

# D9.20: Report on attendance at events held by other SCC-01 co-ordinators 8

+CityxChange | Work Package 9, Task 9.2

Final delivery date: 28-03-2023



<b>Deliverable version</b>	v.03
<b>Dissemination level</b>	Public
<b>Authors</b>	Annemie Wyckmans, Dirk Ahlers, Elisa Junqueira de Andrade, Shreejana Poudyal (NTNU)
<b>Contributors</b>	Sander Smit (R2M); Taliah Dommerholt (ISOCARP); Blain Murphy (KPMG FA); Andy Bäcker (SB); Helena Fitzgerald (UL)

## *Article 29.5 Disclaimer*

This deliverable contains information that reflects only the authors' views and the European Commission/INEA is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No. 824260.

## Document Information

<b>Project Acronym</b>	+CityxChange
<b>Project Title</b>	Positive City ExChange
<b>Project Coordinator</b>	Annemie Wyckmans, Norwegian University of Science and Technology
<b>Project Duration</b>	1 November 2018 - 31 October 2023
<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D9.20: Report on attendance at events held by other SCC-01 co-ordinators 8
<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU-Public
<b>License</b>	CC-BY4.0 Creative Commons Attribution, except where otherwise noted. <a href="https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/">https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/</a>
<b>Status</b>	Completed
<b>Due Date</b>	31-10-2022
<b>Work Package</b>	WP9 – Inter-Project Collaboration and Clustering
<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	NTNU
<b>Contributing Beneficiaries</b>	LCCC, TK, MAI, MP, SB, SMO, VORU

## Revision History

<b>Date</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Substantive changes made</b>
02-08-2022	v.01	Elisa Junqueira de Andrade (NTNU)	Report structure
20-12-2022	v.02	Shreejana Poudyal (NTNU)	Inserting partner contributions based on +CxC tracker, Updates based on feedback from partners, learning experiences, text adjustments
27-03-2023	v.03	Shreejana Poudyal, Annemie Wyckmans, Dirk Ahlers (NTNU)	Final adjustments

# Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
List of Acronyms	3
Executive Summary	4
1 Introduction	5
2 Cooperation with the SCC Board of Coordinators, Scalable Cities and the Smart Cities Marketplace	6
2.1 Scope	6
2.2 SCC Board of Coordinators meetings and Scalable Cities	7
2.3 SCC BoC Task Groups	7
2.3.1 Task Group Replication	7
2.3.2 Task Group Communication	7
2.3.3 Task Group Monitoring	8
2.3.4 City Coordinators Group	9
2.3.5 BM&F Enlarged Task Force	10
2.4 Cooperation with the Smart Cities Marketplace	10
3. Meetings and Events	11
3.1 Cooperative events organised by the SCCs and Scalable Cities	11
3.1.1 Scalable Cities community event: From Solutions to System Change – Utrecht (1-2 June 2022)	11
3.1.2 Preparations towards Smart City Expo Barcelona (15-17 November 2022)	12
3.1.3 SmartEnCity – Towards Smart Zero CO2 Cities across Europe (14-15 June, Vitoria)	12
3.1.4 mySMARTLife Final Conference: Smart People - Smart Economy - Smart Cities (14 - 15 September 2022, Hamburg)	13
3.2 Other meetings and events	13
3.2.1 58th ISOCARP Congress (5 October 2022, Brussels)	13
3.2.2 Sustainable Places 2022 conference (6-9 September 2022)	14
3.2.2.1 Workshop: Energy citizenship: Must or myth? The impact of citizen participation on local energy systems (8 September 2022)	14
3.2.2.2 Workshop: Innovative Solutions Supporting Cities' Transition (8 September 2022)	14
3.2.3 Positive Energy Districts Conference (23-24 June 2022, Amsterdam)	15
4 Conclusions	16

## List of Acronyms

<b>BoC</b>	Board of Coordinators
<b>CCG</b>	City Coordinators Group
<b>COST</b>	European Cooperation in Science and Technology
<b>CUE</b>	Circular Urban Economies
<b>DUT</b>	Driving Urban Transitions
<b>EEEF</b>	European Energy Efficiency Fund
<b>EIP SCC</b>	European Innovation Partnership on Smart Cities and Communities
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EERA JPSC</b>	European Energy Research Alliance, Joint Programme on Smart Cities
<b>ISOCARP</b>	International Society of City and Regional Planners
<b>KPI</b>	Key Performance Indicator
<b>KPMG FA</b>	KPMG Future Analytics
<b>MERT</b>	Monitoring & Evaluation Reporting Tool
<b>NEB</b>	New European Bauhaus
<b>NTNU</b>	Norwegian University of Science and Technology
<b>OV</b>	Officina Verdi Group
<b>PEB/D/N</b>	Positive Energy Blocks / Districts / Neighbourhoods
<b>R2M</b>	Research to Market
<b>SCC</b>	Smart Cities and Communities
<b>SCC01</b>	Horizon 2020 Smart Cities and Communities call
<b>SCIS</b>	Smart Cities Information System
<b>SCM</b>	Smart Cities Marketplace
<b>SCEWC</b>	Smart City Expo World Congress
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SET-Plan</b>	Strategic Energy Technology Plan
<b>TG</b>	Task Group
<b>TK</b>	Trondheim Kommune
<b>UL</b>	University of Limerick
<b>WP</b>	Work Package
<b>15mc</b>	15-minute city

## Executive Summary

+CityxChange actively pursues synergies with other relevant EU platforms, initiatives and projects, facilitating collaboration and exchanging good practices.

This series of reports describes the participation and lessons learned by +CityxChange partners in events organised by other SCC projects, the Board of Coordinators, Scalable Cities, the Smart Cities Marketplace (SCM), the EU Cities Mission, the NetZeroCities Platform, the New European Bauhaus, SET-Plan Action 3.2, the Driving Urban Transitions Partnership, and the EERA Joint Programme Smart Cities, during the eighth six-month period of the project from 1 May 2022 to 31 October 2022 (M43-M48).

This report is Deliverable 9.20 of the +CityxChange Task 9.2 on Extra-Project Cooperation through other SCC01 projects and EU platforms, in Work Package 9 “Inter-Project Collaboration and Clustering”. Some general content is repeated from the previous D9.18, especially on longer running collaborations and background information. This report complements Deliverable D9.19 “Report on Intra-Project Collaboration Including Study Visits and Peer to Peer Workshops 8”.

## 1 Introduction

In the +CityxChange project, we cooperate with other H2020 SCC projects, the Scalable Cities secretariat and the Smart Cities Marketplace to anchor our experiences in a broader setting, to get feedback by peers, and to share learnings that might help ourselves and others achieve goals faster and better – and to learn from stories of failure. Some common parts of this document are repeated from D9.18.

## 2 Cooperation with the SCC Board of Coordinators, Scalable Cities and the Smart Cities Marketplace

### 2.1 Scope

+CityxChange participates in the online meetings of the Board of Coordinators (NTNU), and the Task Groups on Replication (R2M, co-chair, and NTNU), Communication & Dissemination (ISOCARP), Business Models and Finance (OV), Monitoring (KPMG FA) and City Coordinators Group (Lighthouse and Fellow Cities, and NTNU). These groups meet regularly in online meetings.

The Board of Coordinators (BoC) of the SCC projects meets online on a monthly basis, supported by the Scalable Cities Secretariat. Every other month, the BoC meeting is extended with participation by representatives of the Smart Cities Marketplace and DG ENER. Typical topics of discussion and cooperation are:

- Mission Papers and Solution Booklets based on cooperative efforts to bridge the implementation gap, in particular related to financial, regulatory and governance challenges;
- Scalable Cities Calls for Experts, in this period related to “Digitalisation in urban energy systems” and “Systemic changes in governance”;
- Cooperation towards the EU Cities Mission, the NetZeroCities platform, the Smart Cities Marketplace, and the New European Bauhaus;
- Joint dissemination activities such as the IRIS - Scalable Cities SCC community event in Utrecht 1-2 June, and preparation of a joint booth and sessions in the Smart City Expo Barcelona 15-17 November;
- Updates from the Task Groups.
- The Scalable Cities mission paper: *Systemic changes in Governance structure of local authorities to facilitate the transition towards climate neutral cities.*

The Systemic Changes in Governance report was officially launched at the SCC event: From Solutions to System Change in Utrecht. The paper is expected to be published during the next Scalable Cities / SCC event in Valencia at the end of March 2023. Several seminars and meetings were conducted in this reporting period to develop the paper. NTNU is part of the core group of SCC members that worked closely with the external experts to source and discuss material for the report. Limerick also contributed to the content through an interview.

## 2.2 SCC Board of Coordinators meetings and Scalable Cities

In the regular BoC meetings conducted during this reporting period, main topics of discussion were the connection between the SCC projects and Scalable Cities with the Cities Mission and the NetZeroCities platform.

The first on-site event of the SCC projects after COVID-19 was held in Utrecht (see [Section 3.1.1](#)), with collaborative preparations related to the narrative, Scalable Cities sessions, and TG sessions, and discussion of intended outcomes of the joint event.

In addition, preparations for the first joint European booth at the Smart City World Expo Congress 2022 in Barcelona, with joint sessions, discussions and other types of activities across European projects, initiatives and platforms, required extensive preparations. These are discussed in [Section 3.1.2](#) in this report.

+CityxChange furthermore participated in joint preparations for Mission Papers on Systemic Change of Governance as well as Financing & Funding, and the start of the work towards developing the State of European Smart Cities.

## 2.3 SCC BoC Task Groups

### 2.3.1 Task Group Replication

As summarised in previous deliverables in this series, the Replication Task Group (TG) aims to accelerate scaling up and replication of SCC projects, solutions and processes. In order to achieve this, the TG facilitates knowledge sharing on replication activities among the SCC projects, including commonly used roadmaps, toolkits and assessment techniques. In addition, the TG promotes cooperation among SCC projects to jointly overcome challenges and barriers, and to promote drivers for replication.

R2M is co-chair of the TG Replication on behalf of +CityxChange. During this reporting period, TG Replication has prepared the strategic roadmap for 2023. In this period TG Replication has organised two online meetings, from which one was organised together with the City Coordinators Group. The focus of the meetings was on sharing results of the research on systemic change in governance, financial instruments for financing smart city solutions, and the experiences of the sister SCC projects on replication. +CityxChange Fellow City Sestao shared their experiences with the European Energy Efficiency Fund. The result of the research and experiences of the other projects was a valuable input for shaping the replication strategies within +CityxChange and the definition of the replication profiles and interconnection of the Demonstration Projects.

### 2.3.2 Task Group Communication

ISOCARP continues to participate in the TG Communication on behalf of +CityxChange. This provides added value to +CityxChange in the form of coordination and joint approach with Scalable Cities and the SCC projects for events, the sharing of invitations to webinars and



similar events, coverage in newsletters of other SCC projects, resharing posts on social media, answering questions for new projects, and joining forces to improve overall impact presentation.

During this reporting period M43-M48, the TG Communication has focused primarily on the organisation of the Smart City World Expo in Barcelona in November 2022 (see [Section 3.1.2](#)). We have also been coordinating the planning for a joint campaign about citizen engagement for 2023, focusing on the processes and impacts of solutions and the way SCC projects are working in their cities.

### 2.3.3 Task Group Monitoring

+CityxChange participates in the Task Group on Monitoring. The Task Group facilitates the cross-project collaboration on monitoring and evaluation, aiming to improve and share:

- Common understanding on the scope and meaning of monitoring and evaluation, scope, evaluation boundaries, and monitoring protocols for quantitative as well as qualitative project outcomes; developing social evaluation methods; addressing common practical M&E issues and common methodological evaluation issues;
- Mapping of Key Performance Indicators used across projects, aiming to harmonise them for better cross-project comparison and learning, and to identify gaps for new KPIs to be developed (e.g., related to Positive Energy Districts, qualitative outcomes, environmental, financial and societal KPIs);
- Facilitate reporting to the Smart Cities Information System (SCIS) of the Smart Cities Marketplace (formerly known as EIP SCC European Innovation Partnership on Smart Cities and Communities), including discussion of appropriate data boundaries and scoping for reporting, as well as methodological differences, to find a common reporting approach for comparable results.

During M43-M48 WP7/KPMG FA presented on the Quantitative and Qualitative Data Framework in +CityxChange in May 2022 which involved a description of:

- The Aims and Objectives of Evaluation in +CityxChange,
- Quantitative and Qualitative Data Framework in +CityxChange,
- Quantitative M&E in +CityxChange and
- the M&E Reporting Tool (MERT).

This prompted discussion on the benefits of including qualitative assessment in different formats. Within the wider SCC Monitoring & Evaluation Task group, WP7 learned valuable lessons in regards to the activities of the other M&E partners across the projects. There was valuable insight into the monitoring of e-mobility (Project Stardust) and the alignment with SDGs (Project Smarter Together) in June 2022. In the October 2022 meeting, WP7 attended presentations on platform and baselining (SPARCs project), led by their Suite5 partners, and the IRIS project on their approach to KPI tool data collection and visualisation.

### 2.3.4 City Coordinators Group

The City Coordinators Group (CCG) connects the City Coordinators of Lighthouse and Fellow Cities across SCC projects, to exchange experiences and develop new cooperations. The CCG cooperates closely with TG Replication, and is responsible for 2 main objectives: sharing replication experience of Fellow Cities, and dissemination of replication approaches and experiences.

Alba Iulia, Limerick, and R2M as replication lead often participate here.

+CityxChange participated in the online event *City Coordinators Group Session on Funding Opportunities & Partnership Building* organised by the City Coordinators Group on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The event was divided into two parts: Presentation of funding opportunities where several calls were presented and Networking and Partnership building (Matchmaking) in breakout sessions. During the first part, Sofia Corsi, CCG coordinator, presented four upcoming Horizon calls relevant for CCG cities which mainly focused on:

- Governance for systematic transformations towards climate resilience.
- Positive Energy Districts.
- Digital Twins.
- Digital solutions for participative design, planning and management of cities.

Kathy Berger, Driving Urban Transitions Partnership representative, presented the DUT Call 2022 that was open for pre-proposal submissions with a budget of 70 million EUR. The call mainly focused on supporting transnational research and/ or innovation projects by addressing urban challenges which will ultimately help cities in their transition towards economic sustainability. Those urban challenges were categorised into three themes, also known as Transition Pathways: Positive Energy Districts (PED), the 15-Minute City (15mC) and Circular Urban Economies (CUE)<sup>1</sup>.

Furthermore, Emérence Nouhaud, Energy Cities, presented the upcoming URBACT IV call opening on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023. In order to be eligible to be funded, the activities must address the URBACT cross-cutting themes: green, gender, digital.

The second part of the meeting was dedicated to partnership building and matchmaking. The matchmaking session for Scalable Cities City Coordinators Group was divided into four breakout rooms: Innovative Governance, Citizen engagement & participation, Decarbonization of buildings & districts, and Community energy & Renewables. Each breakout room addressed the topics along, the following questions:

- The challenges faced by each organisation
- City's contributions
- Any project ideas the city has
- Partners/expertise required by your city to address these topics and possibly develop a project.

---

<sup>1</sup> [Driving Urban Transitions to a Sustainable Future-DUT 2022 Call Opening and Info Days | Ufuk Avrupa](#)

One of the major outcomes of the session was that a template was created and circulated to collect project ideas from the interested participants. The participants filled out their project ideas clearly indicating partners that they are looking for, helping them find good partners for future project applications and collaborations.

### 2.3.5 BM&F Enlarged Task Force

The Business Model & Finance group has received contributions from +CityxChange mostly through the participation in the development of the #3rd Mission oriented Paper on How to Fund and Finance Climate Neutral Cities. This was done in some group meetings or separate calls organised by the Scalable Cities secretariat dedicated to the development. The paper combines experiences of the different projects on ways to ensure financing of solutions, anchor it within municipalities, and find complementary forms of assessing value.

## 2.4 Cooperation with the Smart Cities Marketplace

NTNU (WP9) and R2M (WP8) cooperate with the Smart Cities Marketplace (SCM) to identify opportunities for +CityxChange partners to cooperate on topical Action Clusters and Initiatives, masterclasses, matchmaking, cities-meet-investors meetings and similar activities organised by SCM.

The City of Sestao benefited from the matchmaking activities of +CityxChange and SCM, as summarised in this success story featured by SCM:

“The city of Sestao, in Spain, has signed a contract with the European Energy Efficiency Fund (EEEF), making official the entering into the EEEF’s Technical Assistance (TA) program. The initial contact between the two was a result of the Smart Cities Marketplace Matchmaking activities. As part of its involvement within the H2020 +CityxChange project, in which it is working towards developing Positive Energy Blocks in the city, it submitted a concept note during a Smart Cities Marketplace call for projects to participate in one of its events. The European Energy Efficiency Fund (EEEF) is financing about € 195.000 to study the technical, economic, and legal viability of these city improvements and help prepare the public tenders under an ESCO model that will be released in the Spring of 2023 for an estimated investment of € 13.7 million. It is, conservatively estimated, that this project will contribute to reducing 2.4% of Sestao’s CO2 emission (not accounting for the emissions from the industrial sector) and be the equivalent of having 647 citizens of Sestao living completely carbon neutral.”<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> [Sestao Goes Matchmaking | Smart Cities Marketplace \(europa.eu\), https://smart-cities-marketplace.ec.europa.eu/node/3674](https://smart-cities-marketplace.ec.europa.eu/node/3674)

## 3. Meetings and Events

### 3.1 Cooperative events organised by the SCCs and Scalable Cities

+CityxChange actively participates in the cooperative events organised by the SCC projects and Scalable Cities and also contributes actively in organising the Smart City Expo World Congress (SCEWC) .

#### 3.1.1 Scalable Cities community event: From Solutions to System Change – Utrecht (1-2 June 2022)

The Scalable Cities community event “Moving from solutions to system change” was hosted by the IRIS Smart Cities project on the 1st and 2nd of June in Utrecht in cooperation with Scalable Cities and the SCC projects. The first day was dedicated to the theme “From solutions to System Change”. The attendees had plenty of opportunities to interact with each other, share their success stories and discuss potential collaborations with local and international partners. In addition to this, there was a session dedicated to the official launch of Scalable Cities Mission Paper: *Systemic changes in governance structures of local authorities to facilitate the transition towards climate-neutral Cities*. The objective of the paper was to help cities in their journeys towards becoming climate-neutral, building on the lessons learned in systemic changes of governance from the Lighthouse and Fellow Cities of the Smart Cities and Communities projects. The main learnings on systemic changes in governance in the Lighthouse and Fellow cities program were highlighted during the session. Furthermore, there were several interesting sessions on Flexible electricity grids, Intelligent mobility solutions, Digital twins, Citizen engagement and co-creation, Innovation Governance, etc.

The second day was mainly focused on Coordination and collaboration meetings, site visits in Utrecht, City Coordinators Group Proposal Funding Matchmaking Session and Scalable Cities community strategic working sessions. The breakout sessions: “Joint actions of the Scalable Cities community” were organised for the Board of Coordinators and Task Groups. During the break-out sessions each group (BoC and TGs) defined their specific contributions and actions in the upcoming 12 months. +CityxChange participated in the breakout groups and moderated the breakout session on Urban Data Platforms and Digital Twins together with city and project representatives.

The participation of +CityxChange in the Scalable Cities event in Utrecht was an opportunity to compare and discuss the most recent accomplishments on the systemic changes needed for the transition for climate neutrality and to get an overview of the smart city landscape, which has become very complex and fragmented. Furthermore, it also helped to know better which initiative to link best and to become more aware of the importance of

+CxC's Bold City Vision as a guiding star and the importance, and difficulty, of transferring results of PED pilot/innovation projects to mainstream policies and business.

This was also the first large-scale physical SCC event after the pandemic, and it was used as a very good networking event, to connect to old and new project members of the SCC family and to discuss future collaboration.

### 3.1.2 Preparations towards Smart City Expo Barcelona (15-17 November 2022)

The Smart City Expo World Congress (SCEWC) will take place from 15-17 November 2022 in Barcelona, Spain. The expo is one of the biggest combined expos and conferences in the world where cities and industries are gathered with high-level speakers and decision-makers. The event provides opportunities to demonstrate all the joint efforts in the smart city and urban context mainly supported by the European Commission as well as the outcomes of all the collaborative approaches across European smart city initiatives and platforms. There will be high-level keynote speakers, matchmaking activities and workshops around specific challenges hosted by a variety of international public and private partners.

Since this was the biggest on-site event planned post-COVID, very extensive planning, preparations and meetings took place in this reporting period. The main concept for the 2022 presence at SCEWC was the joint participation of EU level initiatives under a single joint umbrella - European Smart Cities and Communities. +CityxChange participated in the coordination meetings in order to support the development of joint structures, high level speakers and panels for the agora sessions and booth sessions, and corresponding budgets. Regular meetings were conducted every two weeks to finalise open issues and to fine-tune all the feedback and input.

The Expo will take place in the period M49-M54, and will therefore be described in detail in the next deliverable D9.23 Report on attendance at events held by other SCC-01 co-ordinators 9.

### 3.1.3 SmartEnCity – Towards Smart Zero CO<sub>2</sub> Cities across Europe (14-15 June, Vitoria)

SmartEnCity was an SCC1 project funded under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. The project organised its final conference on 14-15 June 2022 in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain<sup>3</sup>. The project results and their experiences were shared by SmartEnCity. The two-day event was full of networking opportunities, interactive sessions and plenary discussions.

+CityxChange participated in the conference and site visits. A presentation was held as part of a session on sister project experiences on "*+CityxChange: City and Project Scales of Climate-Neutral transitions*". Furthermore, +CityxChange was engaged in a panel discussion

---

<sup>3</sup> [Single / SmartEnCity.eu](https://single.smartencity.eu)

on *"Planning the journey towards smart and climate neutral cities"* with other projects and experts, including from the Cities4PEDs project presenting their methodology.

### **3.1.4 mySMARTLife Final Conference: Smart People - Smart Economy - Smart Cities (14 - 15 September 2022, Hamburg)**

mySMARTLife was finalised at the end of September 2022 after a 2-year extension, and set its final conference in its Lighthouse City Hamburg<sup>4</sup>. The programme included presentations on interventions, results, and lessons learned from its Lighthouse Cities Nantes, Helsinki, and Hamburg, as well as site visits in Hamburg. Main topics were transition processes, data platforms, electric mobility, citizen engagement, building measures. The conference focused on knowledge transfer specifically with the representatives of the mySMARTLife Cities Network. +CityxChange through NTNU participated online in the hybrid sessions.

## **3.2 Other meetings and events**

+CityxChange actively participates in several conferences and other types of meetings and events related to Positive Energy Districts and Climate-Neutral Cities organised by +CityxChange partners, to share project experiences and results and learn from others.

### **3.2.1 58th ISOCARP Congress (5 October 2022, Brussels)**

At the 58th ISOCARP World Planning Congress (3-6 October 2022), ISOCARP institute organised a special session on *"Pathways from Positive Energy Districts to Climate Neutral Cities"*<sup>5</sup>. +CityxChange and ATELIER presented their approaches in this joint session. During the presentations, there were discussions on innovation management and stakeholder engagement, and how to scale up PEBs to achieve multi-level impact. The session also delved into the implications of the energy transition related to EU-funded research and innovation projects. By drawing on the experiences and learnings gained from +CityxChange and ATELIER, as well as the larger ecosystem of city-led European Smart Cities and Communities Lighthouse projects (SCC / Scalable Cities), challenges and opportunities for building carbon neutral cities using inclusive, inhabitants-centered approaches were discussed.

The +CityxChange presentation focused on pathways to decarbonization, exploring how to facilitate effective knowledge transfer and alignment of project results, and the role of new initiatives in the current innovation ecosystem, including Scalable Cities, European Mission on Climate Neutral and Smart Cities, New European Bauhaus and/or NetZeroCities. The ATELIER presentation explored how innovation occurs within the project, discussing Positive Energy District (PED) innovations and the role of co-creation and stakeholder

---

<sup>4</sup><https://mysmartlife.eu/news/mysmartlife-news-article/news/mysmartlife-celebrated-its-successful-ending-in-hamburg/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://cityxchange.eu/cityxchange-presented-at-58th-isocarp-world-planning-congress/>

involvement. The session ended with a discussion on co-creation when building PEDs in which we examined the form that this may take and the value of co-creating solutions.

+CityxChange further presented a Case Study on Systemic City Transformations through Positive Energy Districts<sup>6</sup>. The presentation introduced the +CityxChange approach to the localised energy transition, with a specific focus on the development and role of Bold City Visions in identifying key opportunities for action.

The event was a networking opportunity and a chance to reach urban planning professionals and communicate some of our results with an audience of experts.<sup>7</sup>

### 3.2.2 Sustainable Places 2022 conference (6-9 September 2022)

Sustainable Places is a yearly conference<sup>8</sup> organised by R2M on EU research around sustainability and the built environment. As in previous years, a number of SCC1 projects have come together to set up collaborative sessions between their projects on shared topics, out of the ongoing collaboration.

#### 3.2.2.1 Workshop: Energy citizenship: Must or myth? The impact of citizen participation on local energy systems (8 September 2022)

The workshop<sup>9</sup> was jointly organised by the projects ATELIER, +CityxChange, MakingCity, POCITYF, ENERGE and Bright, with the first 4 being SCC1 projects. It aimed at presenting and discussing the methods, strategies and expected impacts for citizen engagement applied in seven different research and innovation projects in the area of Positive Energy Districts. The workshop presented the different citizen engagement frameworks, models and strategies, their impact and lessons learned, and explored how important citizen engagement really is for the success of new energy concepts. Also discussed was the question of how to assess and compare the impact of citizen engagement strategies across projects. UL and NTNU from +CityxChange contributed with a presentation on “CommunityxChange as a toolkit for empowered energy citizenship – The +CityxChange approach”.

#### 3.2.2.2 Workshop: Innovative Solutions Supporting Cities’ Transition (8 September 2022)

H2020 projects MAKING-CITY, +CityxChange, RESPONSE, URBANAGE and IRIS contributed to this R2M-organised workshop<sup>10</sup>. They shared developed tools, models and solutions that can help cities accelerate their green and digital transformation. This workshop gathered several of them to present some of their key results supporting the development of more sustainable, inclusive, smarter and greener cities. UL and NTNU represented +CityxChange

---

<sup>6</sup> <https://cityxchange.eu/cityxchange-presented-at-58th-isocarp-world-planning-congress/>

<sup>7</sup> [+CityxChange presented at 58th ISOCARP World Planning Congress - +CityxChange](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Sustainable Places 2022 \(europa.eu\)](https://sustainableplaces.eu/)

<sup>9</sup> <https://cityxchange.eu/cityxchange-participates-in-sustainable-places-2022-in-nice/>

<https://www.sustainableplaces.eu/energy-citizenship-in-new-energy-concepts-2/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.sustainableplaces.eu/innovative-solution-smart-cities/>



in the workshop and gave a presentation on the topic “Innovation Playgrounds: How cities can create the conditions for collaboration and clean energy innovation”.

IES was also present and gave a separate presentation on their digital twin solution applied to Limerick.

### 3.2.3 Positive Energy Districts Conference (23-24 June 2022, Amsterdam)

In June, NTNU participated in the Positive Energy Districts Conference of the PED-EU-NET COST Action CA19126 in Amsterdam<sup>11</sup>, and also participated in a session on PED characteristics and definitions. The session was also joined by other SCC projects, IEA EBC Annex 63, and JPI UE; the ongoing definition process was also briefly shared.

Within this period, NTNU participated in the ongoing efforts of the definition group.

As a scientific contribution, NTNU could also share a separate paper detailing the early development of the PEB term and the operational definition of PEBs/PEDs used in the +CityxChange implementations, which was published in June 2022.<sup>12</sup>

---

<sup>11</sup> [PED Conference in Amsterdam, June 2022 – PED-EU-NET | COST ACTION CA19126 \(pedeu.net\)](#)

<sup>12</sup> *The Sense and Non-Sense of PEDs—Feeding Back Practical Experiences of Positive Energy District Demonstrators into the European PED Framework Definition Development Process*. Han Vandevyvere, Dirk Ahlers, Annemie Wyckmans. *Energies*, 15(12), 4491. 2022. <https://doi.org/10.3390/en15124491>



## 4 Conclusions

During months 43-48 of the +CityxChange project, we have continued to reinforce our interactions with other SCC projects, Scalable Cities and the Smart Cities Marketplace. In addition, we have engaged more prominently in activities towards the EU Cities Mission, the NetZeroCities Mission Platform and the New European Bauhaus initiative.

The opportunity to connect with other lighthouse demonstrators and to exchange experiences on processes, technologies, regulatory challenges and other learnings, and to convey these towards decision makers at national and European level, is invaluable. We have therefore taken on several active and coordinating roles towards other projects and platforms, to help accelerate the development and dissemination of these cross-cutting insights.