



STEP UP conference: Developing, enhancing and financing sustainable energy action plans and projects

Thursday 20th – Friday 21st November, 2014

Riga City Council, Rastlaukums 1, Riga LV–1539

The STEP UP project and its partner cities of Riga, Ghent, Glasgow and Gothenburg would like to invite you to attend a conference on the process of developing, enhancing and financing city sustainable energy action plans (SEAPs) and innovative, integrated projects.

The cities of Riga, Ghent, Glasgow and Gothenburg are partners in the Strategies Towards Energy Performance and Urban Planning (STEP UP) project, which is supported by the EU Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The project has an energy and smart cities theme, focussing on strategic sustainable energy planning in order to develop holistic solutions which deliver greater economic, environmental and social benefits (www.stepupsmartcities.eu).

The four cities have been developing enhanced SEAPs and this conference provides an opportunity to hear about and discuss the approaches used, their learnings and experiences, and key innovative actions and projects that they are implementing. You will also hear from expert speakers from different cities and backgrounds across Europe about the various options for, and their experiences in, financing city sustainable energy actions and projects, and see examples of successful projects in Riga for yourself.

The conference is aimed at any city that is developing a sustainable energy action plan or considering producing one. The conference will feature presentations, time for questions and discussion, networking opportunities and study visits. We would be delighted if you could join us for both days, but if this is not possible then please feel free to join us for the Thursday only.

Programme (Thursday 20th November)

Time	Activity	Location
9.00 – 9.30	Official opening and welcome Planning energy at local level: ambitions to fulfil Nils Usakovs , Mayor of Riga (LV) TBC Mats Arnsmar , Councillor, Gothenburg Georg Houben , EC contact point, Smart Cities & Communities Market Place TBC Richard Bellingham , Director of the Institute for Future Cities at University of Strathclyde, STEP UP project leader	Plenary Hall (with web streaming)
9.30 – 11.00	Enhancing SEAPs and developing innovative projects: process, learnings, key actions and projects in Gothenburg and Riga - City presentations followed by Q&A discussion Mathilda Edlund , Gothenburg City Environment Department Maija Rubina , Riga Energy Agency	Plenary Hall (with web streaming)

11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break		
11.30 – 13.00	Enhancing SEAPs and developing innovative projects: process, learnings, key actions and projects in Ghent and Glasgow - City presentations followed by Q&A discussion Indra van Sande , City of Ghent Graham Pinfield , Glasgow City Council		Plenary Hall (with web streaming)
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch buffet		
14.00 – 15.15	Option 1: Workshop on financing SEAP actions: funding for innovation and territorial cooperation - presentations by Horizon 2020 and INTERREG EUROPE National Contact Points followed by Q&A Dina Berzina , Horizon 2020 Iruma Kravale , INTERREG EUROPE TBC	Option 2: Workshop for companion cities of Riga Discussing knowledge sharing and capacity building	Option 1: Plenary Hall (with web streaming) Option 2: Chimney Room
15.15 – 15.30	Coffee break		
15.30 – 16.30	Option 1: Workshop on financing SEAP actions continued: local financing – role of utilities, ESCOs, grant systems and SME innovation – presentations followed by Q&A Jonas Cognell , Gothenburg Energy Gavin Slater , Glasgow City Council Krist Poffyn , City of Ghent Janis Sipkova , Energodata Ltd. Closing remarks from Vjaceslavs Stepanenko , Riga City Council	Option 2: Workshop for companion cities of Riga continued	Option 1: Plenary Hall (with web streaming) Option 2: Chimney Room
16.30 – 17.00	Walk to the new smart district Tornakalns		
17.00 – 18.00	Visit to Latvian National Library (the first completed building in Tornakalns smart district) and informal discussion on smart cities. Hosted by Janis Dripe , architect, former Minister of Culture, former Ambassador to the United Kingdom, former Ambassador to Sweden		

Programme (Friday 21st November)

Time	Activity	Location
8.30 – 12.30	Study visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Heating Normunds Talcis, Chair of the Board, Rigas Siltums Renovation of public and apartment building Maris Mezzile, Riga Property Department 	Meeting point TBC
12.30 – 14.30	Working lunch discussion on developing new projects for smart cities	Room 511
	Departures	

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