



Building Capacities for the Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission

French instruments and governance
for climate neutral cities

20 / 03 / 2023

National commitments and instruments

Supporting ecological transition

Legal framework: Paris Agreement (COP 21, 2015) > Climate law (2017) > Energy Climate Law (2019) > Climate and resilience law (2021)

Regulatory framework: Low Carbon National Strategy (from 2015) > French Energy and Climate Strategy (in progress)

Operational framework: PCAET (Energy Air and Climate Territorial plan) – CRTE (Ecological transition and recovery contracts)

Programs: EcoNeighbourhoods; Sustainable city demonstrators, urban renewal policy, Action Coeur de ville, Small towns of tomorrow, Sustainable city demonstrators..

Budget: €2bn for the Green fund in 2023

Governance: shared responsibility between the municipal block and regional level responsible for the Regional scheme for planning and sustainable development of territories (SRADDET)

The action is coordinated by the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion (MTECT), its decentralised departments and agencies. This action is followed by the services of the Prime Minister (SGPE)

Main operational instruments

Based on a decentralization policy

The **PCAET** (Plan Climat Air Energie Territoire) is a strategic and operational territorial project for sustainable development :

- the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- adaptation to climate change
- energy sobriety
- air quality
- development of renewable energies

Established by EPCIs (public body gathering communities) > 20,000 inhabitants



The **CRTE** (Contrat de Relance et de Transition Ecologique) supports the territories in the implementation of the project :

- With ecological transition, territorial cohesion and economic recovery as cross-cutting themes
- By supporting the development of projects (engineering) and facilitating access to different sources of funding

These contracts cover almost the entire State. The strategic projects are consistent with the PCAET



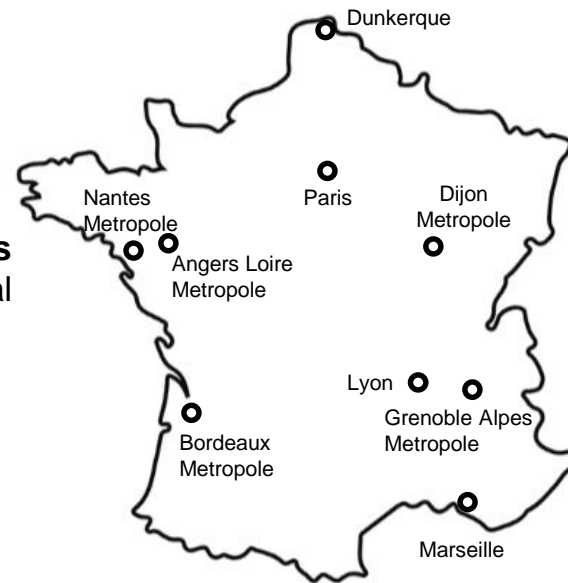
The PNRU (national urban renewal programme) implemented and financed by ANRU

The 9 FR cities of the Cities Mission are **large cities and metropolises** ... most of which have experience of a PCAET (territory) or climate plan and have undertaken actions (energy and transport infrastructures, neighbourhood rehabilitation, citizens' forums, etc.)...
... in collaboration with their ecosystem (companies, academics, associations)

They consider the Climate City Contract as an opportunity to **accelerate** this transition towards climate neutrality by providing a European dynamic (internal reflections, stimulation of local partners, funding opportunities, etc.)

The most frequently **obstacles** are :

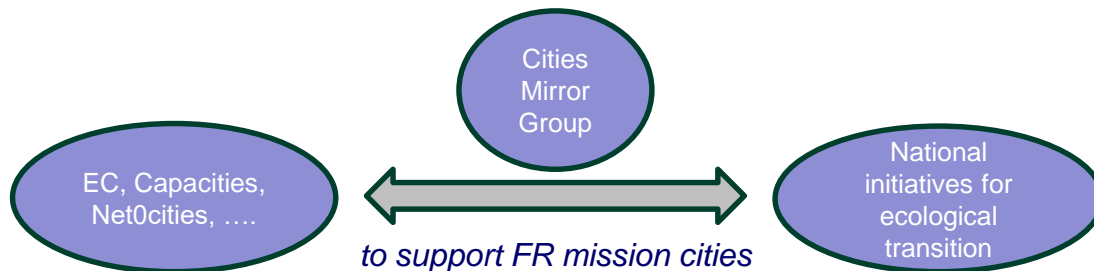
- **Multi level governance** : strategic planning and decentralization
- **Human resources and finance** : Inventing new ways of working and investing
- **Citizen dialogue**: cities at the forefront of lifestyle change
- **Climate emergency**: adapting operating methods, reintroducing risk-taking



The Cities Mirror Group (Groupe Miroir Ville) was created in 2021 to act as a relay and support national actors in the European Horizon Europe programme on cities (Driving Urban Transition, Cities Mission)

Role of Cities Mirror Group about the "100 climate neutral cities" flagship:

1. Relaying to FR cities the European information necessary for the successful implementation of mission
2. To “bridge” Cities Mission with national policies, actors and instruments on ecological transition to support FR laureates
 - Benefit from experience and expertise of national stakeholders (incl. institutional)
 - Enable synergies with national programmes
 - Integrate Mission Ville into national / European funding opportunities as much as possible



Members of the Mirror Group (more involved in Cities Mission) : CGDD (MTECT), DGRI (MESR), DGALN (MTECT), ANCT (⇔ MTECT), France Ville Durable, France urbaine