Sustainable Cities Mobility Challenge 2024

EIT Climate-KIC is running a Sustainable Cities Mobility Challenge for European cities to identify bold and impactful projects which seek to decarbonise transport, improve local air quality and accelerate the take-up of active, shared, collective and/or electric mobility. The call aims to support the transition to cleaner, greener, and more inclusive transport, in line with the objectives of the European Green Deal, Urban Mobility Framework, New European Bauhaus and the EU Cities Mission.

Who can apply?

Cities and towns (with a population of at least 25,000) in the EU Member States, Horizon Europe Associated Countries[1] (including the United Kingdom) and Switzerland are eligible to apply.

Essential information

- Project proposals should be submitted by city councils, municipalities or local authorities (including municipality-owned organisations/companies). Applications should provide evidence of senior political support/municipal mandate).

- Projects will be selected based on the potential for **impact, learning,** and **replicability** in other towns and cities. They should seek to make a positive difference to people and the environment in the area where they are implemented, adding to the body of knowledge/experience to shift cities more rapidly towards more sustainable mobility systems.

- Examples of the types of projects that could be considered for support include (but are not limited to), the following:
    - Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) or Low Emission Neighbourhoods (LENs)
    - Walking, cycling and wheeling projects.
    - Projects which support shared and collective mobility (public transport)
    - Play streets, school streets and other projects which reallocate street space to social/cultural activity.
    - Mobility hubs
    - Sustainable transport of goods and services/logistics.
    - Parklets and greening schemes which encourage active travel.
    - Behaviour change projects (where these support on-street changes – standalone behaviour change initiatives will not be considered).
    - Apps and journey planners which facilitate sustainable mobility.
    - Data collection, analysis, monitoring and evaluation tools.

- Each city project selected will be granted up to 90,000 EUR (depending on the total number of proposals selected in the call). A maximum of five projects will be funded.

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[1] https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/updates-association-third-countries-horizon-europe-2021-12-21_en

- The anticipated grant payment schedule is as follows: 20% when project starts; 70% after four months (subject to delivery and on receipt of progress update); 10% when closing the project (subject to delivery and on receipt of progress report).

- The grants could be used (for example) to:
  - o Fund/support a city-led local project or pilot project, and/or
  - o Fund cities' work with NGOs or SMEs which are developing impactful solutions to address specific mobility challenges.

- Proposals can be centred around new ideas or initiatives - or can relate to elements of existing or emerging city programmes/strategies that advance sustainable urban mobility.

- Cities should aim to complete their projects by July 2025.

Interested towns and cities are invited to submit a **short project proposal (maximum 2,000 words)** outlining the mobility problem or challenge they would like to tackle, and their proposed action to address this.

To apply, please complete the application form and send your proposal to **sustainablecitiesmobility@climate-kic.org** by 23.00 CET on Friday, 24 November 2023.

Please submit any questions you may have about the call (in English) to the same email address. We will collect these, write up (anonymized) answers and publish these as Questions and Answers on our website. Please ensure that any questions reach us by 23.00 CET on 10 November 2023.

Indicative call timeline:
- Call opens: **Wednesday, 13 September** 2023 CET
- Call closes **Friday, 24 November** 2023 23.00 CET.
- Evaluation of proposals: during December 2023.
- Successful applicants notified from mid-January 2024
- Projects start: **April 2024**
- Projects end: **by July 2025**.

Proposal evaluation process:

Proposals will be scored by a panel using the following criteria:

- **Clarity of proposal** (15 points)
- Focus on **impact** (20 points): the project has a positive impact on the environment and/or people's quality of life (for example, by reducing GHG emissions and/or local air

pollution, reducing dominance of motor traffic in a city or neighbourhood, or by making it easier for citizens to access sustainable, safe and affordable mobility)

- **Learning** and **replicability** (15 points): the project adds to knowledge and experience relating to the advancement of healthy, sustainable urban mobility. It has potential to be replicated, adapted and/or scaled up in other urban areas.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a short online interview.

We will aim to provide useful feedback to applicants that are not successful, depending on the number of applications received.

We reserve the right not to select any of the proposals if we consider that none meet the criteria and objectives of the Call.