

**NEW**



## WHAT IS THE SECHURBA PROJECT?

Historic urban communities and buildings exist in all EU member states however new opportunities from sustainable energy are constrained by legislative, social, cultural, technical and economic market barriers – including the exclusion of historic buildings from the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2002/91. The scale of benefits for communities, States and the European Union justifies interventions at all levels.

SECHURBA will investigate the potential for energy savings within our heritage buildings. The project consortium will take case study buildings and communities, and will involve architects, planners, policy makers, researchers, installers and conservation specialists in an effort to demonstrate ways of integrating renewable technologies and energy efficiency methods into historic buildings. Thus they can be seen as a vehicle for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and efficient energy use instead of barriers.

SECHURBA will help local communities investigate the barriers and opportunities, developing best-practice technical methods, innovative tools and bottom-up 'Community Climate Change Strategies' and create a new dimension and prospect to historic communities. These methods will be applied in 7 European countries by 13 organisations.

We will nominate best practice case studies for 'Historical Excellence' awards for development and replication elsewhere.



## SECHURBA OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the SECHURBA project is to demonstrate to key actors (municipalities, policy-makers, planning officers etc) the opportunities and potential prospects associated with sustainable energy intervention in historic urban areas within at least ten 'beacon' communities so that historic areas will be given greater priority in future energy policies and local development programmes.

Important aspects of the SECHURBA project include:

- Engagement with the local community to establish Historic Community Climate Change Strategies as a route map for dealing with the pressures of climate change and cultural preservation.
- Engagement with key actors including planning authorities, policy makers and installers and highlighting the opportunities that exist in using current technology to promote a reduction in energy and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in traditionally sensitive areas.
- To build an intelligent application tool to enable effective and appropriate renewable energy and energy efficiency advice to be generated for historic buildings and communities.
  - To identify case studies for improvement in a variety of historic buildings and communities, carry out energy audits in all case study areas and buildings and identify potential sources of funding for carrying out suggested improvements/installations.
- Establish commitments of a minimum of €10,000 investment plan per community

The Strategic objective of the project is to demonstrate a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and energy consumption in the case-study areas/buildings by at least 40%. Change in awareness, attitude and behaviour will be achieved, which will be maximised and sustained beyond the project lifetime.

## CASE STUDY COMMUNITIES AND BUILDINGS:



### Shrewsbury Community

There are over 600 listed buildings within the town centre, many from Elizabethan and Georgian times. The study area has population of approximately 4 000 people and will include 4 large buildings and a street of Victorian houses.



### Castello di Zena (Italy)

Castello di Zena is situated in a small rural village near Carpaneto Piacentino, in the Province of Piacenza, Emilia Romagna Region. The property is constituted of five buildings.



**Municipality of Chieti (Italy)** selected two pilot buildings for the case study research:  
**S. Giustino Cathedral** and **Provincial Administration Building**.

Two cities from Bulgaria will participate in the project with their ancient buildings.



**Varna** is the third largest city in Bulgaria with a population of more than 350 000 people. The selected buildings are **Varna Theatre** and the building of the **National School of Arts**.



**Balchik** is a small historic town, located on the Black Sea Coast. It is the third largest port of Bulgaria and an attractive summer resort. Three of the ancient buildings will be part of the beacon SECHURBA buildings: the **Historical Museum**, The **Art Gallery** and the **Regional Administration**.



**Szentendre Community, Hungary**  
Szentendre is situated in the Central Region of Hungary, 10 miles North of the capital, Budapest. As a small town – having 25 000 inhabitants - belongs to the metropolitan region of Budapest, but has its own micro-region. Szentendre is one of the most popular Hungarian tourist destinations, and the second most visited Hungarian town.



**Copenhagen City Hall**

### **Copenhagen City Hall, Denmark**

Copenhagen was founded in circa 1000, originally as a small market town that rapidly began to develop. The case study building, the City Hall was built in 1905 and is heated from the city's district heating system.



**Athens City Hall**

### **Athens Community and Rhodes National Theatre (Greece)**

A special part of the historic centre of Athens will be examined (Peireos- Athinas-Ermou triangle), which has more than 260 listed buildings, Kerameikos archeological site and other historic and cultural monuments, such as Athens City Hall. Dominant uses are hotels, restaurants, shops, theatres and other cultural highlights.



**National Theatre,  
Rhodes**

Another project case study for Greece is the National Theatre of the island of Rhodes, a building of architectural and historical excellence.

## **PROJECT CONSORTIUM:**

SECHURBA is being implemented in 7 European countries (in alphabetical order): Bulgaria, Denmark, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom. Project activities are carried out by 13 organisations:



# Sustainable Energy Communities in Historic Urban Areas



**Marches Energy Agency (MEA), UK**  
(Project Coordinator)



**Shropshire Council (SC), UK**



**Istituto per le Tecnologie Applicate ai Beni Culturali (ITABC), Italy**



**VIVECA srl, Italy**

CASTELLOZENA



**Centre for Renewable Energy Sources (CRES), Greece**



**Municipality of Athens Development Agency (AEDA), Greece**



**Province of Chieti Energy Agency (ALESA), Italy**



**Province of Chieti (CHIETI), Italy**



**Not for profit company for quality control and innovation in buildings (EMI), Hungary**



**Municipality of Szentendre, Hungary**



**Union of Bulgarian Black Sea Local Authorities (UBBSLA), Bulgaria**



**CENERGIA Energy Consultants (CENERGIA), Denmark**



**Labein Tecnalia, Spain**

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# Sustainable Energy Communities in Historic Urban Areas

## SECHURBA Award

The SECHURBA award will promote the achievements of case study communities (cultural, social, economic and environmental benefits) to encourage replication in historic urban areas elsewhere. Communities which have delivered a Climate Change Strategy will be awarded with the SECHURBA Award to recognise and publicise their achievements. In the process of evaluation emphasis will be given to the energy, environmental, social and economic achievements and benefits achieved by each project community. The SECHURBA award will be given to the selected communities that have moved towards strategic sustainable planning within their historic context and it will be displayed across the case study communities and their municipalities.

For further details on the project go to the project website at: [www.sechurba.eu](http://www.sechurba.eu)

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