



SmartEnCity Network Bulletin №26 May 2021

Dear Readers,

In this edition of the Network Bulletin, you will find news from the Integrated Energy and Climate Plan of Asenovgrad, Bulgaria – a Follower City of the SmartEnCity project.

Learn about how the biogas busses in Lighthouse City Tartu performed last year and about Tartu's new Sustainable and Energy Climate Action Plan: "*Tartu Energy 2030*".

The EU corner is providing an extensive overview of the upcoming events during the summer and early fall– enabling you to *SAVE THE DATE* now!

Enjoy reading!

Kristina Bozhkova
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Follower City Asenovgrad is on its way to a zero-carbon future



Municipality of Asenovgrad endorsed its commitment to sustainable development through the adoption of Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (IECP) setting the vision of Asenovgrad as a carbon-neutral city by 2050.

It has been a long co-journey with the SmartEnCity project where five European mid-sized cities have shared knowledge and experience about energy and carbon footprint reduction. Asenovgrad benefitted from the foresight methodology for Smart Zero Carbon City (SZCC) developed within the project, as well as the experiences of the Lighthouse Cities where innovative smart solutions have been implemented and tested in practice which provide a good starting point for replication under local conditions. Special focus through the process of IECP development was put on

successful ways of citizen engagement.

Through the adoption of the SZCC concept, Asenovgrad aims to develop a scalable holistic approach for its transformation into a sustainable, smart and resource-efficient urban area. The newly adopted IECP is focused on several potential priority areas under the local conditions, including energy efficiency and RES integration in buildings, utilization of local biomass and PV potential, establishment of partnerships with neighboring municipalities and with local industries and cooperatives and the development of a City Information Open Platform. [Read full article.](#)

Success story of Lighthouse City Tartu: New biogas buses made 12 million trips last year.

According to ticket sales data, in 2020, the new biogas buses in Tartu operated by Go Bus travelled 4.5 million kilometres and made 12 million trips. By using clean fuel, the amount of CO₂ emissions prevented added up to 2000 tons.

“Unlike our earlier diesel-powered vehicles, the new gas buses also keep the environment cleaner,” remarked Ramses Riive, the regional manager of South Estonia at Go Bus. “Compared to earlier, our buses emitted 2,000 tons of less CO₂.” Last year, the 64 buses used 2 million kg of biomethane or green gas.



According to Raimond Tamm, the Deputy Mayor of Tartu, the switch to gas buses has been very important considering the air quality of the city. Using biomethane, which is a carbon neutral fuel, instead of natural gas, has helped to decrease the environmental impact of public transport in Tartu considerably. [Read full article.](#)

Tartu’s new Action Plan “Tartu Energy 2030” is nearing completion



Ettepanekud

Kokku üle 100 ettepaneku

In February 2021, more than 30 people gathered for a virtual meeting to hear the city government’s feedback to the public’s ideas and suggestions for the new Sustainable and Energy Climate Action Plan of Tartu, namely “Tartu Energy 2030”.

The new Action Plan was opened for public discussion last autumn and received nearly 400 various comments and suggestions from the citizens. By now, the city government has analysed the public input, phrased feedback for each and every comment and updated the Action Plan accordingly. [Read full article.](#)

The EU corner – SAVE THE DATE

2-4 June 2021 - Urbis Smart City Fair



This is an annual international trade fair, creating a unique space for sharing ideas and practical designs on how to bring to life and develop the concept of a smart city in central European towns and villages. This year, it will focus on solutions for cities and municipalities for a smart transport infrastructure for greater safety. [Find out more here.](#)

9-10 June 2021 – Smart Cities Marketplace Forum

This year's edition of the Forum will be an official partner event of the EU Green Week. It will be linked to the EU Action Plan towards a Zero Pollution Ambition as a key action of the European Green Deal. Note: 9 June 15:15 - 16:15 “Stories of replication” by the four Lighthouse Projects started in 2016. [Find out more here.](#)



24 June 2021 – Smart City Talks – Mobility, Energy & ICT – ICT Solutions

Mobility – Energy – ICT: The activities carried out within the mySMARTLife project aim at the transition of EU cities towards a new concept of Smart Life and Economy. Take part in the webinar series and learn more about the project's exploitable results as well as the specific solutions presented in the European smart city projects MAKING-CITY, POCITYF, MatchUP and STARDUST. [Find out more here.](#)

1-2 July 2021 – SmarterTogether final event & SCALE event combined

Together with its sister projects Smarter Together, Replicate and Sharing Cities, SmartEnCity will present a joint paper highlighting the results of the projects and giving recommendations to future cities following the smart zero carbon transition journey. [Find out more here.](#)

28-29 September 2021 – Sonderborg Climate Neutrality Conference (online)

This 2-day international event is taking place online and will give an overview of the current state of the art measures to achieve climate neutrality, closely linked to the results of SmartEnCity project. At the end of the 2nd day will be a virtual tour to the SmartEnCity demo sites Vitoria-Gasteiz, Tartu and Sonderborg and linked Integrated Energy Plans sites of the Follower Cities: Asenovgrad and Lecce. [Find out more here.](#)



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