



The Project is funded
by the European Union



Covenant of Mayors
for Climate & Energy
CoM East

CoM East Newsletter SPECIAL ISSUE

July 2017

IN FOCUS:



EU SUPPORTS SUSTAINABLE ENERGY WEEK 2017 ACROSS THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP COUNTRIES

European Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) is a month-long series of activities in late June bringing together public authorities, NGOs, businesses, energy agencies and private consumers to promote energy saving initiatives and move towards renewables for clean, secure and efficient power. The initiative was launched by the European Commission in 2006.

Energy Days are events and activities that take place across Europe and beyond to raise awareness of energy efficiency and promote the benefits of renewable energy use. Organised by local public and private organisations in the framework of EU Sustainable Energy Week, Energy Days show citizens and business why sustainable, secure and clean energy is important.



This year, **Covenant of Mayors East (CoM East)** joined the EUSEW celebrations in the **Eastern Partnership** countries and actively participated and co-organised several events aimed to promote advanced energy efficiency practices, inspire innovative ideas and combine efforts to achieve the EU goals in overcoming the consequences of climate change, improving energy efficiency and energy security as well sustainable urban development.

As of June 2017, the Covenant of Mayors East embraces **269** signatories in the Eastern Partnership countries.

Learn more about EUSEW at: <http://eusew.eu>



ARMENIA

Hrazdan, Masis, Vanadzor and Gyumri | 3 – 4 July 2017

As part of the EU4Energy initiative in Armenia, a series of awareness raising and capacity building seminars were held in the framework of EU Energy Days in Armenia 2017.

In the course of 4 on-site seminars, representatives of local administrations, municipal structures and residential sector in the cities of Hrazdan, Masis, Vanadzor and Gyumri got acquainted with main requirements of the new Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, discussed various aspects of municipal energy management and analysed potential risks and consequences of climate change for Armenia. Advanced practice in energy efficiency and energy saving as well as local and international experience in adaptation measures were also in focus.

The events were organised by the EU project "Covenant of Mayors – East" with the support of the EU Delegation to Armenia in cooperation with Union of Communities of Armenia and EU project "Support to EU Communication on Reforms". CoM East National Expert in Armenia Mr Artem Kharazyan took an active part in the discussion and presented key aspects, requirements and procedures of the new Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy.

*In the framework of the Covenant of Mayors, Hrazdan, Masis, Vanadzor and Gyumri are committed to enhancing energy efficiency, fighting climate change and increasing access to clean, secure and affordable energy on their territories. The list of Armenian CoM signatories comprises **16** cities as of June 2017.*





The Project is funded
by the European Union



BELARUS

Polotsk | 25 May – 25 June 2017



In 2017, Energy Days were celebrated in ten Belarusian cities: Polotsk, Vileyka, Braslav, Chavusy, Novogrudok, Korma and others. The major events were held in Polotsk during 25 May – 25 June.

Interakcia Foundation (Covenant Supporter in Belarus) jointly with Polotsk District Executive Committee organised a series of events to shape a caring attitude towards the environment and energy resources among local children and youth in the framework of EU Sustainable Energy Week 2017.

In particular, everyone was welcomed to participate in an energy quest and online contest on energy saving, sporting and academic tournament on energy efficiency and renewable sources, a workshop on making energy efficient lamps and other home interior items by hand etc.

Moreover, students of an architectural summer school “Transformator” built an eco-friendly pavilion to screen short thematic films, which once again stressed the importance of implementing energy efficiency measures and encouraged local residents to tackle climate change.

Activities in Polotsk were held in the framework of the project “PubLiCity” implemented under the EU-funded Programme “Covenant of Mayors – Demonstration Projects” and aimed to modernise municipal lighting system in energy efficient way and therefore to become an example to follow by other Belarusian municipalities.

*As the first Belarusian signatory of Covenant of Mayors, Polotsk strives to significantly reduce CO₂ emissions, in particular, through cutting energy consumption and switching to alternative energy resources. As of June 2017, there are **28** CoM signatories in Belarus.*

Learn more about the celebrations in Belarus at (RU):

<http://www.soglasheniemerov.eu>



Children enjoying the workshop on making home interior items by hand





The Project is funded
by the European Union



Students constructing the eco-friendly pavilion and celebrating its opening



Schoolchildren acing the academic tournament on energy efficiency and renewable sources



Girls proving that football isn't just for boys during the sporting tournament

(Photo: Energy Days 2017, <http://energydays2017.tilda.ws>)





The Project is funded
by the European Union



GEORGIA

Tbilisi | 19 June 2017

The Ministry of Energy of Georgia in cooperation with NGO Energy Efficiency Centre and Tbilisi City Hall held a joint media briefing which marked the official opening of the European Sustainable Energy Week 2017 in Tbilisi. It aimed to introduce on-going sustainable energy policy and projects implemented in Georgia.

The briefing was moderated by Mr George Abulashvili, CoM East National Expert in Azerbaijan and Georgia, who actively communicated the CoM East ambitious targets, objectives and key activities to media representatives.

*Tbilisi is the first Georgian city to sign up to the Covenant of Mayors and commit to improving energy efficiency in its territory. Together with Rustavi, Kutaisi, Zugdidi, Akhaltsikhe, Bolnisi as well as other Georgian cities, Tbilisi heads the list of **18** CoM signatories as of June 2017.*



Tbilisi, June 19

Rustavi, Kutaisi, Zugdidi, Akhaltsikhe and Bolnisi | 19 – 26 June 2017

In the framework of EU Sustainable Energy Week 2017, Rustavi City Hall hosted an Information Seminar to present a project entitled "Training and Certification of Private Sector Energy Auditors and Awareness Campaign for Energy Efficiency in Buildings". The project is aimed at conducting a series of energy awareness campaigns in Georgian CoM signatory cities committed to improving energy efficiency in public buildings. In the course of a lively discussion, participants analysed the main techniques and principles of energy management and discussed the commitments taken to improve energy efficiency envisaged in the city's Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP).

CoM East National Expert in Azerbaijan and Georgia Mr George Abulashvili, as well as CoM East Non-Key Experts Ms Liana Garibashvili and Ms Elene Gvilava took an active part in the discussion.

Similar Information Seminar was also held in Kutaisi [June 21], Zugdidi [June 22], Akhaltsikhe [June 23] and Bolnisi [June 26].





The Project is funded
by the European Union



Rustavi, June 20



Kutaisi, June 21



Zugdidi, June 22





The Project is funded
by the European Union



Akhaltsikhe, June 23



Bolnisi, June 26



MOLDOVA

Cantemir | 1 June 2017



On June 1, 2017 local residents of Cantemir joined the celebrations of Energy Days organised by the Alliance for Energy Efficiency and Renewables – Covenant Supporter – jointly with EU Delegation to Moldova on the International Children's Day. The Energy Days gathered a great number of children from all over the city who enjoyed participating in a range of fun activities and discussions on renewable energy, environmental protection and energy saving. In the course of thematic contests, concerts and competitions, children presented their views on how human behaviour affects the environment, calling upon the adults to use energy efficiently and save the Earth from pollution.





The Project is funded
by the European Union

*Cantemir signed up to the Covenant of Mayors in May 2013, thus confirming its intention to improve energy efficiency, reduce CO₂ emissions and combat the effects of climate change. As of June 2017, there are **17** CoM signatories in Moldova.*



Children striving to learn more about energy efficiency and energy saving



Kids expressing their views on environmental pollution and protection



People enjoying Energy Days and International Children's Day celebrations



UKRAINE

■ Slavutych | 19 June 2017

This year, 47 Ukrainian cities and small villages expressed their willingness to host the Sustainable Energy Week in order to draw the attention of local communities to the rational energy use and climate protection issues, as well as to discuss the prospects for energy security and sustainable energy development.





The Project is funded
by the European Union



East” and Programme “Covenant of Mayors — Demonstration Projects” (CoM-DeP), as well as projects funded by the German Government and implemented by GIZ.

The event brought together over 300 participants from more than 100 Ukrainian cities. The main topics of discussion were: challenges of implementing energy reforms in Ukraine, key aspects of heat modernisation of buildings, potential for applying new European construction standards, EU programmes and projects aimed at supporting the Covenant of Mayors during 2020–2030, etc.

Being the leader in the number of CoM signatories in the EaP region (122 municipalities), Ukraine is encouraging more and more cities to join efforts on the way towards environmental protection, energy efficiency and energy independence.



Official opening of the EU Sustainable Energy Week 2017 in Ukraine





The Project is funded
by the European Union



New Ukrainian CoM signatories taking commitments to reduce CO₂ emissions and improve energy efficiency in their municipalities





The Project is funded
by the European Union



Key speakers discussing sustainable development policies at the XI International Conference
"Covenant of Mayors and Energy Efficiency in Buildings: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"

The Project is implemented by the Energy Cities-led Consortium:

