



SmartEnCity Network Bulletin

March 2019

Dear Readers,

This month the Network Bulletin shares a press release on how a city can become a Smart City following the experiences and lessons learned from the SmartEnCity project and its Lighthouse Cities.

The Bulletin also:

- Highlights this month's meeting activities of the SmartEnCity Network in Denmark - the Energibyerne.dk
- Provides an overview of the new energy-retrofitting works in Vitoria-Gasteiz
- Summarises an Estonian construction delegation's visit to Sonderborg
- Summarises a lecture held at the University of Tartu at the beginning of February 2019 on "SmartCity and Smart Citizens - how to control the environmental burden"

You are invited to join the CELSIUS webinar held mid-April 2019 on "Policy recommendations for carbon neutral energy systems and markets". Find more information about the webinar below.

Enjoy reading!

Kristina Bozhkova
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Coordinator ProjectZero



How to become a Smart City: Learning from the SmartEnCity project (press release)



Once a city has become part of an EU-funded smart city project, the journey towards becoming a smart city has only just begun. The Lighthouse Cities of SmartEnCity have to successfully complete certain steps throughout the course of the

project which need to be documented through project deliverables. The following thus provides an overview of the most important steps of a Lighthouse City (as an example for any city interested in this journey) on its way to becoming an actually smart city. More detailed information about SmartEnCity's public deliverables can be found at the SmartEnCity website section "[Public Papers](#)".

Some general prerequisites are that a city has to set a specific goal and define its ambition. Then, the first step of a Lighthouse City is to evaluate its current status and to define which areas or districts are in dire need of improvements and should thus be addressed first. This is done, for example, by defining specific [KPIs for pre-intervention data collection](#).

For an efficient [city transformation](#), main barriers need to be identified as early as possible, regulatory gaps need to be reviewed and, of course, innovative technologies need to be adopted. In this regard, a "City-Envisioning Workshop" forms the first step of an ambitious city to

develop a specific Integrated Urban Plan together with a more detailed Action Plan. Additionally, recent experience has shown that an early involvement of citizens is crucial for successful implementation, especially in areas where citizens are directly affected, as it is the case with retrofitting of residential housing in all three Lighthouse Cities. The public deliverable "[SmartEnCity Regeneration Strategy: New business models, procurement schemes and financing mechanisms for smart city projects](#)" presents ways on how challenges on business models, public procurement and financing mechanisms can be overcome. The public deliverable "[Review of regulatory gaps and recommendations to facilitate city transformation processes](#)" highlights main barriers for city transformation and adoption of innovative technologies in the domains of urban retrofitting, energy supply, mobility, ICT and social engagement. Once these theoretical steps have been accomplished, the actual work in the Lighthouse Cities can start by creating diagnosis and baseline reports for each city, which focus on in-depth analyses for developing implementation strategies (see Deliverables "[Vitoria-Gasteiz Diagnosis and Baseline](#)", "[Tartu diagnosis and baseline report](#)" and "[Sonderborg Diagnosis and Baseline](#)").

The process does not end here! Learn more about what Lighthouse Cities are supposed to do towards the end of the first and second year of the project as well as the role of the Follower Cities by continuing reading the [full press release here](#).

The SmartEnCity Network

The national SmartEnCity Network in Denmark - [Energibyerne](#), had their 6th meeting in the beginning of March 2019. This time the cities met in [Skive](#), Denmark where the main topic discussed was in regards to smart city transport transition.

In addition, the cities learned about Skive's [Green Lab](#) – a unique business park working actively with integrated renewable energy, energy storage and resource efficiency.



[Read more](#) about the meeting.

The other national SmartEnCity Network in Estonia, "[The Smart Energy Club](#)", plans their 3rd meeting at the end of April where one of the main discussions will be in regards to green tenders. Keep an eye for updates from Estonia in the next bulletins!

[Browse the SmartEnCity Network Platform and learn more about our city members and their smart city solutions.](#)

First retrofitting works completed in demo district in Vitoria-Gasteiz



With the beginning of the New Year the final appearance of the first retrofitted façade has come to light. After several months of hard work, citizens can finally have a look at the results of the retrofitting works on one of the early adopter's building in Vitoria-Gasteiz. [Read full article.](#)

Estonian construction delegation visits Sonderborg



On 22nd March 2019 an Estonian construction delegation visited Sonderborg with the aim of learning about building designs and building related initiatives that Sonderborg has implemented. The carbon neutral vision of Sonderborg as well as the national Estonian SmartEnCity Network were presented. [Read full article.](#)

Public lecture on “Smart city and smart citizens – how to control the environmental burden?”



This was the opening lecture in the spring semester lecture series for the Senior Citizens program in Tartu University. The study program is for senior citizens and aims at introducing interesting topics, explore practical everyday matters and educate. The topics covered in this lecture were changes in the society, sustainability, smart city and technology and the SmartEnCity project. [Read full article.](#)

The EU corner – “Celsius Talk” - WEBINAR invite

CELSIUS project (accelerating smart and sustainable heating and cooling solutions) is planning a webinar focused on **“Policy recommendations for carbon neutral energy systems and markets”**.

Without the right policies in place to support the deployment of energy efficient systems, the innovative solutions that cities develop may only have a limited and/or slow impact.

Join the webinar and learn from the discussions and recommendations addressing policies that support the transition to carbon neutral local energy systems and markets. The main speakers are representative experts from the following projects:

- [Fossil-free Energy Districts project \(FED\)](#)
- [Heat Roadmap Europe](#)
- [Energy Cities](#)

**When: 16 April 2019
10:30 – 12:30 CET**

Deadline for registration: 15 April 2019

For more information about the [webinar](#) and [how to register](#), click [here](#).

Join the SmartEnCity Network and start your learning experiences now!

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- Use the SmartEnCity Network platform to learn more about our network members, events and news [here](#).
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