



Introduction to Local Green Deals

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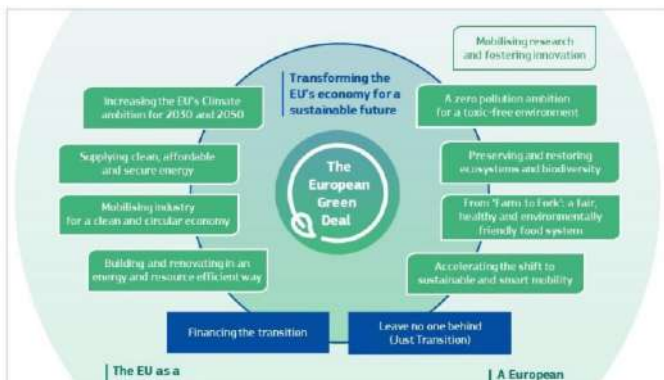
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EU POLICY CONTEXT 2020-2024

The European Green Deal

- The first climate neutral continent by 2050
- 55% less GHG emissions by 2030 (against 1990)
- 3 billion additional trees by 2030



EU POLICY CONTEXT 2024-202?

European Green Deal +



Clean Industrial Deal

- **Objective:** ensure EU industries remain competitive while achieving climate goals
- **Focus:** competitiveness, climate, jobs
- **How:** process simplification, cleantech investment, ensure affordable energy supplies

Industrial Decarbonization Accelerator Act

- **Objective:** transition EU energy-intensive sectors towards greener technologies
- **Focus:** channel investment in infrastructure and industry, for energy-intensive sectors
- **How:** speed up planning, tendering and permitting processes for clean technologies

LOCALIZING THE EU GREEN DEAL

Motivation

A livable and attractive city

Global and EU Goals

A climate neutral and nature-positive transition that leaves no one behind

How is the EU supporting this effort?



LOCAL GREEN DEALS: The approach/Vision

Responding to a need for change

- The traditional, silo-based way of doing governance cannot drive the scale of transformation required to meet the goals of the European Green Deal across all 8 policy areas

What is a Local Green Deal?

- A Local Green Deal is a **strategic governance approach** designed to accelerate and scale up a city's sustainable transformation, in line with the goals of the EU Green Deal.
- It **builds on and integrates existing strategies**, initiatives, legislation, market and financial incentives into a coherent approach designed to expedite the implementation of the EGD at the local level

What does it aim to do?

- **Put the Sustainable Development strategy at the core of all local government decision-making** rather than a single strategy from one department
- Address and **overcome the lack of integrated policies and capacity to implement them**, by encouraging the adoption of an integrated horizontal approach to governance.
- Ensure **multilevel governance of strategies, budgets and initiatives through agreements**, both at different levels of government (vertical) and between local stakeholders (horizontal)

Example: Mannheim iDeal = *Vision*



The **city of Mannheim** launched their LGD vision to reach climate neutrality in the summer of 2021:



Vision on sustainability through *the Mannheim Message* (response of European Mayors on the EU Green Deal)



Aligning existing local, national and European **policy frameworks**



Analysis of local stakeholders and their willingness to get involved

Achievements

- **120 Local Green Deal partnerships** with businesses, industry organisations and service providers
- New target for the city of Mannheim to achieve **climate neutrality in 2030**
- Largest housing association committed to **refurbishing 4000 flats** and introducing **water reuse** to reduce energy and water demand
- **Governance:** Creation of a **city LGD team**, with the aim to employ **eight LGD agents**, one for every thematic field of the EU Green Deal
- Current city considerations on **regulatory reforms** to fiscally incentivise citizens for **sustainable lifestyle choices** and resource sharing over private ownership

“Our Local Green Deal is poised to catalyse best practice examples and projects which make the principles in the Mannheim Message a reality”

- Peter Kurz, Mayor of Mannheim

Example: Aalborg + Asphalt company = *Action agreement*

The company

- Prepare and publish a climate strategy before the end of 2024
- Prepare climate accounting and set concrete targets
- Climate actions
- Replace drum and increase recycling materials before the end of 2025. Potential savings of 1,000 tonnes of CO2 per year
- Phase out cement before the end of 2025. Potential savings of 300 tonnes of CO2 per year.
- Make new partnerships regarding recycled materials before the end of 2024. Potential savings of 600 tonnes of CO2 per year
- Networking and knowledge sharing with other climate partners
- Influence customers and suppliers in a more sustainable direction

The Municipality

- Facilitate a dialogue with possible partners to cover increased use of recycled asphalt and alternative materials
- Facilitate a dialogue on restructuring the municipality's purchase of asphalt
- Facilitate networking and knowledge sharing amongst partners, other companies and knowledge institutions
- Make Munck Asfalt's climate results visible on relevant platforms
- Support the authority's processing of applications for the establishment of facilities which lead to climate reductions

LOCAL GREEN DEALS: The role of the City

The **local government can take different roles**:

- 1** The local government is an **active contributor** to the collaboration, and is responsible for the implementation of part of the LGD together with one or more stakeholders;
- 2** The local government is a **facilitator** of the activities undertaken by two or more local stakeholders and is responsible for keeping them accountable for the implementation of the deal.
- 3** The local government is a **broker** seeking buy-in from other units in the public organisation by creating internal commitment to the use of LGDs to mainstream its sustainability strategy and goals.

INTELLIGENT CITIES CHALLENGE



1 Strategy refresh

1 – 3 months
March – May 2024

Summary

Refine LGD approach to be sufficiently in line with LGD principles and ICC focus.



2 Implementation

12 months
March 2024 – February 2025

Create (multiple) LGD partnerships by (partially) securing funding and achieving agreements.

Themes that play a central role during the implementation phase are funding, procurement, reskilling and social economy.



3 Review & way forward

1 month
March 2025

Measure success and commit to keeping connections and developments going.

Best performing cities within their sector paths/ intensity tracks are awarded prizes.

Steps of LGD blueprint



INTELLIGENT CITIES CHALLENGE

Local Green Deal Methodology



7 steps for development

Steps 1-3 tackle predominantly the first level and are focused on developing the city's internal structures and processes.

Steps 4-7 tackle predominantly the second level and are more focused on the interaction between the municipality and the external stakeholders

INTELLIGENT CITIES CHALLENGE

LGD Methodology: 10 principles

1 Build on what is already there

Bring existing policies, strategies and initiatives together in a coherent way, to leverage their impact more effectively.

2 Think big

Set out a shared, long-term, strategic vision and consider how to address cross-cutting issues such as climate change, the circular economy and social exclusion.

3 Lead by example and show commitment

Show commitment to political leadership, who need to create an enabling environment for change, communicate the importance of the change they are advocating for and remain actively involved.

4 Integrated and cooperative process

Create multilevel governance between all levels of government (vertical integration), to ensure cities input into the development of relevant legislation and initiatives.

5 Integrated local government

Develop strong a collaboration between different stakeholders across the city to address competing priorities and identify synergies between policies and actions.

6 Collaborate with stakeholders

Bring together local service providers from different sectors to provide crosscutting solutions. Local stakeholders must act as ambassadors to amplify the city's sustainability initiatives.

7 'Deals'

Develop and implement agreements to cooperate which identify the key actions each stakeholder commits to lead, the support offered by all of the signatories and timeframes for delivery.

8 Innovative finance

Ensure that public funds are used to encourage private and civic sector actors to invest further into sustainable actions by using a mix of financial mechanisms.

9 Sustainable technological solutions

Leverage technological innovations by being adaptive (e.g., identify and adopt technologies) and proactive (e.g., work with research institutes to steer innovations serving the public interest).

10 Ensure resilience

Ensure cities are resilient to systemic challenges as the climate emergency, technological innovations, political changes, and socioeconomic crisis, while trying to achieve their sustainability goals.



Local Governments
for Sustainability

EUROPE

Connect • Innovate • Accelerate

Thank you!

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