



european post-carbon
cities of tomorrow

D8.3 PROCEEDINGS OF THE FINAL CONFERENCE

“POST-CARBON CITIES OF TOMORROW –
BUILDING AN URBAN LONG TERM VISION
TOGETHER”

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

I	INTRODUCTION	1
II	POCACITO FINAL CONFERENCE: POST-CARBON CITIES OF TOMORROW – BUILDING AN URBAN LONG TERM VISION TOGETHER	2
II.I	PART 1: WELCOME	3
II.II	PART 2: INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATION	3
II.III	PART 3: KEYNOTE SPEACH	4
II.IV	PART 4: FIRST PANEL DEBATE	4
II.V	PART 5: SECOND PANEL DEBATE	6
II.VI	PART 6: PRESENTATION OF THE ROADMAP	9
II.VII	PART 7: CAR-SHARING PLATFORM PRESENTATION	10
III	ANNEXES	11
III.I	ANNEX A: AGENDA	12
III.II	ANNEX B: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	15
III.III	ANNEX C: POSTERS	25

LIST OF FIGURES

<i>Figure II-a Case Study Cities Posters at the Final Conference</i>	3
<i>Figure II-b Presentation during the session Experiences from POCACITO “Adapting to local realities: Stakeholder engagement in different contexts”</i>	6
<i>Figure II-c Presentation of the POCACITO 2050 Roadmap by Jorge Nunez</i>	9
<i>Figure II-d Zen Car lectric car-sharing platform present at the POCACITO Final Conference</i>	10

I INTRODUCTION

This Deliverable describes the Final Conference of the POCACITO project on “Post-carbon Cities of tomorrow – Building an urban long term vision together”, which took place on 21 October 2016 at CEPS in Brussels. The main objective of the conference was to present the key outputs and findings of POCACITO to local public institutions, European institutions, regional stakeholders and representatives from the research field, business environment and civil society. In the same time, the event officially introduced the 2050 EU post-carbon cities roadmap as a working document and gathered feedback and suggestions from the participants and stakeholders invited.

The Final Conference highlighted a creative approach for dissemination and participant engagement. The messages of the sessions drew attention to the need for an integrated approach to urban development to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, in particular concerning urban planning of infrastructures and land use, using the opportunities provided by Information and Communication Technology. The emphasis had been placed on POCACITO’s successful adaptation of visioning and backcasting exercises as powerful tools to engage stakeholders and increase their awareness and participation in the steps towards a post carbon future.

To create cross-sectoral synergies and effective dissemination of knowledge, CEPS had invited stakeholders from research institutes, academia, journalists, associations, EU institutions, city authorities, companies, think-tanks and governmental representatives. The format of the conference was designed to reflect dynamism and exchange of ideas over the project findings with the aid of a moderator for discussions and group activities.

The innovative layout of the event was further strengthened by creating the opportunity for participants to see in practical terms what the future of urban transport could look like. For this, the organizers have brought in a local electric car-sharing initiative that would illustrate the mobility and transport future outlook in Brussels while allowing participants a unique test-drive of some of their newest urban electric cars.

II POCACITO FINAL CONFERENCE: POST-CARBON CITIES OF TOMORROW – BUILDING AN URBAN LONG TERM VISION TOGETHER

The aim of this conference was to disseminate and showcase some of the results of POCACITO and to interactively discuss them with city stakeholders and researchers. In particular, the conference contributed to sharing the POCACITO experience in developing long term strategies towards reaching a post carbon status in European cities by 2050. As many decisions today will shape longer term paths, it is important that such decisions in the next ten years are aligned to targets beyond 2050. Such long term strategies have been developed by POCACITO for a selected number of case studies (Barcelona, Istanbul, Lisbon, Litoměřice, Malmö Milan, Rostock, Turin, and Zagreb) through visioning and backcasting workshops involving stakeholders from city administrations, EU institutions, business, academia and NGOs, with a particular emphasis on innovative and out of the box concepts.

A “Roadmap” prepared as a result of these exercises was also presented and discussed at the conference, with the objective to achieving liveable post-carbon cities by 2050, i.e. economically robust, environmentally resilient, and providing social inclusiveness and a high quality of life.

The event itself was designed by the organizers with an innovative and engaging format in mind. To achieve this, CEPS had requested a professional moderator, Peter Woodward, Director of Quest Associates, to facilitate the sessions and panel discussion. The objective was to create dynamism and engagement of the participants, collect relevant input and suggestions for the 2050 Roadmap and effectively disseminate the results and work of the POCACITO project.

The event format was further set in motion through the presentation of a Brussels-based electric car-sharing platform with which participants could engage. The closing session of the conference, entitled “Changing our frame of mind – Mobility in a sharing society” was aimed at showcasing a practical initiative to transform the mobility of urban citizens in Brussels. In the same time, the desire was to vitalize the change of behaviour and consideration towards alternative means of transportation by allowing the participants to test drive an electric vehicle.

Moreover, the organizers highlighted the project activities and workshop results from the case study cities by creating visually-appealing posters with key information. The content of the posters reflected the activities for climate change undertaken in each of the selected cities, the POCACITO process at the local level, projections for reaching climate goals and areas which require future action. With an easy-to-grasp layout, the posters were put on display at the venue of the final conference for participants to consult and engage with the representatives of each poster for further details on the work undertaken.

The agenda for this conference can be found in Annex A, the list of participants in Annex B, and the posters are separately attached in Pdf format.



Figure II-a Case Study Cities Posters at the Final Conference

II.I PART 1: WELCOME

This session included a welcome by CEPS Research Fellow and POCACITO partner **Noriko Fujiwara**, followed by European Commission’s Project partner **Monica Menapace** (Directorate Research and Development)

Monica Menapace emphasized the timeliness of the POCACITO project within the wider framework of the 2050 Roadmap for EU Cities, the COP21 and the various efforts initiated by industry, transport and citizens. She highlighted the necessary transition from ownership to functionality and echoed the EU Commissioner’s focus on “Open Science, Open to Innovation, and Open to the World.” She concluded with the focus of the DG on ecological transition with the acronym: “BGBOBT” (Beyond GDP, Beyond Oil, and Beyond Tangibles).

II.II PART 2: INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATION

This session included an introductory presentation by Project Leader Max Grünig (Ecologic Institute), followed by a video opener that highlighted the objectives of the POCACITO project.

Max Grünig presented the project giving an overview of the main methodological exercises undertaken in POCACITO: visioning, backcasting, scenario building, analysis and modelling. From this, his presentation placed emphasis on the importance of creating liveable, affordable and prosperous cities while changing the economic model of cities and how they are governed. In the same time as the

post-carbon transition is breaking the old economic models of development, social inclusion is one of the challenges that needs to be addressed and tackled effectively.

The introductory presentation was followed by the official screening of the project animation video entitled “Post carbon cities of tomorrow – Building an urban long term vision together”. The animated video illustrated in a clear and easy-to-grasp way how to facilitate the transition of EU cities to a forecasted sustainable or “post-carbon” economic model.

II.III PART 3: KEYNOTE SPEECH

This session featured a keynote speech on “Re-connecting cities: A global local government” by **Anna Leidreiter** by Senior Programme Manager Climate, Energy and Cities at the World Future Council.

Anna Leidreiter set the global perspective/framework for the conference by tackling the question of “where we are in the world with regards to cities”. She gave a backdrop on COP21, the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda (where 30-40,000 people set a 20-year constitution for cities at Habitat III). She raised important questions such as the lacking representation of cities in major negotiations as well as how urbanization can be managed and guided, “cities are the arena where the battle is won or lost”. In response to the question of “how can multi-level governance be conducted”, she referred to the New Urban Policy Commission institutionalized by the World Future Council for improved multi-level governance and concluded with a 1 minute film on the Global Local Movement (100% Renewables).

Discussion Round: A very brief discussion round with Anna Leidreiter and moderated by Peter Woodward.

1. A question on the unlikelihood of achieving the transition: Anna responded by saying that the agreements and milestones give hope and that policy frameworks are necessary to stimulate a change in behavior.
2. Parting insights on how to engage and enable local communities: The question that needs to be asked is what are the tools? These involve policy tools such as the national framework which empowered citizens in Germany. Another question is what incentivizes people? A short discussion ensued here on empowering vs. creating an enabling environment where people are provided with the tools they need.
3. Universities role in decarbonization: The crucial role of universities is to provide information that allows local authorities to make policy (a science-based policy approach is important). The critique of the New Urban Agenda is that it has not been based on science. We need to ask: how do universities become vital drivers of disruption and change? How to tap into great ideas and latent potential?

II.IV PART 4: FIRST PANEL DEBATE

This session focused on the POCACITO experience through a panel debate on the topic of “Adapting to local realities: Stakeholder engagement in different contexts”, followed by an open discussion.

The session was moderated by **Peter Woodward**, Director of Quest Associates, and included panellists **Tüzin Baycan**, the case study leader for Istanbul, from Istanbul Technical University, **Cristina Junyent**, from the Science and Society Foundation of Barcelona, **Margaretha Breil**, the case study leader for

Milan, from the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM), and **Zoran Kordic**, the case study leader for Zagreb, from UNDP.

This session discussed how to take into account local realities and engage stakeholders. A main issue of this session was the role of top-down and bottom-up approaches for implementing urban actions.

Tüzin Baycan highlighted the role of megacities. The global urban culture is shifting East, and estimates are that in 2030 there will be 41 megacities, and 24 of them will be in Asia. Megacities are crucial, insofar they will determine the future innovation. Megacities should be regarded as emerging economies, with a strong component of internal and international migration. However, there often is unsuitable infrastructure (transport-logistics) for growth. In the future megacities should transform into global cities, cities that are culturally open with a high rate of innovation. A new way of living the city needs to be built up, away from uncontrolled agglomerations, separated into residential, commercial and industrial areas. Megacities need to become more livable and more sustainable, with better living standards for citizens.

In Istanbul in particular there is a high participation rate of stakeholders, and they are open to learn from other cities. City stakeholders in the POCACITO workshops however had difficulties in thinking in long-term targets and milestones. They mainly focused on short-term targets. This short-term orientation is grounded in the dynamics of the city and the uncertainties that people usually face. In Turkey, the central government is very dominant and in most cases decisions are taken in Ankara.

Cristina Junyent discussed the Orthogonal Bus Network project in Barcelona. The strengths are that many local leaders have come together to contribute, and created an umbrella for different initiatives as well as a strong network of highly committed and active people. The top-down element responded to the need of reducing carbon emissions and air pollution as well as increasing energy efficiency.

The top-down element however experienced difficulties in convincing and engaging neighbors (concerned over losing some “comfort”) and faced rejection in some neighborhoods. Success depends on engaging everybody and on the transfer of knowledge to uncommitted citizens and to tourists.

Margaretha Breil gave an overview on all the visions that were created in the POCACITO case study cities during the project. She highlighted that results indicated some difficulties in covering long-term (2050) prospective, and actions remain thus somehow piecemeal. POCACITO has been able to show the potential of the approach, but also indicated the need to scale it up, involve a better mix of stakeholders and add more background modeling to the process, so as to improve the quality of the city strategies.

Zoran Kordic discussed the complementary role of top-down and bottom-up approaches in Zagreb. So far, a top down framework does not support a post carbon transition as there is no official vision and long term strategy in place. However, because of growing numbers of bottom up initiatives, which are attracting media and public attention, the City Government is sometimes willing to take over and scale up such initiatives. The urban gardens initiative, which started as grassroots initiative, after being presented as City project, is now rapidly replicated at number of locations across the city. Zoran pointed out that the key to transition to post-carbon development is in social innovation and community engagement.

Table debates and results:

Alexandre McCormack, from the City of Brussels, gave an opinion from his perspective. Many problems are not seen by strategic planners. As an example he mentioned that subsidies for energy retrofitting

and renewables installation should be formulated better, meaning that more attention should sometimes be given to who provides the finance and who receives it, and what the investment implications will be if successful. He added an example where the support schemes have led to a rapid expansion of the solar panels which are linked to the grid. The network, however, is not developed well to handle the volume of energy generated when production peaks in sunny days, the network gets overloaded and causes problems. He warns on the misplaced believe that just changing one energy system to a renewable one is a solution, many changes are not perfect substitutes and need to be accompanied by a strategy handling the resulting consequences.



Figure II-b Presentation during the session Experiences from POCACITO “Adapting to local realities: Stakeholder engagement in different contexts”

II.V PART 5: SECOND PANEL DEBATE

The afternoon panel debate was also moderated by **Peter Woodward**, Director of Quest Associates, and focused on “Broader City perspectives”, with panellists **Claire Roumet**, Executive Director of Energy Cities, **Chen Xiaoting**, Project Manager in the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), **Anthony Bigio**, Urban Advisor at George Washington University, and **Alexandre McCormack**, Energy Manager at the City of Brussels. The panel was followed by an open discussion.

Claire Roumet opened the session with some food for thought on how important multi-stakeholder involvement is for a successful energy transition: “If you want to go fast you go alone. If you want to go far you go together.”

There is a number of different potential energy transition scenarios, depending on the technology options chosen but also the types of players involved and who steers the overall process, whether governments, communities, utilities, etc. Technological innovations are becoming mainstream and economic models are ready as well so the next step now is to know what type of energy transition we opt for.

She presented the concept of the “3Ds” in energy transition calling for a *Democratised* energy system embarking more players, where more competences are *Devolved* to local authorities and investments are *Divested* from fossil fuels and reinjected towards the local energy transition.

On democratisation and citizen involvement, the Almada Climate platform was presented, bringing together local stakeholder, from the firemen to the representatives of the church to sign a contract on how to join forces towards a climate neutral strategy. She also presented the Swedish city of Vaxjo, 20 years ago they started involving stakeholders into a sort of energy transition board. Which has led to the implementation of concrete steps, including by the Volvo car manufacturer. What made the board successful was the specific milestones they set themselves.

On devolution she presented the case of Nantes, which committed to the 40% CO2 reduction target ahead of the EU, with an ambitious programme in sectors over which the energy and climate departments have direct control. A broader number of stakeholders were involved through a debate platform with a community of “doers” taking concrete actions backed up by a think tank trying to map the potential of the territory.

Chen Xiaoting presented perspectives from China, which faces very different circumstances and is at different social and development stages, meaning its energy transition is less advanced than in Europe. After the 2009 Copenhagen summit the Chinese government became more active in engaging the civil society in climate and energy issues. A 2030 plan was presented to the United Nations with a goal of peaking emissions by 2030 at the latest and decreasing CO2 emissions per unit of GDP by 60 to 65 % from a 2005 baseline, as well as increasing the share of non-fossil fuels by around 30% compared to 2005. An initiative to select 42 pilot provinces and cities to work towards low carbon strategies was also set up.

In practice, the respective social and economic five year plans of the cities were strengthened with low carbon targets and indicators. In addition, guidelines were set for mobility, buildings and stakeholder engagement.

One key challenge the cities faced is a lack of integrated strategy towards the implementation of low carbon policies. A lot also depends on funds and subsidies from the national governments and what is still needed is a more market-based and integrated way of tackling the investment challenge.

Chen commented that the European experience of citizen engagement was not easily transferable to the Chinese context.

She reported about the city of Xiamen, that belongs to the first batch of low carbon pilot cities in China, the first one in Fujian Province. XM built up a cooperation framework with the Chinese Academy for Social Sciences (CASS) to promote local social and economic development in 2014. Although everyone has his own opinions and priorities, the common vision for 2050 can be described as “Beautiful XM Strategy”, which refers to not only beautiful environment but also economic prosperity and social advancement.

Anthony Bigio, said that the alignment of EU-wide, national and local policies (notably enabled by the Covenant of Mayors) was impressive from an outsider perspective.

He added that replicability was tough in a country like the US which is plagued by climate scepticism even within members of the Congress. Moving to a more decentralised level, states like California are however playing a pioneering role and some cities are starting to take some voluntary steps in the right direction. But overall the climate issue still doesn't resonate much with American citizens – although awareness has improved after events such as the hurricane Sandy – and the issue was also mostly unaddressed in the presidential campaign.

In the developing world, progress is also difficult in the face of so many other challenges. However, the main battle for climate change, climate mitigation and adaptation will be held in developing countries, where cities are rapidly expanding and attract significant investment. The transfer of knowledge on climate mitigation is however limited in a context where cities are mostly concerned about vulnerability and adaptation, where the level of consumption is already low and other social issues such as health top the political agenda. Technical, capacity and governance barriers also prevent progress. In addition, mistrust between citizens and institutions pose further hurdles to stakeholder engagement.

Alexandre McCormack talked about the barriers that his city faced at various levels. On the need to scale up the penetration of solar panels in the city, he pointed to the ethical concerns of financing this through a third party company, given that it would involve the use of subsidies that are financed through a tax on fossil fuels, and ultimately taxpayers money since the companies pass it on to consumers via their final prices.

In addition, the final burden on taxpayers risked becoming even bigger considering that the grid would have to be reinforced (and thus tariffs increased) to accommodate the growing share of renewables. So for a mix of technical and ethical reasons the city finally decided to support the investments via its own budget thus making sure the capital generated would be reinvested locally.

Alexandre also talked about the downside of regulation linked to the energy performance of buildings. He pointed out that the companies that made bids to be awarded the many market opportunities that came as a result of this regulation tended to include a lot of complicated technical add ups to maximize their revenues but with little regard for the embodied energy (lifecycle assessment) of the materials used.

On participation, he commented that the city endeavoured to embark citizens in the design of its action plan through workshops, etc. On that point, he emphasized that proximity to the citizens was crucial to get as many of them to participate, along with city branding.

Reacting to questions from the floor, the panellists pointed out that the solidarity dimension was an important driver in taking low carbon projects forward, as well as trust in one's capacities and pride for the European success story on climate adaptation. Quality of life parameters and considerations linked the importance of designing the "right size" type of cities were also raised.

II.VI PART 6: PRESENTATION OF THE ROADMAP

CEPS Senior Research Fellow **Jorge Nunez Ferrer**, lead author of the POCACITO Roadmap presented the roadmap methodology and main messages. The Roadmap process has been one where a selected group of stakeholders would discuss in the main messages for cities, national authorities and draft a roadmap for policy makes at those levels. The roadmap team developed the recommendations which were presented to the participants to the event. After the short presentation the public was divided in groups. Each group would analyse the proposals from the draft roadmap document and present possible changes to the report. The recommendations from the participants have subsequently been reviewed and integrated into the document.

The public was very active in the meeting and offered a number of insights. One of the key aspects raised was the need of awareness raising and education. Education has to go beyond stakeholder consultations, but focus on introducing education on environmental issues from primary school up to higher education and other professional training. Other recommendations were to mention the need to have a socially inclusive strategy, the need for a best practices database, including the need to clarify some aspects of the document.

Not all proposals could be integrated, as some were too specific for a long term strategy and is for the cities to draft strategies, not for the roadmap to suggest what a strategy should do, i.e. have more bike lanes or increasing the number of electric cars. The Roadmap is principally a document suggesting a method to develop strategies involving and informing stakeholders.



Figure II-c Presentation of the POCACITO 2050 Roadmap by Jorge Nunez

II.VII PART 7: CAR-SHARING PLATFORM PRESENTATION

The last session of the conference, entitled “Changing our frame of mind – Mobility in a sharing society” was aimed at illustrating a practical initiative to transform the mobility of urban citizens in Brussels. The presentation was given by **Dominique Mastrosimone**, Sales Manager of ZenCar. As a business, ZenCar is an electric car-sharing platform aimed at providing a flexible and electric alternative for urban mobility, with no emissions and zero noise. The POCACITO final conference offered the opportunity for participants to have a glimpse of the mobility and transport future outlook in Brussels according to the vision of Zen Car. This outlook foresees seamless intermodal mobility between public transport means (train, bus, tram), bike-sharing and electric car-sharing services with a single user access card. Connectivity and inter-operability of transport services will revolutionize the way citizens move within the city, change the consumption patterns of car users and reduce pollution and urban traffic congestion.

The presentation was followed by a reception, when participants were given a unique opportunity to test-drive some of the newest urban electric cars from Zen Car’s fleet. The activity in itself proved unmatched to previous urban driving experience, several of the participants considering the use of the electric car-sharing service for future personal and professional trips.



Figure II-d Zen Car electric car-sharing platform present at the POCACITO Final Conference



III ANNEXES

III.I ANNEX A: AGENDA

TIME	SESSION
9:30 - 10:00	REGISTRATION
10:00 – 10:10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome by CEPS: Noriko Fujiwara, Associate Research Fellow • Welcome by Monica Menapace, Project Officer, Directorate of Research and Development, European Commission
10:10 – 10:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From a vision to a post carbon urban society – building sustainable societies with citizens, Max Grünig, Ecologic Institute • With VIDEO OPENER
10:25 – 10:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-connecting cities: A global local movement, Keynote speech by Anna Leidreiter, Senior Programme Manager – Climate, Energy and Cities, World Future Council
10:45 – 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations and debate: Experiences from POCACITO “Adapting to local realities: Stakeholder engagement in different contexts” <p>Moderator: Peter Woodward, Director, Quest Associates</p> <p>Panel:</p>

- **Tüzin Baycan** (Istanbul Technical University, case study leader for Istanbul)
- **Cristina Junyent** (Science and Society Foundation, Barcelona)
- **Margaretha Breil** (FEEM - Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, case study leader for Milan)
- **Zoran Kordic** (UNDP, case study leader for Zagreb)
- Open discussion

12:30 – LUNCH

13:30

13:30 – BROADER CITY PERSPECTIVES

14:40 Moderator: **Peter Woodward**, Director, Quest Associates

- Presentations and debate on city stakeholder challenges with
 - **Claire Roumet**, Director, Energy Cities
 - **Chen Xiaoting**, Project Manager, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
 - **Anthony Bigio**, Urban Advisor, George Washington University
 - **Alexandre McCormack**, Energy Manager, City of Brussels
- Open discussion

Coffee break

- 15:10 – A ROADMAP TO SUPPORT URBAN POST
16:20 CARBON PATHWAYS
- Presentation of the Roadmap and its recommendations, **Jorge Núñez Ferrer**, CEPS Associate Research Fellow, POCACITO Partner Policy and Finance Manager of the Smart Cities Information System
 - Interactive debate with the audience on the key policy decisions towards a post carbon future
- 16:20 – Changing our frame of mind – Mobility in a sharing society
16:30
- **Serge Starckmann**, CEO, Zen car
- 16:30 – Cocktail reception
- 18:30 With Poster session of POCACITO city case studies:
Barcelona, Istanbul, Lisbon, Litoměřice, Malmö, Milan, Rostock, Turin, Zagreb
- Zen car** (www.zencar.eu) will have electric cars for participants to test drive in front of our venue. **Dominique Mastro Simone**, Sales Manager of Zen Car, will guide the visitors.

III.II ANNEX B: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS



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cities of tomorrow

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Margaretha Breil

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Marc Bromberg

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III.III ANNEX C: POSTERS

Each case study city produced a poster with the main messages, on a common template to make them visually appealing. The posters were displayed in the conference room and the entrance hall. The posters are available for download on the project website:

<http://pocacito.eu/results/citizens>