

Cities and Communities

EBC WORKING GROUP

Cities face extensive challenges when it comes to transformation of their energy and transport systems, such as the creation of suitable decarbonisation strategies. The selection of the best-fit solutions to meet their specific and individual prerequisites requires comprehensive skills, knowledge and resources, which are often lacking in smaller communities. In addition, these decision making and planning processes often take place in a highly dynamic environment with a large number of further requirements that generally take higher priority. This complexity often leads to uncoordinated decision-making not only within cities, but also within different stakeholder groups. While solutions are often provided at a strategic level, decisions at the urban scale

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- 1 assess and identify the needs of cities, their actors and associated stakeholders
- 2 generate appropriate non-technical 'on demand' input and service ideas for cities
- 3 identify and discuss bottlenecks and barriers for the transformation of cities' energy and transport systems
- 4 discuss and provide results and (policy) recommendations on energy and transport systems
- 5 close the gap between cities and research



Mapping of challenges in context with urban scale at the Conceptual Workshop, held in Paris, France, in June 2017
Source: SIR

can have substantial impacts on individual approaches and technologies. The 'Working Group on Cities and Communities' (WGCC) intends to improve this situation by integrating these 'urban issues' into R&D being carried out by the IEA Technology Collaboration Programmes (TCPs).

The WGCC is an EBC-hosted (single-leadership) delegating structure that is intended to share (provide and gain) information between multiple IEA TCPs and cities with a bi-directional approach. It is linked to existing IEA Working and Coordination Groups, either directly through the EBC Executive Committee, or through nominated experts, and is planned to feed into IEA publications and workshops. As an open working group, the WGCC is inviting expert participation through the various TCPs to work together on different tasks, as well as the participation of external experts not affiliated with the IEA.

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY

The International Energy Agency (IEA) was established as an autonomous body within the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 1974, with the purpose of strengthening co-operation in the vital area of energy policy. As one element of this programme, member countries take part in various energy research, development and demonstration activities. The Energy in Buildings and Communities Programme has co-ordinated various research projects associated with energy prediction, monitoring and energy efficiency measures in both new and existing buildings. The results have provided much valuable information about the state of the art of building analysis and have led to further IEA co-ordinated research.

EBC VISION

By 2030, near-zero primary energy use and carbon dioxide emissions solutions have been adopted in new buildings and communities, and a wide range of reliable technical solutions have been made available for the existing building stock.

EBC MISSION

To accelerate the transformation of the built environment towards more energy efficient and sustainable buildings and communities, by the development and dissemination of knowledge and technologies through international collaborative research and innovation.

The WGCC is anticipated to be organized primarily through:

- workshops and other exchange activities;
- capacity building and training activities;
- documenting cross-TCP activities, joint TCP publications and policy recommendations;
- short-term projects and research;
- additional activities targeted directly to the specific needs of a project, research, or city requirements.

Through these activities, the WGCC plans to identify the crucial needs of cities, which will be translated into research questions for short term projects and research within the Working Group.

The project target audience is primarily urban decision makers (administration, planning staff, etc), intermediaries (local / national), and IEA in-house staff and the IEA research community.

Project duration

Ongoing (2018 - 2020)

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Further information

www.iea-ebc.org