



## SmartEnCity Network Bulletin

### Edition №15 – October 2019

#### Dear Readers,

This edition of the Network Bulletin starts with the awards that two of our Lighthouse Cities – Sonderborg (Denmark) and Tartu (Estonia), received for their climate innovation and energy actions this year.

A warm welcome to one of our newest Network members – the municipality of Elva, Estonia. Read more about the ambitious municipality and its energy related goals and initiatives below.

Learn more about *“Retrofitting Soviet-Era Apartment Buildings with ‘Smart City’ Features: The H2020 SmartEnCity Project in Tartu, Estonia”*. A new scientific publication created in collaboration between University of Tartu and Tartu municipality.

Last but not least, be inspired by the outcome of the final Triangulum, GrowSmarter and Remourban Lighthouse cities session *“From dream to reality: sharing experiences from leading European Smart Cities”*, held during the European Week of Cities and Regions, Brussels, October 2019.

**Enjoy reading!**

**Kristina Bozhkova**  
**SmartEnCity Network Coordinator**  
**ProjectZero**



## Sonderborg was awarded a Chinese SmartCity Climate Innovation Award



About 300 Chinese officials and industry leaders from the EU and China attended the 'Euro-China Green & Smart City Summit' conference held in Nanning, China, where

they discussed the development of green cities and how cooperation between public authorities and private companies can be promoted with the goal of strengthening local, green urban development and creating smart cities.

At the conference, the City of Sonderborg received the award 'City of Innovation' as a best practice example of a ground breaking collaboration between a city council and the area's businesses and at the same time spread the experience internationally in the SmartEnCity project.

"The award confirms that Sonderborg's unique climate cooperation between public actors and private companies is attracting great international attention. I am proud of this Chinese pat on the shoulder, and will immediately pass it on to the many people in the Sonderborg area who are actively contributing to Sonderborg's climate efforts", says Mayor of Sonderborg - Erik Lauritzen. [Continue reading.](#)

## Lighthouse City Tartu received another two awards for "Energy Actions of the Year"



Deputy Mayor Raimond Tamm received the prizes at the awards gala, held at the Energy Fair in Rakvere.

According to Tamm, the City of Tartu vigorously contributed to promoting environmentally friendly types of movement. "Of course we are pleased when our efforts are noticed and recognised. The main goal of Tartu Smart Bike

Share and the fleet of gas buses is to offer an efficient alternative to using a car, thereby reducing air pollution and the noise level in the city environment as well as the emission of carbon dioxide responsible for global warming", stated Tamm. [Continue reading.](#)

## The SmartEnCity Network – Introducing Elva, Estonia

Elva Municipality is located in the Southern part of Estonia and is a part of Tartu County, Estonia.

Besides being a part of the SmartEnCity Network, Elva municipality is also an active participant in the **EU BSR Interreg ActNow! project**. The main goal of the EU project is to decrease the energy consumption, improve energy efficiency, and energy management skills of selected municipalities and potentially invest in energy consumption monitoring equipment in these municipalities.

Additional priority areas of Elva municipality include:

- increasing buildings energy efficiency through energy-refurbishment;
- street lighting refurbishment;
- utilization of available solar potential, sustainable waste and water management
- digitalization in the public sector to provide more efficient services.



Learn more about Elva [here.](#)

## Retrofitting Soviet-Era Apartment Buildings with ‘Smart City’ Features: The H2020 SmartEnCity Project in Tartu, Estonia

This scientific publication was published by Rein Ahas, Veronika Mooses, Pilleriine Kamenjuk and Raimond Tamm in August 2019.

### Abstract:

The retrofitting and renewal of modern-era socialist housing estates is a prominent issue throughout the world. There are different political choices to deal with dilapidated socialist housing estates. The transformation of such estates in post-socialist cities has so far focused primarily on improving their physical conditions and increasing the energy efficiency building-by-building. However, an integrated and area-based regeneration approach would have greater potential to influence the entire neighbourhood, as well as the inhabitants’ environmental behaviour. The Smart City is a concept that can achieve environmental sustainability ambitions as well as large housing estate regeneration goals. This chapter describes the implementation of the Smart City concept to the renovation of a Soviet-era apartment buildings area, based on the example of the SmartEnCity project in Tartu, Estonia. [Read full publication.](#)

### The EU corner – Smart city projects share policy recommendations in Brussels

During the European Week of Regions and Cities, the first three Smart Cities and Communities projects [GrowSmarter](#), [Remourban](#) and [Triangulum](#), funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme, hosted the session **“From dream to reality: sharing experiences from leading European Smart Cities”** where more than 150 participants took part.

The goal of this joint session was to present major outcomes and to [share lessons learnt from five years of smart city projects in different European regions, focusing on technical as well as political aspects of creating smart cities.](#)

... “High level politicians from five of the Lighthouse Cities discussed what is needed at EU level to facilitate successful replication in the future. The overall consensus of this panel was that European support is needed to help get local initiatives off the ground.”

...[Continue reading.](#)

Source: [Remourban](#), [Triangulum](#) and [GrowSmarter](#): Press release, October 9, 2019

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