

Smart Cities 2021

Activities of European cities for achieving climate-neutrality

Ljubljana, September 16-17, 2021

Focus: Cities' activities in the field of achieving climate-neutrality

Goal: Demonstration of possibilities for cities in achieving climate-neutrality and improving the quality of urban living for residents

SRIP Smart Cities and Communities in cooperation with the Jožef Stefan Institute, the Urban Institute of the Republic of Slovenia, CER - Partnership for the Sustainable Economy of Slovenia and the Association of Municipalities of Slovenia invites you to a scientific conference entitled Activities of European Cities for achieving climate-neutrality.

We have decided to hold a scientific conference in the light of Europe's efforts to become climate-neutral by 2050, led by new European Commission missions, including the '100 Climate-neutral cities by 2030 - for citizens' mission. In this mission, the Commission will support and promote 100 European cities on their path to carbon neutrality.

The topics of the conference will shed light on some of the issues facing and will be encountered by cities on their path to climate-

neutrality. Cities and their representatives will gain insight into possible proposals and solutions to the problems that await them in establishing climate-neutrality.

The conference will address three topics, all three of which are equally important in achieving climate-neutrality. The first topic concerns the production, storage and distribution of renewable energy sources, the second topic presents possible solutions to tackle greenhouse gas emissions, especially CO₂, the highest among them. The third topic will address mobility, and how new forms of mobility can help reduce CO₂ emissions.

The conference will host experts from various fields at four round tables/panels, which will shed additional light on the topics that await us on the path to achieving climate-neutrality in the coming years.

SCIENTIFIC TOPICS OF THE CONFERENCE

E. Production, storage and distribution of renewable energy sources (solar, wind, hydro, geothermal, biomass, nuclear energy, hydrogen...)

- E1 What does geo-locating energy sources mean for settlement planning?
- E2 Is biomass efficient enough?
- E3 Geothermal energy in Slovenia / Europe
- E4 Energy demands in Slovenia / Europe – Nuclear energy as a climate-neutral source E, enabling flexibility to respond to market / customer needs
- E5 Solving excess energy problems / Possible ways of storing energy - Hydrogen as an energy storage
- E6 Spatial problems of placing facilities for production, storage and distribution of renewable energy sources
- E7 Power plant to every home (options for individuals, the latest solutions available to all)
- E8 Intelligent energy systems

C. How to get to CO₂ sinks - What are sinks, how do they work?

- C1 Measurements, use of measurements for spacial planning
- C2 Nature-based solutions and their added value to the quality of living in cities
- C3 CO₂ balancing systems

- C4 Is emissions trading the right way to reduce CO₂
- C5 Removal of CO₂ from the atmosphere (methods, technologies ...)?
- C6 COVID-19 and CO₂ reduction
- C7 Raising public awareness on how to reduce the carbon footprint
- C8 Urbanism in the service of CO₂ sinks

M. Sustainable mobility in the service of CO₂ reduction

- M1 Technological solutions that enable multimobility, greater efficiency and usability of existing and new mobility services (classic public transport and alternative offer, sharing economy, shared usage, offer linking, mobility as a service)
- M2 Smart mobility (mobility monitoring, data acquisition, analysis, etc.)
- M3 Challenges of electromobility in cities (bicycles, cars, public transport - adaptation of infrastructure, user culture, approaches to financing / ownership)
- M4 Use of advanced technologies (IoT, AI, AR / VR, Big data...) in the service of CO₂ reduction
- M5 Optimization of traffic flows
- M6 Spatial mobility solutions that help reduce the carbon footprint
- M7 Technological advancement in the automotive industry to reduce CO₂

EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE

We invite companies and experts to present at the conference examples of good practices they have designed to address the issues addressed by the Smart Cities 2021 conference: Activities of European cities for achieving climate-neutrality.

Examples of good practices, possible solutions and trends will be presented in parallel, in the form of short presentations, videos, photographs or graphic materials.

ROUND TABLES / PANELS

The concept of smart city development

We will discuss the smart city from different aspects, such as a city tailored and in the function of man or tailored to things and in the function of progress, consumption; on the formulation of concepts and ways of transforming cities and settlements, the low-carbon way of living, working and mobility; on the potential of cities to achieve carbon neutrality and in the role of nature-based solutions.

Smart city as a tool to achieve climate-neutrality of cities

We will discuss technologies and tools and their role in smart city development; transferring knowledge of the most effective smart solutions to reduce the problems of environmental degradation, pollution and traffic congestion.

Public participation and support to achieve the goals, how to get it?

We will discuss lifestyle and consumer habits, participatory methods and tools to strengthen the cooperation of different actors and forms of education in order to achieve carbon-neutral cities and settlements; the role of young people in ensuring a green future for cities; socially just green development and the carbon neutral agenda.

Green projects financing

We will discuss how to give cities access to the funding they need to implement vital sustainable infrastructure and achieve ambitious climate goals and improve the quality of life. We will highlight various financial instruments, combining public and private capital, repayable and non-repayable funds, criteria for green projects and green public procurement.

IMPORTANT DATES AND INFO:

Submission of abstracts for the scientific part: **June 21, 2021**

Conference Selection Notice: **June 28, 2021**

Submission of presentations and full papers: **September 6, 2021**

The conference will take place: **September 16–17, 2021**

Papers will be published in the form of articles in the conference proceedings and selected in the peer-reviewed scientific journal Urban Challenge (www.urbani-izziv.si).

Deadline for submission of articles for review: **October 1, 2021**

Notice of selection of articles: **October 31, 2021**

More information about the conference and registration options is available on the conference website <https://smartcities2021.meetpt.com>

The official language of the conference is English.

The conference will take place online or live in Ljubljana.

ORGANIZERS:

SRIP Smart Cities and Communities

Jožef Stefan Institute

UIRS - Urban planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia

CER - Center Of Energy Efficiency Solutions

ZMOS - Association of Urban Municipalities of Slovenia

ISOCARP – The International Society of City and Regional Planners

SBRA – Slovenian Business & Research Association

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

UIRS: doc dr. Matej Nikšič

dr. Barbara Goličnik Marušić

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dr. Luka Mladenovič

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JSI: prof. dr. Gregor Papa

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prof. dr. Marko Bajec

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CONFERENCE AGENDA

Day one - September 16

09.00 AM Welcome by Organisers

Scientific part of the conference

09.15 AM Production, storage and distribution of renewable energy sources (solar, wind, hydro, geothermal, biomass, nuclear energy, hydrogen...

10:15 AM **Short Stretching Break**

10.20 AM How to get to CO₂ sinks - What are sinks, how do they work?

11:20 AM **Short Coffee & Stretching Break**

Round tables

11:30 AM The concept of smart city development

12:30 AM **Short Stretching Break**

12:35 AM Smart city as a tool to achieve climate-neutrality of cities

01:35 PM **End of day one**

IMPORTANT INFO:

You can submit the abstracts for the scientific part through the web page of the conference:

<https://smartcities2021.meetpt.com>

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Day two - September 17

Scientific part of the conference

- 9.00 AM Sustainable mobility in the service of CO₂ reduction
- 10:00 AM Short Stretching Break
- 10.05 AM Examples of good practice
- 11:05 AM Short Coffee & Stretching Break

Round tables

- 11:15 AM Public participation and support to achieve the goals, how to get it?
- 12:15 AM Short Stretching Break
- 12:20 AM Green projects financing
- 01:20 PM Conclusions of the conference
- 01:30 PM End of the conference

IMPORTANT INFO:

In the case of several contributions, the scientific sections will run in parallel.

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