



## R2Cities Newsletter 5 - June 2016

### Welcome to the 5th edition of the R2CITIES newsletter

As we approach the summer, the consortium has renewed impetus and **has embarked on an exciting stage of our project to achieving nearly zero energy towns and cities**. This comes after several months which have not been plain sailing due to the grant procedures in the Valladolid demo site needing to be revised. The reluctance of residents to take on some of the works planned meant a radical rethink on our part. Also, a change in part of the Municipality of Valladolid staff due to the last year local elections added to this scenario. However, our combined efforts and expertise and the strong commitment of Valladolid Municipality have seen us through this shifting environment and I'm proud to say **we have been able to set out a revised set of retrofitting works for Valladolid's Cuatro de Marzo district**, and a new grant procedure is currently underway with works planned for late September. Furthermore we have been successful in securing a one-year project extension, which will allow us to complete the works with enough time to properly monitor the results of the interventions.

During last month's periodic meeting hosted by Genoa Municipality, we were able to look ahead with confidence to the next stages of R2CITIES. As the works in Kartal and Genoa continue, **much focus is now on the process of reviewing and validating the methodology for integrated project delivery taking into account the requirements of BIM** (building information modeling). One session of our meeting was dedicated to this broad subject. Furthermore, we have just had our third exploitation workshop and we were able to participate in Genoa Smart Week for the second time as one of the most important projects developed in the city of Genoa. There remain challenges ahead but we are all riding on the tremendous learning curve that such a complex and ambitious project offers.

With these parting words, I wish you all a great summer!

Kind regards,  
Rubén García  
*Project coordinator*

### [Read the project's updates](#)

## News articles

### [Genoa hosts R2CITIES periodic meeting on 24-26 May as city buzzes with Smart Week](#)



For the second time since our project's inception in 2013, the city of Genoa has hosted a R2CITIES periodic meeting.

## [Turkey's solar market has started 'teething'](#)



Although in its infancy, solar energy generation in Turkey has a promising outlook

## [COP21 – Crunch time for global climate change protocol](#)



International discussions and frameworks on environmental policy can occasionally seem just as stratospheric as the atmosphere they are trying to protect

## [Get to know our experts](#)

# Interviews

## [Power of the Sun. Dirt cheap](#)

In a world hungry for energy, top scientist Michael Grätzel hopes to make solar cells more affordable by copying photosynthesis



## [Discover our Consortium](#)

# Partners in the spotlight

## Mir



Mir Unique Solutions, is a company of Mir Holding Group located in İstanbul, TURKEY, is **a solution based company which is developing technologies in various disciplines and licensing them.**

In Mir, the project-based execution of all the activities is the main principle, and so, the technology and information management are our practice and purpose. For this reason, collaborations are established with various universities and academics primarily in order to enhance the opportunities at each project.

## Kartal Municipality - Kartal Belediye Başkanlığı



Kartal Municipality, founded in 1871 in Anatolian side of Istanbul as a district municipality, on South-West part of Kocaeli peninsula, Marmara Sea and the Princes Islands near the fault crossing Marmara Sea on the south.

Kartal is **a big city on the way to become a metropolis** with its surface area of 38,54 km<sup>2</sup> and its population as per year 2010 census of 432.199 which nowadays reached approximately 500.000.

## Istanbul Technical University – Energy Institute



The Energy Institute at Istanbul Technical University is a university-based research and development organization in the broad area of energy science and engineering. It provides education, research and collaborative opportunities with partner organizations and individuals.

## Ekodenge



EKODENGE was founded in 1996 to **provide consulting and engineering services shaped around the vision of EU policy and sustainability.**

Ekodenge concentrates on environmental technologies, information technologies, architectural research on sustainable systems, consultancy, research and development.

## [Solitem](#)



The Solitem Solar Services is the company of the SOLITEM Group that is active in Turkey. The SOLITEM Group includes companies in several countries. In Turkey, the SOLITEM factory in Ankara is one main pillar in the SOLITEM Group.

The Solitem Solar Services is responsible for the system design, installation and setup. Overtaking R&D tasks, the creation of feasibility studies, the analysis and execution of the system implementation into the facilities, and the detailed design, installation and setup, the Solar Services completes the portfolio of the SOLITEM Group to operate as a turnkey provider for solar thermal solutions for cooling, steam, heating and electricity generation.

## [Reengen](#)



Reengen is an energy data science company developing solutions for smarter buildings and smarter distribution grid.

We provide our customers and partners with advanced data analytics & value added services for operational efficiency optimization, CapEx optimization, and energy performance improvement.

## [News from our cities](#)

# News from the demo sites

## [Italy: the energy efficiency way of the washing-machine shaped dwellings in Genoa](#)

A social housing district with poor insulation, a municipality that is meeting a long-standing demand by residents while transforming the area into a model for eco-sustainability



## [It's 'work in progress' at the R2CITIES demo site in Kartal, Turkey](#)

After completion of the tender procedure of renovation, construction works have now started at the Nursing Home, one of three demo buildings earmarked under R2CITIES for renovation in Kartal's Yakacik district.



## [Closer to the citizens – R2CITIES website now offers sections in Italian, Spanish and Turkish](#)

Leveraging local business and political ecosystems is a key component of projects like R2CITIES. Without the knock-on effect produced by ongoing engagement with localities, our core aim of replicability would be difficult to reach.



## [What's going on in our network](#)

# News from our network

## [Food for thought during the EU Sustainable Energy Week: 5 days, 5 key topics, 5 lunch academy webinars](#)



R2CITIES is a proud member of My Smart City District (MSCD), a group of like-minded European Smart Cities projects representing 8 projects, 25 cities across 13 countries.

## [Project impact: the why and how of it](#)



Energy efficient buildings — it's all about mid- to long-term impact. On our environment, on our relationship with our environment, on the way we live, on the way we work.



## What's new on the social web?

[Follow us](#) on Twitter

Follow the [MySmartCityDistrict](#) on Twitter

Join the [MySmartCityDistrict LinkedIn group](#)

## [Meet us!](#)

# Recommended events

## [Central Europe towards Sustainable Building 2016](#)



ITU will be contributing with a paper entitled "Sustainable renovation of existing building stock, Building design process, Decision-support tools and assessment methods, Sustainable urban development."

22-24 June 2016

## [3rd International Conference on Advanced Technology and Sciences](#)



Solitem has submitted a peer reviewed paper entitled "Intelligent solutions with object integrated consantrated solar systems"

1-3 September 2016 | Konya, Turkey

## [11th Conference on Sustainable Development of Energy, Water and Environment System](#)



ITU will be contributing with a paper entitled "Evaluation of the Sustainable Design Strategies Respects to Defined Indexes in a District Level"

4-9 September 2016 | Lisbon, Portugal

## Urban Transitions Global Summit 2016, Towards a better urban future in an interconnected age



ITU will be contributing with a paper entitled "Identification and evaluation of sustainable design criteria based on calculated energy and environmental indexes on a district level."

5-9 September 2016 | Shanghai, China

## Green CITIES



7th Forum of urban intelligence and sustainability  
Onyx will be attending this forum due to take place in Spain in October.

5-6 October 2016 | Malaga, Spain

## Smart City Expo World Congress



Cartif will be present at this major international gathering to be held in Barcelona.

15-17 November 2016 | Barcelona, Spain