

EIT Climate-KIC, Transformation in time

EIT Climate-KIC is Europe's largest public-private partnership focused on the rapid, broad-based systems innovation we now need to tackle climate change and build resilient, net zero-carbon societies. We bring together diverse communities to catalyse systemic change through joined-up, collaborative innovation - spanning finance, technology, regulation, citizen engagement and other levers of structural change.

Mission-led

Our mission is to catalyse systemic change through innovation to achieve deep decarbonisation in areas of human activity that have a critical impact on greenhouse gas emissions: **Cities / Land-use / Water and marine systems / Finance / Materials** - and to create climate-resilient communities.

Theory of Change

Technological innovation alone will not achieve the structural changes needed to realise zero-emissions cities, land-use or materials, in time. EIT Climate-KIC is therefore convening a deliberately diverse and broad-based portfolio of innovations that work together to harness the many interacting forces that cause change within our target systems. We shape and support innovation in: **Funding / Financing, procurement and business models / Policy and regulatory frameworks / Perception, behaviour and social norms / Education and skills / Technologies / Citizen participation / Production systems / Market structures / Information**

Systems innovation as a service

We are a delivery vehicle for systems innovation. We work with problem owners to build a portfolio of connected innovation interventions on the ground. We offer orchestration and sense-making to identify viable pathways to change and transformation, and provide tailored support for experimentation, implementation and scaling.

Examples are:

Community mobilisation and engagement / Focused innovation consortia / Portfolio composition / Project selection, co-creation and co-ordination / Venture building and scaling / Deep demonstrations of systems transitions and mission-led innovation.

EIT Climate-KIC's innovation journey

EIT Climate-KIC was established in 2010 and is predominantly funded by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union. We are one of many EIT-funded Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) set up to bring together businesses, research centres, higher education and the public sector to address societal challenges. Our founding purpose was to tackle climate change through innovation.

In 2017 our approach to innovation evolved to fully acknowledge and address the challenge of social equity and sustainable prosperity that is at the heart of the climate challenge and to achieve the kind of radical systems transitions called for in the IPCC's Special Report on 1.5 Degrees.

Track record

EIT Climate-KIC is building on strong foundations to shape an innovation model that can align whole systems with a 1.5 degree world. Our track record over the past nine years includes:

380+

leading
partners

26

countries

Over 17,000

participants
in education
activities

>€3,4bn

climate
funding

1,400

innovative
start-ups

>€930m

investment
attracted to
start-ups

3,100

graduates

367

new product
and services



1 Million near-zero energy/carbon neutral homes by 2023

Do you want to take huge steps in upgrading existing homes to near-zero energy/carbon neutral buildings and at the same time involve your residents in realizing a climate-proof, liveable and clean city?

Now you can! Join the EIT Climate-KIC programme 1 Million Homes.



1 Million near-zero energy/ carbon neutral homes

To limit global warming to 1.5 °C, emissions from the global building stock in place in 2050 will need to be 80-90% lower than the present day. This will require all new buildings to be carbon neutral and existing ones being retrofitted at an annual rate of at least 4%. EIT Climate-KIC is embarking on a mission to retrofit one million homes to near-zero energy/ carbon neutral within the next five years.

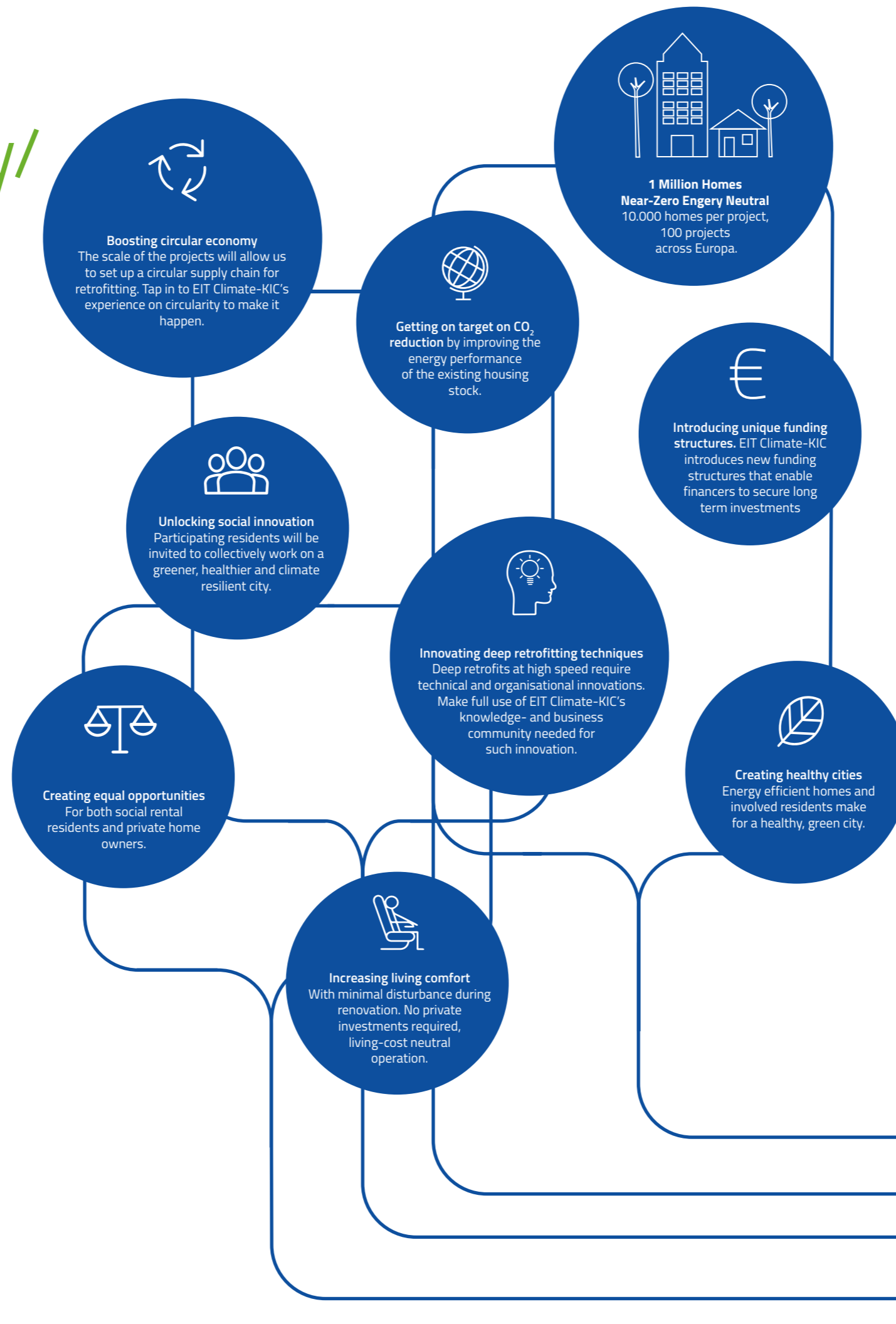
Scaling for (climate) impact

Through a portfolio of experiments, EIT Climate-KIC has gained valuable experience in barriers and opportunities for deep retrofit. We have supported innovations looking at technology, new ways of financing, business models, community engagement and policy drivers. We have worked both at the building and district level, and from single building pilot projects to neighbourhood scale projects of hundreds of buildings.

Taking the learnings from our experiences, it is time to scale up. At this moment we are working closely together with many cities, regions and other stakeholders in Europe to start with creating 10 million more sustainable homes. We are targeting aggregated demand (e.g. portfolios of 10,000 home) to trigger a radical change in retrofit supply chain and construction, deliver climate impact at scale and match a large demand pipeline with large scale financing available.

Bringing the community /Social transformation

The opportunity for social transformation is a key element of our mission. Residents across Europe daily face the dilemma of 'heat or eat', whilst others wish to retrofit, but cannot afford it. Retrofit has huge potential to offer a wide range of social benefits, from improved health and wellbeing, to affordable living cost, cleaner air and job creation. By engaging residents and citizens in a participatory process, they are more stimulated to actively contribute in improvements in their neighbourhood.



For instance, on greening, opportunities for local (energy) cooperatives, social contracts and support of a circular economy at neighbourhood or city level. The scale on which we work also offers unique opportunities for companies to come up with new, sustainable and circular concepts.

Who will pay the bill?

We also have good news about how to finance the retrofit of so many houses. With examples from our community of innovators, we are looking at new financing models which incentive homeowners. For example, our partner Economic Board Utrecht have developed a specific financing model: The Building Bound Loan. This offers investors the opportunity to secure long-term returns and homeowners the opportunity to accept a loan that is not dependent on or influencing individual financial positions resulting in living-cost-neutral upgrade of their home.

We are looking for cities, regions, real estate owners/managers and investors that wish to embark upon this adventure/transformation journey and co-create with us. Do you also see the possibilities, and do you want to commit to these ambitious goals? Contact the Programme Lead, Erik van Wijk, for more information about how you could join this ambitious programme.

Contact details

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