilience delivery (around 90 million EU citizens); EUR 953.5 million in cumulative funding leveraged across the portfolio (EUR 51.4 million by NetZeroCities Cohort 1 Pilot Cities in 2025); and over 21,000 climate-friendly jobs created cumulatively (2024 figure).



Governance and financial overview*

Climate KIC closed 2025 in line with budget - EUR 32.6 million consolidated income against EUR 32.5 million expenditure. A small operating deficit of EUR 17,182 turned into a EUR 27,725 surplus after tax, thanks to a tax refund received during the year. We enter 2026 with a structurally more diverse funder base than at any point in our 15-year history.

**Note this section excludes partner and pass through costs*

Entity structure

The Group restructure of 1 January 2025 - described in Section 1 - established the Foundation as Climate KIC's principal entity (Stichting Climate KIC International Foundation, Amsterdam, ANBI-recognised), with Climate KIC B.V. (90 per cent Foundation-owned) for commercial and investment activity and Association Climate-KIC supporting the Community. The boards that took up their roles under the new structure are listed below.

Climate KIC International Foundation

The Foundation Supervisory Board is the principal governance body of Climate KIC, appointed to oversee strategic direction, financial stewardship and impact assurance across the Climate KIC Group, and to hold the Executive Board accountable for the delivery of the organisation's mission and 2024-2030 strategy.

Foundation Supervisory Board (appointed 1 January 2025)



Mel Carvill
Supervisory Board Chair; FARC, BV Oversight Committee



Anders Wijkman
Supervisory Board Member; Impact Committee; Formerly Chair of Association Climate KIC Governing Board



Barna Barath
Supervisory Board Vice-Chair; FARC (Chair), BV Oversight Committee



Fabio Maria Montagnino
Supervisory Board Member; Impact Committee; Chair of the Association Governing Board



Anaar Kara
Supervisory Board Member; BV Oversight Committee



Jonas Kamleh
Supervisory Board Member; FARC, BV Oversight Committee



Marc Oppenheim
Supervisory Board Member; Impact Committee, BV Oversight Committee



Sheela Patel
Supervisory Board Member; Impact Committee



H. Rutger de Witt Wijnen
Supervisory Board Member; P&R Committee



Thomas Goergen
Supervisory Board Member; P&R Committee



Sarah Hendel-Blackford
Supervisory Board Member; P&R Committee



Wiebke Schloemer
Supervisory Board Member; FARC

Association Climate-KIC Governing Board

The Association Climate-KIC Governing Board oversees the Association entity, which continues to host the Climate KIC Community of partner organisations and to act as Climate KIC's interface with the EIT and the wider KIC ecosystem.



Fabio Maria Montagnino
Chair of the Governing Board (appointed 1 April 2023)



Jonas Kamleh
(appointed 22 March 2017)



Brigitte Hasewend
(appointed 1 November 2023)



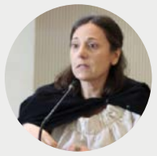
Kai Palludan-Müller
(appointed 1 April 2023)



Diana Ürge-Vorsatz
(appointed 1 November 2023)



Laia Romero Gonzalez
(appointed 1 November 2023)



Francesca Rizzo
(appointed 1 November 2023)



Quentin Crowley
(appointed 1 April 2023)

Strategic Advisory Council

The Strategic Advisory Council meets four times a year alongside the Foundation Supervisory Board and brings senior advisory perspective on impact, geopolitical context and Climate KIC's positioning on climate and nature. Chair: Sandrine Dixson-Declève (Club of Rome / Earth4All), appointed 1 June 2025.

Council members selected in Q4 2025 for formal appointment with effect from 1 January 2026:



Fabio Maria Montagnino
The Cyprus Institute



Kai Palludan-Müller
cirka cph



Brigitte Hasewend
European Sustainable Energy Innovation Alliance / ESEIA



Federico Butera
Politecnico di Milano



Tai Sook Yee
TPC / Tsao Pao Chee



Prof. Tan Sri Dr Jemilah Mahmood
Sunway Centre for Planetary Health, Sunway University Malaysia



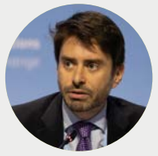
Dr John M. Bell
University College Dublin; formerly European Commission 'Healthy Planet' Director



Pia Heidenmark Cook
HC Tomorrow; formerly IKEA Group Chief Sustainability Officer



Matthaios Santamouris
University of New South Wales



Túlio César Mourthé de Alvim Andrade
COP30 Chief Strategy and Alignment Officer



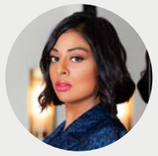
Nuin-Tara Key
California Forward



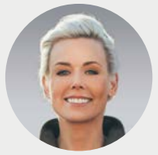
Sean Cleary
Strategic Concepts



Dr Peter Dröll
European Commission



Dr Sweta Chakraborty
We Don't Have Time



Dr Gunhild A. Stordalen
EAT Forum



Prof. Costas N. Papanicolas
The Cyprus Institute, President Emeritus)



Hannah Jones
former CEO,
The Earthshot Prize



Dr Agnes Chimbiri-Molande
United Nations



Katrien Rycken
Leuven 2030

Climate KIC Executive Board at year-end 2025



Dr Kirsten Dunlop
Chief Executive Officer
(appointed 1 February 2017)



Barrie Roulston
Chief Financial Officer
(took up role 1 March 2025, succeeding Michelle Spratt)



Briana van Strijp
Chief Operating Officer
(appointed 15 November 2023)

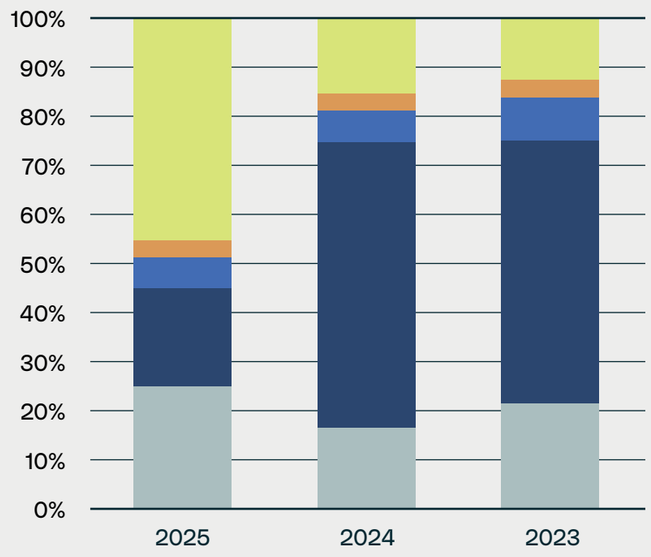


2025 financial position

**Note this section excludes partner and pass through costs*

Climate KIC's consolidated income in 2025 reached EUR 32.6 million, against an approved budget of EUR 31.2 million. Total expenditure was EUR 32.5 million, against a budget of EUR 31.1 million. The full-year result was a small surplus of EUR 28 thousand, in line with the approved budget surplus of EUR 0.1 million. The 2025 accounts will be audited by KPMG from April 2026.

Three-year financial trend (2025 / 2024 / 2023)



Income breakdown (2025 actuals, consolidated, before passthrough)

- **Non EIT Project income:**
  EUR 18.0 million (vs. EUR 18.1 million budget)
- **EIT core grant:**
  EUR 6.5 million (vs. EUR 6.6 million budget; -EUR 0.1 million variance vs budget (-EUR 0.4 million vs forecast), reflecting underutilised subcontracting budgets)
- **EIT Cross-KIC:**
  EUR 1.7 million (vs. EUR 1.1 million budget)
- **Provision for disallowances and ineligible:**
  -EUR 0.05 million
- **Sub-total projects income:**
  EUR 26.2 million
- **Philanthropic income:**
  EUR 5.1 million (vs. EUR 4.2 million budget; +EUR 0.9 million favourable variance)
- **Membership fees:**
  EUR 0.35 million (community offer being redesigned during 2025 - see Section 9)
- **Investment income:**
  EUR 0.4 million (vs. EUR 0.15 million budget)
- **Education and other ad hoc income:**
  EUR 0.35 million (vs nil budget)
- **Interest:**
  EUR 0.2 million (vs. EUR 0.27 million budget)
- **Sub-total other income:**
  EUR 6.4 million
- **Total income:**
  EUR 32.6 million

Expenditure breakdown (2025 actuals, consolidated)

- **Personnel costs (incl. provisions):**
  EUR 19.2 million (vs. EUR 22.3 million budget)
- **Sub-contracting:**
  EUR 5.5 million (vs. EUR 3.4 million budget)
- **Travel and subsistence:**
  EUR 1.3 million (vs. EUR 0.76 million budget; +EUR 0.5 million variance reflecting higher project-funded travel)
- **Office costs:**
  EUR 1.1 million (vs. EUR 0.5 million budget)
- **Other goods and services:**
  EUR 5.4 million (vs. EUR 4.2 million budget)
- **Total expenditure:**
  EUR 32.5 million

Net result

Operating result EUR 17,182 deficit, result after tax EUR 27,725 surplus (due to tax refund received during the year).

Funding model shift in 2025

The 2025 result reflects the structural shift in Climate KIC's funding model. EIT core grant income has continued to step down as the original 15-year KIC mandate completed, while project income from EU and multilateral sources was sustained (EUR 19.4 million in 2025) and philanthropic income grew strongly to EUR 5.1 million, driven by the TPC partnership and momentum with major foundations. The institutional fundraising pipeline at year-end included 56 active opportunities, with notable diversification across UNIDO, IDB, Irish Aid, UNDP and regional and national bodies in Spain, Poland and Italy. Climate KIC enters 2026 with a materially more diverse funder base.

Closing of prior-year accounts and looking ahead

Standard year-end audit and accounting matters under KPMG review include the appropriate treatment of new funding streams (service contracts, philanthropic income and management fees) under RJ640 Dutch GAAP; routine balance-sheet items related to entities completing wind-down; outstanding receivables; and tax matters arising from the new legal structure. These are managed in the normal course of the annual audit cycle.

Compliance and accountability

Climate KIC operates under the regulatory frameworks of the Netherlands (Foundation and Climate KIC B.V.), Belgium (Association), and the funding compliance regimes of Horizon Europe, the EIT, and the various philanthropic and multilateral funders supporting its work. ANBI compliance ratios have been carefully monitored, ensuring that new philanthropic commitments (e.g., from the TPC Group and Tsao Family Foundation) are structured in line with ANBI rules. A full compliance review will be undertaken in mid-2026. KPMG conducts the annual statutory audit.

People and organisation

At year-end 2025, Climate KIC operated with a 237-strong staff team distributed across 14 European countries, with an average of 211 FTE throughout the year. The largest teams were based in Germany (52), the Netherlands (35) - where the Foundation has its seat - the United Kingdom (31), Spain (29), Italy (20), Belgium (18) and Poland (16), with smaller teams in Denmark (12), France (9), Austria (8), Slovenia (3), Ireland (2), Luxembourg (1) and Norway (1). The workforce comprised 159 women (67 per cent), 77 men (32 per cent) and one colleague identifying as non-binary.

Appendix

The following three sections describe Climate KIC as an organisation, the approach we apply across our work, and the strategy under which we operate. They are provided as reference for readers who want background context; the body of this Annual Report focuses on the impact of the work delivered in 2025.

About Climate KIC

Climate KIC is Europe's foremost climate innovation agency: an international non-profit Foundation that for over 15 years has been embedded in the places where climate ambition meets the friction of the real world. Partnering with governments, multilateral institutions, philanthropies, and the private sector, we mobilise large-scale climate action across cities, regions, and value chains, using systems innovation as a service. Our core craft is orchestration, connecting promising solutions, aligning policy and finance, and integrating the pieces so that whole systems tip towards decarbonisation, regeneration and climate resilience faster than any single intervention could achieve. Active in 70+ countries, we bridge the implementation gap between climate commitments and current reality. Join us in working towards a just, climate resilient, beautiful future.

Climate KIC was founded upon the initiative of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union. Climate KIC received funding (EUR 720 million) and strategic guidance from the EIT over 15 years as an EIT Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC). Following the successful signature of a Memorandum of Cooperation, the EIT and Climate KIC collaborate to further boost innovation in addressing climate change across Europe and beyond.

Our Approach

How we work matters as much as what we do.

Our defining operating model is the recognition that no single intervention - however brilliant - can shift the entrenched systems fuelling the climate emergency. Climate innovation must be systemic to be effective: it must address the interlocking technological, financial, social, institutional and political dynamics that produce and reproduce climate-destructive outcomes. We deliver this through a 'systems innovation as a service' approach, mobilising portfolios of interventions rather than isolated projects, and convening coalitions across sectors and scales. Climate KIC chooses radical collaboration over fragmentation - consolidating effort with mission-aligned partners rather than duplicating offers, because the friction cost of competition is increasingly irresponsible.

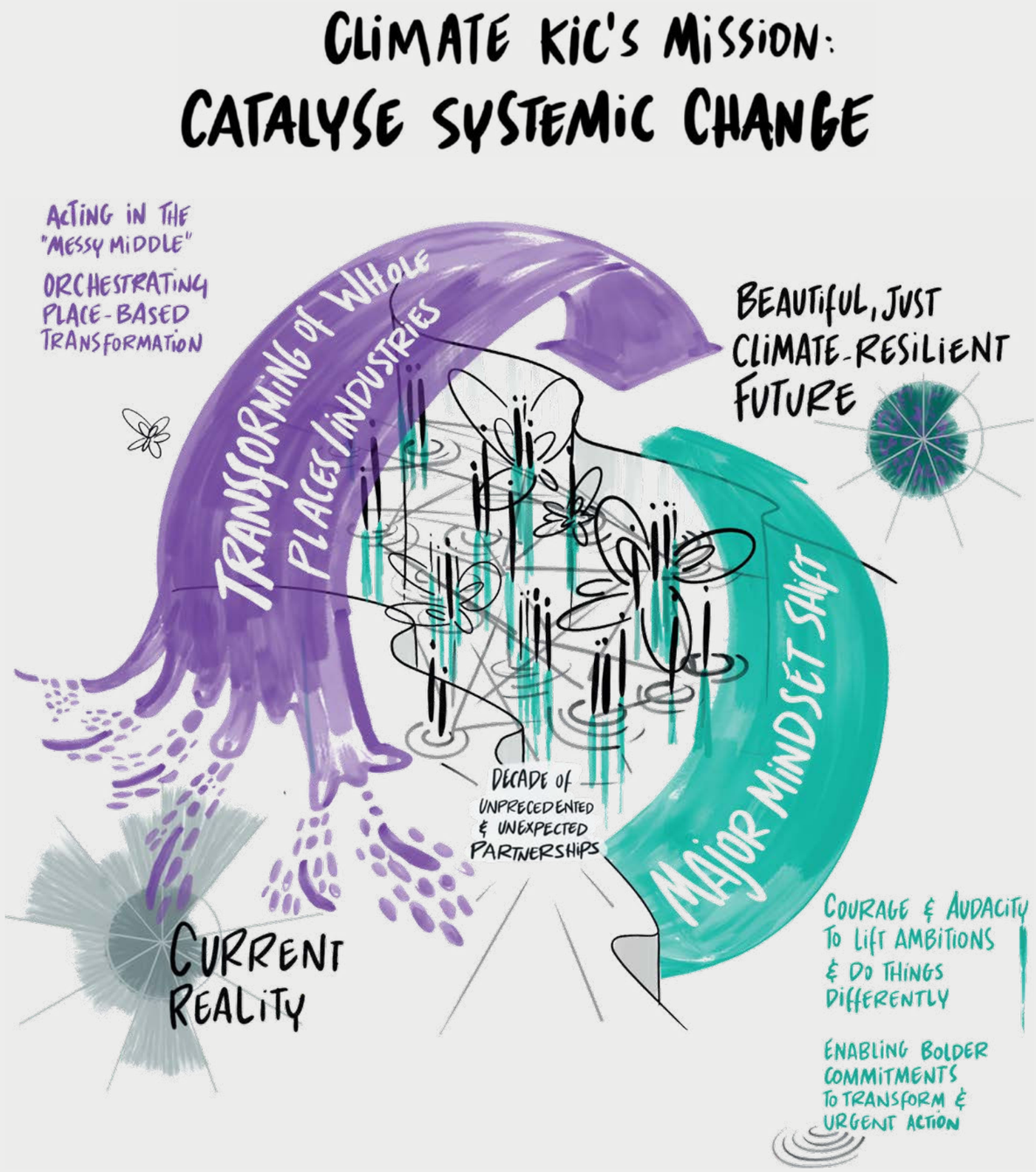
Systems change is most powerful when grounded in the specifics of a particular place, a location. Through Deep Demonstrations in Ireland, Slovenia and Gipuzkoa, through EU Mission delivery in cities and regions across Europe, and through emerging place-based work in Asia, Latin America and Africa, we work at the meso level where transformation actually lands. Innovation and learning are two sides of the same coin: we invest in cycles of discovery, experimentation and adoption - in institutional capability rather than one-off project outputs.

How we measure impact reflects how we work. We have moved beyond conventional retrospective accountability frameworks toward real-time sensemaking, assessing our portfolio against eight strategic choices using twelve indicators across four signals of transformation. Climate KIC's monitoring, evaluation and learning framework rolls insights from individual projects up through team-level synthesis into a whole-organisation view, and feeds directly into strategic decision-making and portfolio adjustment.

Our Strategy 2024-2030

Transformation, with Urgency

In December 2023, Climate KIC published its 2024-2030 strategy '*Transformation, with Urgency*'. The strategy is anchored in eight strategic choices that frame all the work described in this report.





Our 2030 transformation goals

By 2030, Climate KIC's ambition is to enable:

EUR 10-15 billion of investment mobilised per mid-sized EU Cities Mission city to meet 2030 climate goals

Full strategy detail is in 'Transformation, with Urgency' (December 2023). The activity reported in this Annual Report demonstrates Climate KIC's execution of the strategy across 2025.

Acknowledgements

This Annual Report is the work of many hands across Climate KIC - programmes, partners, and community members across cities, regions, industries and countries. We acknowledge the dedication of our teams, the trust of our funders and partners, and the persistence of the wider community of practice working towards a just, climate-resilient and beautiful future.

Funders and Partners

2060 Advisory Impact Investment Consulting

Alterna

Amazon EU SARL

Bank of America Corp.

BOP Inc

Business Finland

Centrum Doradztwa Rolniczego (Agricultural Advisory Centre, Poland)

City of Aachen

CleanLeap

Dalberg Catalyst

DAROM Innovation Center

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (Ireland)

EcoAgriculture International, Inc

Enterprise Ireland

ESPON

European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

European Research Executive Agency (REA)

FedEx

Fundación Naturklima

Gipuzkoa Provincial Council (Diputación Foral de Gipuzkoa)

GIZ – Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

Government of Ireland

Government of Sardinia

Hans Wilsdorf Foundation

IKEA Foundation

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Irish Aid

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

Joint Research Centre (JRC)

Laudes Foundation

MAD for Europe

Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning (Slovenia)

No. 17 Foundation & Tsao Pao Chee Group

Oak Foundation

Quadrature Charitable Foundation

Sages

Salesforce

Ship2B Ventures

Stiftung Mercator

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

Technical University of Madrid (UPM)

Tsao Family Foundation

Una Terra

United for Ukraine

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

VIRATEC Clúster Galego de Solucións Ambientais e Economía Circular

Warm Argentina Associacion Civil

ZOE Institute for Future-Fit Economies

Views and opinions expressed are, however, those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the funders and partners. Neither the funders nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

Climate KIC Community Members

● *Portfolio startups*

- ● 2050 Materials
- 2811 Social Enterprise
- 4CF
- ● 4D Mater
- Aalto University
- Aarhus University
- ● Agrolinera Astur
- ● AgroSustain
- ● Agrovar
- ● Agua de Sol
- AIT Austrian Institute of Technology
- ● Alchemie Technology
- ● Algae Tree
- ARIA Technologies
- Athena Research Center
- Bankers without Boundaries
- Barleti Institute for Research & Development
- ● BeaRD Bureau
- ● Boldr
- ● Brill Power
- Building Global Innovators (BGI)
- Centre for Systems Solutions

Afterwind focuses on advancing circular solutions for hard-to-recycle composite materials, particularly wind turbine blades and glass-fibre waste, by transforming industrial waste into valuable secondary raw materials and enabling closed-loop recycling.

- Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia
- ChillServices
- Chrysalis Leap
- ● Cidrani
- cirka cph
- City of Aarhus
- City of Kraków
- City of Madrid
- City of Malmö
- City of Valencia
- City of Valladolid
- City of Zaragoza
- Cleantech Bulgaria
- Cleantech Hub Colombia
- ● Clever Solar Devices
- ● Clic Recycle
- Climate Media Factory
- Cool Farm Alliance
- ● Cruze
- The Cyprus Institute
- ● DABBEL – Automation Intelligence
- Dark Matter Labs
- Delft University of Technology
- The Democratic Society
- E-institute for Comprehensive Development Solutions
- EAT Foundation
- ● Eco Finansai
- Ecômetro
- Edgeryders
- EDINN Global
- Eko-Biegły
- ENGIE
- European Technology Platform for the Future of Textiles and Clothing
- ● Everimpact
- Exceedence
- Fenice Foundation
- Flemish Institute for Technological Research (VITO)
- ● Frieco
- Gecosistema
- GrantHub
- Green and Smart Technology Cluster
- Greenometer
- ● Grenpay Technology – Brandimpact
- Hellenic Growth Fund
- Impact Hub Bucharest
- Impact Hub Vienna
- Institute of Geological Sciences, Polish Academy of Sciences
- Instituto Valenciano de Competitividad Empresarial (IVACE)
- International Centre for Climate Change Research and Studies (CSRCC)
- ● IONA Logistics
- Irish Manufacturing Research
- ITECON Ingeniería y Construcción
- KLIK Energy Cooperative
- La Palma Research Centre for Future Studies
- ● Latitudo 40
- Leuven 2030

bound4blue is a Spanish maritime technology company and a Climate-SAFE portfolio company. It makes eSAIL®, an automated suction sail that turns wind into extra thrust for ships. It cuts engine load and fuel use. That helps shipowners comply with CII, FuelEU Maritime and the EU ETS while lowering operating costs.

- ● LightMirror
- LINKS Foundation
- Lobelia Earth
- Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts
- Lund University
- MAGFI
- ● Matria Biotechnology
- ● Meditera
- Metabolic
- Meteorological Environmental Earth Observation
- Metta
- ● Mixteresting
- My Personality Skills
- ● Myceen
- ● MycoLutions
- NEAR SGR
- ● Nest Fabrication
- ● NettleSmart
- Nomisma Energia
- North-West Croatia Regional Energy Agency
- Oeconomica Timisiensis Foundation
- Origins.Earth
- Pannon Pro Innovation Services (PPIS)
- ● ParaStruct
- ● PlanBlue
- ● Point2Hectare
- Politecnico di Milano
- ● Preflet
- Project X Global

Recycllux is a Romanian deep-tech company and a Climate-SAFE portfolio company. It helps coastal authorities and companies tackle marine plastic pollution. It applies proprietary AI to satellite data to detect plastic accumulation zones at sea, then coordinates collection and recycling with local partners.

- ● R3LEAF
- Regional Education and Information Centre for Sustainable Development in South-East Europe
- ● RepAir
- RES Società Cooperativa
- ● Returnum
- ● Reykjavik Tool Library
- Riga Technical University
- RISE Research Institutes of Sweden

Robinsun Energy is focused on making solar energy accessible and affordable for households through easy-to-install, plug-and-play solar kits and energy storage solutions. By enabling households to generate and store their own renewable electricity, the company helps reduce energy costs, increase energy independence, and accelerate the transition to clean energy.

- Science Technology Park Niš
- Slovene Dutch Business Platform
- Smart City Cluster
- SmartUp Social Innovation Lab Skopje
- South Pole
- ● SpaceCrop Technologies
- ● Spindrive
- StartUp Chihuahua
- Stichting Technotrend
- Stiftung Global Infrastructure Basel
- Sunrise Valley Science and Technology Park
- Technical University of Madrid (UPM)
- Technological University Dublin
- Tecnalia
- TEP Energy
- ● The Climate Change
- ● Thermonorth
- Timiș Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture
- ● Tocco
- Together4Circular
- Trinity College Dublin
- ● UniSieve
- University of Zagreb
- Urban Camel
- Valencian Association of Companies in the Energy Sector
- Valencian Community Foundation for Strategic Promotion, Development and Urban Innovation
- Verture
- ● Vessel X
- Viratec
- ● Vivadrive
- ● Vlinder
- Wageningen Research
- WiseEuropa Institute
- Wuppertal Institute
- Zubi Cities
- ZUM Institute for Urbanism, Spatial Planning and Design

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Climate KIC

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