

ICLEI in Europe News



December 2016



www.iclei-europe.org

Dear Members, Partners and Friends of ICLEI,

We are pleased to send you the latest news on ICLEI in Europe and our partners for urban sustainability!

You can also read these news articles and find more information on the topics at www.iclei-europe.org.

Don't hesitate to send your news and information to information.services@iclei.org.

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1. ICLEI Member News

Copenhagen receives Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation



ICLEI Member Copenhagen (Denmark) was announced as one of the five winners of the Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation at a recent ceremony hosted in the Chinese city. Copenhagen was recognised for its [Climate Resilient Neighbourhood project](#) which aims to address challenges related to social housing, unemployment and low living standards for the 24,000 residents in the Saint Kjelds district. This is partly achieved through neighbourhood resilience measures, such as sustainable stormwater management, urban green space, and neighbourhood branding projects.

Fellow ICLEI Member La Paz (Bolivia) was awarded for their road safety awareness-raising initiative, the [La Paz Zebras Citizen Culture project](#). As part of the project, vulnerable youth were invited to become paid civic educators stationed at zebra pedestrian crossings. Here, they encouraged both drivers and pedestrians to obey traffic signs and rules.

Among the 15 finalists for the awards were ICLEI Members Brussels-Capital Region (Belgium), Tampere (Finland), and Addis Ababa (Ethiopia).

For more information, visit the [awards website](#).

To combat air pollution, Paris temporarily makes public transport free

ICLEI Member Paris (France) implemented bold measures to improve urban air quality this December, temporarily making public transport in the city free to encourage people not to use their cars. The move came in response to a severe spike in air pollution, largely caused by vehicle emissions.

Authorities implemented a system whereby only drivers with number plates ending in an odd or even number could enter the city, alternating by day. Hybrid and electric vehicles as well as those carrying three or more people were allowed to use the roads. Foreign and emergency vehicles were unaffected.

At the Mayors Summit 2016 in Mexico, Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo was one of four mega-city mayors that pledged to ban all diesel vehicles from their streets by 2025 to improve the quality of air for citizens.



For more information, visit eltis.org.

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Bristol launches resilience strategy



Bristol (United Kingdom) launched its Resilience Strategy on 12 December 2016, providing a framework to protect the city against potential future shocks and pressures. Marvin Rees, Mayor of Bristol, said: "Resilience speaks to everything that we do and this strategy will help us, our partners and the community to develop a strong plan for our shared future."

The strategy aims to build on the work already being done to make the city socially, environmentally and economically sustainable. Bristol is a partner city of Smart Mature Resilience (SMR), a multi-disciplinary research project working for more resilient cities in Europe.

As part of SMR, Bristol has supported Donostia/San Sebastián, ICLEI and project scientists in co-developing the [Resilience Maturity Model](#), which enables cities to self-assess its resilience status and provides a roadmap for city resilience development, and a new [Resilience Information Portal](#). Both tools are already online and freely available for cities to download and use.

For more information, visit smr-project.eu/bristol.

Image copyright: [Bristol City Council](#)

2. ICLEI-supported action plan to address inequality launched

A new action plan produced by the OECD and supported by ICLEI aims to tackle inequality in cities. The [Paris Action Plan for Inclusive Growth in Cities](#) was launched in the French capital on 21 November as part of the OECD [Inclusive Cities initiative](#). Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris, hosted the event. ICLEI was represented by Wolfgang Teubner, Regional Director for Europe.



Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD, pointed out that cities often record the highest level of inequality in their country, with health, education, and access to labour markets all displaying "staggering disparities". The Paris Action Plan invites mayors to commit to work together to ensure that in cities across the world every member of society has the chance to succeed regardless of background, income, or age.

The plan is an integral component of broader international agendas that aim to advance more sustainable, inclusive and resilient cities. The Paris Action Plan complements the [Basque Declaration](#), which expresses the need for local-level transformation to create productive and sustainable cities.

To view the strategy, click [here](#).

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3. Winners of the Procura+ Awards announced



Procurers from Denmark, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands were honoured at the 2016 Procura+ Awards, which took place in Malmö (Sweden) on 30 November. The awards recognise the most outstanding procurement activities carried out in Europe in three categories.

The City of Copenhagen (Denmark) beat off competition in the category "Sustainable procurement of the year" for its procurement of healthy, sustainable, biodiverse and appetising food. Transport for London was awarded "Innovation procurement of the year" for its efforts to reduce the whole life-cycle cost associated with lighting the expansive London Underground network. Rijkswaterstaat (RWS), the body within the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment responsible for infrastructure facilities, was recognised in the category "Tender procedure of the year". RWS used an innovative contract to procure the works and services necessary to widen the A6 motorway.

The Procura+ Awards are held as part of ICLEI Europe's [Procura+ Network](#), a network of public authorities at the forefront of sustainable and innovation procurement in Europe.

For more information, read the [Press Release](#).
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4. Standardised reporting for cities a focus at COP22

The [Low-Emissions Solutions Conference](#) (LESC) held during COP22 in Marrakesh (Morocco) on 14-16 November 2016, mobilised leaders from business, government, cities, science and academia to discuss solutions and new technologies for implementing the Paris Agreement. The three-day event, co-organised by ICLEI, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, analysed key technologies and low-carbon systems.



During the conference, experts discussed, among other topics, the importance of standardised reporting and measuring for local climate action, and presented initiatives, platforms and tools such as the [Global Covenant of Mayors](#), the [carbons@ Climate Registry](#) and ClearPath. Representatives from Warsaw (Poland) and Dakar (Senegal) expressed how critical these enabling frameworks are.

Both cities signed up to the [Compact of Mayors](#), which has joined with the EU's [Covenant of Mayors](#) to form the [Global Covenant of Mayors](#). The Global Covenant will enable cities to collect and report climate data in a comparable and transparent way, allowing them to produce climate action plans and to track their progress. The Covenant of Mayors, together with a wide range of initiatives, uses carbons@ Climate Registry as one of the reporting platforms.

For more information about the conference, visit the [LESC website](#).
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5. Smarticipate report examines how smart technology is influencing governance



The scoping report [Open Governance in the Smart City](#) was launched alongside the "[Manifesto on Citizen Engagement](#)" by ICLEI Europe Regional Director Wolfgang Teubner at a ceremony in Brussels (Belgium) on 23 November. The report, which was produced as part of the EU-funded [smarticipate project](#), provides an overview of how cities are using smart technology to enhance governance processes.

Three questions are explored by the report: What is open governance in the smart city? How do cities make use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Open Governance? What are the risks, opportunities and lessons learnt for the use of ICT in open governance? To find the answers, the authors examined the ICT activities of 11 cities in Europe and further abroad. Based on the analysis of the cases, the report provides seven "recommendations", or things to be considered by cities when using ICT in open governance processes.

To read the document, click [here](#) [PDF].
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6. EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK Participation Report looks back at 2016

The EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK Participation Report for 2016 is now available to read online, providing a detailed analysis of the 2016 campaign's performance in comparison to previous editions. EUROPEANMOBILITYWEEK 2016 had the highest participation rate ever witnessed by the campaign, with 2,427 participating towns and cities.

As in previous editions of the campaign, Austria, Spain and Hungary were the top three countries in terms of participation. Each country witnessed a significant improvement in participation compared to 2015, with Austria adding 68 cities, Spain adding 73, and Hungary adding 32. Belgium experienced the greatest increase, with 82 extra towns and cities participating, leading to a total of 117 participants.



This year also saw the trend in increased levels of Car-Free Day participation continue, with 953 towns and cities closing one or more street(s) to traffic. As well as participation statistics, the report includes information on visitors to [www.mobilityweek.eu](#) and growth in the campaign's social media channels, as well as campaign highlights, conclusions and recommendations.

To view the report, click [here](#) [PDF].
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7. Event news

EASME to hold event on energy efficiency financing

An event outlining innovative financing approaches to improve energy efficiency and bolster renewable energy will be hosted by the European Commission's Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) in Brussels (Belgium) from 18 - 19 January 2017. Accelerated investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy is key to meeting the European Union's energy and climate targets for 2030 and has significant benefits for European citizens and companies.

The event, titled "Energy Efficiency Finance Market Place", will bring together key stakeholders from cities, regions and industry as well as the financial sector to discuss successful schemes implemented at local and regional level, financing mechanisms and products available, and practical challenges to implement them on a large scale.

The conference will feature plenary sessions by high-level political representatives on financing sustainable energy, panel sessions by financial institutions on practical experiences and project bankability, and parallel sessions on solutions and projects implemented across Europe.

For more information, click [here](#). To register, click [here](#).

Heat Roadmap Europe 4 workshop

ICLEI is expanding its involvement in the field of sustainable energy with its partnership in an EU-funded project focused on heating and cooling: Heat Roadmap Europe 4 (HRE). The HRE project maps and models energy use in the 14 largest countries in terms of heat demand in Europe, providing an overview of centres in which energy is most heavily used and wasted, as well as local sources of energy generation.

The HRE Workshop on 7 March 2017, taking place in Brussels (Belgium), will feature the public launch of the Pet4 Thermal Atlas and will reveal Heating and Cooling profiles of the 14 Member States featured in the project. With such tools, the project aims to assist policy makers and energy planners to explore low-carbon heating and cooling pathways from now until 2050, and to identify sustainable options to improve the efficiency, sustainability and affordability of the local or regional energy system.

For more information, visit the [HRE website](#) or [contact us](#) for details on registration.

8. Event Calendar

[Energy Efficiency Finance Market Place](#)
18-19 January 2017 - Brussels (Belgium)

[RAMSES project training event](#)
15 February 2017 - Athens (Greece)

[Heat Roadmap Europe 4 Workshop](#)
7 March 2017 - Brussels (Belgium)

[Open European Day 2017](#)
3 May 2017 - Bonn (Germany)

[Embrace the Water Conference](#)
12-14 June 2017 - Gothenburg (Sweden)

Feedback? Questions? Let us know! If you have any further questions, would like to give feedback on ICLEI's work in Europe or would like to be taken off this mailing list, contact us at information.services@iclei.org

The ICLEI in Europe newsletter is produced by the European Secretariat of ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability. Copies are available on request. Editor: Sean Carroll.

Comments and questions are welcome - please write to Sean Carroll at information.services@iclei.org, Leopoldring 3, 79098 Freiburg, Germany, Tel: +49-761/36 89 2-0, www.iclei-europe.org.

ICLEI is a membership organisation of local governments and their associations. To date more than 1 000 municipalities and municipal associations of all sizes from around the world have made a unique commitment to sustainable development by joining ICLEI. They support the work of ICLEI through their membership fees as well as through their experience and creativity in the development and implementation of projects and campaigns to address the globe's biggest problems. Within the organisation they are part of a network of peers that can profit from each other's knowledge. For membership information please have a look at our website or contact: membership.services@iclei.org.

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