



[Translate this page](#)

Read the online version | ISSN 2600-0962

30 May 2024



Smart Cities
Marketplace

Newsletter

Follow us  | 

Editorial

Dear Smart Cities Marketplace Community,

The newly revised Energy Performance of Buildings Directive in March of this year gave a small spark of optimism for many of us working in the sustainability sector.

The new policy package aims for all new buildings to be zero-emission from 2030 onwards, and assessments should consider the life-cycle emissions of new buildings. For existing buildings, member states will have to renovate the 16% worst-performing non-residential buildings by 2030. If technically feasible, solar installations should be considered for all new residential buildings by 2030.

Delivering building renovation and high quality housing is of course a technical and industrial challenge, demanding innovation in materials, efficient and scalable manufacturing processes, and rapid delivery and installation to minimise disruption to homes, traffic, and neighbourhoods.

But it is equally a question of responsibilities between public and private sector actors; unlocking novel investment strategies to yield both social impacts and economic benefits; and balancing simultaneous needs for affordable vs quality homes.

Together with the Smart Cities Marketplace, the oPEN Lab Project is organising a EUSEW session on the 13 June, between 09.30-11.00 CEST and invited panel of experts from the housing, finance, consulting, and energy sectors to discuss these topics, and more.

Dominic Stephen, Bax & Company (oPEN Lab consortium)

Smart Cities Marketplace News

Explore & Shape: Technical Assistance for Smart Sustainable and Inclusive Cities



Technical Assistance can play a pivotal role in guiding cities towards sustainable solutions. In this Smart Cities Marketplace webinar, experts from ELENA, JASPERS, and GREEN ASSIST will unveil essential strategies to navigate this crucial juncture in urban development.

[more](#)

Explore: Solution Booklet Electric Vehicles and the Grid



This Solution Booklet discusses the rise of electric vehicles in Europe with both opportunities and challenges for the energy sector. With around 4.7 million EVs on European roads in 2023, the need for charging infrastructure and grid optimisation has become paramount.

[more](#)

Explore: Green Cities Wiki



A comprehensive resource for initiatives, practical knowledge and insights on creating sustainable, inclusive, and climate-neutral cities. If you have any suggestions for additional content and/or improvements to what is here right now, do send a message to: knowledgemanagement@smartcitiesmarketplace.eu and the Smart Cities Marketplace team will review your suggestions.

[more](#)

Explore: Urban Reverb - Sustainable Partnerships in Focus



This podcast episode of Urban Reverb delves into sustainable partnerships driving local solutions for climate-neutral cities across Europe. Experts discuss challenges and opportunities in Smart Cities Marketplace Focus and Discussion groups.

[more](#)

Shape: Deep Retrofitting Energy Performance Contracts for Privately-Owned Single-Family Homes



On 4 April 2024, a virtual meeting of the Deep Retrofitting Energy Performance Contracts for Private Households Focus group took place to address the challenges and opportunities surrounding deep retrofitting energy performance contracts for privately owned single-family homes.

[more](#)

Shape: Smart Cities Marketplace, B40 and ICLEI joined forces to advance climate action in the Balkans



A key outcome of the workshop was the commitment from participating cities to identify projects for which they seek financing and to submit requests for support through the Smart Cities Marketplace intake process.

[more](#)

Explore: The Smart Cities Marketplace at ChangeNOW 2024



From the Grand Palais Éphémère in Paris offering a striking view of the Eiffel Tower, ChangeNOW 2024 emerged as a key event in the pursuit of sustainability. From 25 to 27 March 2024, the conference served as a hub for 35,000 attendees.

[more](#)

News from the Community of the Smart Cities Marketplace

Explore & Shape: Scalable Cities - 9th Call for VISITOR CITIES is now OPEN!

The Scalable Cities Secretariat is launching its 9th call for visitor cities to participate in a site visit to Valencia. The city of Valencia was a Lighthouse City of the SCC project MATCH UP and has been selected as the European Green Capital for 2024.

[more](#)



Shape: EIT Urban Mobility's Main Innovation Call

The EIT Urban Mobility's Main Innovation Call with a budget of EUR 8 million aims to support close-to-market projects, that can develop and test new solutions in real-life demonstrations and attain commercial viability by the end of the project.

[more](#)



Explore: EU Mission Label awarded to 6 SCC cities

On 21 March, the EU Mission Label was awarded to 23 cities (6 of which are H2020 Lighthouse Cities) that are part of the EU Mission for Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities. The Label recognises the cities' plans to achieve climate-neutrality already by 2030 and facilitates access to public and private funding.

[more](#)



Explore: Eurocities - Mobility Forum in Utrecht

The Eurocities' Mobility Forum in Utrecht emphasised the importance of inclusive urban mobility, focusing on autonomy and connection within communities. Discussions highlighted the need for accessible transportation solutions.



[more](#)

Explore: E-Mobility, Charging Infrastructure and Smart Cities



E-mobility is no longer an exotic topic – no news here. Even though some of the governmental incentives have been stopped in various countries, the auto industry and governments have set some ambitious goals for the transition to electric vehicles.

[more](#)

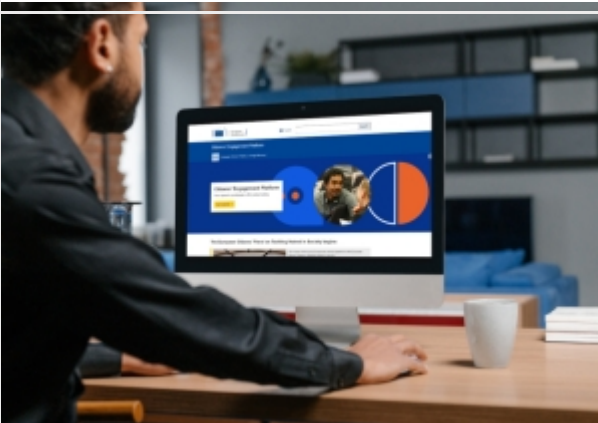
Explore: Heating without Burning - how Cities Can Accelerate the Heat Transition away from Fossil Fuels



Phasing out fossil fuels is vital for building the resilient, climate-neutral and just future laid out by the Green Deal. Heating, responsible for over half of Europe's energy usage, predominantly relies on fossil fuels. We can only create a massive shift away from fossil-based heating with the help of cities.

[more](#)

Explore & Shape: EU Citizens' Engagement Platform



The European Commission has recently launched the new Citizens' Engagement Platform (CEP), an online space for all EU citizens to share their thoughts, exchange ideas and engage in debate about EU policies and actions.

[more](#)

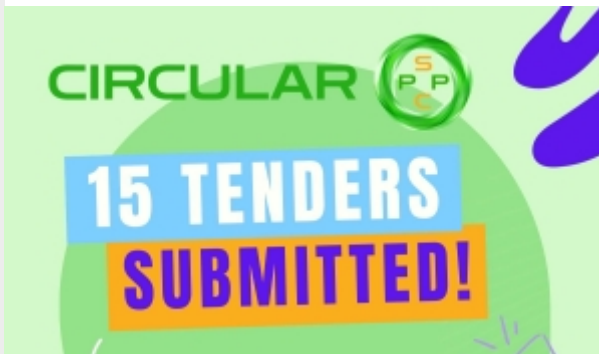
Explore: The European Citizens' Debate on Energy Efficiency



After three insightful weekends of deliberation over the course of three months, the European Citizens' Panel on Energy Efficiency has concluded. The 150 randomly selected citizens of the Union came together to discuss this pivotal topic.

[more](#)

Shape: CircularPSP - Join the Followers' Network



Circular PSP invites all interested cities, and interested organisations to join their follower network to stay updated on the solution concept and to get access to insights and further resources, and later test its innovative solution.

[more](#)

Explore: RISEnergy launched



RISEEnergy

The RISEnergy project, led by Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and supported by the European Energy Research Alliance (EERA), has officially started with the goal of accelerating renewable energy technology development.

[more](#)

Explore: Meet the Ascend Project

The ASCEND project aims to deploy Positive Clean Energy Districts in the two Lighthouse cities Lyon and Munich. The cities are working on the full range of issues encountered in cities to reduce energy consumption and carbon footprint.

[more](#)



Explore: European Initiatives at URBIS - The Smart Cities Meetup

European projects such as ASCEND, SPARCS, EERA JPSC, CrAft and NEB-STAR will be attending this year's edition of URBIS: The Smart Cities Meetup taking place in Brno, Czech Republic.

[more](#)



Explore: Best practices book from STARDUST

The STARDUST project has released a comprehensive handbook compiling its best practices to assist other cities and stakeholders in learning from the project's experiences across six countries.

[more](#)

Six cities over six years: STARDUST smart city experience compiled into best practice book



Explore: Euroheat & Power Congress 2024 - Scale up, CO₂ down!

Attend the exclusive Crash Course for Cities, running in parallel to the Euroheat & Power Congress. This free two-day training program is specially tailored for local authorities and municipality representatives wishing to develop sustainable district heating and cooling!



date

03/06/2024 - 05/06/2024

more

Explore: How to make renovation more inclusive and beautiful? Renovation projects talk about the New European Bauhaus

To achieve 2050 targets, buildings' energy needs must be reduced massively to improve their energy performance in line with the Energy Efficiency First Principle. To that end, existing buildings need to transform into energy-efficient buildings, with a circular approach and a reduction of whole life-cycle carbon.



date

04/06/2024

more

Explore: EUSEW Session - Exploring the Heat Map

The main objective of the session is to promote different approaches and best practices to manage the heat transition as it is taking place at a moment when member states will have still one year to transpose the Energy Efficiency Directive into national legislation.



date

11/06/2024

more

Explore: EUSEW Session - Pitching Net-Zero Energy Emission Solutions Implemented by Municipalities

This session is designed to address the overarching challenge of transitioning municipalities towards net-zero energy emissions. This includes overcoming various hurdles and barriers associated with implementing sustainable solutions and achieving energy efficiency goals.



date

12/06/2024

[more](#)

Explore: European Sustainable Energy Week 2024

EUSEW returns in 2024 in a hybrid format, in Brussels and online. It comprises a high-level Policy Conference, the EUSEW Awards, and the fifth European Youth Energy Day as well as opportunities to forge connections with the EUSEW community at the Energy Fair.



date

11/06/2024 - 13/06/2024

[more](#)

Explore: EUSEW Session - Turn the Finance on!

Hosted by the Smart Cities Marketplace and the Horizon Europe-funded energy renovation initiative oPEN Lab, this session zooms in on a key operational barrier holding the EU back from speeding up the green transition - financing renovation and renewables all across Europe.



date

13/06/2024

[more](#)

Explore: GovTech Connect Pitch Day

This session is your chance to discover groundbreaking startups from Germany, France, Austria, Belgium and Ireland, as they look to tackle the most pressing Smart City challenges.



date

13/06/2024

[more](#)

Explore: Hydrogen Valleys Days

The event, co-organised by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership and the European Commission, builds on the successful work of the Clean Hydrogen JU. This involves the collaboration with the regions and cities including project development assistance and funding of already 15 hydrogen valleys across Europe.



date

17/06/2024 - 18/06/2024

[more](#)

Explore: Accelerating the Shift Towards Climate Neutrality - Collaborative Strategies for Regional Sustainability Transition

This event will discuss the potential of the Transition Super-Lab approach and address how we can drive the transition towards climate neutrality in an inclusive and just manner.



date

18/06/2024 - 19/06/2024

[more](#)

Explore: Valencia Cities Climate Week

The objective of this event is not only to celebrate these three different gatherings but to create synergies. Valencia, as a Mediterranean and green capital, constitutes the perfect scenario for coming together and sharing knowledge between the main European actors and civil society.



date

25/06/2024 - 28/06/2024

[more](#)

Explore: Energy Cities Forum "Grafting Cities" in Valencia

The conference sets out to reveal what transformations are already in action. Throughout the two days, participants will explore with municipalities the strengths of each region.



date

26/06/2024 - 27/06/2024

[more](#)

Explore: European Urban Resilience Forum

The 2024 edition of EURESFO will be built around three key thematic streams and a fourth special thematic stream, each addressing crucial aspects of resilience, sustainable development and recovery.



date

26/06/2024 - 28/06/2024

[more](#)

Explore: SPARCS Final Conference

Reflecting on the key learnings, successes, and outcomes, the event will offer meetings, public presentations, and networking opportunities that provide key insights into the work and the solutions we implemented within the project.



date

11/09/2024 - 12/09/2024

more

Explore: EU RegionsWeek 2024 - Empowering communities

The European Week of Regions and Cities is an annual four-day event during which cities and regions showcase their capacity to create growth and jobs, implement European Union Cohesion Policy, and prove the importance of the local and regional level for good European governance.



date

07/10/2024 - 10/10/2024

more

Smart Cities Marketplace. An initiative of the European Commission. Contact us under info@smartcitiesmarketplace.eu

Subscribe to this newsletter by [clicking here](#)

Unsubscribe from this newsletter by [clicking here](#)

Photo credits in order of appearance: Smart Cities Marketplace; Smart Cities Marketplace; Gabriel Sollmann (Unsplash); Smart Cities Marketplace; Erik McLean (Unsplash); Smart Cities Marketplace/ICLEI; Smart Cities Marketplace; Scalable Cities; MakingCity; Siora Keller; Nadine Marfurt (Unsplash); Citizens' Engagement Platform; ASCEND; CIRCULAR PSP; European Commission; EIT Urban Mobility; RISEnergy; European Commission; URBIS, STARDUST; Eurocities.

Catalogue number: MJ-AL-24-003-EN-N

The European Commission is committed to personal data protection. Any personal data is processed in line with the Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. Please read the [privacy statement](#).

ISSN: 2600-0962