



Green cities – fit for life

The Jury's Conclusions

for the

European Green Capital Award

of 2012 and 2013

13 October 2010

The role of the Jury

The Jury's role is to select the winners of the European Green Capital Award, which rewards cities that are leading the way with environmentally friendly urban living, on the basis of the evaluation work and recommendations provided by an Expert Panel.

The composition of the Jury

The Jury is composed of representatives from key European and international organisations in the environmental field and is chaired by the European Commission (Directorate-General for the Environment). Jury members cover a wide range of expertise and have an in depth knowledge of the issues involved.

The Jury for the European Green Capital Award of 2012 and 2013 includes the following organisations and their representatives:

- European Commission and Chair of the Jury
 - *Karl Falkenberg, Director-General*
- European Environment Agency
 - *Paul Mc Aleavy, Head of Group*
- ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
 - *Gino Van Begin, Regional Director for Europe*
- European Environmental Bureau
 - *John Hontelez, Secretary General*
- Covenant of Mayors Office
 - *Kristina Dely, Head of the Covenant of Mayors Office*
- Committee of the Regions
 - *Councillor Paula Baker (UK/ALDE)*

Conclusions

On 11 October 2010, the Jury met to consider and discuss the evaluation report and recommendations presented by the Expert Panel. The Jury expressed its appreciation of the excellent work carried out by the Expert Panel, notably its evaluation work and final report.

The final contest was tight as the scores were close and all 6 shortlisted cities (out of 17 initial applicants) had impressive achievements and strong arguments to support their individual cases.

In its deliberations on the 6 cities shortlisted on the basis of 12 indicators, the jury also paid attention to the following elements:

- The opportunities for replication of best practices among cities of various sizes and with different characteristics across Europe;
- The potential of the winning cities to reach out to new audiences, also with a view to promoting a growing interest in the EGC scheme, which is still in its early years;
- The cities' environmental achievements, notably in the fields of biodiversity, water, transport and fight against climate change, on-going efforts and plans for the future.

As a conclusion of its deliberations, the Jury agreed to award:

- o Vitoria-Gasteiz as the European Green Capital of 2012, and**
- o Nantes as the European Green Capital of 2013.**