



# D.6.5 Press kit

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## Project description

Often municipalities and regions believe that they don't have enough resources to invest in renovations of existing buildings. The truth is that the money is there but every day it is being wasted on energy bills that are too high. CITYnvest gives examples of financing and implementation models, which make the energy efficiency investments possible.

CITYnvest is a Horizon2020 project, which focuses on supporting and replicating successful innovative financing models for energy efficiency renovations in buildings. Project's activities focus on 5 main areas; analysis and comparison of innovative financing models and development of guidance materials, application of those models through three pilot projects, monitoring of triggered investments and discovering key success factors, a wide-scale training programme in 10 countries, and promotion of innovative financing for energy efficiency in buildings.

### **What are innovative financing models?**

They can be based on schemes such as Energy Performance Contracting, including third party financing, revolving funds, citizen funding, green bonds etc. Besides the funding schemes, models can differ in the type of buildings targeted, the kind of services they provide to the building owners, the levels of reduction of energy consumption etc.

The most innovative aspect of these models is the catalyst role of local and regional authorities. Municipalities and regions are the ones defining the broader vision and policy goals, leading the renovations process themselves and mobilizing partners to follow their example.



Project's website ([www.citynvest.eu](http://www.citynvest.eu)) guides municipalities and regions through the whole process of developing innovative financing models, from choosing the best financing instrument and gathering all necessary partners through developing action plans, to building dedicated teams and starting the tendering of actual projects.

So far, CITYnvest developed several materials to assist local and regional governments in developing innovative financing models:

- An [Analysis of 26 case studies](#) in financing for energy efficiency.
- A [Recommendations Matrix](#), which helps to choose the most suitable financing and operational model.
- A [Guide for the launch of a One Stop Shop](#) on Energy Retrofitting gives an example and practical, step-by-step indications on how to start a project from scratch.
- An [Action Plan Template](#) guides through all questions asked by municipalities and regions while starting to develop a financing model for energy efficiency.
- A [Barriers tool](#) helps to pro-actively mitigate risks or difficulties often encountered while developing or implementing projects.

Said about CITYnvest

*"By showcasing the richness of information on the different models, it [the website] will trigger their replication and build capacities in the local and regional authorities. At a time of increasing importance of social, economic and environmental concerns, investing in energy savings in the building stock is for each public authority of strategic importance". - **Elise Steyaert**, CITYnvest coordinator*

*"Municipalities have difficulties to implement the Sustainable Action Plans due to the lack of financial resources and expertise. CITYnvest project finally gives us an access to expertise that we need in order to develop retrofits projects and to ensure financing for those energy efficiency renovations." - [anonymus]*

## Project partners

### Climate Alliance - Project Coordinator

For more than 25 years, Climate Alliance member municipalities have been acting in partnership with indigenous rainforest peoples, pairing local action with global responsibility. With some 1,700 members spread across 26 European countries, Climate Alliance is the world's largest city network dedicated to climate action and the only one to set tangible climate targets: each member city, town and district is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 10 percent every 5 years. The network fosters cooperation with indigenous peoples, runs awareness raising campaigns and

provides ample opportunity for exchange.

### **Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)**

CEMR brings together more than 130 000 municipalities, cities and regions federated through 60 national associations from 42 European countries. CEMR promotes the construction of a united, peaceful and democratic Europe, founded upon local self-government and respect for the principle of subsidiarity. To achieve this goal, it works to reinforce the local and regional contribution to the European decision-making process, to influence law and policy and to exchange experiences at local and regional level. In particular, CEMR has dedicated one of its five focus areas to resource efficiency and environment.

### **GRE Liege (Groupement de Redéploiement Economique de Liège)**

GRE Liege is a development agency for Liege province in Belgium. It acts as an incubator for large development projects in the region. One of its strategic axis is energy. GRE Liege has assisted Liège University and the University Hospital to launch an ambitious retrofitting projects (30 M€). Furthermore GRE Liege has launched a large retrofitting project within 12 different public authorities in the province, implementing five Energy Performance Contracts for nearly 60 M€ (including an EPC in hospital sector, first of its kind in Wallonia) As GRE Liege has already set up a dedicated structure in Liege province, the one-stop-shop RenoWatt, it will work closely with the pilot regions, in order to ensure similar dynamic, adapted to the region's specificities.

### **Sofia Energy Centre**

Sofia Energy Centre (SEC) is a Bulgarian consultancy specialised in energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, information dissemination and promotion of innovative energy technologies. SEC has been active in assisting local and regional authorities with development and implementation of sustainable energy policies. SEC has experience in securing financing for local sustainable energy actions, promotion of public- private partnerships, ESCO schemes, etc. SEC has advised local actors on building life-cycle assessment, tools for improving energy performance in buildings, market assessment and practical installation of energy efficient buildings.

### **Info Murcia**

Info Murcia (Instituto de Fomento de la Región de Murcia), is a Regional Development Agency in Murcia linked to the Regional Ministry of Industry Universities, Enterprises and Research..

It promotes and supports regional business sector through different aid mechanisms and technical services provided for the improvement of business competitiveness in the Murcia Region. As the Coordinator of the Covenant of Mayors in the Region of Murcia, with the support of the working group composed of other public organisms and general administrations, provides support to Covenant-ascribed Town Halls in the region with the aim of adopting energy efficiency measures and promoting compliance with the 2020 and 2030 objectives of the European Union

### **REScoop.eu**

REScoop.eu is the European federation of citizen-led community initiatives for renewable energy and energy efficiency. This brand new federation represents the interest of both citizens and REScoops towards European policy makers and advocates for an energy transition towards energy democracy.

REScoop.eu organises advocacy meetings, information workshops and exchange sessions in various European Member States. REScoop.eu also promotes the REScoop business model and supports the start-up of new REScoops by providing them with useful tools. REScoop.eu is working on a financial facilitation service for its members. Today the federation represents the interest of 1.200 European REScoops with an annual RES production of 1.500.000.000

## Energinvest

Energinvest is a strategic, financial and operational consulting firm specializing in the design, implementation, evaluation and funding of investment programs and energy efficiency projects for private and public clients. Energinvest has expertise in third-party financing mechanisms, energy performance contracting (EPC), energy public-private partnerships (EPPP) and public-private third party investment (TPI) social models in the energy efficiency sector. Present in France and Belgium, Energinvest has been managing public and private ESCO/TPF companies in financing energy efficiency and EPC projects.

## 5 Official Press releases CITYinvest

1. **Press Release Launching the CITYinvest website**-20/10/2015, Press release available in [EN](#) ;[BU](#), [ES](#) and [FR](#)
2. **Press Release from Pilot Region, Rhodope, Bulgaria** -28/03/2016- [Николай Мелемов единодушно бе преизбран за председател на АРО](#) (EN summary available)
3. **Press Release from Pilot Region, Murcia, Spain** - 5-6/7/2017 - [La Comunidad ahorrará más de seis millones de euros al año con la rehabilitación energética de 448 edificios](#) (EN summary available)
4. **Press Release from Pilot Region, Liege, Belgium**, 31/05/2017 [Energy Service”Award](#) (EN Summary available)
5. **Press Release On CITYinvest Final Conference**- 06/12/2017, CITYinvest Final Conference press release available in [EN](#), [BU](#), [ES](#) and [FR](#)

## Other Press Releases and Announcements

### SEC announcements

- 26/05/2016 - [Асоциацията на родопски общини /АРО/ провежда днес Общо събрание](#)
- 14/10/2016 - [Стартира инициативата „CITYINVEST“](#)

### INFO Murcia announcement

- 30/7/2015 - [INFO consigue fondos europeos para elaborar estrategias de mejora en la eficiencia energética de edificios de enseñanza secundaria de la Región de Murcia](#) (EN summary available)

- 26/02/2016- [La Consejería consigue fondos europeos para apoyar la estrategia regional para la mejora en la eficiencia energética de edificios públicos de titularidad de la CARM](#)
- 25/06/2016 - [La Comunidad participa en un proyecto pionero que busca nuevas formas de financiar las inversiones en eficiencia energética](#). (EN summary available)
- 09/02/17 - [La rehabilitación energética de 24 edificios de la Comunidad supone un ahorro anual de casi medio millón de euros](#) (EN summary available)
- 17/12/2017 - [La Región presenta en Bruselas las medidas de eficiencia energética que le van a permitir ahorrar más de seis millones de euros al año](#)

### Gre Liege announcement

- 11/12/2017 - [RenoWatt à Paris One Planet Summit](#) (also available in [EN](#))
- All the other news on RenoWatt project are available on GRE Liege [website news section](#).

### Other publications

- CITYnvest videos: [What exactly is CITYnvest](#) and [CITYnvest cooperatives](#)
- [CITYnvest brochure EN](#) (also available in [BU](#), [FR](#) and [ES](#))
- [CITYnvest leaflet EN](#) (also available in [DE](#), [FR](#), [BU](#), [ES](#))
- [CITYnves newsletter](#)
- Guest blog post on the [EU Smart Cities Information System](#)
- [Articles news](#)

## Contact information

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