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BARCELONA



# Leading Innovation for Impact

## City Leaders Event on “Towards a Net-Zero EU by 2050”

Barcelona (Spain) | Fira de Barcelona | Gran Via venue  
Avinguda Joan Carles I, 64 | 08908, L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, Barcelona

**Wednesday 16 November 2022, 15h00 – 16h30 (CET)**

*The City Leaders Event with policy practitioners is organised by the EIT Urban Mobility's City Club back-to-back with the [Tomorrow.Mobility World Congress](#) from 15 to 17 November 2022 at Fira de Barcelona.*

### Background

Last year, during the Tomorrow.Mobility World Congress from 16 to 18 November 2021, EIT Urban Mobility's City Club organised the first edition of the High-Level City Event *Leading Innovation for Impact* which brought together top elected officials and policy practitioners from several cities in Europe in two roundtable discussions to share their key priorities and ideas to advance sustainable urban mobility and foster the uptake of transport innovations. Adopting a leading approach appears essential to identify the most pressing needs of the citizens and to be more flexible and responsive to new innovations.

In 2022, the City Leaders Event will again bring together the EIT Urban Mobility's city representatives coming from all over Europe with the aim of further strengthening the sense of community against the challenges facing cities, sharing bold targets for a more sustainable future of urban mobility, and setting out the common objectives for achieving a Net-Zero EU by 2050.

### Event Abstract

Today, climate change represents the biggest existential threat to our livelihood. The latest report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) shows unprecedented changes in the world's climate. For Europe, the report predicts an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events that will have impacts at all levels of society and across all sectors of the economy. The European Union is promoting the EU Missions, a new way to bring concrete solutions to some of our greatest challenges, which aim to deliver concrete results by 2030. The Mission on Climate Adaption is to support at least 150 European regions and communities towards climate resilience by 2030. The mission will foster the development of innovative solutions to adapt to climate change and encourage regions, cities, and communities to lead the societal



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transformation. For cities, mitigation and resilience are key for ensuring that large transport infrastructures remain accessible and effective in the face of climate adversity.

In parallel, cities around the world are now being disrupted by a global energy crisis that urgently claims for diversification of energy sources to reduce Europe's gas dependency.

Innovation is on our side, and cooperation seems the key for recovery and resilience planning. The current scenario has highlighted that we can only turn our ambitions into action by working together. Improving collaboration between governments, businesses, and civil society will help to achieve the net-zero goals faster. At this regard, cities should place a central role to ensure an effective and meaningful involvement of citizens in the innovation process.

Within this framework, the City Leaders Event will bring together a group of city leaders to discuss how to go from vision to action, share city strategies and actions to boost and improve the collaboration and knowledge triangle integration to achieving impact through innovation in transport in the EIT Urban Mobility and beyond. The city leaders will reflect on what cities can benefit from collaborating with other stakeholders in an open-innovation eco-system.

## Event Panellists

### Moderator:

- **Dr. Laia Pages**, Executive and Research Manager at CARNET, Barcelona (Spain)

### City representatives:

- **Dr. Àngel López**, Head of Mobility Strategies, City of Barcelona (Spain); Chair of EIT Urban Mobility City Club
- **Ms. Inese Andersone**, Head of Riga City Development Committee, City of Riga (Latvia)
- **Dr. Mariusz Sagan**, Head of Strategy and Entrepreneurship Department, City of Lublin (Poland)
- **Ms. Karin Ekdahl Wästberg**, Director of Innovation, City of Stockholm (Sweden)
- **Mr. Joan Maria Bigas**, Head of Mobility, Transport and Sustainability Division, Barcelona Metro Area (Spain)

## Contacts (EIT Urban Mobility City Club Team)

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