

Smart Cities Initiative

How to foster a quick transition towards local sustainable energy systems

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Cities are both a challenge and an opportunity for CC policy

Local actions to reduce GHG emissions are quite promising:

- as **energy systems**, the urban environment includes plenty opportunities for improvement
- as **energy actors**, governance issues prompt city as an appropriate level for action

There are already several initiatives to promote local action:

- Concerto, Build-up, Eco-Buildings
- Jessica, Elena
- Covenant of Mayors

BUT cities are still not making the most of the existing potential

EU Smart Cities Initiative

Scope of the THINK report

Collected evidence

- Existing initiatives to support local action...
 - ... at national level
 - ... at the European level
- Examples of pioneering cities
 - ... main incentives and disincentives to act
 - ... how they have overcome the existing barriers

Recommendations for EU Smart Cities Initiative

- How to organize the call
- How to increase the impact of the initiative

How can city authorities promote smart cities?



How can city authorities promote smart cities?

FIRST level of city smartness

- Public procurement
- Refurbishment of public buildings
- Efficient lighting systems (publicly owned buildings and street lighting)
- Renovate municipal fleet

SECOND level of city smartness

- Promote compactness through land-use planning
- Legislation at local level (building codes, city entrance-charges, ...)
- Information and public awareness

THIRD level of city smartness

- Covenant of Mayors (SEAPs with an integrated approach)
- Coordination between district-heating investors and users
- Intermediary between land-owners and potential investors in RES

(1) Cities' institutional disincentives

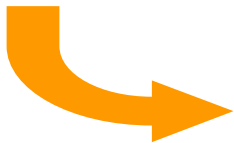
Regulatory framework

- lack of coordination with other policy-makers
- lack of institutional competences
- institutional boundary conditions

Political issues

- short-term mandates vs. long-term strategies
- competitive policy issues (health, local economic growth, etc)

Lack of financial independency



Focus on city authorities as institutions

(2) Cities are heterogeneous in their fundamentals



Different energy systems, institutional capacities, main stakeholders, etc



Creation of a representative portfolio of EU smart cities

(3) Absence of a common reporting methodology



Hard to compare performance of different cities

Hard to diffuse best-practices

Hampering of replication of good practices

Establishment of a strict methodology for performance and progress reporting



Organization of the EU Smart Cities Initiative

5 steps to success...

1. Carefully select and support a portfolio of Smart Cities
2. Establish a strict performance reporting methodology
3. Promote all the 3 levels of city smartness
4. Make support conditional to signing Covenant of Mayors
5. Make public funding conditional to performance

... and **additionally**

EU-level legislative to make reporting mandatory

EU-level benchmarking, based on the cities' progress reports

EU-level good-practice platform

Thank you!