



**European Committee
of the Regions**



**Covenant of Mayors
for Climate & Energy**



22.02.2018 | 15:00 – 16:30

Room JDE 53, European Committee of the Regions

Session 4: Make climate adaptation a profitable investment for your city!

Introduction

Signatories to the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy commit to adopting an integrated approach to tackling mitigation and adaptation to climate change and to promoting access to sustainable, secure and affordable energy to their citizens.

Objectives of the side event

This afternoon session targets politicians and technical staff from municipalities, regions and national government attending the 2018 Covenant of Mayors Ceremony. It aims to raise awareness of the costs of climate-related impacts on local authorities, and inform on the financial and economic benefits of climate adaptation measures. A fine balance between on-the-ground-experience from municipalities on different stages of their adaptation strategies and academic expertise will provide an interesting overview into the topic of the economics of climate adaptation at local level.

15:00 Introduction and inspirational speech

Moderator: Elena VISNAR MALINOVSKA, *Head of Unit A3 "Adaptation" DG Climate Action, European Commission*

- Introduction by the moderator;
- Inspirational speech by **Valentina ORIOLI**, *Deputy Mayor for Urban Planning and Environment of the City of Bologna, Italy.*

15:20 What are the costs of inaction and how to value adaptation investments? Expert approach

- **Francisco ESTRADA PORRUA**, *Institute for Environmental Studies (IVM), Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Author of "A global economic assessment of city policies to reduce climate change impacts" (2017); (tbc)*
- **Dirk DÜTEMEYER**, *Environmental Meteorologist, Essen, Germany. (tbc)*

15:50 Investing now to avoid costs tomorrow – A dialogue with city practitioners

Interview format (20') followed by Q&A with the audience (15')

- **Helena PERXACS MOTGÉ**, *Barcelona Provincial Council, XarxaSost Network. Opportunities of local adaptation: the costs of not acting and the LIFE CLINOMICS project*
- **The case of Hamburg**, Germany: Hamburg's investment into storm surge protection. (tbc)
- **Birgitte KARNØE FREDERIKSEN**, *Deputy Head of Central Denmark EU Office, Partner of the Coast to Coast Climate Challenge Life IP (C2C CC): A risk assessment based approach to prioritize adaptation actions on local level.*

16:25 Conclusions

16:30 End of the event