

EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL CLIMATE ACTION

The Director-General (acting)

Brussels, 8 November 2022 CLIMA.E.1/JK

Dear Sir or Madam,

You are receiving this letter as a representative of a regional or local authority that has already signed the Charter of the Mission Adaptation to Climate Change or has shown interest in signing by completing the questionnaire (<u>EU Survey</u>). I am writing to you to inform you on recent progress in the development of the Mission Adaptation to Climate Change and what that means for you.

Deadline for signing the Charter

For those of you who have applied to the Charter by 30 September but have not yet signed the Charter, please note that the **deadline for signing is 15 December 2022**. As we have already received more than 200 applications from regional and local authorities, and as we want all signatories to benefit from the services offered by the Mission Implementation Platform (see below), please note that the possibility to sign the charter will be closed after 25 November 2022. Regional and local authorities applying by this date will be announced in January 2023 and will have time to sign the Charter until the end of February 2023.

Mission Implementation Platform

When you applied to the Charter, you were informed that, in early 2023, a Mission Implementation Platform would become operational and would provide services to the signatories of the Charter. To run the platform, the European Commission will rely on a contractor selected through a competitive public procurement process. The process is ongoing, and I am confident that the platform will indeed start its activities in early 2023.

Concretely, the platform will:

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- Offer technical assistance to regional and local authorities to
 - move from risk assessment to the development of adaptation pathways,
 - identify climate adaptation demonstration projects and possible financing avenues.

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- Provide support to regional and local authorities and communities on
 - how to access knowledge on adaptation solutions and tools,
 - how to engage stakeholders.
- Establish a Community of Practice dedicated to climate adaptation and resilience, with access to a restricted website, to
 - learn from each other and exchange lessons learnt, and
 - identify collaboration possibilities.
- Animate the Community of Practice by
 - organising regular events or webinars,
 - creating a collaborative space,
 - creating an interactive **forum**.

As one of its first steps, the platform will establish the Community of Practice and for that purpose will be in contact with you. As you will need to nominate a contact person for interactions with the platform and for the Community of Practice, I suggest you take steps now to put a nominee in place before the platform commences activities.

Information on forthcoming projects supporting regions

Following a call from the Horizon Europe Mission work programme, a consortium is being contracted to help regions to better understand their climate change related risks. This consortium will define a common framework and a harmonised methodology to assess climate change risks and impacts. It will also provide grants of up to 300 000 EUR each to at least 50 regions and communities for conducting their risk assessments or upgrading and refining existing ones. The first regions to be served will be identified and start receiving support in the course of 2023.

A second consortium has been selected to help regions in the formulation of their climate resilient future and their transformative adaptation plans. This consortium will also provide grants of up to 300 000 EUR each to at least 100 regions and communities for identifying how to build resilience and how to build a portfolio of innovative solutions and projects. For this second consortium – as with the first – the first regions to be served will be identified and start receiving support in 2023.

Mission Board

You might already be aware that the concept of the Mission Adaptation to Climate Change was developed based on advice from an external advisory board, the Mission Board. As we now have entered the implementation phase of the Mission, a new Mission Board was established and had its first meeting on 30 September. In the future, it is very possible that interactions may take place between you and the members of this new Mission Board. You will find the list of Mission Board members attached to this letter.

Future events

I am looking forward to meeting many of you in person or online. This will hopefully be possible at one of two events we are planning to organise in 2023.

- 1. 26 January 2023: Launch of the Community of Practice with Charter signatories (registration link and draft programme will be sent later)
- 2. June 2023: Second Mission Forum (date still to be confirmed)

The event in January will allow to get a first feeling for what the Community of Practice will be. It will allow for exchange between you, the other Charter signatories, the contractor establishing the Mission Implementation Platform, and possibly several of the Mission Board members.

The second event is our annual Mission Forum, which in 2023 will take place for the second time. This will be a hybrid meeting, and all regional and local authorities involved in the Mission can participate.

Hoping to see many of you in January,

Yours faithfully,

signed Clara DE LA TORRE

Enclosure: List of the Mission Board members Tentative agenda of the Launch of the Community of Practice

c.c.: Members of the Mission Board