



### Roundtable: How can citizen-led action can help the EU's climate transition?

The roundtable (11:00–12:15) explores how citizen-led action can help the EU's climate transition, building on the previous session that showcases examples of activities by the Pact community.

In the spirit of the Climate Pact, the session brings together people taking climate action at different levels – from local to EU – to share experience, connect with each other, and inspire further action and cooperation.

In the room, we will have around 50 participants from the **Pact community (Ambassadors and Partners)** and from the **EU institutions and other stakeholders**. The session can be followed online via a webcast.

**The idea is to have a discussion!** The outline below gives an idea of the proposed structure and topics, divided into three broad themes. The purpose is to help participants prepare; however, the questions and timings are all indicative and will be adapted based on the flow of the conversation.

During the session, the moderator will invite some participants to kick off the discussion on each theme with **concrete examples from the Pact community** (indicated below), but **all participants are welcome to share their insights and react to what others have said**.

Participants in the room can push the button/put up their nameplate/raise their hand if they wish to speak. Online audience can send questions via Sli.do; some can be covered throughout the discussion and some during the Q&A at the end.

Tips for participants:

- Keep your interventions brief. Don't prepare long presentations or speeches – think about the main points you want to share and speak freely.
- Be concrete. What did you do? What worked well? What didn't work?
- Think how others can benefit from your experience. What did you learn? Could your approach inspire or be replicated by others?
- Try to connect the dots. If you work on a local project, what should EU policymakers know about it? If you work on an EU-wide initiative, how can you connect it to local action? How can the Pact community get involved? How can the Pact's tools be used?
- Go with the flow and have fun!

Time (indicative)	Roundtable flow (indicative)
11:00–11:05	<p><b>Introduction and housekeeping</b></p> <p>Welcome by the moderator, Laura Maanavilja. Objective and structure of the session. Invitation for all participants to take part and online audience to ask questions via Sli.do.</p>
11:05–11:20	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> theme to explore: Citizens and local transitions</b></p> <p>Local and regional authorities need to make the climate transition a reality in key areas like transport or housing. To succeed, they need the support and involvement of residents.</p> <p>Questions for reflection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can active citizens drive change in their community? What can local authorities learn from citizen-led action?</li> <li>• How can local and regional governments work with citizens and local communities to plan their transition and make the changes needed?</li> <li>• What kind of approaches work in practice? What obstacles can get in the way and how can they be overcome?</li> <li>• How can the Pact community get involved? How can the Pact's citizen engagement tools be used?</li> </ul> <p>Examples from the Pact community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alexandra Politaki (Greece) is a researcher focusing on migration, human rights and climate change, and Co-founder &amp; Head of the International Institute for the Climate Change. Among other activities, she organised a Peer Parliament on 15-min cities for urban planners.</li> <li>• Isabel De Maurissens (EUCLiPa, Italy) was involved in the PAESC Giovani, a project focused on involving young people in local climate action plans by encouraging them to propose initiatives to their municipalities or to advocate for the adoption of a plan if one is not in place.</li> </ul> <p>Perspectives from EU institutions on engagement between citizens and local/regional authorities, e.g. Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, Green Capital/Green Leaf/Green City Accord, Committee of the Regions.</p>
11:20–11:40	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> theme: New climate realities, new solutions?</b></p> <p>As climate-related risks grow, we need to prepare for changes that increasingly impact our daily lives. The society-wide transition to climate neutrality is also about changing how we live, move and consume.</p> <p>Questions for reflection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can involving people locally help them make sense of new climate realities and prepare for the future?</li> <li>• How can citizen-led climate initiatives, or citizen engagement activities by governments, help make big changes easier or come up with new positive solutions?</li> <li>• What interesting approaches are being used or tested at different</li> </ul>

Time (indicative)	Roundtable flow (indicative)
	<p>levels? What opportunities do you see?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How can the Pact community get involved? How can the Pact's citizen engagement tools be used?</li> </ul> <p>Examples from the Pact community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gianni Tartari has worked on the MiClimi project, which investigates climate-driven internal migration within Italy, particularly focusing on the movement from urban to mountain regions. The project has used "living labs" to engage citizens.</li> </ul> <p>Perspectives from EU institutions – e.g. on integrating citizen engagement in climate resilience and risk management (DG CLIMA), citizen engagement in EU policymaking (DG COMM, DG ENER), examples of current research and pilot experiments (DG JRC)</p>
11:40–12:00	<p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> theme: The next generation</b></p> <p>Today's children and young people will grow up, live and work in a world that is different from what we know today, increasingly shaped by climate change and our response to it.</p> <p>Questions for reflection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How can climate action and engagement initiatives help equip and empower young people to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence they need?</li> <li>How can we reach out to and bring along young people from different backgrounds and local contexts, with different life experiences and outlooks? Examples of good approaches?</li> <li>What can adults learn from young people and their take on climate action? How can we make the most out of intergenerational dialogue and cooperation?</li> <li>How can the Pact community get involved? How can the Pact's citizen engagement tools be used?</li> </ul> <p>Examples from the Pact community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maria Drakou represents Plan It Be It, a non-governmental organisation based in Nicosia, Cyprus, dedicated to fostering positive societal changes, particularly among youth.</li> <li>Sarah Lund recently hosted a youth workshop at Klimatorium in Denmark tackling climate change from a positive perspective, connected to a youth climate summit across countries taking place in November.</li> </ul> <p>Perspectives from EU institutions – e.g. Education for Climate (DG EAC), Erasmus+ and other youth-related initiatives (DG EAC), EUTeens4Green (REGIO)</p>
12:00–12:15	<p><b>Discussion and Q&amp;A</b></p> <p>Exchange between participants in the room and questions from online</p>

Time (indicative)	Roundtable flow (indicative)
	audience via Sli.do. Closing and next steps.