



Workshop “Towards a sustainable Clean Energy Transition in Cities: technical and societal perspectives”

Jointly organized by EERA Joint Programmes e3s and Smart Cities

Vienna, 10th October 2025 | Hosted by the Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT)

Across Europe, cities are playing a central role in driving the transition toward climate neutrality and long-term sustainability. Supported by flagship EU initiatives such as the European Green Deal, the New European Bauhaus, and the Horizon Europe Mission for 100 Climate-Neutral Cities by 2030, urban areas are becoming key testbeds for systemic innovation in energy, mobility, governance, and the built environment.

However, with cities accounting for around 75% of global energy use and 70% of greenhouse gas emissions, the path to a clean energy future is complex. Urban environments face intertwined technical, social, and governance challenges—from aging infrastructure and limited space to socio-economic inequalities and fragmented policy frameworks.

The workshop “*Towards a Sustainable Clean Energy Transition in Cities: Technical and Societal Perspectives*” offers a platform to **explore** these **challenges and opportunities** through an **interdisciplinary lens**. By fostering dialogue between the energy sector, urban planners, and the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) communities, the workshop **aims to build a shared understanding of the systemic changes needed**. It highlights the importance of **integrating technological innovation with social inclusion** to co-create actionable, equitable, and scalable solutions for cities across Europe.

AGENDA

Date: 10 October 2025

Time: 9:00 – 17:30

Location: Nordbahnsaal, Die Hauswirtschaft, Bruno-Marek-Allee 5/1, 1020 Vienna, Austria

9:00 – 9:30	Registration	
9.30 – 9.45	Welcome greetings from AIT	Manfred Paier Scientist, <i>Center for Innovation Systems & Policy, AIT</i> Ghazal Etminan Senior Research Engineer, <i>Center for Digital Safety & Security, AIT</i>
9.45 – 10.10	Introduction from EERA JP e3s & Smart Cities	Alessandro Sciuolo EERA JP e3s coordinator, <i>University of Turin</i> Sonia Giovinazzi



		EERA JP Smart Cities coordinator, <i>ENEA</i>
10:10 – 10:30	<i>tbd</i>	Hans Martin Neumann Urban Development Director, <i>City of Linz</i>
Coffee Break (30')		
Plenary session: Strategies for Clean Energy Transition in Cities Presentations & panel discussion Chair of the session: Ayşen Sivrikaya (Hacettepe University)		
11.00 – 11.45	Ravenna’s virtual Positive Energy District: a model for energy transition in port cities	Michela Pirro <i>ENEA</i>
	Systemic transformation of the mobility sector: a legal perspective on urban public policies in France and the EU	Louise Leray <i>CEA I-TÉSÉ</i>
	Citizen-empowering PED strategy – case report from Austria	Bahanur Nasya <i>Wonderland</i>
	New Mobility Habits and Urban Sustainability: A Systemic Approach to Energy-Conscious Planning	Roberta Roberto <i>ENEA</i>
	Public-Private Partnerships for Climate-Neutral Urban Development: Case Studies from Three European Cities	Barbora Hejtmanková <i>Czech Technical University</i>
11.45 – 12.30	Panel discussion	
Lunch break (60')		
13.30 – 13.50	<i>tbd</i>	Anna Wang, Susanne Meyer <i>tbc</i> <i>BMIMI</i>
Plenary session: Approaches and methodologies for Clean Energy Transition in Cities Presentations & panel discussion Chair of the session: Ali Hainoun (AIT)		
13.50 – 14.30	Justice and equity in the climate plans of 112 Italian cities	Monica Salvia <i>CNR</i>
	Climate-Informed Grid Management: A Danish Model for Renewable Energy Transitions	Tatiana Ferrari <i>DTU</i>
	Urban-Scale Techno-economic Assessment Using UBEA and Simulations: A Methodology for Cost-effective Energy Renovation Planning	Ipek Gürsel Dino <i>METU</i>
	An open-source framework for the optimal design and operation of renewable energy communities	Marios Karmellos <i>The Cyprus Institute</i>
	Development of an UrbanWeGeneration Model to guide Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Transition	Vicky Albert-Seifried <i>Fraunhofer ISE</i>
	Virtual PED Labs: Emerging Framework for the Conceptualization, Implementation, and Scalability of Positive Energy Districts	Jelena Brajkovic <i>University of Belgrade</i>
14.30 – 15.15	Panel discussion	
Coffee Break (30')		
15.45 – 16.30	Parallel session: Case studies for Clean Energy Transition in Cities Presentations & panel discussion	Parallel session: Technological Solutions for Clean Energy Transition in Cities Presentations & panel discussion



	Chair of the session: Monica Salvia (CNR)		Chair of the session: Paola Clerici Maestosi (ENEA)	
	A participatory approach for imagining Territorial Hydrogen Futures in the South Tyrol's energy mix	Federica Viganò <i>University of Bolzano</i>	Design and Deployment of a SCADA PTP Test Emulator for Enhancing Grid Resilience and Reducing Urban Energy Interruptions	Canan Şişman Korkmaz <i>Inavitas</i>
	Achieving Holistic Energy, Digital and Resilience Transition in Villages and Small Cities: The Open Blue-Sky Lab in Pitigliano, Tuscany (Italy)	Sonia Giovinnazzi <i>ENEA</i>	Techno-economic analysis of solar power systems and energy storage deployment in Western African Power Pool	Xiaojing Lin <i>University of Groningen</i>
	Climate Positive Circular Communities and Sustainable Plus-Energy Neighborhoods: From Vision to Reality	Niki Gaitani <i>NTNU</i>	DHOMUS: Empowering Renewable Energy Communities Through Smart Monitoring and User Engagement.	Valerio Pfister <i>ENEA</i>
	A Sociotechnical Imaginary of the Clean Hydrogen Mobility in Capo d' Orlando: A Case Study	Raffaele Albanese & Agatino Nicta <i>CNR</i>	Advanced controls (DRL and MPC) for activating demand side flexibility: applications in district heating, swimming pool facilities and PED	Rongling Li <i>DTU</i>
	Citizen Science to Improve Urban Resilience to Extreme Heat in Mediterranean Cities. A baseline for co-designing cool shelters in Rome	Ezilda Costanzo <i>ENEA</i>	Re-Valuing Urban Quality & Climate Neutrality in European Waterfront Cities Towards climate adaptation: a case study of a Coastal City in Portugal	Laura Aelenei <i>LNEG</i>
16.30 – 17.00	Panel discussion		Panel discussion	
17.00 – 17.20	Plenary and parallel sessions wrap up			Ayşen Sivrikaya , <i>Hacettepe University</i> Ali Hainoun <i>AIT</i> Monica Salvia <i>CNR</i> Paola Clerici Maestosi <i>ENEA</i>
17:20 – 17:30	Concluding remarks			Sonia Giovinnazzi EERA JP Smart Cities coordinator, <i>ENEA</i> Alessandro Sciallo EERA JP e3s coordinator, <i>University of Turin</i>