

Summary

CEE Energy Transition Conference

PRAGUE, 19TH – 20TH OCTOBER 2017

Overall

The CEE Energy Transition Conference of the project Partnership for New Energy Leadership 2050 (PANEL 2050) took place in Prague on the 19-20 of October 2017. The Conference was divided into two days. The aim of the event was fostering collaboration between energy stakeholders from government, research, NGOs and business towards achieving the European targets in terms of greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency and renewable energy by 2050. On the first day of the Conference focus was on civil society role and opportunities in sustainable energy transition, EU support for sustainable energy action at local level, sustainable energy planning, stakeholder engagement and energy advocacy.. On the second day of the Conference was targeted to community funding in plenary sessions and discussion on energy transition challenges in CEESEN Assembly session - discussion between session moderator, expert on the topic, and audience.

Agenda

AGENDA THURSDAY 19.10.2017

08:00-09:00		
Welcome Coffee		
09:00-10:40 Civil society in sustainable energy transition in Central and Eastern Europe Moderated by Mr. Aleš Vlk		
Conference opening by Jana Plamínková, City of Prague and Pavel Zámyslický, Ministry of the Environment		
Energy transition in European Union and in Central and Eastern Europe, Bronis Ropé, European Parliament		
New governance of the Energy Union, Imke Luebbecke, WWF European Policy Office (Brussels)		
Citizen society in CEE, Borislav Sandov, Climate Action Coalition Bulgaria		
Advocating for energy transition in CEE countries, Wendel Trio, CAN Europe		
10:40-11:00		
Coffee Break		
11:00-12:20 EU support for sustainable energy action at local level		
The EU policy context and sustainable energy transition at local level, Sébastien Occhipenti, European Commission, DG Energy		
Covenant of Mayors in CEE, Frédéric Boyer, COM Office		
EU funded projects on stakeholder engagement and local energy planning, Cecile Kerebel, EASME		
From Roadmap to Action Plan. Energy strategy planning in practice. Andreas Kramer, ConPlusUltra		
12:20-13:00 Parallel session on Sustainable Energy Planning		
Vision - Project ZERO, Peter Rathje, Sonderborg Municipality (DK)	Roadmaps for energy - R4E, Jaime Ruiz Huescar, Local Energy Agency of Murcia (ES)	SEAP – ENNEREG, Nils Daugaard, ECNet
13:00-14:00		
Lunch		
14:00-14:40 Parallel session on Community Services		
Covenant of Mayors	Living Labs for energy	Citizen engagement for climate

services in CEE, Frédéric Boyer, COM Office	planning - INTENSSS-PA, Ioanna Giannouli, BPM	neutral Lueven 2030, Geert Vanhorebeek, City of Leuven (BE)
14:40-15:00		
Citizen Journal		
15:00-15:40		
A new generation's replicable paradigm for making sustainability exciting to the masses, Pavel Podruh, Cesky ostrovni dum s.r.o.		
15:40-16:00		
Coffee Break		
16:00-17:30 Closing session		
<p>Stakeholder Engagement and Energy Advocacy in CEE</p> <p>A moderated discussion between the key experts from the previous sessions and the audience in an effort to promote mutual learning and developing further the understanding of stakeholder engagement in the process of energy development.</p> <p>Panel discussion with speakers:</p> <p>ProjectZero Sonderborg (Peter Rathje), CANEurope (Wendel Trio), Estonian Solar Energy Association (Andres Meesak), Pavel Podruh, Cesky ostrovni dum s.r.o., ENNEREG project (Nils Daugaard, ECNet), ENLARGE project (Tiit Kallaste, SEI Tallinn)</p> <p>Moderated by Hector C Pagan, University of Tartu</p>		
17:30 Closing		

AGENDA FRIDAY 20.10.2017

08:00-09:00
Welcome Coffee
09:00-11:10 Plenary session on Community Funding and Services
Community grants and alternative finance mechanisms for local energy projects, Josef Wolfbeisser, ConPlusUltra
Crowdfunding for Financing Renewable Energy Projects, Silvia Caneva and Pablo Alonso, WIP Renewable Energies
Energy Performance contracting in Latvia, Agris Kamenders, Ecodoma
Trends and barriers in nZEB implementation, Natálie Anisimova, SEVEn
11:10-11:30
Coffee Break
11:30-12:30
CEESEN assembly: Energy transition challenges
12:30-13:15
CEESEN assembly: Conclusions and Summary
13:15-14:00
Lunch
14:00-15:00
Networking
15:00 Closing

The P2P sessions will implement the simplified Citizens Assembly model that will present the consensus of the conference guests for the challenges presented by speakers.

Speakers

- **Jana Plamínková**, City Councillor of the Capital City of Prague for infrastructure, technical facilities and environment - [City Councillor of the Capital City of Prague for infrastructure, technical facilities and environment, former journalist and publicist with focus on environment, energy savings and renewables]
- **Pavel Zámyslický**, Director of Department of Energy and Climate Protection, Ministry of the Environment - [Pavel Zámyslický is a Director of Department of Energy and Climate Protection, Ministry of the Environment . After graduation at the Brno University of Technology and Czech Technical University in Prague (Economics and Energy management) he finished his PhD studies (Business management and Economics). He joined the Ministry of Environment in 2005 and become the director of Climate change department in 2007. Since 2011 he manages newly transformed Department of Energy and Climate Protection. He is focused mainly on European and national climate and energy policies and related strategies and measures, including emission trading. He is the chief negotiator for the Czech Republic within international (UNFCCC) and EU agendas related to climate policy.]
- **Bronis Ropė**, European Parliament - [Bronis Ropė is a member of advisory board of CEESEN (www.ceesen.org) and a member of the European parliament as a member of Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance. Previously he was the mayor of the city of Ignalina, Lithuania.]
- **Alexander Mason**, WWF European Policy Office, Brussels - [Alexander Mason is a Senior Policy Officer, Renewable Energy at WWF European Policy Office]
- **Wendel Trio, CAN Europe** - [Wendel Trio has been the Director of CAN Europe since September 2011. His main tasks include strategy development, high-level political representation, developing the network and fundraising. He also coordinates and manages the secretariat. Wendel has over 30 years of experience working for NGOs, including working as political director for Oxfam in Belgium, as campaign director for Greenpeace Belgium and as Director of the Policy and Business Unit of Green-peace International. In that capacity he managed Greenpeace International's climate policy work and led Greenpeace delegations at the UNFCCC COPs from 2007 to 2010. Wendel holds a Masters in Social Sciences from Catholic University of Leuven.]
- **Borislav Sandov**, Climate Action Coalition Bulgaria - [Borislav Sandov is a member of the Climate Action Coalition Bulgaria and a former co-chair of the Bulgarian Green party "Zelenite", which is a member of the European Greens.]
- **Sébastien Occhipenti**, European Commission, DG Energy - [Sébastien Occhipenti studied international relations and geopolitics at the Sorbonne University in Paris before joining the European Economic and Social Committee. After working initially on transport issues he worked for 6 years on energy and public engagement. He now works in the Directorate-General for Energy of the

European Commission where he is in charge of local energy action, including the Covenant of Mayors, and consumer outreach.]

- **Cecile Kerebel**, Executive Agency for SMEs, European Commission - [Cecile Kerebel works as a project adviser in the European Commission at the Executive Agency for SMEs, within the energy efficiency unit. She is managing a portfolio of projects funded under the Intelligent Energy Europe programme and the Horizon 2020 programme of the EU for research and innovation. Her areas of expertise include local action for sustainable energy in cities and regions, capacity-building and peer-learning programme and innovative public procurement. She has previously worked as a research administrator for the Industry, Research and Energy Committee of the European Parliament and as a policy officer in the European Commission Directorate-General for Climate Action. She holds a PhD in international relations with a focus on public-private partnerships for sustainable energy.]
- **Frédéric Boyer, Covenant of Mayors** - [**Frédéric Boyer is heading the secretariat of the Covenant** of Mayors Office since 2015. Previously, he was following EU policy developments related to local authorities and sustainable energy issues and in charge of the relations between Energy Cities and other relevant stakeholders. Frédéric is a graduate in Environmental Engineering. After having spent 4 years at the Assembly of French County Councils, where he was in charge of international and decentralised cooperation, Frédéric was deployed in Sofia (BG) for the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In cooperation with the National Association of Municipalities of the Republic of Bulgaria, he supported French-Bulgarian twinnings and decentralised cooperation, a field he had already worked in during a previous 2-year mission in Romania. He works for Energy Cities since early 2009.]
- **Andreas Karner**, ConPlusUltra Ltd., Austria - [Andreas Karner is Senior Consultant and the Team Leader of the Energy and Environment Team at ConPlusUltra Ltd. He holds a Masters Degree in Environmental Management and has been working as a project manager for national and international renewable energy and energy efficiency projects for more than 15 years. His areas of expertise covers capacity building and training of public institutions, energy efficiency in buildings, policy development and evaluation studies of policy & funding programmes as well as energy and climate protection strategies. He has effectively managed numerous projects for private and public clients such as the World Bank, UNDP, the European Commission and the EBRD.]
- **Peter Rathje**, Project ZERO, Sonderborg Municipality, Denmark - [Peter Rathje is the Managing Director (CEO) for the ProjectZero Company, a public private partnership driving the implementation of the ProjectZero vision in the city of Sonderborg. From 2007 and until the completion of the Frank Gehry Masterplan for Sonderborg Harbour Company in 2009, he was also in charge of the master plan creation-process. The GEHRY project is focused on turning a 50.000 m2 old harbor area into a vibrant ZEROcarbon community. Until accepting his present

position in 2007, he has been CEO of several SME companies and living abroad. During the last 25 years Peter Rathje has been an active board-member of University research committees, business schools, university colleges etc. Peter Rathje has also been chairman/board-member of private companies, industry associations and employer's organization in Denmark and abroad.]

- **Jaime Ruiz Huescar**, Project R4E, Local Energy Agency of Murcia, Spain - [Jaime Ruiz Huescar is an expert in energy efficiency and sustainable mobility. Technical officer at ALEM, the Local Energy and Climate Change Agency of Murcia and responsible for different EU funded projects focused on smart cities. He is the author of the E-mobility strategy of Murcia. Coordinator of the energy working group for the Spanish Network of Intelligent Cities (RECI) and member of the steering committee of ENERAGEN, the Spanish Association of Energy Agencies.]
- **Nils Daugaard**, Project ENNEREG, ECNet - [Nils Daugaard has worked for more than 20 years with sustainable energy projects at European scale, the last 15 years as project manager at EC Network. Nils' experience covers broadly regulatory, technical, financial and dissemination aspects of implementing projects within renewable energy and energy efficiency.]
- **Ioanna Giannouli**, BPM - [Ioanna Giannouli is an industrial engineer. She holds a Master of Science on Production Systems and a Ph.D. on Management Science focused on Supply Chain Management. She has over twenty years of experience on systems' analysis and impact assessment. She has participated as a primary investigator to over twenty EU funded projects focused on sustainable transportation and energy systems. The last decade she is involved on national and EU funded projects focused on renewable energy technologies uptake and energy transition.]
- **Geert Vanhorebeek**, City of Leuven - [Geert Vanhorebeek is currently the advisor on sustainable development at the city of Leuven. Since 1997 he, together with 4 colleagues, has been working on different campaigns concerning all kinds of themes: nature conservation, waste prevention, sustainable mobility, environmentally friendly products, energy efficiency and renewable energy. Specially these last two topics became more important since Leuven articulated the ambition to become climate neutral by 2030. Apart from starting projects and raising awareness with citizens he is preparing the city policy and advising the city services on sustainable development. After signing the covenant of mayors and the establishment of the NGO Leuven climate neutral 2030 this climate policy is elaborated as a quadruple helix with the active collaboration of citizens, organisations, companies and the university. Together with the NGO Leuven climate neutral 2030, the city is the driving force for a lot of multi-actor projects on renewable energy, mobility, zero-emission buildings etc.]
- **Pavel Podruh**, Czech Off-Grid House - [Pavel Podruh has graduated at Empire State College, NY, followed by CEMS Institute with Major in International management. Worked as strategist at Ogilvy and SABMiller, later entrepreneur and founder of the Czech Off-Grid Houses platform, which aims to accelerate

the transition to sustainable architecture methods. His platform is responsible for development of the largest student architecture competition focused on sustainability and cleaner solutions in CEE region In 2016 he received prestigious UN Award for helping to fulfill global sustainable goals.]

- **Hector C. Pagan**, University of Tartu, Estonia - [Hector C. Pagan has nearly twenty years of experience working with civil society /third sector organizations in the United States and Estonia from various fields including energy management, environmental science and social services. He is the main coordinator of the stakeholder engagement and training activities within the PANEL 2050 project (www.ceesen.org).]
- **Tiit Kallaste**, ENLARGE, SEI Tallinn, Estonia - [Tiit Kallaste is climate and energy policy expert concentrating on the implementation of UN FCCC and Kyoto Protocol flexible mechanisms. In particular, Joint Implementation and Emissions Trading. Energy efficiency and renewable energy wider deployment have been in his focus for a long time.]
- **Andres Meesak**, Estonian Solar Energy Association - [Andres Meesak, the head of Estonian Solar Energy Association. Their aim is to shape the regulatory environment to promote the growing market opportunity for solar in Estonia. He is also the member of the Estonian Renewable Energy Association and part of the team developing the plan to switch Estonian energy sector to 100% renewable energy.]
- **Pablo Alonso Gómez**, WIP Renewable Energies - [Pablo Alonso Gómez is a Building Engineer with post-graduate studies in building technology and renewable energy systems (MSc in Building Constructions with a specialization in Building Technology and MSc in Renewable Energy Systems). As Jr. project manager at WIP Renewable Energies he is involved in the coordination of H2020 funded project (BestRES and the CrowdFundRES) dealing with a range of technical and non-technical energy related aspects such renewable energy integration into the grid and innovative financing schemes for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.]
- **Josef Wolfbeisser**, ConPlusUltra Ltd., Austria - [Josef Wolfbeisser is the Managing Director of ConPlusUltra Ltd. Graduated from Vienna Technical University, he commands well-founded experience in organizing and of energy trainings for in-company professionals, e.g. as a lecturer for the Austrian Water and Waste Management Association (ÖWAV), at the New Design University (NDU) or as the coordinator of the training programme for corporate energy managers of an Austrian LEADER region.]
- **Agris Kamenders**, Ecodoma, Latvia - [Agris Kamenders gained his doctorate in engineering with a work on the nearly zero consumption buildings and cost-optimal energy efficiency levels in the case of renovation and construction of new buildings in Latvia. He is also a certified energy auditor and passive house consultant, an expert in the dynamic modeling of heat systems and in energy efficiency projects. Since 2014 he is Ltd. "Ekodoma" director.]

- **Natálie Anisimova**, SEVEEn - [Natálie Anisimova, Ph.D. works with SEVEEn since 2015 mostly on international projects. Her work includes assessment of energy efficiency of buildings, review of energy poverty situation, and participation on other projects funded by the European Commission, e.g. the EU Building Stock Observatory, Train-to-nZEB, ingREeS, Fit-to-nZEB.]
- **Aleš Vlk**
- **Csaba Vaszko** – [Csaba Vaszko has managed the climate change and energy programme in WWF Hungary. In the last 16 years he had experience in working with local communities, policy makers, private sector companies as well as in scientific and NGO sectors. During his researcher years he got deep knowledge of natural resource management. Csaba Vaszko has experience in design, implementation and management of transboundary projects (e.g. EU ENRTP, EU CEP-REC)..]
- **Alexa Antal** [Alexa Antal studied communications and marketing at the College for External Affairs in Hungary, Budapest. After that she worked for some communication agencies including Publicis, joined WWF in 2008.]

Program

Presentations Day 1

Civil society in sustainable energy transition in Central and Eastern Europe

Bronis Ropé and Arūnas Gražulis, European Parliament

Topic: Energy transition in the European Union and in Central and Eastern Europe

- Structural changes in energy sector in Central and Eastern Europe since the fall of the Iron Curtain
- Municipal energy policies – best practices of the city of Ignalina (Lithuania) in turning into an energy efficient, green, local energy consumer and insights on key preconditions to foster local energy initiatives
- The future energy mix for Europe
- New challenges and possibilities for local actors in the field of energy

Alex Mason, WWF European Policy Office, Brussels

Topic: New governance of the Energy Union

- EU Governance – an overview
- Issues raised by WWF

Wendel Trio, CAN Europe

Topic: Advocating for the energy transition in Central and Eastern European countries

Borislav Sandov, Climate Action Coalition, Bulgaria

Crucial inclusion of civil society for energy transition in Central and Eastern Europe

- The “dark side” of conventional energy in Central and Eastern Europe
- The crucial role of civil society for braking down energy cliches and taboos
- Good practices of bottom-up approaches and knowledge sharing across the region
- The importance of networking and engagement process for energy transition

EU support for sustainable energy action at local level

Sébastien Occhipenti, European Commission, DG Energy

Topic: The EU policy context and sustainable energy transition at local level

- The EU energy policy context: energy objectives, new Clean Energy Package
- The role of the local authorities in the energy transition

- The CoM as an appropriate framework to engage with local authorities and citizens

Cecile Kerebel, EASME

Topic: How energy efficiency funding under IEE and H2020 supports local sustainable energy action

Frédéric Boyer, Covenant of Mayors

Topic: Accelerating the energy transition through the Covenant of Mayors

- Covenant of Mayors initiative – principles, key success-factors, added-value for cities to join and services offered by the Office

Andreas Karner, ConPlusUltra

Topic: From Roadmap to Action Plan. Energy strategy planning in practice

- The culture, importance and benefits of the long-term energy planning and Roadmaps
- The roles of the stakeholders in the process of developing and implementing a Roadmap.

Parallel sessions on Sustainable Energy Planning

“Parallel session on Sustainable Energy Planning will introduce the different stages of developing the energy Roadmaps for 2050. The sessions are introducing the process of preparing the Roadmaps, engaging the stakeholders, implementing the planned activities (implementation is the main focus of next parallel session) etc.”

Peter Rathje, ProjectZero, Sonderborg Municipality, Denmark

Topic: ProjectZero

The ProjectZero presentation focus on how the Danish Municipality of Sonderborg plan and act to achieve carbon neutrality by 2029.

- How the Danish Municipality of Sonderborg plan and act to achieve carbon neutrality by 2029.
- How was the ProjectZero project started?
- How does Sonderborg successfully engage its citizens and the business sectors?
- What are the results and challenges?

About ProjectZero and Sonderborg/Denmark:

Sonderborg is located in the south of Denmark, near the Danish/German border. Sonderborg has 76,000 citizens and several global high-tech companies have their headquarters in Sonderborg. Sonderborg is a SmartCity lighthouse-city in the EU H2020 SmartEnCity project. Learn more about this project here: www.smartencity.eu. The ProjectZero public private climate transition partnership was started in 2007 and is today a major rolemodel for transitioning small and medium sized cities to ZEROcarbon communities. Learn more about ProjectZero here: www.projectzero.dk

Jaime Ruiz Huescar, Project R4E, Local Energy Agency of Murcia, Spain

Topic: Roadmaps for energy

- Innovative methodology for Roadmaps design
- Examples of vision development for cities for 2050
- Lessons learned

Roadmaps for Energy (R4E) is an EU funded project under the Horizon 2020 programme that aims to develop a new type of energy strategy through visions and roadmaps for the 8 partner cities, in co-creation with relevant local stakeholders. The project focuses on three areas within the domain of sustainable energy that are closely linked to the municipalities main responsibilities: smart buildings, smart mobility and smart urban spaces.

Slides:

Nils Daugaard, SEAP – Project ENNEREG, EC Network

Topic: Project ENNEREG

- Regional SEAP practice and guidelines as developed under ENNEREG project
- Good practice from the ENNEREG regions

ENNEREG – regions paving way for a sustainable energy Europe is a project in 12 partner regions in Europe. The regions have served as pioneers demonstrating how regions of different characteristics can be a key driving force in fulfilling the European 20-20-20 policy goal. Core elements in this have been the elaboration of Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAP) in conjunction with supporting the implementation of Sustainable Energy Projects (SEP) in each region.

Parallel sessions on Community Services

Frédéric Boyer with Florin Andronescu, Ion Dogeanu and Jaroslav Klusák

Topic: Covenant of Mayors services in Central and Eastern Europe

Slides 1 (Frédéric Boyer):

Slides 2 (Florin Andronescu) - "CoM initiative paving the road of sustainable energy in Alba

Slides 3 (Ion Dogeanu) - "From plan to actions - Bucharest District 1 study case":

Ioanna Giannouli, BPM, Greece

Living Labs for energy planning – INTENSSS-PA

Geert Vanhorebeek, City of Leuven

Topic: Leuven climate neutral 2030

- The origin of the project Leuven climate neutrals 2030
- Establishment of Leuven 2030 (NGO)
- Cooperation with stakeholders in a quadruple helix model

Engagement Model Success Story by Pavel Podruh

Pavel Podruh, Czech Off-Grid Houses, Czech Republic

Topic: A new generation's replicable paradigm for making sustainability exciting to the masses

[Czech Off-Grid Houses](#) – A case study of public demand triggering in action

Stakeholder Engagement and Energy Advocacy in CEE

"The last session will explore different perspectives on stakeholder engagement and involvement in advocacy efforts. For this we have chosen representatives from the governmental, NGO and private sectors, who have practical experience in doing so. The discussion will be moderated by Hector C. Pagan, lecturer at the Skytte Institute of Politics, University of Tartu, Estonia. The session will be built up as a moderated discussion between the key experts from the previous sessions and the audience in an effort to promote mutual learning and developing further the understanding of stakeholder engagement in the process of energy development. The main focus will be on the engagement approaches they use and will summarise the best ideas learnt during the day. It will enable the audience to discuss the participatory process success stories in comparative manner as well as connect their results and approaches to the topics of PANEL project and situation in CEE countries.

Participants will be asked to share their approaches to stakeholder engagement; including what lessons they have learned working with different audiences in participatory processes, including how to approach resistant stakeholders, how to balance competing interests and perspectives and how they maintain interest over

the long-term. This format will be used to promote discussion among the panellists and the audience, in an effort to promote mutual learning on the topic."

Participants

Peter Rathje from ProjectZero

About ProjectZero and Sonderborg/Denmark

Sonderborg is located in the south of Denmark, near the Danish/German border.

Sonderborg has 76.000 citizens and several global high-tech companies have their headquarters in Sonderborg. Sonderborg is a SmartCity lighthouse-city in the EU H2020 SmartEnCity project. Learn more about this project here: www.smartencity.eu

The ProjectZero public private climate transition partnership was started in 2007 and is today a major rolemodel for transitioning small and medium sized cities to ZEROcarbon communities. Learn more about ProjectZero here: www.projectzero.dk.

Wendel Trio from the Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe – Europe's largest coalition working on climate and energy issues. With 141 member organisations in 25 European countries, CAN-E works to prevent dangerous climate change and promote sustainable energy and environment policy in Europe, supports and empowers civil society organisations to influence the design and development of an effective global strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ensure its implementation at international, national and local levels in the promotion of equity and sustainable development.

Nils Daugaard from Project ENNEREG – regions paving way for a sustainable energy Europe. They were very successful in their stakeholder engagement and triggering sustainable energy actions in the participating regions and beyond. Almost 700 regional and local stakeholders have joined the Regions 2020 Network developed in this project.

Tiit Kallaste from the Project ENLARGE– Energies for Local Administrations: Renovate Governance in Europe. This project aims to generate and disseminate knowledge on participatory governance with focus on sustainable energy, through a process of dialogue and exchange involving policy makers, civil society actors and practitioners. They aim to explore existing models of participatory governance in the field of sustainable energy and, in particular, their legitimacy, effectiveness, sustainability and success mechanisms, by drawing together theoretical knowledge and on-the-ground experiences.

Andres Meesak from the Estonian Solar Energy Association. Their aim is to shape the regulatory environment to promote the growing market opportunity for solar in Estonia.

Pavel Podruh from the Czech Off-Grid Houses platform, which aims to accelerate the transition to sustainable architecture methods. His platform is responsible for development of the largest student architecture competition focused on sustainability and cleaner solutions in CEE region In 2016 he received prestigious UN Award for helping to fulfill global sustainable goals.

Moderated by Hector C Pagan, University of Tartu

Presentations Day 2

Community Funding and Services

“The Plenary session on Community Funding and Services will introduce new ways for preparing the implementation, assessing the feasibility and developing the resources. The focus of this session is on community based funding opportunities: ESCO model, community grants, crowdfunding etc.”

Pablo Alonso Gómez, WIP Renewable Energies

Topic: Crowdfunding for Financing Renewable Energy Projects

Josef Wolfbeisser, ConPlusUltra, Austria

Topic: Community grants and alternative finance mechanisms for local energy projects

- Basic concepts and main questions
- Case studies: Energy transition projects in Austrian communities
- Addressing of financial mechanisms in community projects

Agris Kamenders, Ecodoma, Latvia

Energy Performance Contracting in Latvia

- Deep renovation of Latvian residential buildings – planning and financing
- Energy Performance Contracting

Natálie Anisimova, Ph.D., SEVEN

Trends and barriers in nZEB implementation

CEESEN assembly

10.50-11:50 Citizens assembly: Energy transition challenges

The general idea of the citizen assembly is to bring together stakeholders from all over the partner regions and discuss and find solutions to common challenges we are facing when dealing with energy transition. Some of the participants will be more experienced and the background of them is very diverse, so the solutions created are interesting and usable in CEE countries.

The end result of this session will be 2-3 best possible solutions for three challenges that will be discussed. The participants can then take that knowledge and gathered motivation home and implement it in their regional activities. These results should also be sort of marketed output of the conference.

The Citizens assembly consists of two stages:

1. Stage: Identification of possible solutions in parallel sessions
2. Stage: Synthesizing the solutions, presenting them to wider group of participants and identifying the most feasible ones **for the CEE region.**

1. Stage: Identification of possible solutions in parallel sessions at 10.50-11:50

Each group brainstorms for 15 minutes and lists problems in the topic at hand that are inhibiting the energy transition in CEE countries.

Then they decide on 3-5 most important problems (maybe vote on it) and start finding solutions to overcome these problems. In the end of session another voting will take place to distinguish ca 3 best solutions for the chosen problems.

Before moving to stage 2, the moderator will have 10 minutes with an assistant to go through these solutions and put them on powerpoint slides with the main points of each.

Instructions for Moderators

Clearly indicate the problem that should be addressed by the group. Key points to consider:

- Give a basic description of the challenge being confronted
- Collect local perspectives and ask follow up questions to participants to ensure that everyone in the room on the same track
- Keep an eye on the time and give people the possibility to discuss the issue, such as brainstorming solutions.
- Try to make sure that everyone in the group communicates and contributes to the discussion and that participants vote by the end of the session.

TOPICS

1. **Policymaking:** How to increase the support of policy makers for energy transition. How to stimulate energy transition on the local level? (There is a poor

supervision of implementation of the energy transition process; focusing on conventional energy.) How to strengthen the long-term visioning on the sub-national regional level? (short seeing, no long term visions; energy not a priority). Lack of awareness on importance of energy transition process.

Outcomes: Suggestions for successful policy development

- The most important target group is usually not the politicians but high level civil servants (administrators and officials);
 - Establish a healthy working relationships with high level officials – you will be around and they will be around for a long time;
 - Share your knowledge and educate decision makers about the possible Solutions;
 - Practical examples are not enough – they should be supported with guide for adoption in local environment;
 - There is also a need to go beyond the formal borders of the municipality/region/country with policy development; we should not be afraid to do that.
2. **Public awareness** - Lack of trust in renewable energy solutions, energy efficiency and mobility – energy security, reliability, utilization. How to increase the support to renewable energy solutions? Could it be that public does not trust in renewable energy solutions mainly because they do not understand the technology and processes behind it. So the question is how to communicate the technologies to the public so that they see the benefit of switching to renewables and low-carbon economy.
3. **Financing**: Is there an alternative to public incentives? Who would be willing to invest into a sustainable energy future if not the public? How to activate private sector and citizens?

2. Stage: Synthesizing the solutions 12:00 - 13:00

During the conclusion discussion, the moderators of parallel sessions will present the result and the main moderator for the session will boost possible discussion and make people express their feedback on solutions identified in other parallel session.

Method for the assembly

1. Identify the barriers
2. Pick main challenges (2-3 max)
3. Find solutions to the challenges

Three categories:

BUILDINGS

TRANSPORT

ENERGY PRODUCTION

More narrow topics in these categories:

- Legislative barriers
- Conflicting priorities on different levels

ENERGY PRODUCTION: 5 challenges:

1. Grid connection is expensive
2. Public acceptance and NIMBY syndrome, low public trust in renewable energy solutions
3. Strict regulations, low subsidies, lot of bureaucracy,
4. Increase the valuing non-monetary benefits of renewable energy, i.e. lower emissions, rural employment, distributed energy production, increased energy security
5. Adapting to the ever stricter climate regulations enforced by the EU.

BUILDINGS: 5 challenges:

1. Increasing energy efficiency of older buildings
2. Investments in building refurbishment
3. Low financing capacity in energy efficiency of poorer regions. Energy poverty.
4. Implementation and standardisation of energy efficiency regulations and monitoring demanded by the EU Energy Efficiency directive.

TRANSPORT: 5 challenges:

1. Infrastructure development. (i.e. is this a task for local governments or companies promoting cars running on electricity or biogas)?

Session 1 summary:

Session 2 summary:

Session 3 summary:

All the slides, presentations and videos available: <https://ceesen.org/conference/>

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PROGRAMME SPEAKERS VENUE




CEE ENERGY TRANSITION
CEESEN Conference
Prague
19–20 October 2017

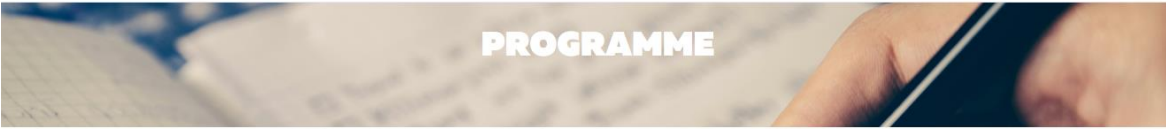
"Low carbon energy transition? Together it is possible"

FREE ENTRANCE & ENGLISH SPEAKING
A two-day event fostering collaboration between energy stakeholders from government, research, NGOs and business towards achieving the European targets in terms of greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency and renewable energy by 2050

[CEESEN WEBSITE](#) [EVENT](#)





PROGRAMME SPEAKERS VENUE



PROGRAMME



Welcome by Jana Plamínková and Pavel Zámyslický

Jana Plamínková, City Councillor of the Capital City of Prague for infrastructure, technical facilities and environment

Jana Plamínková  


Parallel sessions on Sustainable Energy Planning (read more)

Peter Rathje, Project ZERO, Sonderborg Municipality, Denmark

Peter Rathje  


Civil society in sustainable energy transition in Central and Eastern Europe (read more)

Bronis Ropé, European Parliament



Engagement Model Success Story by Pavel Podruh

Pavel Podruh, Czech Off-Grid House

Pavel Podruh 

[^](#)



SPEAKERS



Agris Kamenders

Agris Kamenders gained his doctorate in engineering with a work on the nearly zero consumption buildings and cost-optimal energy efficiency levels in the



Alexander Mason

Alexander Mason is a Senior Policy Officer, Renewable Energy at WWF European Policy Office

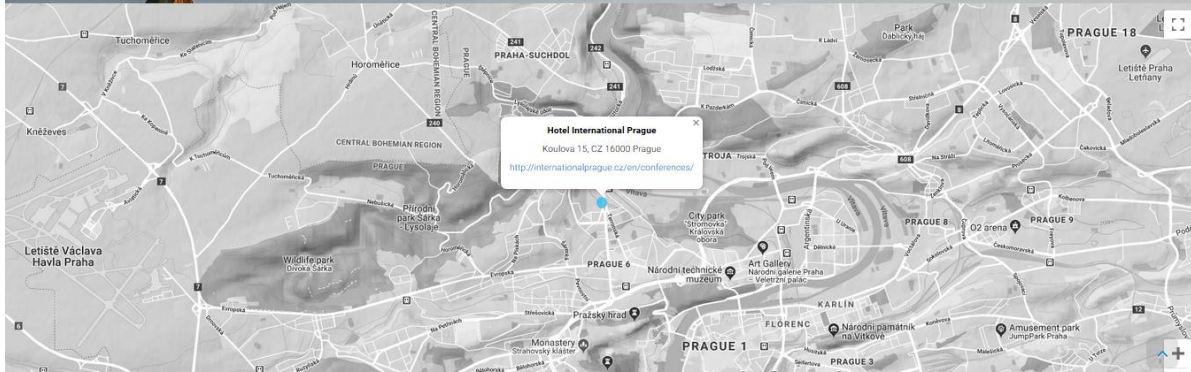


Andreas Karner

Andreas Karner is Senior Consultant and the Team Leader of the Energy and Environment Team at ConPlusUltra Ltd. He holds a Masters Degree in Environmental



VENUE



Press release

Energy transition is not just a buzzword

Conference to draw the practical steps to sustainability in the CEE region

The international conference "CEE Energy Transition" will gather **professionals and opinion leaders from Central and Eastern Europe to collectively design a path for energy transition by 2050** on 19-20 October 2017 in Prague. It will aim to bring European policy into practice on national and local levels. EU officials, experts, politicians, entrepreneurs and civil society will elaborate on specific approaches different regions will take on in achieving the European targets in terms of greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency and renewable energy.

For the organizers of the event - the unique consortium of organizations and individuals in CEE – the Central Eastern European Energy Network (CEESEN), energy transition is not just a buzzword. Its members believe that nations and regions need to lay out a concrete plan of actions, ensure public participation from the start and take advantage of innovation and technology to achieve transition to a low carbon community throughout CEE.

So, naturally, the slogan of this year's conference is: **"Low carbon energy transition? Together it is possible"**.

Looking at the big picture, Bronis Ropė, a member of the European Parliament and a former mayor of the Lithuanian city of Ignalina, famous for its nuclear power plant termination and decommissioning, will describe the tendencies in energy transition in European Union and in Central and Eastern Europe.

Imke Luebbeke, the Head of the Climate & Energy department at WWF European Policy Office (Brussels), will present the new governance approaches in the EU in relation to energy policy.

To bring in the innovation element, Pavel Podruh, the founder of the Czech Off-Grid Houses platform and the winner of the UN Award for helping to fulfill global sustainable goals, will share his experience in accelerating transition to sustainable architecture methods.

Councilor of the City of Prague Jana Plamínková in charge of environment will open the conference.

The conference will provide a stimulating environment for the exchange of knowledge and the opportunity for participants to form partnerships. Inspiration will come from the mix of contemporary and successful projects presented in a few parallel sessions. Some examples include:

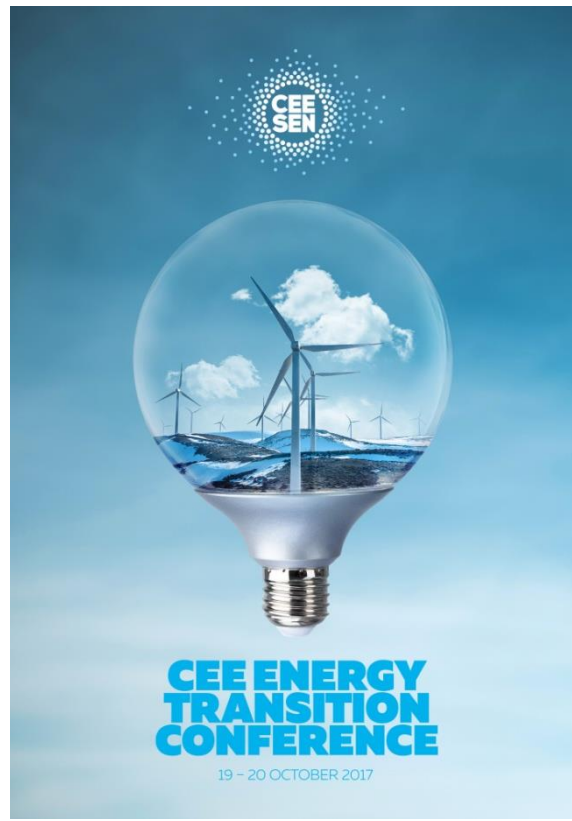
- "Project Zero" public-private partnership working for a zero-carbon city of Sonderborg, Denmark by 2029, based on sustainable growth and green jobs creation;
- Roadmaps for Energy (R4E) project on smart buildings, mobility and urban spaces;
- ENNEREG project known in 12 European regions to pave the way for a sustainable energy Europe.

In addition to the planned discussions and workshops during the two-day conference, the guests will get close to some innovative energy efficiency products and smart tools for participation.

Registration for the conference is free of charge and open now at:

<https://ceesen.org/conference/>

More about the CEESEN network and the project see at: www.ceesen.org



 **CENTRAL EASTERN EUROPEAN
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY NETWORK**

19 – 20 October 2017
Hotel International, Prague, Czech Republic

“Low carbon energy transition? Together it is possible” – Fostering collaboration between energy stakeholders from government, research, NGOs and business towards sustainability.

A two-day conference on the challenges to energy transition by 2050 and the approaches different regions in the EU and CEE will apply in achieving the European targets in terms of greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Keynote speakers:

Bronis Ropė – member of the European parliament and a former mayor of the city of Lithuanian city of Ignalina, famous for its nuclear power plant termination and decommissioning
Topic: Energy transition in European Union and in Central and Eastern Europe

Imke Luebbeke – Head of the Climate & Energy department at WWF European Policy Office (Brussels)
Topic: New governance approaches in the EU Energy policy

Pavel Podruh – founder of the Czech Off-Grid Houses platform and the winner of the UN Award for helping to fulfill global sustainable goals,
Topic: Accelerating transition to sustainable architecture methods

Registrations for the conference is free of charge and open now at:
ceesen.org/conference

Contact us at: conference@ceesen.org



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