Ezine No 18 - June 2015

Launch of the 2018 European Green Capital Award and the European Green Leaf 2016

Welcome to issue no. 18 of the European Green Capital Award (EGCA) & European Green Leaf (EGL) Ezine. In this issue, we are delighted to announce the call for EGCA 2018 and EGL 2016 applicants.

The Commission has launched the search for the 2018 European Green Capital. The award is given to a European city that has demonstrated a well-established record of achieving high environmental standards and is committed to ongoing and ambitious goals for future sustainable development. Cities across Europe with more than 100,000 inhabitants are eligible to apply for the title.

In addition, smaller cities with a population between 20,000 and 100,000 can apply for the European Green Leaf 2016. It recognises towns and cities that demonstrate a strong environmental record, with a particular emphasis on efforts that engage citizens' in environmental awareness, generate green growth and new jobs. The competition ran for the first time in 2015 and was well received. For 2016 the eligibility threshold has been lowered from 50,000 to 20,000 inhabitants.

European Commissioner for the Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Karmenu Vella said: "*It gives me great pleasure to launch the competitions for the ninth European Green Capital and the second European Green Leaf. I would like to encourage cities and towns to apply and to use this as an opportunity to not only highlight their environmental achievements but to also plan a sustainable future for their citizens*".

Both competitions are open to EU Member States, EU Candidate Countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland and for both, cities can apply online athttp://ec.europa.eu/europeangreencapital.

The deadline for applications is 19th October 2015. A European jury supported by a panel of renowned experts across the different environmental fields will assess the applications.

The winners of both competitions will be announced at an award ceremony in Ljubljana - next year's European Green Capital - in June 2016.

The Will Your City 2018? leaflet is available to download here and the European Green Leaf 2016 leaflet is available to download here.

EGCA Applicant Workshop

The European Green Capital Award - Workshop for Applicant Cities will take place on 3rd July 2015 at the DG Environment offices in the European Commission in Brussels. The day provides potential applicants with an overview of the competition process, the do's and don'ts of applying, advice from previous applicants, finalists and winners and opportunities to network with other environmental frontrunners from across Europe.

Attendees will be greeted by Ms. Astrid Schomaker, Director F: Strategy; and Mr. Nick Banfield, Head of Unit: Knowledge, Risks & Urban Environment, DG Environment.

Attendees will have the opportunity to learn more about the application process, focusing on a number of key areas including:

- The Benefits of being a European Green Capital;
- How to complete a successful application;
- Overview of Application form & Guidance Note;
- Key elements of the winning bid to become the 2017 EGC;
- Sharing Good Practices across Europe.

Bristol currently holds the title of European Green Capital for 2015. As part of the workshop, Mark Leach, Bristol City Council, will discuss the experience of the City of Bristol in applying for the Award, how their EGC programme has been developed and how winning the Award has benefited Bristol.

The newly awarded 2017 EGC (winner to be announced on 18th June 2015) will also share their experiences in applying and give key elements of their bid they believe were critical to winning.

Ms. Hedwig van Delden, former member of the Expert Panel under indicator 3: Green urban areas incorporating sustainable land use, will also share her experiences from an evaluation perspective.

If you are interested in finding out more about this workshop or wish to register to attend please email Greencapitalsecretariat@rpsgroup.com. To view the agenda for the day please click here.

EGCA Animated Video

The European Green Capital Award has just launched a new animated video to promote the award. The video is available to watch on YouTube here or below and please feel free to share it and embed it on your website.

UPCOMING EVENTS

13-14	**Jun**	**Bristol, UK**	**Bristol Festival of Nature**
13-21	**Jun**	**Bristol, UK**	**Big Green Week**
15-19	**Jun**	**Europe**	**Sustainable Energy Week**
16-17	**Jun**	**Warwick, UK**	**Sustainable Vehicle Technologies 2015**
16-17	**Jun**	**Bucharest, Romania**	**2nd European Conference on Sustainable Urban mobility Plans**
17	**Jun**	**Brussels, Belgium**	**ECOFUNDING Breakfast in the European Parliament**
18	**Jun**	**Bristol, UK**	**EGCA 2017 & EGL 2015 Award Ceremony**
25-26	**Jun**	**Innsbruck, Austria**	**World Collaborative Mobility Congress 2015**
29-3	**Jun-Jul**	**Bristol, UK**	**52 IMCL Conference on Achieving Green Healthy Cities**
3	**Jul**	**Brussels, Belgium**	**EGCA 2018 Applicant Workshop**
9-12	**Jul**	**East Sussex, UK**	**The European Conference on Sustainability, Energy & the Environment 2015**
28-31	**Jul**	**Lisbon, Portugal**	**14th International Conference on Mobility and Transport**
16-18	**Sep**	**Savona, Italy**	**Sustainable Places 2015**
28	**Sep**	**Frankfurt, Germany**	**European Transport Conference 2015**

5-9	**Oct**	**Bordeaux, France**	**ITS World Congress 2015**
7-8	**Oct**	**Malaga, Spain**	**Greencities & Sustainability**
20-23	**Oct**	**Vienna, Austria**	**Walk21 Vienna**
19-20	**Nov**	**Brussels, Belgium**	**The Annual Polis Conference 2015**

CONTACT US

If you have any questions, queries or information you would like to share on the EGCA or EGL please do not hesitate to contact us in the following ways:
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