



Mission Adaptation to Climate Change, including Societal Transformation

ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION TO A CLIMATE PREPARED AND RESILIENT EUROPE

What are EU Missions?

Partly inspired by the Apollo Project to put a man on the moon, EU missions are a commitment to solve major societal challenges:

- Adapting to climate change
- Fighting cancer
- Living in greener cities
- Ensuring healthy soils and food
- Protecting our oceans

Each EU mission will have a specific timeframe and budget depending on how difficult the challenge. They will go beyond research and innovation, and will spark innovation across sectors to deliver effective solutions. Moreover, missions will play a crucial role in achieving EU priorities such as the European Green Deal.

Your participation counts

The COVID-19 pandemic is teaching us a valuable lesson on the importance of being prepared and acting upon scientific evidence, but also on the need to listen to citizens' voices. We need your help to make our mission on adapting to climate change happen. We want to make sure that the mission we choose is relevant for society, and will make a real difference in people's lives.

So far, the mission Board – a broad mix of experts from innovation, research, policy making, civil society and practitioner organisations – has been working on proposing a mission for adapting to climate change, including setting goals for the societal changes that this will require.

The Mission: Accelerating the Transition to a Climate Prepared and Resilient Europe

Climate change is one of the greatest threats facing humanity, with potentially devastating impacts on people, the environment and the economy. Reducing our carbon footprint is therefore crucial. Despite our best efforts, a certain level of global warming will happen, and is already underway. Its detrimental effects are already being felt.

The Board proposes turning the pressing need to prepare for climate disruptions into an opportunity to live better, more equitable, and healthier lives.

The mission is to speed up the preparations to make Europe capable of dealing with a warmer, more unpredictable world. A Europe that is climate-resilient: flexible, able to recover and move forward from climate-related challenges.

How will we achieve our goals?

By **preparing, designing and demonstrating**.

- 1) **Preparing:** By 2030, all Europeans should have access to clear information on present and future climate risks in their region. We will also support local authorities in developing plans to manage and be prepared to deal with such risks.

We want to make sure all Europeans are informed about climate risks ('Is the area where I live in danger of sea-level rise, floods or other extreme events?') and to know which tools and solutions are available to reduce risks for themselves, their home and their community. The mission will support different types of action at the individual, community and regional levels, will work with authorities to improve early warning systems for extreme events, and develop or update climate risk management plans.

- 2) **Designing:** By 2030, 200 communities and regions should have designed plans to not only reduce climate risks, but to also ensure a transformation towards a healthy and prosperous life.

The mission will help communities and regions develop a vision that focuses both on the protection from climate risks, and on the transition to the communities people want to live in – for example a greener community, a fairer one, a more prosperous and equitable one. The journey toward this vision will bring together knowledge and solutions from different scientific disciplines, as well as the knowledge and aspirations of people who live in the communities being transformed. Such a path also requires information, funding, and gathering the whole community together: civil society, entrepreneurs, local authorities, researchers, community organisations, banks, and others.

- 3) **Demonstrating:** By 2030, 100 pilots of innovative solutions should be in place, thereby increasing the climate resilience of regions and communities.

There are already many local actions, solutions and tools that can help us reduce climate risks, but many are implemented in scattered ways or have not been tested in real conditions. Therefore, our mission will connect these innovative solutions across borders and provide opportunities to scale them up. Examples include increasing the capacity of our rivers and wetlands that protect us from flooding; more robust buildings, more resilient crops and smarter irrigation; restoring fire-resilient forests, local energy systems, or early warning systems to safeguard our health and wellbeing. Lessons from recent crises are pushing innovators to develop even more of these measures and creative approaches that are built together with people like you, and the mission will bring them together to pursue a common goal.

Demonstration sites will be set up in a variety of locations, reflecting the diversity in climate and approaches to addressing climate risk in Europe. The mission seeks an active exchange of best practice between regions and communities, to ensure that the most exposed and vulnerable are also well prepared and protected.

Interested?

Follow and join the conversation on Twitter : #MissionClimate #EUmissions #HorizonEU on social media.

Also watch this space for more information on events in your region: <http://ec.europa.eu/mission-climate>