

Proof of the Pudding

Applying the City-Zen Methodology to Other European Cities.

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PROOF OF THE PUDDING:

APPLYING THE CITY-ZEN METHODOLOGY TO OTHER EUROPEAN CITIES

Although the City-zen demonstration projects took place in the frontrunner smart cities of Amsterdam and Grenoble, the project's focus was sharing its knowledge and experience with other European cities. City-zen went 'Glocal': specialist global expertise combined with local stakeholder energy and knowledge of context and lifestyle on location. To this purpose a special City-zen Roadshow team – with renowned experts in the fields of energy planning and design from TU Delft, Queen's University Belfast, the University of Siena, VITO, Th!nk E and DNV GL was put together.

Since its inception in March 2014, the City-zen Roadshow has visited 10 cities with a need for expert guidance on how to become more sustainable and move towards energy neutrality. Initially, the plan was to present a set of workshops that would transcend the ideation process beyond already familiar technical/spatial aspects yielded by methods such as Energy Potential Mapping, TU Delft's REAP, etc.

Things really took a flight, however, when TU Delft's SWAT Studios were integrated in the Roadshow concept. All of a sudden, the methods conceived at an earlier stage of the City-zen project could be implemented, tested, further developed and optimized. It resulted, among



regular Roadshow reports and other things, in various remarkable publications such as a Methodology Report, a Catalogue of Measures, a Book of Inspiration and a Roadmap for the City of Amsterdam.

“It's about trust, commitment and inspiring people to embrace solutions that will bring health and happiness! At what cost? Reverse it: what's the cost of NOT doing it...?”

Craig Martin,
TU Delft

Balancing the expanding workload, however, proved to be a challenge. As the Roadshow began to take shape as a new way to disseminate our learnings, additional time and energy were required for a wide range of tasks: engaging local stakeholders, gathering the right information, arranging locations and facilities, post-reporting, et cetera. Unexpectedly, these tasks were not distributed evenly. Also, the cities' follow-up to the Roadshow strongly differed in communication and action: sometimes continued with new energy, sometimes coming to a stand-still, mostly



due to political reasons.

Perhaps the solution to the above could be to decide that a prerequisite to the Roadshow is to find a local champion within a municipality, ask for personal commitment of those involved and make

“The Roadshow shows the importance of cooperation between the various departments of urban planning, ecology, greenery. Now it is time to make this vision more specific and continue with implementation!”

Mayor Declercq of Roeselare,
Belgium

sure the right team is available. Creativity within the team in particular is of crucial importance – and the evidence of the Roadshows display just that.

The Roadshow is a perfect example of a City-zen pilot that deserves to be scaled-up. The addition of a team member with the necessary economic expertise could help best the financial challenge that lies ahead: Roadshows and Roadmaps are very demanding when it comes to resources and finance. Assembling the right Roadshow team is a challenge in itself. The intensive process requires a coherent, complementary team of people who get on well together, who are equally committed, proactive and who all add value to the final result.

The discriminating characteristic of a successful Roadshow therefore, is its team. Opportunities arose left, right and center but the team members willing to invest were the ones who enabled the Roadshow to reap the rewards. Furthering the Roadshow, therefore, is dependent upon assembling a team with complementary (technical) knowledge and (creative) skills.

“You have inspired me. We should take all this on board and dream of solutions.”

Mayor Bolsius of Amersfoort,
The Netherlands

Ideally, the EU would support a pan-European roll-out of the Roadshow. This will accelerate the transition towards the Paris goals. The team would have to include the earlier mentioned economics expert and sufficient time and resources would have to be allocated towards proper preparation of local requirements.

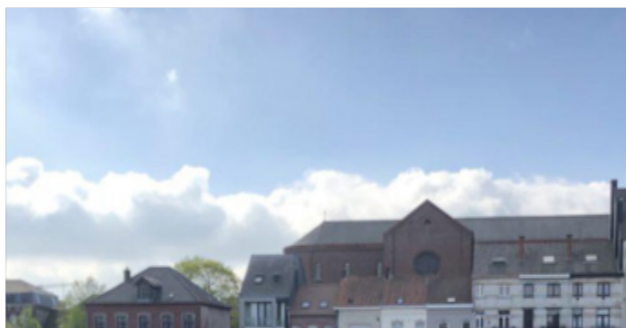
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Or scan the QR code!



ROADSHOWS AT-A-GLANCE



		<p>High performance improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar • High performance windows • Floors • Air-tightness • Mechanical (Optimal) • Energy recovery system • Smart meter for energy consumption / smart meter with heat recovery 	<p>0.15 kWh/m²/year 100 CO₂ (unmet)</p>
		<p>Optional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenhouse addition, other high performance additions to shellings based on local needs 	<p>0.15 kWh/m²/year 100 CO₂ (unmet)</p>
		<p>Heat Pump</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual split or buffer tank (200 l) • Hybrid heat exchanger 	<p>0.15 kWh/m²/year 100 CO₂ (unmet)</p>



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