

REPAIR AND PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION



ENERGYCITIES

EU COMMISSION RECOVERY PACKAGE / MFF REVISED PROPOSAL (27/05/20)

ENERGY CITIES POSITION JUNE 2020

"Big figures can only have a big impact if the real actors of the economy are involved.

While the proposals of the European Commission are a step forward in terms of solidarity between Member States, they are not providing the necessary springboard to profoundly enhance the resilience of our economies.

We are also concerned about democratic accountability, as the proposals set up solely bilateral negotiations processes between the Commission and Member States, thereby effectively bypassing the European Parliament, local governments, stakeholders....

Getting citizens into the driver seat is not an option, it is a must.



1 OVERARCHING DEFINITION OF THE RESILIENCY WE WANT

NO SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY WILL BE ACHIEVED IF THE NATIONAL PLANS ARE BASICALLY A COPY-PASTE OF THE "EUROPEAN SEMESTER" APPROACH .

THE CURRENT ECONOMIC THINKING IS A GROWTH-BASED STRATEGY NOT TAKING INTO ACCOUNTS CLIMATE NEUTRALITY OBJECTIVE NEITHER NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITS.

FINALLY, THE RESILIENCY OF EUROPE WILL LIES ON STRONG LOCAL AND REGIONAL CAPACITIES TO ANSWER BASIC NEEDS SHARING THEIR BEST SOLUTIONS WITH A WIDE COMMUNITY

1# DEFINE RESILIENCY AND INCLUDE CONCRETE OBJECTIVES TO ASSESS PROGRESS

In the present situation, "resilience" is indeed a word that is on every lip. But it is not always clear what it means in practice. Through the implementation of our local transition plans and economic diversification strategies, we have found the answers and believe it could be summarized in three key aspects:

- 1.The collective capacity to organize and provide essential services and goods, relying on a multitude of players
- 2.The ability to harness available local resources first, and develop a minimum sufficiency capacity for each territory
- 3.The resulting flexibility and agility due to the combined efforts of various actors, sectors and solutions

> include the 3 objectives in the regulation for the Recovery and resiliency facility, into the technical assistance instruments, into the INVEST EU regulation, into the new MFF, and NextGenerationEU proposals



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1 COMPLETE REVISED GOVERNANCE ALL THROUGH

BECAUSE THE CRISIS WE ARE IN, DOES NOT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE FINANCIAL CRISIS AFTERMATH, THE GOVERNANCE PROCESS DEFINING STRATEGIES AND AND AGREEING WHAT AND HOW THE RECOVERY PACKAGE WILL BE SPEND,

IN ALL ITS DIMENSION, THE GOVERNANCE OF THE "REPAIR AND PREPARE EUROPE" NEEDS TO BE COMPLETELY REVISED.

LOCAL ACTORS WILL DELIVER, WILL MOBILISE, AS FOR THE DIRECT CRISIS-RESPONSE IF THEY ARE PART OF THE DECISION PROCESSES.



2# REINFORCE AND INCLUDE ART 11. OF THE ENERGY AND CLIMATE REGULATION INTO THE RECOVERY AND RESILIENCY PACKAGE REGULATION

The Energy and Climate regulation introduced multi-stakeholders platform to co-design climate strategies and energy national policies. If the National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP) are mentioned into the recovery regulation, the governance is not.

In addition, in our first assessment of the NECPs they are currently weak, and the stakeholders are most often only consulted. We ask for a complete co-design, as the French Citizen Assembly for Climate as shown, giving a substantive real to participatory democracy is a powerful tool to reach the level of ambition we all agreed on.

Citizen's, local governments and stakeholders expertise is not only vital to mobilise the society, they will also solve tensions between contradicting interest as shown by the Netherlands round tables to agree on concrete sectorial and regional targets.

We call for the inclusion of local and regional resiliency assembly that will be compulsory to include into the design and implementation of the National recovery and resiliency plans and the Just transition Plans.

1 OVERARCHING PRINCIPLE FOR ALL EU FUNDS/BUDGETS

WE CAN NOT AFFORD TO USE THIS RECOVERY PACKAGE TO INVEST INTO FUTURE STRANDED ASSETS AND WITHOUT CLIMATE PROOFING THEM ALL.

CLIMATE STRIKES LEADED TO THE GREEN DEAL PROMISES, WE CAN NOT AFFORD DISAPPOINTING THE #NEXTGENERATION

LOCAL ACTORS WILL DELIVER, WILL MOBILISE, AS FOR THE DIRECT CRISIS-RESPONSE IF THEY ARE PART OF THE DECISION PROCESSES.

3# STRONG AND DETAILED "DO NOT HARM" PRINCIPLE

DO NOT HARM: means any measures jeopardising our future should not be supported. we are called for an extended and precise definition to be included into all regulation.

we are also calling for local government to be able to use the "do not harm principle" to reject non-compatible projects on their territories which would jeopardise our capacity to reach the climate neutrality.



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SOME SPECIFIC DEMANDS ON DIFFERENT PROPOSALS

FUTHER DETAILS:

OUR PROPOSALS ON THE EU CLIMATE LAW
OUR PROPOSALS ON THE EU GREEN DEAL
OUR PROPOSALS ON THE CLIMATE PACT

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ENERGY CITIES IS A NETWORK OF 1,000
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN 30 COUNTRIES.
WE BELIEVE THAT THE ENERGY
TRANSITION IS ABOUT MORE THAN
RENEWABLE ENERGY OR GREAT
TECHNOLOGIES: IT IS ABOUT A WISE USE
OF RESOURCES WHILE STRENGTHENING
LOCAL PARTICIPATION AND WELL-BEING IN
A DEMOCRATIC EUROPE. WWW.ENERGY-
CITIES.EU

TRANSPARENCY

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On the Recovery and Resiliency Facility include a European City and Community energy Facility in order to build capacity of local actors to prepare projects to be financed (such as the eucityfacility.eu)

On the Public loan facility

Ensure that the Public loans Facility under the Just transition mechanism, wich will be available to more regions, includes not only "traditional" technical assistance (like in the programme ELENA, only available for the bigger cities) but also grants to prepare investment concepts, such as in EUCF (Art 3.3. to be revised) to be accessible to more cities.

On the Technical Assistance instrument

Ensure that the instrument which aims at advising Member States administration how to be "efficient" is addressing the real issues of cross-sectorial and multi-level policies to reach the Climate neutrality. So far this regulation is providing 1 billion € for experts, reports and consultancy advices to Ministries only on "should support the implementation of growth-sustaining and resilience-enhancing reforms undertaken at the initiative of the Member States, and Union policy priorities and reforms in relation to the implementation of economic adjustment programmes." This instrument should aimed at increase participatory democracy and multi-level and cross-sector governance



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