SmartEnCity Network Bulletin
DECEMBER 2018
2018 best practice stories told by the SmartEnCity Network cities

Dear Readers,

This month the bulletin is focused on the best practice stories from 2018 from different cities within the SmartEnCity network.

The three SmartEnCity lighthouse cities – Vitoria-Gasteiz (Spain), Tartu (Estonia) and Sonderborg (Denmark) as well as the two follower cities – Asenovgrad (Bulgaria) and Lecce (Italy) are highlighting some of their best practice stories of this year.

In the following you will find more inspirational best practice stories from some of the other cities within the SmartEnCity network.

You can read about the status of the network and how it evolved from the beginning of the year and more.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Enjoy reading!

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smart en city network

Best practice stories

➤ **Lighthouse cities of SmartEnCity:**

Vitoria-Gasteiz's secure bicycle parking network named VGBiziz started operating back in January 2018. As of December 2018, the network consists of 6 safe parking sites for bicycles. The increase of cyclists registered in the smart access control system of VGBiziz is constant. **Read more.**

Tartu 2030+ Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan planning process had two foresight workshops which mapped possible future scenarios for the city and analysing them together with various stakeholders. In addition, there was a participatory bus line network planning process that engaged thousands of citizens in Tartu and facilitated several public discussions. **Read more.**

Sonderborg´s "ZEROshop" concept addresses the energy consumption of 300 shops on the territory of the city with the main goal of reducing their energy consumption through various actions. **Read more.**

➤ **Follower cities of SmartEnCity:**

Asenovgrad's "Private multifamily buildings refurbishment" programme managed to refurbish 28 residential buildings which houses more than 4,700 citizens. This initiative has increased the energy savings and the comfort in the buildings. As a result, this brought more awareness to the citizens by engaging and educating them about the initiative. **Read more.**

Lecce joined a project which promotes the increase of **low-carbon services** and **safer infrastructures** for its citizens. The city is also involved in an educational course for kids from primary and secondary school, promoting **biking and green transportation**. **Read more.**

➤ **City members of the SmartEnCity Network:**

Horsens' upcycling of building materials is used in upgrading the luminaires of municipal schools and other municipal buildings. The municipality is willing to incorporate **circular economy** in all of their construction initiatives. In addition, a new **temporary heating solution** is introduced in buildings waiting to be connected to district heating. **Read more.**

The SmartEnCity Network

The end of 2018 is near and this is a good time to reflect back from the beginning of 2018 and see how has the SmartEnCity Network developed.

In January 2018 the SmartEnCity Network consisted of **27 city members**. Since then the network **grew with 55%** and as of December 2018 it reached **42 city members.**

In addition, two national based SmartEnCity networks are in operation i.e. in Denmark and Estonia. These networks help boosting the replication of the SmartEnCity project outcomes, solutions, etc. on national level and help creating stronger cooperation between the cities within the SmartEnCity Network.

Learn more about all city members on our SmartEnCity Network Platform.

Greifswald's solar boats bring more awareness about electric mobility within the citizens as well as the tourists of the city. This year the city merged the big annual maritime festival with a **climate sailing tour** along the river of Ryck. For most of the people participating in the festival this was the first time that they have encountered some sort of electric mobility on water. **Read more.**

Vratsa's Fiesta project about **citizen engagement** in regards to **energy efficiency** engaged more than 160 families and raised awareness starting with the kids. In addition, the Conurbant project helped Vratsa with their **sustainable energy planning** and helped them elaborate a **Sustainable Energy Action Plan. Read more.**

Padua is part of the **Digital cities challenge** programme launched by the EC. As a fellow city, Padua is aiming at **developing digital policies** with the focus of **sustainable mobility** and **ICT** platforms for the city, bringing **awareness** and access of information to elderly people and creating more **interactive service platforms**. **Read more.**

➢ **Other best practices**

The **"Climate 100" (Klima 100 in Danish)** is a collection of **100 solutions** from 80 Danish municipalities which was developed in collaboration between Sustainia and Realdania. In this report, one can find best practices on various climate topics from **green behaviour** and **education**, **renewable energy**, **transportation**, etc. to **circular economy**, **climate-proof cities**, **climate action plans**, etc. **Read full report.**

The EU corner – *COP24 in Katowice, Poland*

COP24 is the 24th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. This year the event was held in Katowice, Poland, 2-14 December 2018.

The main objective of COP24 was to ensure the full implementation of the 2015 Paris Agreement and to set a path that each country will follow in order to strengthen their climate protection actions.

Climate change is a complicated subject with many complex questions that need to be answered. However, COP24 ended with nearly 200 countries signing the "rulebook", which consists of a robust set of guidelines on how to count, report, and monitor greenhouse gasses as well as other climate topics such as how to support developing countries on their climate protection actions in the future, etc.

The "rulebook" is considered to be the basis on which the countries can build upon to put the 2015 Paris agreement into action by increasing the ambition and reducing greenhouse gasses globally.

Sources: COP24, Carbon Brief, The Guardian, Euro news

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➢ Learn more about the SmartEnCity project on our **website.**
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