

## Summary Conclusions

### Smart Cities Delegates Meeting in Cologne, 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2012

**Participants** (sorted by countries): Brigitte Bach, Catrin Haider, Reinhard Schütz, Hans-Günther Schwarz ( AT), Sara Piccirilli, Guy Vekemans (BE), Robert Horbaty (CH), Ute Roewer, Carsten Magaß, Reinhard Jank (DE), Sampsa Nissinen (FI), Anne Cherreyon Perchet (F), Paola Clerici (IT), André Pina (PT), Emina Pasic (SE), Esperanza Arrizabalaga Vena (European Commission)

**Apologies:** Martin Lehmann (DK), Eline Skard (NO), Eva Prohaszkova (CZ)

**Not present this time:** George Partasides (CY), Madis Laaniste (EE), Marcello Capra (IT), Dainies Dravnieks (LV), Jos Verlinden (NL), Katarzyna Sobótka (PL), Jan Magyar (SV), Ilknur Yilmaz (TK), Steve Martin (UK);

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**Meeting Venue:** Wöllhaf Conference Center, Airport Cologne/Bonn

**Meeting Time:** 12 October 2012, 11:00h-16:00h

#### Agenda:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Recent developments MSI Smart Cities process (Hans-Günther Schwarz)</li><li>2. Presentation on programme screening activity (Catrin Haider, bmvit)</li><li>3. Recent developments EERA Joint Programme Smart Cities (Brigitte Bach, AIT)</li><li>4. Overview of the EU energy research initiatives (Esperanza Arrizabalaga Vena, EC, DG RTD, Energy Directorate)</li><li>5. Transnational city cooperation - (Reinhard Jank, Volkswohnung Karlsruhe)</li><li>6. Details on the proposed content for first joint call (Guy Vekemans, VITO)</li><li>7. Process towards joint call implementation (Ute Roewer, PTJ)</li><li>8. Open discussion on Joint Call:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Topics</li><li>b) Process towards implementation</li></ol></li><li>9. Conclusions and next steps (Hans-Günther Schwarz)</li></ol> |
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#### 1. Welcome and recent developments in Smart Cities (HG Schwarz, BMVIT)

A short introduction of the evolution of the SC MSI is presented, which touches upon the motives behind the inception of the initiative, arguing that the original aim of the SC MSI was to

- (a) enable coordinated cooperation of MS/AS participating within the EII SCC
- (b) create a unified process of contributions from the part of the MS/AS and
- (c) define the role of the MS/AS as active partners in the set-up and execution of the EII SCC.

The current situation is addressed, where, after the Commission Communication of 10 July 2012 proposing the start of a European Innovation Partnership on SC, it is unclear which role the European Industrial Initiative on Smart Cities will play in the future and the need for clarification by the EC is emphasised. In that regard, the current opportunities of involvement of the MS and AS within the

Smart Cities Stakeholder Platform are being regarded as not appropriate to their role as potential co-funders of RDI collaboration on the level of the SET-Plan and of the RDI efforts of their respective cities. They thus cannot be put in a situation of “competing” with industry lobbyists in the agenda-setting process of the Platform.

Finally, the role, instruments and stakeholders of the SC MSI are presented with an assessment of the role which the SC MSI should embrace:

Given the EC’s exclusive focus on pilot and demonstration projects, the SC MSI will have to address complementary research needs for Smart Cities (in terms of process, concept and tool development), as the tools for planning and setting up such demonstration projects in an integrated way are not yet available. Together with the EERA JP on SC, the mentioned activities cover the entire innovation chain and build a solid basis to drive innovation for SC.

The presentation ends with a proposal for next steps of the SC MSI, containing the completion of the stock-taking process, the proposed joint calls (to be started in 2013) and the development and transfer of knowledge (e.g.: involving “lighthouse” and “emerging” cities or supporting the EERA).

## **2. Presentation on programme screening activity (C. Haider)**

The final results of the European-wide screening of funding programmes are presented. The programmes were nominated by the participating MS/AS to indicate the potential budgetary resources of collaboration and analysis show that current programmes form a solid basis for further SC activities in the MS/AS, as 47 programmes from 15 countries have been nominated. The analysis also identifies a significant potential for transnational linking of relevant programmes. In a next step, the delegates will receive a short summary report of the programme screening. Finally, C.Haider reports that the screening of SC projects will be finished at the latest by the end of this year. Questionnaires will still be accepted until the end of October.

## **3. Recent developments within the EERA Joint Programme Smart Cities (B.Bach)**

An update on the activities of the EERA Joint Programme Smart Cities is given, presenting the governance structure, its organisation as well as the aims and objectives of the JP and concluding with an overview of current activities, which are:

- (a) strategic update of the Description of Work
- (b) kick-off of taskforce on “Simulation Platform Development”
- (c) Inclusion of new partners, i.e. national RTOs focussing on energy-related RTD
- (d) first interaction with partners beyond Europe and
- (d) the next workshop of the EERA JP SC on 18/19 December 2012 in Rome.

## **4. The European innovation Partnership on Smart Cities (E. Arrizabalaga Vena)**

E. Arrizabalaga Vena gives an overview of the EU Energy Research initiatives in relation to Smart Cities with a special focus on the Smart Cities and Communities EIP (European Innovation Partnership). This new instrument pursues an integrated approach, covering the thematic areas of energy, transport and ICT as well as socio-economic aspects and an aim for better organisation. The EIP focuses on industry involvement and demonstration projects. It aims at market solutions and supports

the development of business cases. The implementation is foreseen to happen not only on the supply side (through “lighthouse” projects) but also on the demand side (through business models, public procurement and regulatory measures). The governance structure of the EIP consists of a High Level group which is currently under elaboration and will give advice to the EC, and additionally the already existing Stakeholder Platform. After explaining the current and future funding activities on Smart Cities and next steps for the EC, E. Arrizabalaga Vena concludes with an invitation to the SC MSI to develop a joint action plan and a consistent approach with the European Innovation Partnership.

### **5. Transnational city cooperation (R.Jank)**

R. Jank reports from his rich experience as an expert for municipal energy efficiency measures. As an example, he presents the energy policy plan of the City of Freiburg and the gap between wish and reality, which tended to manifest in past implementation programmes. R. Jank argues for a continuous energy planning and monitoring but also stresses that cities need a combination of the two following measures:

- (a) roll-out of existing technology but more importantly
- (b) implementation of radical innovations.

### **6. Details on the proposed content for first joint call (G. Vekemans)**

After an introduction on the energy transition context, the proposed topics for a joint call of the MS/AS are presented, including a list of the challenges which have to be faced, followed by an overview on already existing static as well as dynamic tools which should serve as a relevant starting base for the research activities.

### **7. Process towards joint call implementation (U. Roewer)**

As an example of how a transnational joint call could be organised, a Joint Call (funded by Germany and Finland) is presented, which has been recently piloted by the Finnish Funding Agency for Technology (TEKES) and the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi) in order to contribute to the objectives of the SET-Plan. The call is set up after the principles of the so-called “Berlin Model” which was introduced at the Berlin SET-Plan conference in March 2012. This model consists of a three-step procedure in order to identify, coordinate and implement joint projects between MS and AS, in coordination with the EC. First outcomes will be available in 2013.

### **8. Open discussion on Joint Call**

As part of the invitation to the meeting the delegates had been asked to come up with comments to the call topics as well as to state their national position regarding the joint call. Mismatching procedures of national funding programmes and limited budgets are identified as key restraints for the proposed cooperation. Nevertheless, it currently appears that a sufficient number of MS and AS are interested and willing to contribute to the proposed joint call, so that the basic realisation is secured.

### **9. Conclusions and next steps**

The proposed research topics are acknowledged by the delegates as being essential for a successful implementation of the Smart Cities concept. Based on this insight, the following five countries express

a high interest in participating in the proposed transnational joint call: Austria, Switzerland, Denmark, Finland and Sweden. Other countries like Norway, Belgium or Germany are still pursuing their decision-making process, or waiting for the start of their next budget-discussions before they can make any statements. Therefore, all the delegates are asked to keep everyone updated regarding a possible participation.

In order to go ahead with the organisation of the joint call, a next meeting will be dedicated to that issue and will take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2012 (location to be decided). For this meeting, if applicable, delegates are asked to invite a representative of their respective national funding agency (with concrete ideas on the budget and limiting timeframes for the call). An invitation will be sent out within the next three weeks. Until then, a document on possible ways of conducting the joint call (will be sent out, which contains ideas regarding process and financial mechanisms (e.g. “virtual common pot”).

**End of Meeting: 4:00 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2012**