



# The Smart Cities Replication Cluster

- The Smart Cities Replication Cluster is a joint initiative of the EU-GUGLE and SINFONIA projects, which is geared towards Europe-wide replication of sustainable refurbishment models;
- It brings together cities and communities interested in designing and implementing their own district-scale refurbishment strategies;
- The Cluster will provide guidance and advice based on the experiences of pilot regions implementing district-wide renovation and integration of sustainable energy technologies.

### Why join the replication cluster?

By bringing together the experiences of eight demonstration cities and seven early adopter cities, the Replication Cluster offers peer to peer support to municipalities interested in implementing their own district-scale refurbishment strategy towards greater energy efficiency.

By joining the EU-GUGLE and SINFONIA Replication Cluster, your city can:

- Become part of **a community of like-minded cities** and take part in replication events with its peers;
- Access tested knowledge on all aspects of large scale and integrated refurbishment (technical, social, financial, political...)
- Have its **district refurbishment master plan reviewed** by a more experienced city, and/or review the plan of another city;
- Engage in **technical visits** both in your city and in one of the demonstration cities of EU-GUGLE and SINFONIA.

Should your city join the Replication Cluster, it will immediately become a "Replication Cluster City" and will be invited to upcoming replication activities, such as the Replication Cluster Kick-off event, which is due to take place on the 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015 in Bolzano, Italy, and will launch cooperation with the Replication Cluster cities.

#### How to join the replication cluster

Interested municipalities are invited to sign an **Expression of Interest** by which they commit to supporting the objectives of the EU-GUGLE and SINFONIA projects, to appoint a contact person for future exchanges and communication, and to engage in at least two replication activities by 2019.

To join, please complete the template here attached and send a signed copy to <u>greenovate@sinfonia-smartcities.eu</u> or directly to the following address:

#### *Greenovate! Europe Rue d'Arlon 63-67 1040 Bruxelles, Belgium*



SINFONIA and EU-GUGLE have received funding from the European Union's Seventh Programme for research, technological development and demonstration, under the grant agreement numbers 609019 (SINFONIA) and 314632 (EU-GUGLE).





## From buildings to districts

Cities consume 70% of Europe's energy production – including 40% for buildings alone – placing cities at the centre of efforts to reduce  $CO_2$  emissions. Given the age of the European building stock, such a challenge can only be met through large scale retrofitting of existing buildings with energy efficiency technologies. Addressing groups of buildings, or even entire districts, not only allows for economies of scale, but it is also an efficient way to achieve higher energy savings by optimising the way that buildings interact with each other with their immediate urban infrastructures.

Such an approach requires an integrated strategy involving all stakeholders, as well as strong leadership from municipalities. In this context, the European Commission has launched the Smart Cities and Communities Initiative, to promote best practices and accelerate the deployment of sustainable and cost-efficient refurbishment solutions at district scale.

## Smart Cities projects involved

The Replication Cluster is the main channel through which the cumulative experiences of the pilot cities involved in **SINFONIA** and **EU-GUGLE** will be shared with other cities and communities, and aims to support their efforts in developing and implementing their own district-scale refurbishment strategies.

The **EU-GUGLE** project (<u>www.eu-gugle.eu</u>) sets out 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. Over the 5 years of the projects, the cities of Vienna (AT), Aachen (DE), Milan (IT), Sestao (ES), Tampere (FI), Bratislava (SK), Gothenburg (SE) and Plovdiv (BG) will join efforts to combine the latest research results relevant to smart renovation of groups of buildings at district level and use this knowledge to renovate 226,000m<sup>2</sup> of living space. The project was launched in April 2013 and is coordinated by CENER, Spain's National Centre for Renewable Energies.

The **SINFONIA** project (<u>www.sinfonia-smartcities.eu</u>) aims to deploy large-scale, integrated and scalable energy solutions in the two pioneer cities of Bolzano (IT) and Innsbruck (AT). This will be done by combining the retrofitting of more than 100,000m<sup>2</sup> of living surface, optimisation of the electricity grid, and solutions for district heating and cooling, with the aim of achieving 40 to 50% primary energy savings and increasing the share of renewables by 20% in two pioneer districts. In order to ensure the scalability and transferability of the deployed solutions, the cities of La Rochelle (FR), Rosenheim (DE), Pafos (CY), Seville (ES) and Borås (SE) are also actively involved in the project as 'early adopter' cities. Launched in June 2014, SINFONIA is set to run until May 2019 and is coordinated by SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden.

### **Contact and information**

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