



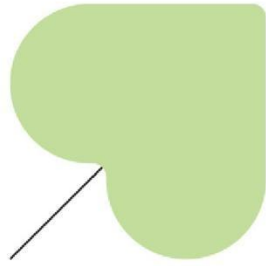
AJUNTAMENT
DE VALÈNCIA



València
Sostenible

Acuerdo climático de la ciudad de *València*





València

APPENDIX 3:
Adhesions and
Alliances

1st iteration – January 2026



Strategic context of sustainability in Valencia

The city of Valencia has a solid and consensual mandate on sustainability and environmental care, whose scope and ambition have grown over the years. This shared vision reflects a long-term commitment to protecting natural resources, reducing environmental impact and promoting a more resilient city, prepared to face the climate challenges of the future.

The construction of this vision is the result of the convergence of various initiatives, such as:

- Valencia's Urban Strategy articulates ambitious public policies around six perspectives on what the city should be like: a sustainable city committed to caring for the environment and adapting to its future; a healthy city that promotes health in a comprehensive manner in all its actions and facilitates healthier lifestyles; a shared city that seeks to promote justice, inclusion and equality and enables everyone to enjoy a dignified life; a prosperous and entrepreneurial city that drives economic development, innovation, professional growth and the attraction of talent; a creative city where art, culture and creativity make it more liveable, pleasant and resilient; and, finally, a Mediterranean city that opens up to the world with solidarity, with its own identity and which exports culture, traditions and talent.
- The Valencia Climate Mission promotes innovation to facilitate systemic transformations and accelerate progress towards the desired city, within the framework of the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission and the Adaptation Mission. Specifically, it defines the baseline and different future scenarios for consumption and GHG emissions; contains clear objectives and targets; draws up a climate action plan that could enable the city to achieve these objectives; estimates the costs and benefits of the plan; and defines governance structures and partnerships that could enable the Climate City Contract to be implemented with ambition and equity.
- The recognition of Valencia as European Green Capital 2024 rewards decades of work in favour of the environment and reinforces the city's position as an international benchmark in sustainability and, specifically, as a green benchmark in the Mediterranean.
- The Covenant of Mayors and the development of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (PACES), as a commitment maintained for decades by different municipal governments, have enabled the city to establish long-term objectives and action plans for mitigation and adaptation to extreme weather events.

Governance challenges

After decades of great progress in sustainability and environmental protection, Valencia is now in the phase of accelerating the process. This presents several challenges that must be addressed in order to achieve effective and successful governance.

- **Bringing local coherence to existing fragmentation:** the European Union and other levels of administration tend to work in isolation or in a semi-fragmented manner. As a result, there are often different initiatives with similar or related objectives for the



cities (EU Missions, Covenant of Mayors, Urban Agenda, Green Deal, Local Green Deal, etc.). This requires Valencia to define its own comprehensive approach to working on environmental sustainability and climate improvement, maintaining a sense of coherence, being able to communicate locally and taking advantage of synergies.

- **Moving from plans to actions:** after developing ambitious and solid strategies, Valencia is now in the implementation phase. Moving from commitments to actions poses major challenges in terms of governance, as the workspaces that enable the definition of an action plan may not be useful for its implementation. In addition, citizen participation must evolve from co-creation activities, in which residents provide information on possible incidents in the city, to co-implementation spaces where citizens are empowered to take direct action and lead the transformation of their daily routines, their homes and their neighbourhoods.
- **Maintaining a systemic view while remaining operational:** addressing sustainability in a systemic way is even more difficult when the debate moves from plans to actions. Implementation requires discussions at the project level, so working teams or participatory processes tend to focus on specific actions and initiatives. However, a systemic approach is needed to analyse and understand how different projects, sectors and actions interrelate in order to enable efficient coordination and the exploitation of synergies.
- **Activating the ecosystem through distributed leadership:** according to Valencia's City Climate Contract, the City Council can only assume 7% of the investments needed for the city's ecological transition. The remaining 93% must come from other stakeholders and citizens. Activating the ecosystem involves fostering real leadership among residents and organisations. This implies real and generous co-governance spaces, but also training and the provision of tools, information and a framework that facilitates direct action by the ecosystem towards shared objectives.
- **Restructuring the municipality for future challenges:** accelerating progress and transforming the city requires new roles and profiles within local public administration, both in terms of vision and cross-cutting skills, as well as technical knowledge and capabilities. Cities often lack sufficient internal human resources and face long and tedious procedures for hiring new staff. In addition, the fragmentation of responsibilities and departments often hinders the success of complex and innovative solutions.

Strategic objectives

The current iteration of the Valencia Climate Agreement has a vision of accelerating Valencia's ecological transition towards a green and sustainable city, achieving efficient and impactful implementation of its climate strategies.

To realise this vision, Valencia has defined the following six strategic objectives:

1. Establish a coherent and unified sustainability framework at the local level, bringing coherence to the fragmentation of European, national, regional and local initiatives.
2. Improve internal coordination within the municipality to avoid isolated work and facilitate efficient, cross-sectoral action.



3. Integrate sustainability among municipal staff, the five propeller entities and citizens, providing the information, tools and empowerment necessary to make the fight against rising temperatures a priority for society.
4. Improve coordination, collective learning and efficient action among the entities of the 5 propellers of Valencia's sustainability ecosystem.
5. Engage, activate and empower citizens to facilitate their direct action towards sustainability.
6. Defend the fundamental role of cities in the sustainability and ecological development of Europe, as well as the importance of true multilevel governance and action.

Governance actions to be developed

With the aim of fulfilling the six strategic objectives defined above, Valencia has defined a group of six actions that will enable it to improve collaboration with other actors, internal coordination between different departments and the search for support for its ACC:

1. **OAM Sustainable Valencia:** create a new municipal body, from the merger of existing entities, to unify, coordinate, and promote sustainability and environmental improvement projects in the city.
2. **Valencia Green Paper:** to draw up a strategic and informative document that reinforces Valencia's identity as a green and sustainable city and serves as a guide for professionals and individuals interested in sustainable urban development.
3. **Valencia Sustainable Driving Force Team:** consolidate a strategic team to ensure high-level decision-making and the coordination of sustainability policies and projects.
4. **Sustainable Valencia Community:** create an expanded team for municipal coordination and exchange between municipal departments and public entities working on sustainability, taking advantage of existing working teams such as those related to PACES or the Green Capital.
5. **Green Ambassadors Programme:** continuing training courses on sustainability to promote sustainability skills and culture among municipal staff.
6. **Sustainable Valencia Forum:** create a multisectoral space to facilitate cooperation and synergies between entities in the five areas of the sustainability ecosystem, as well as to collect projects and commitments from these entities.
7. **My Green Neighbourhood:** organise events to connect and engage with citizens at the neighbourhood level, to diagnose needs, support neighbourhood improvement and celebrate progress in sustainability.
8. **Valencia Green Charter:** to highlight the importance of cities in climate and sustainability and to emphasise the aspects for further progress in the EU Cities Mission.

OAM Sustainable Valencia

Creation of the Autonomous Municipal Organisation Valencia Sostenible to unify, coordinate and promote sustainability projects and climate improvement policies in the city. Valencia Sostenible was born from the merger of two previous foundations, València Clima i Energia and



the World Sustainable Urban Food Centre of València, and aims to make the city's green policies more ambitious and coherent, fulfilling the commitments of Valencia's Climate Mission and promoting the joint and aligned advancement of the entire Valencian sustainability ecosystem.

Valencia Sostenible is based on a long-term and ambitious vision for the city in this area, and seeks to bring together and implement all local and international initiatives in this field, with the common goal of improving urban sustainability, protecting the environment and increasing the city's security and adaptability to changing climatic conditions, thus encompassing initiatives such as the European Green Capital, the Climate Mission, the Covenant of Mayors and the Valencia Urban Strategy.

Valencia Green Paper

The Valencia Green Paper is a comprehensive strategic document developed to guide the city of Valencia towards a more sustainable, resilient and green urban future. Its main objective is to serve as a roadmap for the city's ecological transition, addressing key challenges such as extreme temperature rises, biodiversity loss and resource management, while improving the quality of life of its citizens. The book consists of the following chapters:

- Mayor's Welcome
- Introduction
- Sustainable Valencia
- 10 elements of a green city
- Flagship projects
- The green and sustainable city of 2030
- Book publication

Sustainable Valencia Driving Force Team

Internal strategic group within the City Council responsible for coordinating projects, initiatives and policies related to Sustainable Valencia. It is made up of a small number of people for coordination and high-level decision-making, including:

- Monitoring updates on the various initiatives related to sustainability and making strategic decisions to take advantage of their respective opportunities and respond to their needs, such as the Climate Mission, the Urban Strategy, PACES and others.
- Coordinating the flow of information and communicating needs to other City Council departments, when necessary.
- Coordinating the definition and development of the various policies and projects related to sustainability, so that consistency is maintained and synergies are exploited.

The Driving Team could be made up of the Mayor's Office, key delegations in the field of sustainability and the OAM Valencia Sostenible.

Sustainable Valencia Community

Technical group within the City Council responsible for technical coordination and the exchange of information between areas and services with responsibilities related to Sustainable Valencia.



Its main objectives are:

- To share information between the different departments of the City Council and keep them informed about the most relevant news, events and opportunities.
- Organising the contributions of the different City Council services, when necessary, to address the requirements of European initiatives or calls for proposals (project files, indicators and data, communication material, etc.).
- Enhance the sense of community and shared vision within the Council, sharing the motivation behind the requirements, discussing the priorities of the city and the different departments, and celebrating the progress made.

The Community could be made up of all areas, delegations and services with a significant impact on environmental sustainability.

Green Ambassadors Programme

The aim of these training courses is to provide information and tools to employees from different departments of the City Council, while promoting a culture of sustainability among them.

The training courses will be organised annually and may evolve according to emerging interests and new topics. The first set of training courses planned by València Clima i Energia was already tested in 2025 and consists of four long courses (LC) of approximately 20 hours each, and three short courses (SC) of approximately 1.5 hours each:

- **LC1: Introduction to the Energy Transition in Valencia**
Participants explore the causes and consequences of rising temperatures, learn how to reduce energy bills, and discover municipal projects such as Energy Offices. The course also covers energy rehabilitation and the promotion of renewable energy in residential and municipal buildings.
- **LC2: Introduction to the Right to Energy: Addressing Energy Poverty**
This course takes an in-depth look at the current energy model and its relationship with energy poverty. Attendees learn how to understand electricity and gas bills, apply energy-saving tips, and explore the city's tools and policies for combating energy vulnerability.
- **LC3: Renewable Energy, Self-Consumption and Energy Communities**
An in-depth analysis of solar energy, collective self-consumption and pioneering projects in Valencia, such as the Castellar Energy Community and Réquiem in Power (solar panels in cemeteries). The course also presents the Solar Map of Valencia to assess the potential of rooftops.
- **LC4: Practical Environmental Education**
Focusing on topics such as Health and Well-being and Quality Education, this practical course includes visits to urban beehives, monumental trees, the Pinedo Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Racó de l'Olla to connect theory with real-world sustainability initiatives.
- **SC1: Management and optimisation of domestic electricity and gas bills.**
- **SC2: Renewable energies: key to promoting domestic consumption of renewable energies with photovoltaic installations in Valencia.**
- **SC3: Measures to save energy, save money and improve comfort in homes.**



In addition to specific training courses, the Green Ambassadors Programme envisages the development of a series of additional layers, which have not yet been developed and will need to be assessed at a technical, economic and political level, with the aim of generating a greater sense of community and facilitating collective learning among training participants.

- Knowledge repository: development of a shared repository that allows all training participants to share resources and documents that may be useful and interesting.
- Alumni network: compilation and analysis of participants in the different courses offered each year to assess their degree of representation in the main areas and departments of the City Council.
- Messaging channel: development of a channel or platform that allows direct communication between participants and alumni of the training courses, to facilitate the exchange of information and news that may be interesting or inspiring.
- Regular newsletter: production of a regular newsletter to send news, opportunities or inspiring stories to participants and alumni of the training courses.
- Municipal Green Ambassadors Award: launch of an annual award that recognises the value of best practices by municipal workers in the field of sustainability.

Sustainable Valencia Forum

The Sustainable Valencia Forum is the main initiative that seeks to mobilise and accelerate the commitments and projects of the Valencian ecosystem (entities from the 5 propellers) in relation to sustainability and the Mission.

The Valencia Sustainable Forum brings together private companies, public administrations, civil society, universities and the media with a common purpose: to promote coordinated projects that protect the environment and increase our resilience to adverse weather events.

Its main objective is to promote the development of projects and initiatives that boost sustainability in Valencia through coordination, promoting participation and leadership throughout the Valencian ecosystem. Its main functions are:

- To foster synergies between sectors linked to the environment.
- To discuss and agree on long-term visions for the city.
- Facilitating the development of projects in a coordinated manner.
- Reviewing and improving regulations, ordinances and plans.
- Contributing to raising awareness and communicating environmental initiatives.

The entities participating in the Forum represent all sectors (public, private, civil society, academia, media) and areas of sustainability (mobility, energy, biodiversity and adaptation, urban planning and housing, innovation, economy and tourism, water, food and waste management, cross-cutting issues) in a balanced manner.

My Green Neighbourhood

My Green Neighbourhood is a participatory project that involves citizens in collective debates on the perception of the urban space in question, the neighbourhood where they live,



as a green, sustainable and resilient space. Its main objectives include identifying needs, learning about citizen actions, and gathering community proposals for the future that will enable the transition towards urban transformation with safer, fairer and more sustainable neighbourhoods.

My Green Neighbourhood seeks to be a point of connection between sustainability strategies and large-scale projects and what happens at the neighbourhood level and in the daily lives of citizens.

The actions carried out are:

- Workshops to promote collective mapping to identify three routes (climate adaptation/well-being, citizen projects and actions, and dreams for the future).
- Collaborative MBV magazine with the presentation of the results of the revitalisation process and interviews and articles on community actions and experiences that exist in neighbourhoods and strengthen social cohesion and environmental awareness.
- Citizen meetings in open urban spaces through a fair of social entities, the presentation of the results of the collective mapping, a series of environmental workshops, and cultural and entertainment activities.
- Educational and environmental activities to promote the Green Capital, aimed at children, young people and adults.

The project was carried out during 2024 in three neighbourhoods of Valencia: Orriols, Saïdia (district) and Patraix. In each of them, there was citizen participation and collaboration from various local associations, including neighbourhood associations, social organisations and educational centres.

Valencia Green Charter

During the European Green Capital year, Valencia 2024, the seven Spanish and seven Swedish cities selected from among the 112 EU Mission Cities drew up a joint Development Declaration for the Cities Mission, with the support of the Swedish national platform Viable Cities and the Spanish national platform citiES. The Declaration also has the support of M100 (the Romanian Mission Cities Mirror Centre); the German Mission Cities through stronGERcities (the German Mission Cities Network); the Portuguese Mission Cities through the Climate Cities Network (the Portuguese national platform); Greek Mission Cities through Climanet (the Greek Mission Cities Network); and more than 25 EU cities participating in the Mission. The Declaration was named the Valencia Green Charter due to the leadership of the city of Valencia in its development and its presentation during the Mission Forum held in Valencia as part of Green Cities Week in June 2024. Its main objective is twofold:

First, highlight the need for a common strategy on scaling up as the new normal:

- Horizontal scaling through replication and mechanisms to involve more cities.
- Vertical scaling through policy changes.



- Deep scaling through a change in mindset.

Secondly, we suggest twelve aspects to continue promoting the EU Cities Mission and support cities in the process of continuous learning and accelerating the climate transition:

- Leadership and political commitment within the European Commission.
- Multi-year strategic financial framework for the Cities Mission until 2030.
- Private funding.
- Human resources dedicated to the Mission.
- Just transition.
- Integration between mitigation and adaptation.
- Knowledge and open source tools.
- Monitoring and indicators for tracking the Mission.
- Regulatory changes and administrative streamlining.
- Breaking down silos. Inter-administrative collaboration.
- Partnerships for the Mission.
- The Mission as a preliminary step to scope 3.

In summary, this Joint Development Declaration highlights the importance of multi-level governance and placing cities at the heart of European and national policies. It advocates maintaining a systemic and collaborative approach to accelerate the ecological transition in the urban context.

Government declaration of support for climate neutrality and resilience in Spanish cities



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GOVERNMENT DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE CLIMATE NEUTRALITY AND RESILIENCE OF SPANISH CITIES

Through this Declaration, the Government of Spain reiterates its firm commitment and willingness to continue advancing towards an environmental and climate agenda that is also an agenda for a **Welfare Society**. An agenda that protects ecosystems and guarantees health, prosperity and a just transition for all citizens.

Science has been warning us for decades about the acceleration of climate change and its increasingly intense and frequent consequences. But we still have time to act, and we know the opportunities that ecological transition offers us: the sooner we act, the greater our capacity to adapt will be, the lower the costs will be, and the less profound the inequalities will be, especially among the most vulnerable populations. Addressing climate change is a unique opportunity to transform our cities into more sustainable, resilient and cohesive spaces, and to build a more just, secure and prosperous future for the next generations.

Cities, where most of the population lives and where energy consumption and emissions are concentrated, have a key role to play in this green transition.

We therefore emphasise the **transformative value of cities** as spaces for experimentation and innovation, with new forms of governance and citizen participation that drive change in the face of the major urban challenges of our time.

This transformation process must run parallel to a major effort to **adapt cities to new climate scenarios**. We need urban spaces that are prepared to face diverse and aggravated risks: rising temperatures and episodes of extreme heat, droughts, torrential rains and floods, among others. And we need a more aware and capable administration and citizenry to respond adequately to these threats.

Urban ecosystems represent 22% of the European Union's land area, providing important habitats for biodiversity. They play a fundamental role in addressing the major challenges of climate change, as they guarantee quality of life and health for their inhabitants.



These urban ecosystems are articulated in urban green infrastructure, as a strategically planned network made up of different natural elements of various sizes and types (such as parks, gardens, green corridors, trees, green roofs, green façades, orchards, agricultural and forestry spaces, riverbanks in urban areas, transition spaces to non-urbanised environments, etc.), which will enhance the effect of green capillarity and ecological connectivity, while improving the flows of biodiversity that guarantee its quality.

Nature-based solutions have proven to be cost-effective and efficient in this process, promoting renaturalisation and thereby achieving results in improving air quality, reducing urban temperatures, reducing the heat island effect and the risk of fires; sustainable water management, flood reduction, improved infiltration and aquifer recharge; the promotion of urban biodiversity and ecological resilience; and the strengthening of citizens' physical and mental well-being.

This Declaration also represents another step towards an urban health agenda aimed at improving environmental quality in our cities and urban centres, ensuring healthy environments and moving towards the goal of zero pollution. In this regard, we are working to ensure compliance with the **Climate Change Act**, particularly with regard to **Low Emission Zones**, and we continue to strengthen the implementation of policies aligned with these objectives.

This Government **therefore remains committed to a real transformation of our cities**. The Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan 2023-2030 (PNIEC 2023-2030) delves deeper into the transformation of cities with the roll-out of pedestrian areas and routes and the promotion of cycling with the construction of cycle lanes, the adaptation of roads and urban spaces, the provision of secure parking facilities and the roll-out of bicycle rental services and measures to calm road traffic.

The update to the PNIEC reinforces the commitment to sustainable mobility and reflects the progress made in recent years in Spain thanks to instruments such as the 2030 Strategy for Safe, Sustainable and Connected Mobility, the Recovery Plan, the Sustainable Mobility Bill and Royal Decree 1052/2022, which regulates the minimum requirements for Low Emission Zones in accordance with the Climate Change Act.



Our commitment to **public and collective transport** is also reinforced, including a boost to railways and the development of digital and sustainable solutions that improve the competitiveness and efficiency of the transport system.

We are also committed to continuing to promote the electrification of the vehicle fleet. In December 2025, we launched the Auto+ Plan, with €400 million in 2026 for direct subsidies for the purchase of electric vehicles; the launch of another Moves Corredores, with €200 million to deploy charging points and a further €580 million for the PERTE VEC.

The **energy renovation of existing buildings** and the construction of **new buildings with high efficiency standards** are essential for moving towards climate-neutral cities. The PNIEC 2023-2030 envisages an increase in the number of renovated homes to 1,377,000. Taking action on the built environment means reducing emissions, improving thermal comfort, combating energy poverty and generating quality local employment. In this context, it is a priority to accelerate the electrification of thermal uses, promote self-consumption and energy communities, promote solutions based on renewable energies and move towards positive energy districts. The **PNIEC 2023-2030** reinforces this vision and establishes specific measures to decarbonise the building sector. On this path towards the decarbonisation of cities, the **transformation of the building stock is one of the key levers** for also achieving the objectives of the European Union's "smart and climate-neutral cities" mission.

For its part, the **National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (PNACC)** includes cities, urban planning and construction among its priority areas of intervention, given the evidence that urban areas are subject to specific risks that require policies that anticipate impacts, increase adaptive capacity and strengthen the resilience of urban areas.

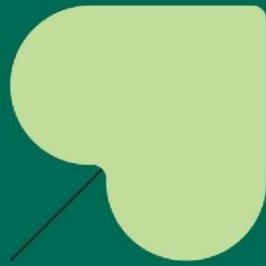
The Ministry for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge supports cities not only through our policies, but also **through specific financing instruments**. This government has financed the promotion of the Spanish platform (citiES 2030) with €810,000, €218 million has been allocated to renaturalisation and urban resilience projects and, more specifically, €16.5 million in aid has been approved for cities in the Mission through public calls for proposals, and work is underway to develop a new public-private investment initiative dedicated to the Mission cities. We remain committed to supporting the Mission cities and



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other cities that want to embark on this path with €1.9 million for the **Collaboration Platform for Climate Neutrality** in Spanish Cities, a public action infrastructure aimed at providing technical and strategic services, training, knowledge and experience exchange, and monitoring of climate agreements, which facilitate and accelerate decarbonisation and strengthen urban resilience. With this declaration, we therefore also reaffirm our commitment to cities developing and implementing climate agreements within the framework of the European Mission.

We remain committed. Because at the end of the day, what matters most is people's health. The implementation of the PNIEC 2023-2030 will reduce premature deaths associated with poor air quality by 49% compared to 2019 levels. For its part, the implementation of the PNACC 2021-2030 will ensure that increasingly intense, long and frequent heat waves do not translate into an equivalent increase in mortality associated with extreme heat. We will have cleaner air, better air-conditioned homes, more pleasant urban spaces and lower energy consumption. **That is our commitment.**



València