

PRESS RELEASE

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Blueprints for Smart Cities of Tomorrow AIT takes energy efficiency to a new level with SURECITY

What do Malmö in Sweden, Almada in Portugal and Judenburg in Styria have in common? They are key study cases of the SURECITY project, which is coordinated and implemented by the AIT Austrian Institute of Technology together with international partners. The aim is to use simulations to significantly reduce the energy consumption of European cities in the medium and long term.

AIT and its partners collect energy-relevant data from the housing, mobility and industry sectors. The SURECITY program can then evaluate the use of new technologies with a cost-benefit analysis tailored to different cities, communities and regions. Different scenarios with stakeholders such as utilities, transport companies and city planners are played through and environmental consequences are predicted. Specifically, the effects are simulated with the Environmental Assessment Model and the areas of air, water and land use are considered holistically. Cities thus receive a tool for simulating and reflecting energy policy decisions.

Complex models deployed and visualized on the SURECITY platform and accessible to all stakeholders help transform Europe's energy future, for example, in the Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy, the world's largest climate and energy initiative for cities.

Blueprints for Europe

According to AIT project leader Nicolas Pardo-Garcia, Malmö, Almada and Judenburg represent very different European cities in terms of size and geographical location: "The three twin cities are ideal for smaller to medium-sized cities in northern, central and southern Europe. They map the necessary bandwidth to be meaningful and comparable to others. "

The AIT Austrian Institute of Technology plays a key role at SURECITY. Experts in the Center for Energy coordinate the project on an international level, are responsible for the cooperation with the partners in Austria and assist with the collection and analysis of data in order to extrapolate savings models. In Judenburg the test phase starts in March. Significant results are expected by the end of the year, providing blueprints for many European cities.

Implement goals

Climate change, air quality and energy security as well as the switch to renewable energies are the big challenges of the coming years - worldwide, but also in Europe. The SURECITY project will help cities to reduce energy use by 10 to 40 percent in the medium term to 2030 and 2050 in the long term, to increase the use of renewable energy by 20 to 40 percent and to reduce air pollution by 20 to 50 percent, as well as fossil fuels Fuel by 10 to 50 percent - based on the 2010 comparative figures.

SURECITY was developed by consortia of the three project countries Portugal, Sweden and Austria. In addition to the AIT and the three model cities, the project partners are the Styrian Energy Agency, the Swedish Environmental Research Institute (IVL), the LTU - Luleå Technical University and 3Drivers and the CENSE Center for Environmental and Sustainability Research, NOVA University Lisbon.

At the AIT Center for Energy, around 220 employees, led by Brigitte Bach, are researching solutions for the sustainable energy supply of tomorrow. Many years of experience and scientific excellence of the AIT experts as well as high-quality laboratory infrastructure and worldwide networking offer companies innovative and

applied research services and thus a clear competitive advantage in this future market. The thematic portfolio of the Center for Energy is based on three central systems: sustainable energy infrastructure, decarbonisation of industrial processes and plants as well as innovative technologies and solutions for urban transformation (buildings, cities).

Further inquiry note:

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