



ENERGYCITIES

Cities and Citizens Energy Forum

Energy Cities' 2020 Annual Conference

About the Forum

Aren't you tired of sitting in a conference, listening to never-ending speeches? Are you looking for dialogues and meaningful peer-to-peer exchanges instead?

If you are seeking to rethink the boundaries of our actions, or dreaming of a place to make your work visible and find new partners, the first **Cities and Citizens Energy Forum** is for you.

We want our annual conference to be more than 3 days of pleasant social gathering: the Forum should drive debates and provide inspiration to the participants and the hosting city. We want to be challenged by the local community!

During 3 days, we will:

- **SHOW** the progresses, the potentials, the diversity of local energy initiatives
- **SHARE** solutions, failures, needs for new policies and legal frameworks
- **SHAKE** the business as usual agenda, the EU agenda, and our own way of thinking!

What we want to achieve

We want to show how vibrant the local energy initiatives are, by focusing on partnerships between municipalities and communities. We will demonstrate that the transition is happening! By exploring such partnerships, we want to highlight positive actions that go beyond fighting and adapting

to climate change, to reinvent local economies and policy making at local level.

We aim at building this Forum with relevant partners, promoting best practices of cities and citizens energy partnerships to a wider audience. That is why we will have the European network of energy cooperatives **REScoop** opening our conference, to present some of their relevant projects from across Europe.

2020 will be the first year of the new European Commission: that is why we invited the Executive Vice President **Frans Timmermans**. He will be back to his hometown to discuss the development of the new "European climate culture" he has been tasked with. We hope he will debate with Energy Cities members and participants in the conference.

Why you should come

Because we are all actors of the changes to come!

This forum is for everyone, even though it targets active citizen and cities representatives in the first place. You can come to share your experiences, but also to shake your own city's administration, or to mobilise other actors.

Because we want to celebrate!

Energy Cities will turn 30 in 2020. We have been defending a locally-driven energy transition since 1990! Come and celebrate with us!

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When and where?

The Cities and Citizens Energy Forum will take place **from 22 to 24 April 2020** in **Heerlen (The Netherlands)**, a city at the crossroads between 3 countries, and at the heart of Europe.

The organisers

Energy Cities is the European city network that defends a locally driven energy transition. We want a radical transformation of the energy systems and policies, giving our citizens the power to shape a decentralised and renewable energy future. We believe that the energy transition is not just about clean energy or great technologies: it is about a wise use of resources while strengthening local participation and well-being in a democratic Europe.

With our community of over 1,000 local governments in 30 countries, we trigger a trustful dialogue between city leaders and EU & national institutions to accelerate the energy transition in Europe.

www.energy-cities.eu

Heerlen is a city in the southeast of the Netherlands. After being the centre of the coal mining industry in the Netherlands, it accomplished an incredible transition and it's now internationally awarded for its pioneering projects in the field of geothermal energy.

www.heerlen.nl

Our partners

We want to anchor our Forum locally. Our two main partners for this edition the local renewable energy company **Mijnwater** and our Dutch collective member, the association **Klimaat Verbond**.

Find out more

www.annualconference.energy-cities.eu

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