



Press Release EU-GUGLE

2013-05-30



EU-GUGLE stands for “European cities serving as Green Urban Gate towards Leadership in sustainable Energy” and is funded under the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Innovation. It is co-ordinated by CENER, Spain’s National Centre for Renewable Energies.

Major investment on sustainable renovation for smarter cities

Brussels, 30th of May 2013 - The 30 million Euro project "EU-GUGLE" was launched earlier this month, paving the way to the sustainable renovation of around 226.000m² of living space in six European cities. During the five years of the project, the municipalities aim to achieve 40-80% primary energy savings per pilot district while increasing the share of renewable energy sources by 25%.

"Whether we can meet the EU's objectives of 20% energy savings by 2020 or not will largely depend on our ability to reduce energy consumption in cities", said project coordinator Florencio Manteca Gonzáles, Director of the Energy in Buildings Department of Spain's National Renewable Energy Centre (CENER). "With the EU-GUGLE project, we want to show how the smart renovation of groups of buildings at district level can achieve this and, more importantly, how our solutions can be adapted to the needs of other cities Europe-wide", he continued.

Beyond the technological showcase, the EU-GUGLE project sets out to prove that smart renovation strategies can be cost-effective and improve citizens' quality of life while leading to significant energy savings in urban areas.

Pilot cities include Vienna (AT), Aachen (DE), Tampere (FI), Milano (IT), Bratislava (SK), and Sestao (ES). Gothenburg (SE) and Gaziantep (TR) will also take part in the project as associated cities and will be expected to start smart renovation activities during the 5-year project. EU-GUGLE is a project launched in the framework of the Smart Cities and Communities Initiative of the European Commission, and has received over 16 million Euro of EC funding.

-Ends-

For more information, please contact:
Guillaume Corradino at Greenovate! Europe
E: guillaume.corradino@greenovate.eu
T: +32 2 400 10 08

Background information

EU-GUGLE stands for "European cities serving as Green Urban Gate towards Leadership in sustainable Energy". The project aims to demonstrate the feasibility of nearly-zero energy building renovation models in view of triggering large-scale, Europe-wide replication in smart cities and communities by 2020. The renovation of 226,000m² will be carried out by implementing a balanced mix of technical, socio-economic and financial solutions adapted to local needs. The results will then be integrated into comprehensive "smart renovation strategies" easily transposable to other municipalities, which will be disseminated EU-wide as part of the project. EU-GUGLE involves 20 partners including municipalities, research centres and property managers. It is co-financed by the European Commission