

ICLEI in Europe News



April 2016

ICLEI
Local
Governments
for Sustainability

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

Paris aims to recycle 50 percent of all waste



ICLEI Member Paris (France) has set an ambitious target of increasing recycling in the city from the current rate of 16 percent to 50 percent by 2020. To encourage the sorting of household waste, the city is launching a communication campaign that will include a dedicated website, stickers for bins, and 90 sorting ambassadors who will engage around 70,000 people across five arrondissements.

Recycling facilities will be enhanced, with more recycling bins for plastic, paper and glass to be distributed. New waste sorting stations will also be installed. In 2017, the door-to-door collection of organic waste will be trialled in two districts, with plans to roll it out across Paris if successful.

The programme is supported by [Eco-Emballages](#), a private company licensed by the state that aims to reduce the impact of packaging on the environment. The organisation is contributing €2.1 million to the project. At present, around 80 percent of waste in the French capital is incinerated while 4 percent goes to landfill.

For more information, visit environnement-magazine.fr [in French].

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Rome releases preliminary resilience assessment

The City of Rome (Italy) has published its preliminary resilience evaluation, which takes stock of the Italian capital's progress in ensuring resilience to climate change and looks at areas to focus on in the future. The report is based on the City Resilience Framework provided by [100 Resilient Cities](#). The preliminary evaluation has been carried out by the Resilience Work-Group of Rome, who solicited feedback from stakeholders and citizens through public events and questionnaires.



[The report](#) will feed into the development of the "Resilience Rome scenario", the city's official resilience strategy, which is due to be published in December 2016. The city has used the opportunity of the strategy redevelopment to promote a remapping of the city's issues and policies towards resilience.

The document concludes with an outline of the city's strengths and vulnerabilities. Based on the analysis, five priority areas have been identified: territory and connections; people and capacity; resources and human metabolism; systems, nets and heritage; and governance, participation and civic culture.

For more information, visit the [project website](#) [in Italian].

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Dublin offers €100,000 in funding to increase number of people cycling



Those with innovative ideas of how to get more people cycling in the Irish capital can apply to win a grant of €100,000 to make their vision a reality. Launched by four Dublin local authorities and [Enterprise Ireland](#), the city is looking for smart, innovative, and low cost solutions to get Dubliners on their bikes. Named the Small Business Innovation Research Challenge (SBIR), [applications](#) are accepted until 3 May 2016.

Sarah Scannell, Cycling and Walking Promotion Officer with ICLEI Member Dublin City Council, said: "We want to increase cycling in Dublin, both across the Dublin Region and in the City Centre with a target for a quarter of all trips in the city centre to be taken by bike. Achieving this objective will require major investment in cycling infrastructure, increased promotion of cycling as an option, supportive policy decision making, and a step change in attitudes to cycling in our city.

"There are a number of short term improvements possible through the application of smart, low cost innovative technologies. The SBIR challenge will allow us to provide seed funding for companies and individuals to develop innovative and data driven proposals to accomplish this goal." The SBIR aims to use cycling data to improve understanding of cycling issues, enhance safety and reduce bicycle theft. Developers of ICT and software solutions, universities, and service providers are particularly encouraged to apply.

For more information, visit smardublin.ie

Image copyright: [DublinBike Station](#) (Photo on Flickr) by "William Murphy", licensed under [CC BY-SA 2.0](#)

2. The Basque Declaration, the next milestone for urban sustainability in Europe

From 27-29 April 2016, local governments and experts across Europe will meet in the Basque Country at the [8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns](#) to discuss the pressing need for local action to transform our societies. Following the achievements of the Aalborg Charter (1994) and the Aalborg Commitments (2004), the Basque Declaration will be launched in 2016, outlining new sustainable pathways forward for our cities and towns.



Today more than ever before, the European Union is in a crisis. This crisis is not only a financial and economic crisis but a crisis about shared values, principles and goals that goes to the heart of the Union and raises questions about its future in a globalised world. At the same time Europe is asked to address global challenges like climate change and resource constraints. In this historic situation, European cities

and towns understand that there is an urgent need for a technological, socio-economic, and social-cultural transformation to create productive, sustainable and resilient cities for a liveable and inclusive Europe. Cities and towns' greatest resource to accelerate this transformation is support and exchange with one another.

Stakeholders have been invited to give feedback ahead of the launch of [the Basque Declaration](#) to make it the next milestone for urban sustainability in Europe. For updates on the adoption during the conference, follow [#BasqueDeclaration](#) on Twitter.

To register for the conference, click [here](#).

3. European Commission publishes third edition of Buying Green! Handbook



The new edition of the Buying Green! Handbook, the European Commission's leading publication for assisting public sector entities to purchase goods and services that have a lower impact on the environment, has been published. The Handbook, now in its third edition, has been fully revised to detail the possibilities of how contracting bodies can put green public procurement (GPP) policies into practice under the 2014 Procurement Directives. Given the importance of public sector spending in Europe, GPP is an important tool to help achieve environmental policy goals relating to climate change, resource use and sustainable consumption and production.

Guidance is provided on how environmental considerations can be included at each stage of the procurement process within the revised EU legal framework, practical examples drawn from contracting authorities across EU Member States are presented, and sector specific GPP approaches for buildings, food and catering services, road transport vehicles and energy-using products are outlined.

The document has been written to also be of use to policy makers and companies responding to green tenders. The third edition of the Handbook has been compiled under contract between the European Commission and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, supported by Public Procurement Analysis (PPA).

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

4. FIESTA project provides informative tips on reducing energy use in family homes

The FIESTA project has produced [a series of animations](#) providing practical hints and tips on being more energy conscious. The five videos look at ways that families can reduce their energy bills. The FIESTA project works with a total of 14 municipalities across Italy, Spain, Croatia, Bulgaria, and Cyprus. The videos are screened during workshops carried out by the project aimed at primary and secondary schools, families living in social housing, and retailers and installers of heating and cooling devices.



A total of 46 workshops have been carried out so far. In addition to raising awareness, the project also conducts energy audits on family homes, outlining ways that energy savings can be made. Around 260 energy audits have been carried out to date across the five project countries, involving some 800 people. On average, the audits discover potential savings of up to 50 percent. Small changes such as switching off appliances fully, favouring energy-efficient lightbulbs, and insulating pipes and water heaters can result in substantial savings over time.

FIESTA is also carrying out a "save and win" lottery in each municipality, with ticket holders capable of winning energy efficient appliances, electric bicycles, efficient cooling systems and more. The first lottery took place in Pamplona (Spain) and saw two refrigerators and eight energy saving kits raffled off. The next one will take place in Trieste (Italy) on May 8th 2016 during the 17th Green Europe Marathon. Another focus area of the project is to set up a collective purchasing group in each municipality, enabling families to use their collective influence to purchase highly energy-efficient products directly from the manufacturer. The project is funded by the Intelligent Energy – Europe programme of the European Commission.

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

5. GPP 2020 project tenders save equivalent of more than nine oil tankers



The equivalent of more than 700,000 tonnes of CO₂ has been saved through the green procurement activities of the EU-funded GPP 2020 project. The environmental savings amount to 5000 barrels of crude oil, or the contents of over nine oil tankers. Over the course of three years, more than 100 low-carbon tenders were implemented by over 40 public authorities in over ten countries.

The project worked with public procurers in Europe to implement innovative, environmentally-friendly tenders. These impressive tenders were the basis for models that make it easier to purchase low-carbon goods and services. Any public authority in Europe can make use of these tender models. Examples range from the procurement of more energy-efficient commercial dishwashers in Germany, which saw the CO₂ equivalent of 207 flights from Barcelona to Ljubljana saved, to the joint procurement of an energy performance contract for Italian hospitals, which saved the astounding equivalent of the power generated by 341 football stadiums each year.

On 19 April, partners in the project presented the lessons learned and challenges faced through their GPP 2020 activities at the Low-Carbon Procurement in Practice workshop in Brussels (Belgium). The event provided a practical look at how the project's results were achieved, empowering other European procurers to make low-carbon procurement part of their daily purchasing decisions.

For more information, visit the [GPP 2020 website](#).

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6. Event News

Last chance to register for the 8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns

Spaces are limited - register now to save your place at the [8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns](#)! Those who register in the coming days can still benefit from the delegation discounts. There is only one week left to decide to attend the renowned European conference on sustainable cities and towns and join 1,000 participants, including politicians and practitioners from local and regional governments, representatives of European and international institution, business leaders, members of the research community and civil society from 27-29 April 2016 in the Basque Country.

For more information, visit the [official website](#) or contact basque2016@iclei.org.

CIVITAS training on urban freight to be held ahead of ESCT Conference

The [CIVITAS Initiative](#) is organising a free training on urban freight and logistics at the 8th European Sustainable Cities and Towns Conference, which will be held in the Basque Country from 27 - 29 April 2016. The training will take place on 26 April, the day before the start of the conference.

Professionals involved in the development and implementation of urban freight policies are the target audience for the training. Through interactive exercises, participants will get an insight into sustainable distribution schemes and techniques, and are encouraged to come to the training with examples or challenges from their own contexts. An expert contribution will be provided by a representative from ICLEI member Copenhagen (Denmark).

For more information, contact learningcentre@civitas.eu.

Interactive session to outline key climate initiatives for local governments

The event 'Local climate action raises global ambition', organised by ICLEI Europe in collaboration with the [Compact of Mayors](#), will take place on 26 April 2016 in Bilbao, Basque Country. Many cities, towns and regions are in the process of implementing plans to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and are taking steps to adapt to climate change. The local level has been crucial in raising ambition globally, and has played a leading role in driving the transition to greater sustainability.

There are two key initiatives that help local governments make firm commitments and report on their progress, namely the [Compact of Mayors](#) and the [Covenant of Mayors](#). This session will outline the two initiatives and will explain the benefits they offer local governments. Registration is [available online](#).

For more information, view [the programme](#).

Registration opens for Metropolitan Solutions 2016

ICLEI is inviting all local and subnational governments to attend [Metropolitan Solutions 2016](#), the premier meeting point for cities and businesses to advance cooperation on sustainability. Taking place in Berlin (Germany) from 31 May – 2 June 2016, Metropolitan Solutions features over 30 conferences and workshops, with 200 exhibitors and over 5,000 visitors. [Registration](#) for the event is now open.

Metropolitan Solutions comprises international conferences, an exhibition area and a matchmaking platform. The event focuses on key themes for sustainable urban development, including buildings & public space, energy, mobility & logistics, and water & waste water solutions. The [matchmaking sessions](#) will enable participants to explore new collaboration opportunities in the realm of sustainable urban development in a structured format.

Metropolitan Solutions 2016 constitutes a unique opportunity for local and subnational governments to foster partnerships with the private sector. As local governments have recognised for many years, strong partnerships with all stakeholders will be required to make sustainable cities a reality. Businesses offer expertise, skills, and tools that can help cities to greatly accelerate the implementation and impact of their sustainability initiatives.

For more information, visit [metropolitansolutions.iclei.org](#).

STTC Conference to explore benefits of procuring sustainable tropical timber

Purchasing tropical timber from sustainable sources can help to preserve some of the world's most important forests, creating a sound financial basis for sustainable forest management. The 2016 European Sustainable Tropical Timber Coalition (STTC) Conference, which takes place in Rotterdam (The Netherlands) on 23 June 2016, will bring together buyers and suppliers of sustainable tropical timber to share knowledge and best practice in the field.

Topics to be discussed include: How sustainably sourced tropical timber contributes to forest conservation; the impact of timber purchasing policies on both markets and forests; how best to design, implement, and satisfy timber purchasing policies in practice; what the [Sustainable Tropical Timber Coalition](#) can offer public and private sectors; EU policy and financial mechanisms relating to sustainably sourced timber; and more.

Confirmed speakers include experts from the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, the City of Rotterdam, ICLEI Europe, the European STTC, and the European Timber Trade Federation. The event programme also includes several networking opportunities. The conference is free of charge but registration is required.

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

7. Event Calendar

[CIVITAS Training: Urban Freight and the Sustainable City](#)
26 April 2016 – Bilbao, Basque Country (Spain)

[PPI4Waste International Workshop on Innovative Waste Solutions](#)
26 April 2016 – Bilbao, Basque Country (Spain)

[Local climate action raises global ambition](#)
26 April 2016 – Bilbao, Basque Country (Spain)

[GREEN SURGE Stakeholder Dialogue Forum](#)
26 April 2016 - Bilbao, Basque Country (Spain)

[8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns](#)
27 - 29 April 2016 - Bilbao, Basque Country (Spain)

[Metropolitan Solutions](#)
31 May - 2 June 2016 - Berlin (Germany)

[5th Informed Cities Forum](#)
16 - 17 June 2016 – Dresden (Germany)

[Real impact through timber purchasing policies](#)
23 June 2016 - Rotterdam (The Netherlands)

[Open European Day at Bonn Resilient Cities](#)
5 July 2016 - Bonn (Germany)

[Local Renewables 2016: Energising the smart city and region](#)
26 - 28 October 2016 - Freiburg (Germany) & Basel (Switzerland)

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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