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## 3rd SmartEnCity Newsletter

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## Editorial

Dear Readers,

Welcome to our 3rd SmartEnCity Newsletter. After 18 months of project duration, SmartEnCity is up to full speed. Having set the theoretical framework, the Lighthouse Cities are putting their ambitious plans into praxis (see “Highlights of the Lighthouse Cities” below). The project partners have worked with joint forces to develop concepts for the city transformation processes, taking into account different prerequisites. You can find the outcomes in full length in the following public deliverables:

- [Review of regulatory gaps and recommendations to facilitate city transformation processes](#)
- [Recommendations for updating standards or generating new ones](#)
- [New business models, procurements schemes and financing mechanism for the smart city project](#)
- [Citizen engagement strategy and deployment plan](#)
- [Smart Cities Network Activities Report\\_v1](#)

As another milestone, the three Lighthouse Cities have worked out solutions meeting their individual targets and challenges. If you are interested in how the Lighthouse Cities are dealing with the topics retrofitting, mobility, street lighting, citizen engagement and many more, have a look at the “Solutions” section of the SmartEnCity website ([smartencity.eu/about/solutions/](http://smartencity.eu/about/solutions/))

And finally, an important event is coming up: a joint event of SmartEnCity and the further nine Smart Cities Lighthouse Projects is taking place from 04.-06. October 2017 in Sonderborg, Denmark, comprising the Climate Conference 2017, a Smart EnCity project and network meeting plus a joint SCC1 SmartCities project meeting – bringing together the accumulated knowledge of 1.5 years of experience.

And now enjoy reading and let's stay in touch!

**Francisco Rodríguez Pérez-Curiel and Silvia Urra Uriarte**  
Project Coordinators of SmartEnCity, TECNALIA Research & Innovation

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## Progress in the Lighthouse Cities



### Vitoria-Gasteiz

The latest tax reduction for energy efficient houses is giving evidence on how the SmartEnCity project is having a positive influence on politicians and regulations: Since the beginning of 2017, the taxes for houses with a good energy rating were reduced significantly, creating a strong incentive for more energy efficient houses!

At the same time, the Basque government and the City Council of Vitoria-Gasteiz have decided to promote the retrofitting activities by giving complementary aid to people with limited income and difficulties to obtain funding.

Also, a new local regulation is fostering the installation of district heating systems which makes Vitoria-Gasteiz a frontrunner: While being a common measure in Northern Europe, it has just recently been introduced at large scale in Europe's South.

Due to the requirements of the Public Sector Contracting Law and with regard to the technical qualification, 55 teams of designers were selected and attended workshops at a large scale in order to guarantee a continued high level of retrofitting measures.

During all of these activities, the local SmartEnCity team was putting a lot of effort in involving the inhabitants of the demonstration district from the very beginning. Since the opening of the new citizen information office in February 2017, this place was hosting several project and informative neighbours' meetings. Recently, an additional information office has opened its doors right in the heart of the demonstration area in order to increase the visibility of the SmartEnCity project in the district.

#### Read more:

- [Tax reduction for energy efficient houses](#)
- [Complementary aid to people with limited income](#)
- [New local regulation for district heating systems](#)
- [Training for designers](#)
- [2nd information office in Vitoria-Gasteiz](#)



### Tartu

Within a few months, Tartu has attracted about 20 apartment associations to become part of the project and convert their houses, which were built in the 1950s and 1960s, into zero-energy buildings.

The latest news is the successful public procurements for the replacement of the street lighting in the city center with energy efficient LED lighting.

From the very beginning of SmartEnCity, owners, tenants and the interested neighbours were actively involved. Citizens, constructors and project managers met during workshops and on-site visits and learned about the renovation actions.

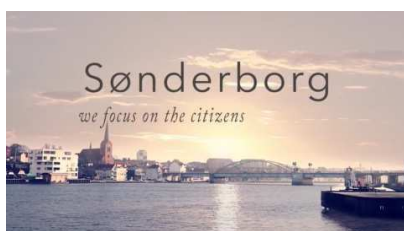
This approach is also reflected in the new shared bicycle system, which is currently being planned. 60 to 80 share points will be installed all over Tartu's city centre according to the citizen's requirements. Therefore, people are asked to fill in a questionnaire and mark their favourite places in an interactive web map.

In Addition, the SmartEnCity project has inspired several scientific researches in Estonia taking place at Tallinn Technological University and the Estonian University of Life Sciences and hundreds of Smart Cities enthusiasts were participating the annual "Smart City for the Citizens" event 2017 in the Estonian Nation Museum in Tartu.

Due to this bundle of activities, Tartu received a lot of media attention and the SmartEnCity project and its Estonian measures were showcased in two TV productions.

#### Read more:

- [SmartEnCity attracts 20 apartment associations in Tartu](#)
- [Successful procurement for innovative street lighting](#)
- [New shared bicycle system](#)
- [Scientific researches at Tallinn Technological and Estonian University of Life Sciences](#)
- [Smart City for the Citizens 2017](#)
- [SmartEnCity project in Estonian TV](#)



#### Sønderborg

After the necessary preliminary work, project partner and housing association SAB started the retrofitting of their social housing in May. SAB is one of three housing associations involved in the retrofitting package (each implementing different measures) and is focusing on solar panels.

Concentrating on people and their daily lives, three Citizen Engagement Workshops have taken place during the past six months, dealing with heat and electricity, water and wastewater and waste and recycling.

Sønderborg has invited ten families from each housing association to become actively involved in the project activities, asking for their opinions and input regarding their consumption of water, heat and electricity. The data will be tracked and analysed in order to obtain insights on end-user's energy behaviour and saving potentials. Sønderborg launched a short film about these activities and experiences.

In June, 39 biogas buses started operating. These new buses replace the former old diesel buses and provide carbon neutral mass transit, fueled by biogas. A new app is notifying the users of departures, arrivals, delays and other incidents.

Two important events are scheduled for October: the Climate Conference 2017 which is part of the SmartEnCity Conference Week in Sønderborg, and the 10 years anniversary of ProjectZero during the first week of October. This anniversary also marks the successful reduction of carbon emissions in Sønderborg of more than 35% compared to 2007.

#### Read more:

- [Citizen Engagement Workshops](#)
- [Video on citizen involvement](#)
- [SmartEnCity Conference Week](#)



#### News from the SmartEnCity Network

The SmartEnCity Network is constantly growing: About 25 cities already joined the community, benefitting from the learnings and first-hand experience of the SmartEnCity project.

In order to provide more tailor-made information, the Network section of the SmartEnCity Website has been modified. A self-service platform is offering specific information due to individual requirements. Have a look at [smartencity.eu/network](http://smartencity.eu/network) and check your opportunities.

Another service of the SmartEnCity Network is a series of webinars delivering practical advice on how to successfully execute the smart city transformation. So far, five webinars are available for the network members and other interested cities:

- Webinar 1: Strategic Energy Planning in countries and cities (16.12.2016)
- Webinar 2: Facilitating energy transition at city level (08.02.2017)
- Webinar 3: Empower your city transition – Citizen Engagement learnings from European municipalities (31.03.2017)

- Webinar 4: Energy Retrofitting of Buildings – Cost effective energy transition and learnings from European municipalities (19.04.2017)
- Webinar 5: Low Carbon Mobility (02.06.2017)
- All webinars are available online under: [smartencity.eu/publications/webinars](http://smartencity.eu/publications/webinars)

Regular network meetings where cities can directly exchange experiences, learnings and a core element of the network activities. This year in February, Follower City Lecce was hosting the SmartEnCity Network event. The 3rd SmartEnCity Network meeting will take place in Sonderborg on 4. -5. October 2017 .

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## Past Events

- “Smarter is cleaner – lessons learned from the SCC1 smart city projects on grids, storage and prosumer models”, 22.06.2017 in Brussels, Belgium. Joint SCC1 event in the framework of the European Sustainable Week (EUSEW).
  - [Congreso Internacional Municipalista](#) (international Municipal Congress), 16.-18. May 2017 in Brazil. SmartEnCity Lighthouse Cities were part of a delegation of European Cities.
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## Upcoming Events

- [Sonderborg´s climate conference 2017](#), as a part of the [SmartEnCity Conference week](#), 04.-06. October 2017 in Sonderborg, Denmark.
  - [Smart City Expo World Congress](#), 14. November 2017 in Barcelona, Spain.
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## News from our Sister Projects

On 23.03.2017, SmartEnCity and the further 8 Lighthouse SCC1 Projects signed a [Cooperation Manifesto](#) in Nottingham, U.K., to join the efforts towards low carbon and resource efficient urban spaces .

Triangulum launched its 5<sup>th</sup> [Newsletter](#) which is giving insights into success stories of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the implementation phase.

Discover the new website of our sister project MySmartLife: [mysmartlife.eu](http://mysmartlife.eu) and the [first newsletter](#) with a summary of the project, partners and Lighthouse Cities.

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## About SmartEnCity / Project ID / Contact

SmartEnCity, a project funded under the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, aims to develop a systemic approach for transforming European cities into sustainable, smart and resource-efficient urban environments. We aim to develop strategies that can be replicated throughout Europe in order to reduce energy demand and maximise renewable energy supply in urban environments. Activities include retrofitting in buildings, integration of infrastructures, developing sustainable mobility options, as well as the intelligent deployment and use of Information and Communication Technologies. The SmartEnCity concept will be defined, planned and implemented in three Lighthouse demonstrators Vitoria-Gasteiz (Spain), Tartu (Estonia) and Sonderborg (Denmark). The process will be replicated in the two Follower cities of Lecce (Italy), and Asenovgrad (Bulgaria). We will encourage a SmartEnCity Network of further cities interested replicating the approach elsewhere in Europe. Under the coordination of TECNALIA Research & Innovation, 35 partners from 6 countries work together to make Smart Zero Carbon Cities a reality in Europe.

### PROJECT ID

Duration: 66 months (February 2016 – July 2021)

Partners: 35 partners from 6 countries (Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Italy, Spain), coordinated by TECNALIA Research & Innovation

Call identifier: H2020-SCC-2015

Topic: SCC-01-2015 Smart Cities and Communities solutions integrating energy, transport, ICT sectors through lighthouse (large scale demonstration – first of the kind) projects

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**Picture sources:**

Sonderborg: SONDERBORG FORSYNINGSSERVICE AS (SONF)  
Vitoria-Gasteiz: Vivienda y Suelo de Euskadi, S.A. (VIS)  
Tartu: TARTU LINNAVALITSUS (TAR), Institute of Baltic Studies (IBS)

The SmartEnCity newsletter is published every six months, informing about the project and its news. Register for the newsletter on our project website: [www.smartencity.eu](http://www.smartencity.eu)

**SmartEnCity communication channels online – Stay in touch!**

After the first six project months, the main SmartEnCity communication channels are now online and working.

- Visit us on the SmartEnCity website: [www.smartencity.eu](http://www.smartencity.eu)
- Stay informed on project news via our [Twitter account](#)
- Engage in discussions in our SmartEnCity [LinkedIn group](#)
- Register for the SmartEnCity newsletter on our [website](#)



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