



12 February 2021 | 10.00 – 12.00

Registrations via this [link](#)

## "Stepping up Europe's 2030 climate ambition towards COP26"

### Online stakeholder consultation

The European Committee of the Region is currently drafting its opinion "*Stepping up Europe's 2030 climate ambition towards COP26*" (COM/2020/667 final). As local and regional leaders, we are fully committed to the implementation of the European Green Deal in Europe's cities and regions.

The rapporteur Mr. Vincent CHAUVET (FR/RE), Maire d'Autun and his expert Ms. Angélique Palle would like to invite you to discuss the most important challenges and opportunities at regional and local levels both for the new emissions reduction target and the upcoming CoP26.

### AGENDA

**09.30 – 10.00** Testing online connection with the speakers

#### On the road to CoP 26

**10.00 – 10.20** Initial remarks by **Mr. Vincent Chauvet**.  
Presentation by **Mr. Yunus Arikan**, Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability World Secretariat

**10.20 - 10.40** Discussion with the audience

#### The climate ambition

**10.40 - 11.20** Initial remarks by **Mr. Vincent Chauvet**.  
Presentation by **Thomas Pellerin-Carlin**, director of the Jacques Delors Energy Centre.  
Presentation by **Peter Vis**, Senior Adviser on climate and energy policy and the European Green Deal, Rud Pedersen Public Affairs.  
Presentation by **Linda McAvan**, Executive Director European Relations, European Climate Foundation.

**11.20 – 11.50** Discussion with the audience

**11.50 – 12.00** Final remarks by the rapporteur and DG CLIMA (tbc)

**12. 00** End of the meeting

*Participants may speak in & listen to English and French*

## Guiding questions for the debate:

- 1) What lessons can we learn from the impacts at the local level of previous "Green recovery" packages put in place by some governments following the financial crisis in 2008 (subsidies for solar panels, etc.)?
- 2) How can we make sure, in line with the subsidiarity principle, that the administrative freedom of local and regional authorities will be guaranteed, i.e. that the choice of the path to decarbonisation in local situations where multiple technological solutions may exist can still be decided at local level (e.g. solar panels vs windmills, EV vs hydrogen for public transportation, etc.) and that LRAs can still opt to test other innovative or unconventional solutions (like horse-power) in line with the principle of technology neutrality?

Many LRAs across the EU wish to enforce more ambitious climate policies than the State they belong to, how the subsidiarity concept can be advanced to cover not only EU-member state level but also the regional and local levels for climate policies?

- 3) How do we make sure territorial specificities are taken into account (isolated energy systems, islands, rural areas), and local identities are preserved in the decarbonisation path (for instance historic cities with constraints regarding public renovation techniques, the installation of solar panels, the creation of charging stations and waste collectors; or municipalities that are members of natural preserved areas like regional parks where some infrastructures – dams, electric lines, windmills – are not accepted)?
- 4) How can we obtain a formal recognition of cities and regions in the implementation of the Paris Agreement (see movements such as the C40 or the NAZCA), as well as the inclusion of Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions within national governments' pledges? Should these Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions be articulated with the "regional scoreboards" and "local climate pacts" also advocated by the CoR? How could LRAs be informed and receive technical support to elaborate these documents?
- 5) How do we make sure that eligible LRAs are effectively consulted in the writing of "territorial just transition plans" in line with possible funding from the EU Just Transition Fund? More broadly, how do we make sure all local distributional effects (income, density of population, natural endowment, main employment sector, etc.) in any region will be effectively compensated by EU funds?

How will new climate tools, such as the Just Transition Fund, take into account LRAs lack of financial and human capacity to rightly identify, apply for and manage EU funding?