

## ICLEI in Europe News



May 2017



[www.iclei-europe.org](http://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](http://www.iclei-europe.org).

Don't hesitate to send your news and information to [information.services@iclei.org](mailto:information.services@iclei.org).

1. Cities pledge to transform societies towards sustainability to create a more cohesive Europe
2. ICLEI Member news
3. 2017 Procura+ Awards: Call for applications from European cities
4. Transformative Action Award open for submissions
5. Cities send the message at Open European Day to "Go ahead and act!" on climate change adaptation
6. Smarticipate app to amplify citizens' voices in urban planning
7. Event news
8. Event calendar

### 1. Cities pledge to transform societies towards sustainability to create a more cohesive Europe

Local governments affirmed their willingness to take major, transformative steps towards greater sustainability at the ICLEI European Membership Assembly, vocalising the need to engage all sectors of society in this transition to prevent European democracies from fracturing further. Over 100 participants attended the ICLEI-organised event, which took place at the BEL conference centre in Brussels over two days. The Membership Assembly was convened to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the ICLEI European Secretariat.

For more information, click [here](#).  
Image copyright: Image (ICLEI Europe)



### 2. ICLEI Member news

#### ICLEI Europe celebrates 25 years in Freiburg with Sustainability Days event

The City of Freiburg (Germany), ICLEI and the One World Forum organised a panel discussion titled 'Global goals, local strategies – why do cities need the SDGs?' on 19 May as part of Freiburg's Sustainability Days. Welcoming several cities from the surrounding regions (both German and international), the event also celebrated the 25th anniversary of ICLEI Europe in Freiburg.

For more information, click [here](#).  
Image copyright: Pixabay



#### Hamburg to benefit from electric bus investment

From 2020

onwards, Hamburg (Germany) bus operator [Verkehrsbetriebe Hamburg-Holstein GmbH](#) has stated that it will only procure buses with battery-powered electric motors. 10 million Euros will be invested by the bus company, covering both the purchase of new buses and the creation of new infrastructure, such as garages, charging stations, and dispatch systems.

For more information, click [here](#).  
Image copyright: [Hybrid Bus \(Flickr\)](#) by "Paul Robertson", licensed under [CC BY-ND 2.0](#)



#### Helsinki to open world's first eco-efficient restaurant terrace in 2017



The City of Helsinki (Finland) is looking to insulate al fresco diners against the cool Nordic weather, launching a competition to find an eco-efficient concept that could prolong the restaurant terrace season. "We are delighted with the extensive publicity that the competition has gained, for example, in social media. We also got a delightfully varied participant group, as entries were submitted by design companies, architects' offices, garden and terrace companies, student groups as well as by active citizens," said competition jury member Anne Stenros.

For more information, click [here](#).  
Image copyright: [Image \(City of Helsinki\)](#)

#### Barcelona to add 62km of bike lanes

The City of Barcelona (Spain) has approved the construction of 62 km of bike lanes as part of a strategy to encourage locals to embrace cycling as a sustainable and efficient means of transport. The decision, according to Councillor for Mobility Mercedes Vidal, also aims to make cycling safer by improving and expanding relevant infrastructure.

For more information, click [here](#).  
Image copyright: [Image \(Pixabay\)](#)



### 3. 2017 Procura+ Awards: Call for applications from European cities



ICLEI is proud to launch the 2017 Procura+ Awards, which will showcase the achievements of European cities' sustainable and innovative procurement projects. Following the success of the 2016 Procura+ Awards, applications are now being accepted for the 2017 edition. The three award categories open for applications are Sustainable Procurement of the Year, Innovation Procurement of the Year and Tender Procedure of the Year. The closing date is 30 June 2017.

For more information, click [here](#).  
Image copyright: [UrbanWINS online aoras \(UrbanWINS\)](#)

### 4. Transformative Action Award open for submissions

Cities, regions and civil society organisations are invited to submit their applications for the first ever Transformative Action Award. The award recognises ongoing or concluded innovative local and regional initiatives that achieve a socio-cultural, socio-economic and technological transformation of societies by using the pathways identified in the Basque Declaration. Applications can be submitted until 19 June 2017.

For more information, click [here](#).  
Image copyright: Basque 2016- Guggenheim (ICLEI Europe)



### 5. Cities send the message at Open European Day to "Go ahead and act!" on climate change adaptation

Deputy Mayor of Bonn (Germany) Reinhard Limbach opened Open European Day 2017 on 3 May 2017 with the observation that "what used to happen once in 100 years now happens once a year". 135 representatives from cities in Europe and as far abroad as Buenos Aires (Argentina) attended Open European Day at Bonn Resilient Cities along with climate change adaptation and resilience experts from the academic community, the private sector, financiers and EU institutions to attend two panels and nine workshops focusing on the key themes of innovation, co-creation and transformation.

For more information, click [here](#).  
Image copyright: [Image \(ICLEI Europe\)](#)



### 6. Smarticipate app to amplify citizens' voices in urban planning

A new app will give citizens the ability to engage in the urban planning process like never before, according to an animation released by the [smarticipate project](#). The short video shows a Father using smarticipate to incorporate a day-care centre into the existing plans for a co-working space.

For more information, click [here](#).  
Image copyright: [Smarticipate animation \(Smarticipate\)](#)



### 7. Event News

Abstracts invited for GREEN SURGE conference on connecting people and nature

Researchers, decision-makers, and others working in the field of nature-based solutions are encouraged to submit an abstract to the GREEN SURGE conference by 15 June. Titled "Urban Green Infrastructure - Connecting People and Nature for Sustainable Cities", the conference will take place from 20 - 21 September 2017 in Malmö (Sweden).

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

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#### 9 smart city projects to share lessons at Smarter is Cleaner event

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What energy solutions are smart city projects producing? How closely can they be replicated from one city to another? Nine Horizon 2020 smart city projects will share their experiences during the European Energy Sustainable Week (EUSEW), taking place from 19 to 25 June 2017 in Brussels (Belgium).

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

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#### ICLEI energy projects to showcase solutions at EUSEW

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Two ICLEI energy projects – THERMOS and Heat Roadmap Europe 4 - will host a booth during European Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) 2017, showing local authorities, public and private utilities, energy agencies and energy service providers new ways of implementing sustainable thermal energy system planning. Europe currently wastes as much heat as the entire building stock requires, meaning thermal optimization has the capacity to make a major difference to European energy use.

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

## 8. Event Calendar

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#### [Embrace the Water Conference](#)

12 - 14 June 2017 - Gothenburg (Sweden)

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#### [eafip workshop for public procurers in the transport and mobility sector](#)

16 June 2017 - Brussels (Belgium)

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#### [Visualizing Energy: Photo Exhibition](#)

19 - 23 June 2017 - Brussels (Belgium)

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#### [European Sustainable Energy Week](#)

21 - 22 June 2017 - Brussels (Belgium)

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#### [Second Global Procurement Conference](#)

4 - 5 July 2017 - Rome (Italy)

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#### [EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK](#)

16 - 22 September 2017 - Global

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#### [Cities and Climate Conference 2017](#)

19 - 21 September 2017 - Potsdam (Germany)

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#### [EU PASTA Final Conference](#)

20 September 2017 - Mannheim (Germany)

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#### [GREEN SURGE International Conference 2017](#)

20 - 21 September 2017 - Malmö (Sweden)

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#### [CIVITAS FORUM Conference 2017](#)

27 - 29 September 2017 - Torres Vedras (Portugal)

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#### [Procura+ Awards Ceremony](#)

17 October 2017 - Tallinn (Estonia)

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#### [Circular Procurement Congress](#)

19 October 2017 - Tallinn (Estonia)

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#### [Amsterdam International Water Week](#)

30 October - 3 November 2017 - Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

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](mailto: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](mailto:information.services@iclei.org), Leopoldring 3, 79098 Freiburg, Germany, Tel: +49-761/36 89 2-0, [www.iclei-europe.org](http://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](mailto:membership.services@iclei.org).

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