



# TAKE THE INITIATIVE!

Applying environmental legislation.

#EUGreenWeek



## Urban adaptation to Climate Change 25 April 2019 | Committee of the Regions

Room JDE51



**MÉTROPOLE**  
EUROPÉENNE DE LILLE

*The European urban context faces new issues related to Climate change such as record-breaking heatwaves, pollution peaks, erosion of natural resources, etc. A number of solutions to fight against climate change and mitigate it in the best conditions are thought out locally, at municipal level. Issues and presentation of local solutions are the subject of this conference. From the integration of Nature-based solutions to food self-sufficiency initiatives, from Water, Air and Soil Strategies to Environment & Health policies...What are the concrete schemes to make cities and urban areas more resilient? How to ensure tomorrow's climate stabilisation in the field? What are the levers at metropolitan scale? How does Europe support cities to face these major issues in the best conditions?*

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15:45

**RECEPTION /SECURITY AT THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

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**Moderation: Peter DEFRANCESCHI, Head of ICLEI Brussels Office**

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16:00 – 16:10

**CONFERENCE OPENING**

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**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION - Christiane BOUCHART, Vice President « Sustainable development» for Lille Metropole in charge of the Climate and Energy Plan**

While Lille Metropole is currently revising its local Climate and Energy Plan and is on the eve of becoming World Design Capital in 2020, this conference will be an opportunity to highlight initiatives co-designed with citizens and implemented with them.

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16:10 – 16:30

**KEYNOTE SPEECH**

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**EUROPEAN COMMISSION - Elena VISNAR-MALINOVSKA, Head of Adaptation Unit DG CLIMA**

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16:30 – 16:40

**THE URBAN AGENDA OF THE EU & CLIMATE ADAPTATION**

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**Nicolaas BEETS, Dutch Special Urban Envoy for the Urban Agenda of the EU, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relation: focus on the future of the Urban Agenda and the work of the partnerships linked with the topic**

*The Urban Agenda for the EU was established in 2016 when the Pact of Amsterdam was agreed. It is a new Multilevel Governance working method between the Commission, the Member States, Cities and Stakeholders, bringing them together to discuss and improve EU legislation, EU funding and knowledge exchange on urban policies. So far, 14 partnership have been implemented to make Cities Smarter, Greener and more Inclusive. One is specifically dedicated to Climate Change Adaptation. Further examples are Sustainable Land Use and Nature-based solutions, Energy Transition, Circular Economy, Air Quality and Mobility.*

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16:40 – 17:30

**ACTIVE CITIES FOR URBAN CLIMATE ADAPTATION**

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**CITY OF GENOA - Stefania MANCA, coordinator of the partnership of the European Urban Agenda on Climate change**

*The Partnership on Climate Change Adaptation is focusing on key climate change impacts European urban areas are facing and aims at improving the governance around regulation, European funding (ERDF, LIFE, etc.) and urban knowledge exchanges ( COPERNICUS and CLIMATE-adapt platforms, political and different stakeholders' training programmes, etc.).*

**CITY OF ANTWERP - Ronny VAN LOOVEREN, Project Leader on Climate Adaptation, Antwerp Water Strategy and Climate adaptation**

*Through the pilot project "Zuiderdokken", Antwerp has developed an alternative and innovative solutions to tackle water related effects of climate change. This project is a part of the European Sponge2020 project (funded through Interreg 2 Seas and the European Regional Development Fund) that aims to increase the capacity of densely populated cities to adapt to frequent intense rainfall and higher flood risks.*

**BRUSSELS REGION CAPITAL - Steven BECKERS, Founder of BIGH – the FOODMET Urban Farm and aquaponics projects**

*BIGH integrates farms with existing and new buildings to benefit from waste energy and reduce their environmental impact. BIGH's first urban farm was designed on the roof of Brussels Abattoirs' Food Market, the FOODMET, in the heart of Brussels canal priority development area. Steven Beckers has otherwise contributed to several projects within the Third Industrial Revolution framework in which Lille Metropole is committed, among which La Lainière Project House (C2C*



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*building) and the specifications for circular Economy of the Hospital of the future, CHLens.*

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**17:30**

**CONCLUSIONS**

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**The European Parliament point of view – MEP Gilles PARGNEAUX, Vice-President of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety and Lille Metropole Counsellor for Europe**

**& Christiane BOUCHART, Vice President « Sustainable development» for Lille Metropole in charge of the Climate and Energy Plan**

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**18:00**

**NETWORKING COCKTAIL**

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**Link to [REGISTRATION](#)**

**INFORMATION:**

Amélie SOUMET [asoumet@lillemetropole.fr](mailto:asoumet@lillemetropole.fr) / Tel. : +32 2 739 63 94

Françoise MBALLA [fmballa@lillemetropole.fr](mailto:fmballa@lillemetropole.fr) / Tel. : +32 2 739 63 93



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