



Climate-KIC



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Press release

## New European competition launched to find innovative solutions for greener cities

**“IoT for Greener Cities” is a new challenge launched as an initiative of the Young Global Leaders of the World Economic Forum. It targets finding and developing cutting edge technologies, based on the Internet of Things and other IT innovations, which could be easily introduced in our homes, buildings and cities to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and improve local air quality.**

The competition is open to any small team with an idea that they think can be scaled up to help decarbonise and improve cities’ environmental footprint. After a voting stage, up to 15 finalists will receive six weeks of mentoring from experts to overcome technical or business related challenges. The finalists will then have the opportunity to present their idea to a jury of experts from a range of European companies and public stakeholders, including the European Union and the World Economic Forum, with the winning team in each category receiving 6 months of further technical support, visibility within the partners networks and €10,000 worth of prizes.

The competition follows the success of the first “Decarbonathon” competition that saw 230 teams from all over the world compete in the wake of the Paris climate change negotiations, COP 21, to find promising new ways of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. *The winners received significant support to help scale up their innovation.*

The “IoT for Greener Cities” new challenge is looking for IT-based innovations that particularly utilise the potential of the ‘Internet of Things’ (IoT): the emerging area that makes use of interconnected smart devices to better understand and tackle challenges such as climate change. The competition comprises of three categories: smart solutions for households, smart solutions for energy-efficient buildings, and sustainable mobility in an urban environment.

In addition to the Young Global Leaders of the World Economic Forum, the competition is facilitated by ENGIE, the Centre for Carbon Measurement of the UK National Physical Laboratory, Climate-KIC, and Energy Ville - a European Research centre focusing on energy-efficient buildings and intelligent networks for a sustainable urban environment.

The partners will provide support and mentoring for applicants, to help design and speed up the commercialisation of these new solutions. The main phases of the competition are:

- Online registration of the teams until March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017.
- Selection and publication of the best 15 ideas on April 4<sup>th</sup>.
- A 2 day event in Brussels on 15 May for the finalists to prepare their pitch to be presented to the jury on May 16<sup>th</sup> and followed by the announcement of the winners.

Isabelle Kocher, ENGIE CEO, says: *“With our partners we are fully committed to support for a second year this global world initiative of the Young Global Leaders. Within ENGIE we believe in a 3D revolution of the world of energy, being more decentralized, decarbonized and digitalized. In this regard, new data based solutions and IoT will trigger a better use of energy with a positive impact on the environment.”*



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For more information and to join the competition, please visit: [www.iot-greener-cities.org](http://www.iot-greener-cities.org), and follow the Twitter account: [@loT4GreenCities](https://twitter.com/loT4GreenCities).

### **About ENGIE**

*ENGIE develops its businesses (power, natural gas, energy services) around a model based on responsible growth to take on the major challenges of energy's transition to a low-carbon economy: access to sustainable energy, climate-change mitigation and adaptation and the rational use of resources. The Group provides individuals, cities and businesses with highly efficient and innovative solutions largely based on its expertise in four key sectors: renewable energy, energy efficiency, liquefied natural gas and digital technology. ENGIE employs 154,950 people worldwide and achieved revenues of €69.9 billion in 2015. The Group is listed on the Paris and Brussels stock exchanges (ENGI) and is represented in the main international indices: CAC 40, BEL 20, DJ Euro Stoxx 50, Euronext 100, FTSE Eurotop 100, MSCI Europe, DJSI World, DJSI Europe and Euronext Vigeo (World 120, Eurozone 120, Europe 120 and France 20).*

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[ENGIEgroup](#)

### **About Climate-KIC**

*Climate-KIC is the EU's largest public private partnership addressing climate change through innovation to build a zero carbon economy.*

*They address climate change across four priority themes: urban areas, land use, production systems, climate metrics and finance. Education is at the heart of these themes to inspire and empower the next generation of climate leaders.*

*They run programmes for students, start-ups and innovators across Europe via centres in major cities, convening a community of the best people and organisations.*

*Their approach starts with improving the way people live in cities. Their focus on industry creates the products required for a better living environment, and they look to optimise land use to produce the food people need.*

*Climate-KIC is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT), a body of the European Union.*

[www.climate-kic.org](http://www.climate-kic.org)



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### **About the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) and its Centre for Carbon Measurement**

*The National Physical Laboratory (NPL) is the UK's National Measurement Institute and a world-leading centre of excellence in developing and applying the most accurate measurement standards, science and technology available. NPL delivers world-leading measurement solutions that are critical to commercial research and development, and support business success across the UK and the globe.*

<http://www.npl.co.uk/>

*The Centre for Carbon Measurement at NPL reduces uncertainties in climate data, provides the robust measurement that is required to account for, price and trade carbon emissions and helps develop and accelerate the take up of low carbon technologies.*

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### **About EnergyVille**

*EnergyVille is an association of the Flemish research institutes KU Leuven, VITO, imec and UHasselt in the field of sustainable energy and intelligent energy systems. Our researchers provide expertise to industry and public authorities on energy-efficient buildings and intelligent networks for a sustainable urban environment. This includes, for example, smart grids and advanced district heating and cooling.*

*One of the objectives of EnergyVille is to become one of the top five European institutes in innovative energy research. In this context, the center was embedded in major national and international networks right from the start. It covers research, development, training and innovative industrial activities under one name and in close collaboration with local, regional and international partners.*

*EnergyVille aims to be a driver in the Thor science park in Genk in the areas of research, business development and employment creation. The research center is supported by the city of Genk, the Flemish Government, The Province of Limburg, LRM, Nuhma, POM Limburg and the European structural funds.*

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### **About the Forum of Young Global Leaders**

*Established by Professor Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum, in 2004, the Forum of Young Global Leaders is a unique, multistakeholder community of more than 900 exceptional young leaders. Bold, brave, action-oriented and entrepreneurial, these individuals commit both their time and talent to make the world a better place. Every year, the Forum honours about 200 outstanding young leaders from around the world for their professional accomplishments, commitment to society and potential to contribute to shaping the future of the world.*

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