



SmartEnCity Network Bulletin SEPTEMBER 2018

Dear Readers,

In this September 2018 edition of the bulletin you can read about the SmartEnCity network development across Europe. Several cities in Estonia are taking steps towards establishing a national based SmartEnCity network and together they are hoping they can tackle climate change and move towards their zero carbon city futures. Read the interview with our experts that are coordinating the process and find out more.

As usual our expert David Drysdale has written another of his series of articles relating to stakeholder engagement with a real life example from one of our lighthouse cities – Sonderborg, Denmark.

In addition, you can have a look at the news from the cities in the SmartEnCity network and more.

Enjoy reading!

Kristina Bozhkova
SmartEnCity Network Coordinator
ProjectZero



1st national based SmartEnCity network meeting in Estonia



The 1st national based Estonian SmartEnCity network meeting was held on the 13th September in Tartu, Estonia. The meeting consisted of 6 participant cities: Paide, Viljandi, Türi, Elva, Tallinn and Tartu. The aim of this meeting was to see if the cities can come together and work towards a common goal and help each other in their green energy transition. The meeting was hosted in the SmartEnCity lighthouse city – Tartu, Estonia and was coordinated by our SmartEnCity experts from IBS and TREA. Ms. Merit Tatar (up) from IBS and Mr.



Marek Muiste (down) from TREA were interviewed to gain some insights on how the meeting evolved, what topics were discussed, etc.

The main messages that were communicated to the Estonian cities were that firstly the city of Tartu, IBS and TREA would like to create a cooperation between the cities which can help them boost their energy transition, learn from each other and discuss relevant to them topics in their national setting. Secondly, that the experiences, toolboxes, lessons learned, etc. from the SmartEnCity project and network are there to be used in a way that fits the cities the most. [Read full article.](#)

The SmartEnCity Network

The network has been expanding and currently consists of 39 European cities from 13 different countries.

A new concept within the SmartEnCity network has been developed which resulted in the establishment of two national based SmartEnCity networks – in [Denmark](#) and [Estonia](#). The aim of a national based SmartEnCity network is to extend the replication process and knowledge transfer, making it easier for cities to implement smart city initiatives successfully in a similar governmental, financial and social contexts.



[Learn more about all city members on our SmartEnCity Network Platform.](#)

How is SmartEnCity contributing to zero carbon cities in Europe?

Part 4. Stakeholder engagement in Phase 3 of Integrated Energy Planning



Phase 3 is about working with stakeholders in order to prioritise and make decisions about projects and actions. It is also about the process of the stakeholders' learning. Stakeholders can include energy companies such as utilities, or construction and industry, politicians and planners and investors and users. Stakeholders not only have particular interests but they can also provide key competencies and knowledge to energy planning and the energy transition. It is a two-way exchange. Therefore, they need to work with each other, which can entail changes in their practices, and they may need to adjust to the energy

system targets.

In the work done for preparation and orientation in Phase 1, some initial work with stakeholders was carried out. Phase 3 builds upon Phase 1. However, Phase 3 is a deeper interactive planning process where the different participants' interests and preferences are taken into account in context of Phase 2. Some of the input from Phase 1 is updated in Phase 3. [Read full article.](#)

Smart renovations in Tartu can go on!



Tartu City Government has confirmed the investment in three further pilot area building associations that are participating in the SmartEnCity project. For the houses Pepleri 3, Turu 9 and Täche 2, the necessary financing has been guaranteed.

Up to now and including the 3 new houses, six pilot area buildings receive funding within the SmartEnCity project. [Read more.](#)

Canadian delegation in Vitoria-Gasteiz



In the last week of July, a Canadian Delegation from the City of Windsor (Ontario) visited Vitoria-Gasteiz within the framework of a Learning Exchange from the City-to-City Cooperation programme of the International Urban Cooperation (IUC).

[Read more.](#)

Smart public transportation in Tartu



In line with Tartu's previous actions, the city is continuing its efforts of realising its vision of smart public transport. In addition to the implementation of a new [e-bike sharing system](#), the installation of one further [electric car rental point](#) and a new energy-efficient [bus service](#) based on 64 new buses fuelled with methane gas, a new electric bus is operating free of charge between train station and city centre. [Read more.](#)

SmartEnCity flyer



This is the first SmartEnCity flyer which provides information about our three lighthouse cities – Vitoria-Gasteiz, Tartu and Sonderborg, our two follower cities Asenovgrad and Lecce and much more.

[Read the flyer.](#)

The EU corner – News from Ireland

Ireland is the first country in the world to divest from the fossil fuel industry, announced [The Guardian](#). The lower house of the parliament of Ireland approved a bill which aims at selling all the country's investments in coal, oil, peat and gas gradually. This is to be expected to be done within 5 years from now.

"The [divestment] movement is highlighting the need to stop investing in the expansion of a global industry which must be brought into managed decline if catastrophic climate change is to be averted," said Thomas Pringle, the independent member of parliament who introduced the bill to [The Guardian](#).

Eamonn Meehan, executive director of international development charity Trocaire, said: "Today the Irish parliament has sent a powerful signal to the international community about the need to speed up the phase-out of fossil fuels. [...] Just last month Ireland was ranked the second worst European country for climate action, so the passing of this bill is good news. But it has to mark a significant change of pace on the issue."

Source: [The Guardian](#).



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