Moving from solutions to systems change

1-2 June 2022, Utrecht, The Netherlands

FINAL PROGRAMME

Wednesday 1st of June. Scalable Cities community event: From Solutions to System Change. Location: TivoliVredenburg, Utrecht

[Register | Scalable Cities community event](#)

Welcome and kick-off of the conference	
9.30-9.45	**Official Welcome to the city of Utrecht** by **Lot van Hooijdonk** (deputy mayor for Energy, Mobility and Green Spaces of the city of Utrecht) Energy transition at the human scale.
9.45-10.00	**Opening of the Scalable Cities community event "Moving from Solutions to System Change"** by **Eddy Adams** (EAC and Moderator of the day)

Plenary introductions of smart city narratives: from solutions to systems change	
Our event aims to disclose and find hidden factors for success based on exemplary stories from our Lighthouse communities. The inspirational examples in this morning session will be explored in detail by all participants in the breakout sessions in the afternoon Smart City Sherlock format.	
10.00-11.00	**Transition Track #1: Towards Positive Energy Districts "WarmteStad: from market rule to public-owned district heating company"** by **Theo Venema** (Warmtestad, Projectmanager business development) Heating networks in NL are mostly market-driven and currently under heavy debate going forward. In this story we explore a novel solution in Groningen (the Netherlands) where the local authorities took some brave decisions and through accidental happenings created a great result.
	Transition Track #2: Human Factors in retrofitting projects by **David Grisaleña Rodríguez** (VISESA, Innovation and Sustainability) Accelerating the renovation wave is one of the key challenges in the urban climate transition. The design, planning and execution of retrofitting projects are often not bounded by technical innovations but the engagement of tenants and citizens. During

	this sessions experiences from the Basque country on human factors in retrofitting projects are shared.
	Transition Track #3: Flexible Electricity Grids "Utrecht V2G Ecosystem: from an innovators backyard to a city-wide bidirectional energy system" by **Robin Berg** (SME We Drive Solar, CEO) This is a story of a man with a visionary idea to store PV electricity in his electric car battery. Through a series of seemingly haphazard events and actions, this man's idea developed into a widely adopted and rapidly expanding vehicle to grid eco system, putting Utrecht at the forefront of V2G developments. How did this happen? A story of accidental encounters, perseverance, and bravery.
11.00-11.30	**BREAK**
11.30-12.15	**Transition Track #4 Urban Data Platforms and Digital Twins: "a glimpse of the future"** by **Jens Bartholmes** (European Commission DG ENER, Policy Officer) and by **Roland van der Heijden** (City of Rotterdam, Program Manager Digital City) Developing smart city platforms have met challenges; such as unwillingness to share data, developing new business models among others. Digital Twins are carried on wave of enthusiasm; how are these related? What problem does it solve? What opportunities does it provide for urban systems?
	Transition Track #5 Citizen Engagement and co-creation "What if we bring social design into the mix?" by **Ragnhild Scheifes** (SME Sustainable Thinking, anthropologist) Citizen engagement is probably the most challenging aspect of the Lighthouse endeavors. How to find the right balance between bottom-up and top-down, or the best compromise between technology-centered versus human centered approaches. How to shorten the learning curve for local authorities, citizens and their stakeholders?
	Transition Track #6: Innovation Governance "the role of innovation brokers in smart city innovation ecosystems: stories from the field" by **Carolien van Hemel** (Rijkswaterstaat Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, Principle advisor Sustainable Environment) The role of Innovation brokers in building up smart city innovation ecosystems cannot be underestimated. What is the secret of their success? What strategies do they employ to push the cities limits of innovation capacity? What are their secret tricks and tips?
Morning wrap-up	
12.15-12.30	**Wrap-up and introduction to break-out sessions "Smart City Sherlock"** by **Eddy Adams** (EAC and Moderator of the day) In the breakout sessions we use our Smart City Sherlock format to involve every participant in the search for hidden success factors of the morning stories. Each participant will receive an assignment to look through one of five different lenses and question the speakers and experts narrating the stories in order to find the hidden clues and patterns to success. Each breakout will formulate concrete actions to improve the chance of these hidden success factors occurring in their own city. All results will be brought to the final panel discussion.
12.30-13.30	**INFORMAL LUNCH at Park 6, TivoliVredenburg**

14.00-15.30	**Breakout tracks "Smart City Sherlock: in search of untold stories, triggers, right conditions and success factors for moving from solutions to system change"** Following up on the keynote stories of the morning attendees can select one of the following break-out tracks where next to the morning keynote speaker additional break-out speaker will introduce the session. **Transition Track #1: Towards Positive Energy Districts**. Keynote: **Theo Venema** (Warmtestad Projectmanager business development) Reflector: **Jasper Tonen** (Groningen, Lighthouse Manager Making-City) **Transition Track #2: Human Factors in retrofitting projects**: Keynote: **David Grisaleña Rodríguez** (VISESA, Innovation and Sustainability) Reflector: **Martijn Broekman** (Bo-Ex Housing Cooperation, Project Manager) **Transition Track #3: Flexible Electricity Grids & V2G ecosystems** Keynote: **Robin Berg** (SME We Drive Solar, CEO) Reflector: **Matthijs Kok** (City of Utrecht, Sr. Policy Advisor Electric Mobility) **Transition Track #4 Urban Data Platforms and Digital Twins** Keynote: **Roland van der Heijden** (Rotterdam, Program Manager Digital City) Reflector: **Lydia Stulen** (Utrecht, Advisor Digital Innovation) **Transition Track #5 Citizen Engagement, co-creation and social design** Keynote: **Ragnhild Scheifes** (SME Sustainable Thinking, anthropologist) Reflector: **Willem-Jan Renger** (HKU University of the Arts Utrecht, designer) **Transition Track #6: Innovation Governance and innovation brokers** Keynote: **Carolien van Hemel** (Rijkswaterstaat Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management, Principle advisor Sustainable Environment) Reflector: **Eva Pavic** (Johanneberg Science Park, Lighthouse Manager IRIS Smart Cities)
15.30-16.00	**BREAK**
16.00-17.00	**Scalable Cities Golden Nuggets session** In this plenary session we will bring together the most inspiring outcomes of the breakout sessions as vital components of a new revised narrative for moving from solution demonstration towards system change.
End of conference day 1	
18.00-19.30	**Informal drinks** (offered by the city of Utrecht) in the city center at Restaurant and Brewery Oudaen.
19.30-22.00	**Informal dinner and drinks** (offered by the city of Utrecht) to conference attendees in the city center at Restaurant Oudaen

Thursday 2nd of June. Scalable Cities community event: coordination and collaboration meetings. Location: Stadskantoor, Utrecht ([link](#)).

Site visits to Utrecht projects and areas	
9.00-11.00	1. **Utrecht Lighthouse demo: Bidirectional Charging Energy system:** guided bike ride through highlights of the bidirectional charging ecosystem visiting bidirectional charging infrastructures, V2G-shared car systems and stationary batteries in the Utrecht Lighthouse district Kanaleneiland, functioning together as a Virtual Powerplant. 2. **Urban densification and multi-modal mobility**: a guided walk through the inner-city densification projects Beurskwartier and the largest multi-modal hub of the Netherlands visiting underground bicycle parking for more than 25 000 bicycles, public transport facilities and surrounding urban development projects. 3. **First high-rise retrofitted Positive Energy Building**: participants will visit by bike the Henriëttedreef apartment building. In 2021 this 10-story high social housing block was renovated towards a Positive Energy Building with an electricity surplus to the grid. During the tour participants will be able to visit the building. 4. **Utrecht Lighthouse demo: Inclusive energy transition – co-creation with citizen**: many smart city projects face challenges in the mismatch between citizen needs and smart city solutions. We need to shift our thinking and start with the citizen. Design approaches give us a tool. During this guided walk through the Lighthouse demo district Kanaleneiland we will learn and discuss how to connect with citizens and co-create future districts together. ***All participants will be back at Stadskantoor at 11.00 for the program***
11.00-12.30	**Matchmaking session City Coordinators Group and interested participants**
11.00-11.20	**Introduction** (Elina Sergejeva, SSC) & **1 minute project proposal pitches**
11.20-12.05	**Matchmaking per proposal pitch in different break-out rooms:** 1. **PITCH 1 – City of Alexandroupolis** Energy efficient and sustainable maintenance of cultural heritage buildings 2. **PITCH 2 – City of Alexandroupolis** Near zero energy neighbourhoods 3. **PITCH 3 – City of Utrecht** Circular built environment. Recycled, reused and bio-based materials and digital solutions for circularity. 4. **PITCH 4 – The Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT)** Digital Resilient Cities. Energy and Disaster Resilience. 5. **Additional parallel session: Open format matchmaking for any project idea**
12.10-12.20	**Presentation of the Scalable Cities Action grant and EUCF upcoming Call for Applications** (Elina Sergejeva, SSC)
12.20-12.30	**Q&A and closure**

Time	Content
11.00-12.30	**Dutch Scalable Cities Roadshow preparation session** (closed) Session for the Dutch cities to collect feedback on upcoming "roadshow NL event". A brokerage process to assisting cities (and other stakeholders) in shaping projects (how to structure the projects, how to build the financial plans, how to deal with the proper funding options).
12.30-13.30	**LUNCH BREAK**
13.30-14.00	**Scalable Cities Mission Paper:** *Systemic changes in governance structure of local authorities to facilitate the transition towards climate neutral cities.* **Intermediate Results.** The objective of the paper is to help cities on the mission to become climate neutral to benefit from the lessons learned in systemic changes of governance from the Lighthouse and Fellow cities program. We will highlight the main learnings on systemic changes in governance in the Lighthouse and Fellow cities program.
14.00-17.00	**Strategic working session for the Scalable Cities Community**
	During this strategic working session we will discuss and define the contribution of the Scalable Cities community and the joint strategy for the Scalable Cities community in the upcoming period.
14.00-14.30	**Joint session for Scalable Cities Community members.** How do we deepen, scale up and replicate our successes in city transition towards the cities joining the Mission for 100 Climate Neutral Cities The session will focus on creating lasting impacts of the successful Scalable Cities solutions demonstrated. How can the Scalable Cities Community can enhance it's added value in the changing European context? The Scalable Cities Secretariat will host an interactive discussion on its services, joint objectives and opportunities.
14.30-15.00	**BREAK**
15.00-16.30	**World Cafés for Scalable Cities Community members.** During the world café participants will rotate through the following stations discussing the progress and next steps of the different Board of Coordinator and Task Groups • Strengthening our collaboration & coordination processes (Moderation: **Roel Massink, Enersto Faubel, Maxime Valentin & Philippe Fournand**) • Branding Scalable Cities Communities (Moderation: **Esben Pejstrup & Regine**) • Monitoring & evaluating our results (Moderation: **Aapo Huovila & Ghazal Etminan**) • Funding & financing our solutions & projects (Moderation: **Angelo Giordano**)
16.30-17.00	**Joint strategy and wrap-up of the meeting** In the final wrap-up we will bring together the actions and combine it into a joint action plan for the Scalable Cities community in the upcoming period.
End of conference day 2	