COMMUNITIES FOR FUTURE

Meet & Greet Marlène Siméon director of operation at CEMR - Tuesday 27th of April 2021, 10:00AM-11:30AM

Participant's Briefing

Marlène Siméon has a PhD in International Economics and Urban Policy and has been working for over 10 years on local development issues. She is specialised in the areas of economic, social and territorial cohesion, urban and territorial development, urban mobility, and local finances. She has [several publications](#) to her credit, in relation to local and regional governments. She currently plays an active role within the Council of European Municipalities and Regions as Director of Operations. She coordinates the policy & advocacy work and ensure the coherence between the different teams of the organisation. Before that she was the Director of PLATFORMA (http://platforma-dev.eu/), a pan-European coalition of local and regional governments working on city-to-city / region-to-region cooperation, led by CEMR. Before joining PLATFORMA (http://platforma-dev.eu/), she was policy adviser on cohesion policy, territorial development, local finances, the Urban Agenda at international and EU levels and the 2030 Agenda. She previously represented the Provence-Alpes Côte d'Azur Region to the EU institutions in Brussels, focusing primarily on international cooperation.

[**The Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)**](#) is the oldest and broadest European association of local and regional governments. They have 60 members association; 100 000 local governments representing 41 countries. They are the only organisation that brings together the national associations of local and regional governments.

1

- Welcome & Introduction
- What is CEMR? Whom do they represent? How do they influence the EU Agenda?
- Q&A
- How can the partnership principal help create a fertile environment for strong & lasting cooperation between CEMR members and Community-led initiatives in cases of the recovery and resilience plans or the long-term vision for rural areas?
- Q&A
- Closing

ECOLISE and its members on collaborating with municipalities & regions

---

Municipalities in Transition: a grassroots policy innovation that promotes collaborations between community groups and local government. It uses systems thinking and a flexible framework to find innovative ways to facilitate transformative change. This project is jointly led by our member Transition Network and the Transition Hubs group. The "beta" Municipalities in Transition System, trialled by the pilot communities in 2018-2019, shows the key functions of Evaluation & Diagnosis; Co-design; Co-Implementation; Toolbox; and Cultural Leverage.

The ODSlocal platform (Portguese for SDGlocal): is a tool to allow local governments and civil society organisations to identify which of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are to be considered a priority at the local level, and to monitor progress towards SDG targets by analysing indicators that have been localised according to specific methodologies. The intention is for pathways towards SDG implementation at local level to be transparently shared, promoting inclusive actions with greater attention on the SDGs on which progress lags behind in each municipality. Co-creation pilot phase involved the project partnership and several Portuguese municipalities (Bragança, Cascais, Castelo de Vide, Coruche, Loulé, Seia and Viana do Castelo), taking place in 2018 and 2019.

ICLEI: connects ambitious local and regional governments with leading peers, national governments, as well as the European Commission and related institutions, the United Nations, business, academia. Represents local and regional governments in European and global policy processes. Their involvement in the organisation of European Sustainable Cities and Towns conferences lead to the Aalborg charter, the Aalborg Commitments and the Basque Declaration.

Where do the opportunities lie?

EU Recovery Plan

In December 17th 2020, the new EU long-term budget (2021-27) was approved by the EU member states in the Council Coupled with NextGenerationEU, the temporary instrument designed to boost post-Covid-19 recovery, will be the largest stimulus package ever financed through the EU budget. A total of €1.8 trillion will help build a greener, more resilient, and more digital Europe after the pandemic. These include the new cohesion instrument ReactEU and the strengthened Just Transition Fund and the Regional Development Fund.

- On the recovery and resilience plans: https://www.ccre.org/en/actualites/view/4149 (on the right side there is a link to the results of the survey)

CAP Reform

The Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) of the European Union was established in 1962. It was originally introduced to increase agricultural productivity, ensure a fair standard of living for farmers, stabilize markets, and ensure availability of supplies and reasonable prices for consumers through a variety of regulations and subsidies for farmers and rural development.

- On the long-term vision for rural areas: https://www.ccre.org/img/uploads/piecesjointe/filename/CEMR_Long_term_vision_for_rural_areas_EN.pdf

European Economic and Social Committee

RURENER

ECOLISE
EUROPEAN NETWORK
FOR COMMUNITY-LED
INITIATIVES ON CLIMATE
CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY