



EUROPEAN UNION



# EU MISSIONS

ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE



## Third Forum for the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change Provisional Agenda

### Wednesday 22 May – Site visits

#### **8:30 - 17:00 – Site visit to Wallonia: Visit to the Vesdre Valley (optional)**

This visit to the Vesdre Valley in Liège Province will unravel the many aspects of the reconstruction and adaptation process that followed the unprecedented flooding in the summer of 2021, which caused significant damage. It will include visits to the Gileppe Dam.

#### **10:30 - 17:00 – Site visit to Flanders: Visit to the city of Mechelen and the Vrouwvliet river (optional)**

This visit to the historic city of Mechelen in Antwerp will include a boat ride to explore of its pioneering approaches to incorporating water and greenery into the urban landscape, as well as a walk around the Vrouwvliet river to see ongoing aquatic conservation efforts.

#### **13:30 - 17:00 – Site visit in Brussels: Visit to Tour & Taxis / Brussels port (optional)**

This exploration of the neighborhood around Tour & Taxis includes visits to a new park where nature-based solutions are increasing quality of life, to an old industrial district which has been transformed into a pioneering sustainable neighborhood, and to a company turning waste into carbon-neutral building material.

#### **13:30 - 17:00 – Site visit in Brussels: Visit to Sonian Forest (optional)**

This walking tour of a UNESCO World Heritage site and exceptional ecosystem will address how we can make forests more resilient; how Urban Forest Based Solutions (UFBS) can help strengthen urban population's wellbeing and health in a changing climate, and how innovations in a circular economy can support sustainable forestry management.

### Wednesday 22 May – Pre-forum networking event

#### **19:00 - 21:00 – Pre-forum networking event (optional)**

Food and drinks reception with opening addresses from the European Commission, Mayor of Saint Gilles, and Government of Wallonia.

Location: Town Hall of Saint Gilles, Place Maurice van Meenen 39, 1060 Brussels, Belgium.

## Thursday 23 May - Third Forum for the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change

**Location:** BEL Brussels, Avenue du Port 86C, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

08:30-09:30	<i>Registration and refreshments</i>
09:30-10:15	Opening
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcoming words by master of ceremony, Katrina Sichel</li> <li>• Alain Maron, Minister for Climate, Environment, Energy and Participatory Democracy, Government of the Brussels-Capital Region</li> <li>• Wopke Hoekstra, Commissioner for Climate Action, European Commission</li> <li>• Vasco Cordeiro, President of the European Committee of the Regions (video message)</li> </ul>
10:15-10:20	Framing of panel by Philippe Henry, Vice-President and Minister for Climate, Energy, Infrastructure and Mobility, Government of Wallonia
10:15-12:15	Panel discussion: Adaptation on the fast-track
	<p>Moderated by Elina Bardram, Mission Manager, Director, Directorate-General for Climate Action, European Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Viktor Haase, State Secretary in the Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Transport of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia</li> <li>• Eva Jensen, Head of Climate Change, Energy and Transport Programme, European Environment Agency</li> <li>• François Decoster, Vice-President in charge of culture, heritage, regional languages and international relations of the Region Hauts de France</li> <li>• Valvanera Maria Ulargui Aparicio, Director General, Spanish Office for Climate Change</li> <li>• Connie Hedegaard, Chair of the Board, Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change</li> <li>• Joško Klisović, President of the Assembly and Member of the European Committee of the Regions, City of Zagreb</li> </ul> <p>Audience Q&amp;A</p> <p><b>Project showcase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gyða Einarisdóttir, Association of Local Authorities in Iceland</li> <li>• Roald Wolters, National Roundtable of Mission Regions of the Netherlands</li> </ul>
12:15-13:45	<i>Lunch and networking</i>
13:45-13:50	Framing of panel by Matthias De Moor, General Representative of Flanders to the EU
13:50-15:45	Panel discussion: Integrating funds for adaptation and interlinkages with the Mission Cities
	<p>Moderated by Rosalinde van der Vlies, Clean Planet Director, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Salla Saastamoinen, Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission</li> <li>• Elina Roine, Director of Operations Support &amp; Climate, European Investment Bank</li> <li>• Nicola de Michelis, Director, Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission</li> <li>• Ricardo Rio, Mayor, City of Braga</li> <li>• Hanna Zdanowska, Mayor, City of Łódź</li> </ul> <p>Audience Q&amp;A</p> <p><b>Project showcase:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stella Psarropoulou, Deputy Chief Resilience Officer, City of Thessaloniki</li> <li>• Airi Andresson, Head of the Green Transition Department, City of Tallinn</li> </ul>
15:45-17:30	Networking in Atrium and Restaurant.
17:30-18:00	Closing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elina Bardram, Mission Manager, Director Directorate-General for Climate Action, European Commission</li> <li>• Closing words by master of ceremony, Katrina Sichel</li> </ul>
18:00-19:00	<i>Drinks reception</i>