



Press release

Paris, April 2, 2026

Announcement of the Climate Chance Europe 2026 Summit: « Climate change adaptation, a lever for resilience and prosperity in Europe: preparing and leading the way » June 3-4, 2026 in Brussels

- A summit in partnership with the City of Brussels, the Brussels-Capital Region, the Belgian Federal Government, the European Committee of the Regions and the European Commission
- 1,500 participants expected: European and national institutions, local authorities, companies, NGOs, researchers, and civil society networks
- Contributing to the new European climate adaptation plan, scheduled for 2026, which will replace the 2021 plan



Steering Committee meeting of March 26 in Brussels

Climate Chance is co-organizing its next European Summit on June 3–4, 2026 in Brussels, together with the City of Brussels, the Brussels-Capital Region, and the Belgian Federal Government, in partnership with the European Commission and the European Committee of the Regions. During a launch meeting held on March 26 in Brussels, these stakeholders reaffirmed their **shared commitment** to climate change adaptation, a cause they support with **determination and conviction**, confirming that this issue “**is deeply close to their hearts.**”

As the European plan takes shape, the Summit’s workshops, with the participation of the relevant European Union directorates, will allow attendees to highlight their priorities and put forward concrete proposals. This approach had proven successful at the 2025 edition in Marseille, where the 1,500 participants developed a “contribution to the European adaptation strategy” submitted to the European Commission.

A pivotal moment to contribute to the new European adaptation strategy

Europe is already warming twice as fast as the global average. This is a key moment for European climate policies, with the revision of the European climate adaptation strategy (end of 2026), taking place alongside the preparation of the future multiannual financial framework.



Press release

Over two days, the Summit will serve as a platform for dialogue, cooperation and advocacy, while also showcasing concrete exchanges on best practices developed across territories. Held at Espace Le Bel and Maison de la Poste in Brussels (Tour & Taxis), the event is expected to gather 1,500 participants, including several hundred local, national and European decision-makers, as well as major stakeholder networks engaged in climate action (local and regional authorities, European and national institutions, businesses, NGOs, researchers and civil society organisations).

Themes addressing Europe's most critical challenges

Among the themes on the [Summit agenda](#): financing adaptation, the role of digital technologies and AI in risk management, access to cooling from an equity perspective, the role of each stakeholder in effective implementation—from anticipation to response—, preservation of forests and water quality, the evolution of insurance systems, health, cooperation between Europe and Africa...The program will include around twenty sessions, two plenaries, about one hundred speakers, pitch corners showcasing innovative solutions, off-site field visits, and more.

According to Jean-Luc Crucke, Federal Minister for Mobility, Climate and Environmental Transition, responsible for Sustainable Development of Belgium: *"Climate change adaptation is a European emergency. By 2050, inaction could cost the EU up to \$5.6 trillion, with a GDP loss of 3% to 7%: doing nothing would be the most costly option. Faced with a borderless phenomenon, only European action can coordinate policies, pool resources, and ensure solidarity between Member States. By combining innovation, targeted investments, and collective intelligence, Europe can strengthen the resilience of its territories and secure the future of coming generations."*

Ronan Dantec, President and Founder of Climate Chance and Climate Spokesperson for the CEMR (Council of European Municipalities and Regions), notes: *"The adaptation challenges facing our territories in the context of climate change are immense. The future European adaptation plan must provide an ambitious framework to support and guide local actions, ensuring coherence across the different levels of public action."*

According to Ans Persoons, State Secretary of the Government of the Brussels-Capital Region, in charge of the Environment, Climate and Urban Renewal: *"We know that Brussels has become a strong leader in circular economy, carbon neutrality and district heating. Our climate is changing day by day, which compels us to keep innovating and investing in new technologies that make the city both livable and resilient. The challenges facing European cities are immense, as it is projected that by 2050, 70% of the world's population will live in urban areas."*

The Summit's conclusions and the proposals emerging from the various workshops will be primarily submitted to the European Commission, the European Parliament and national governments, with a view to informing the future European Adaptation Plan. The Summit will also connect with the international adaptation agenda and, following on from the Marseille Summit, will reaffirm the importance of strengthening cooperation between Europe and Africa in addressing this shared challenge.



Press release

About Climate Chance

Since its creation in 2015, Climate Chance has worked to bring together stakeholders involved in implementing international agreements on Climate, Biodiversity, and Desertification, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. It is the only international association seeking to federate all non-state actors in Europe and Africa: local governments, companies, civil society organizations, as well as media, researchers, and citizens, thereby contributing to accelerating action at the territorial level.

www.climate-chance.org

Press contact

Inès DIALLO 06 38 68 98 36 ines.diallo@climate-chance.org