



Open Innovation in cities

Accelerating the transition to an attractive, sustainable future



Climate-KIC is supported by the
EIT, a body of the European Union



Often described as the antithesis to traditional innovation methods, Open Innovation has fast become a mainstream way of facilitating and accelerating innovation, with innovators involving potential users early on in the development phase while keeping costs down by benefiting from the expertise of others, including competitors, outside of the organisation.

Open Innovation is not only important to the companies and their networks but equally valuable to the public sector, and cities in particular. In fact, cities are among the most important public actors in terms of Open Innovation, with many utilising external knowledge already, appreciating that they do not capture the newest knowledge in their daily work, so collaborating with external partners represents highly valuable activity.

The onus on cities to improve air quality, reduce emissions, waste and resource use, and at the same time promote wellbeing, public health and socially balanced communities, highlights the need of cities for collaboration with problem solvers to tackle the multi-faceted challenges they face.

However, drawing up action plans, collating the needs, views and expectations of a typically large number of stakeholders and finally gaining access to relevant suppliers for the required, often very specific innovations, can be an overwhelming – if not insurmountable – task.

This is where Climate-KIC can make a real difference.

Climate-KIC – an Open Innovation powerhouse

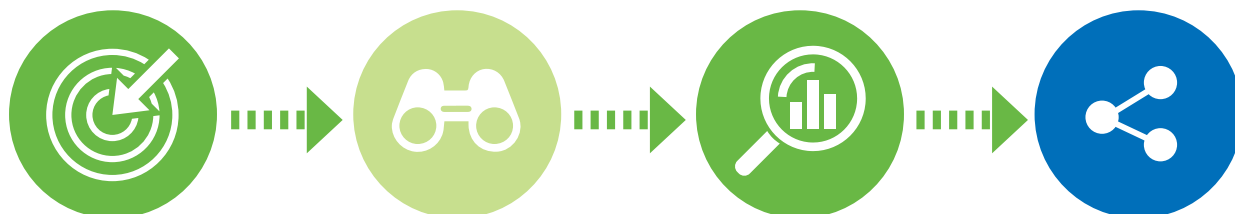
Climate-KIC, one of three Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) created in 2010 by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), is Europe's largest public-private partnership addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation through innovation.

We are an innovation engine bringing climate and sustainable innovation to market while primarily focusing on the systems of and the systemic approaches to innovation. Key to our systemic approach is our 250-partner strong network, comprising a diverse set of first-rate knowledge institutions, leading corporations, SMEs and ambitious actors from the public sector. We bring this community together to create a strong supply of new ideas, from which cities and other players on the demand side can benefit.

Our Open Innovation remit offers a range of public and private financed programmes, events and services, including formats such as our 24-hour hackathons, the global Climathon, our clean-tech ideas platform Climate Launchpad and our Urban Challenges programme – designed to specifically support cities on their complex sustainability journey.

All our Open Innovation services are underpinned by a systematic approach:

Urban Challenges Journey



DEFINE

- Working closely with the demand side to understand their **needs, objectives and criteria** for success by holding briefings or workshops
- Developing a proposal, **customising** our approach

DISCOVER

- Executing a customised innovation sourcing strategy
- One or a combination of **crowd sourcing solutions** and active **scouting searches**





ANALYSE

- Filtering innovations against criteria to **prioritise**
- Extracting deeper insights in line with **your objectives** by **analysing** our findings and **engaging** solution providers and experts

CONNECT

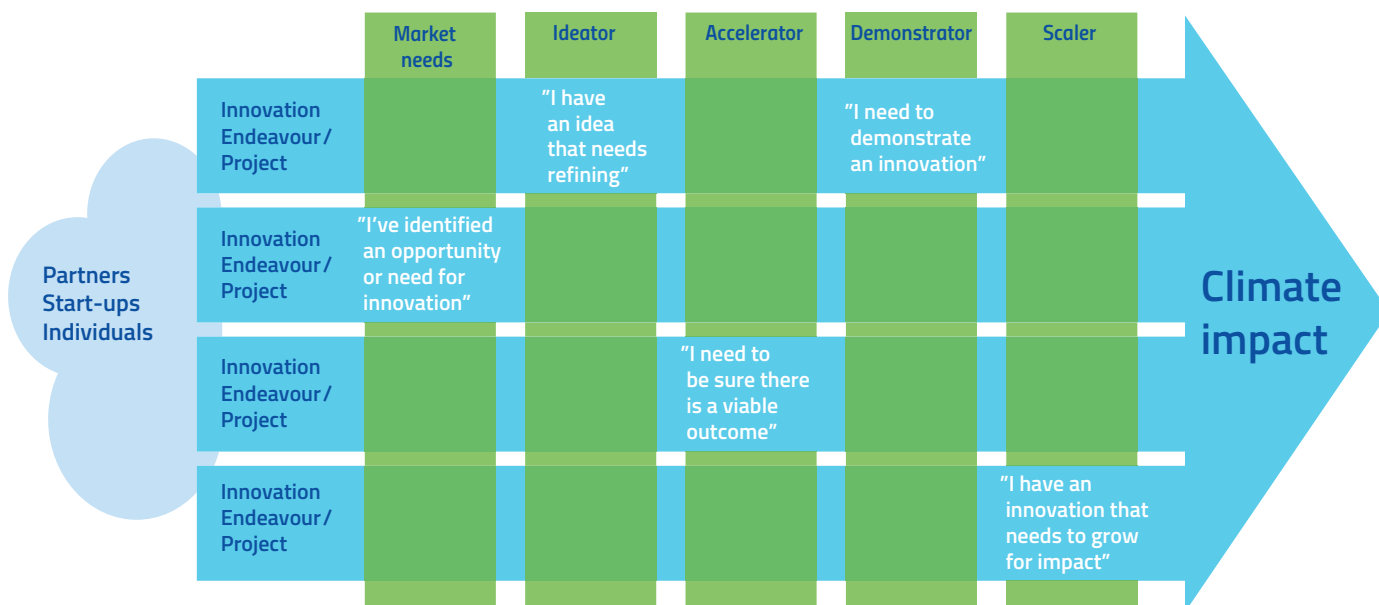
- Arranging **workshops** and **pitching events** or facilitated introductions to innovations and ideas where required
- Customising reports to **align with needs**

Why Climate-KIC?

LEVERAGING OUR RESOURCES			TO DELIVER THE INNOVATION
 NETWORKS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate-KIC Accelerator scouting infrastructure Pan European partners and their networks Theme and geographic networks Alumni and social media outreach channels Custom networks 	Extensive networks for DISCOVERING innovation	
 DATA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proprietary database of Climate-KIC innovators Tool box of partner data suppliers (start-up and innovation databases) 		
 KNOWLEDGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge across Climate-KIC themes Access to partner expertise 	Insight for SELECTING solutions and MATCHMAKING	
 EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open innovation events and workshops Engaging different stakeholder groups Running complementary innovation programmes 		

Our Innovation Framework

We generate climate impact by following a structured innovation framework, supporting innovation along the entire development process.



How we have helped

Copenhagen Cycle Traffic Management

NEED

- Copenhagen sought to gather high quality 'big data' from cyclists for integration into cycle traffic management
- The ideation project was supporting Copenhagen's ambitious cycling targets 2025, the aim is to make sure that every second trip, either to work or school, must be taken by bike
 - Solutions were sought for both data gathering and use of that data for traffic management

SOLUTIONS

- 10 technical solutions were identified and presented at an ideation workshop attended by a wide range of interested stakeholders, from cities to entrepreneurs
- Three early stage companies were identified including apps measuring urban trip times and traffic camera identification systems

"Being part of open innovation processes is important and inevitable for cities today. The technical development is moving very fast and as a municipality we have the possibility and responsibility to actually create real change and co-develop green solutions in close collaboration with start-ups, universities and our citizens."

PER BOESGAARD Coordinator of partnerships & innovations,
Climate Unit, City of Copenhagen

Amsterdam Circular Challenge

NEED

- The Port of Amsterdam sought solutions active in three focus areas of the circular economy space:
- Innovative technologies and processes to turn biomass residues and waste into valuable feedstock
 - Technologies that can harvest and convert CO₂ for re-use in industrial processes
 - Start-ups that can make use of data, connectivity and smart algorithms as a basis for circular economy products, services and infrastructure

SOLUTIONS

- Six solutions were pitched to a wide range of interested stakeholders, from the directors of Clean Capital to entrepreneurs
- The three winning early stage companies will receive a workspace at Prodock – the innovation hub in the Port of Amsterdam – access to Clean Capital's partner network and guidance from local demand-side experts

"The quality of the recruited start-ups is very high. As far as I am concerned, the three winners are going to be part of Prodock as soon as possible. We will do everything to support them in building up their circular future. A challenge like this is certainly something we should do more often!"

KOEN OVERTOOM Director - Port of Amsterdam

Urban Challenges programme: support for every step along the way

Our Urban Challenges programme helps our city partners to define the challenges they face, for entrepreneurs to respond to these challenges at a competitive open innovation pitch event, and for solutions to be tested and implemented to meet real world needs.

Our programme's mission is to:

1) Further strengthen the innovation supply side by

- accelerating innovation in areas that can address both city needs and climate change challenges
- helping demand-driven urban solutions with positive climate impact reach the market faster, more widely, and more efficiently

2) Support cities, the demand side, by

- articulating the challenge a city faces, ensuring the capture of the needs and expectations from all stakeholders from the start by facilitating city talks
- matching supply and demand side through an open innovation call, then preselecting solution providers and organising a pitching event
- offering valuable insights into the challenges cities are

facing to solution providers to allow for customised innovations to meet a specific city need

- providing a platform for cities to learn from each other and share best practice
- seizing PR opportunities

The Urban Challenges process follows our articulate-discover-analyse-connect approach. In addition, we offer support with the technical due diligence of solutions that have been identified as well as their piloting and launch.

Turn your city challenge into a success

Contact your local Climate-KIC office to talk about how we can help you.

To order a copy of our Open Innovation White Paper and to find out about the launch of our Open Innovation online training - in cooperation with Oxford University and C40 - please email: urban.theme@climate-kic.org