



Monday 16 July 2007.

**A European metropolitan response to energy use, climate change and the reduction of urban greenhouse gas emissions**

**An invitation for Expressions of Interest in EUCO2 80/50 - an effective Europe wide mitigation project under the INTERREG IVC programme of the EU**

Europe's major urban areas are estimated to generate some 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions. The International Panel on Climate Change, the IPCC, and the European Commission have concluded that a reduction of 80% on 1990 emission levels, by 2050, will be required if average global temperature rise is to be contained to 2 degrees centigrade. Beyond this the IPCC concludes that it may not be possible to stabilise global climate change and that life on earth, as we know it, will be at risk.

There is a window of opportunity over the next 10 - 15 years during which effective action must be taken to make the emission reductions required and reduce the risk to a manageable level. It is not a question of believing particular forecasts of global warming but of recognising that avoiding risk is prudent and can bring benefits.

For the politicians involved with the strategic future of Europe's metropolitan areas, which contain some 60 - 70% of Europe's population of 490 million, energy use, climate change and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions is a major issue of common interest, for the following reasons.

- 1 Energy is one of the fundamental resource needs of metropolitan areas. Although energy supply is now an open market in Europe, metropolitan areas need to consider the security and sustainability of their sources of energy supply as well as their greenhouse gas implications. Locally generated energy from renewable energy sources can be more secure and have less environmental impact.
- 2 It will take time for public opinion and the consumer industries to move towards the necessary changes in lifestyle and in products. Greening urban energy supply may be the most effective medium term approach.
- 3 However, energy supply and demand needs to be addressed together. Urban energy demand is different across Europe depending on the climatic circumstances and the balance between the need for heating and cooling. Energy supply, housing, industry and transportation are the main generators of greenhouse gas emissions but the balance between them also varies across Europe.
- 4 Metropolitan areas need to understand their sources of energy supply, the way this is used and the greenhouse gas emissions generated. Without such an assessment of sources and emissions it will not be possible to adopt effective responses on an informed basis. Metropolitan decision makers need to know what emission reduction measures to take in their own particular circumstances and how effective they will be in helping to reach the 80% reduction target.



**EUCO2 80/50** - being formulated for submission under the INTERREG IVC programme of the EU in 2007

It is for these reasons that METREX, the Network of European Metropolitan Regions and Areas, has been working with the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research to develop and pilot the Greenhouse gas Regional Inventory Project [GRIP] model. The Tyndall Centre is one of the foremost applied research bodies in the field of climate change. The pilot was carried out during 2007 under the INTERREG IIIC programme of the European Commission. It concluded that the GRIP model provides a unique and effective tool for the assessment of metropolitan greenhouse gas emissions, the exploration of mitigation scenarios and the adoption of mitigation strategies. Such strategies will clearly need to be integrated into wider metropolitan economic, social, environmental and transportation strategies.

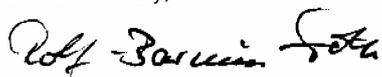
It is in this context and because our common interest in addressing the combined issues of energy supply, climate change and greenhouse gas emission reduction that the project Core Partners commend the attached Prospectus for the EUCO2 80/50 project for your consideration. METREX includes some 50 of the 100+ metropolitan regions and areas of Europe in its membership. It is hoped that all METREX colleagues will participate in this vital project and that as many as is possible of the other European metropolitan areas will also choose to do so, recognising that this is an issue that has to be addressed collectively, effectively and with urgency.

You will see that the project is structured around metropolitan participation within eight European transnational spaces, that the benefits of participation are considerable and that the cost of participation is not great, given the expenditure that has already been incurred by METREX partners in developing and piloting of the GRIP model. It is intended to make an Application for co-funding of the project, under the INTERREG IVC programme of the European Union, in September 2007 and the project is anticipated to run for 27 months from March 2008 to June 2010. Practical outcomes and outputs will be disseminated as the project proceeds.

As the Core Partners in EUCO2 80/50 we are committed to the project because of the urgent need for Europe's major urban areas to take effective action to mitigate their greenhouse gas emissions and secure their carbon light futures. We hope for a positive response from all Europe's metropolitan areas. This is an issue of environmental and economic priority.

Please do respond by completing the attached Invitation for Expressions of Interest and faxing this to **METREX at +44 (0) 1292 317074 by Friday 21 September 2007**. You may also wish to contact Roger Read, Secretary General, METREX, at [secretariat@eurometrex.org](mailto:secretariat@eurometrex.org) for any points for clarification on the Prospectus.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Rolf-Barnim Foth  
Senate's Chancellery - Director of Political Planning Division



Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg - EUCO2 80/50 Lead Partner



**METREX** is registered as an Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif (AISBL) with the Ministry of Justice Belgium. Identification Number: 6477/2001. Registry: Scotland Europa, Rond-Point Schuman 6, 1040 Bruxelles. Presidency: Dr. Bernd Steinacher, Regionaldirektor, Verband Region-Stuttgart, Kronenstrasse 25, D-70 174 Stuttgart, Germany. Tel +49 711 2275910, Fax +49 711 2275970. e-mail. [Steinacher@region-stuttgart.org](mailto:Steinacher@region-stuttgart.org). Secretariat: Roger Read, Secretary General, 125 West Regent Street, Glasgow G2 2SA, Scotland UK. Tel. +44 (0) 141 287 8339, Fax. +44 (0) 141 287 8340, e mail. [secretariat@eurometrex.org](mailto:secretariat@eurometrex.org), web. [www.eurometrex.org](http://www.eurometrex.org)

## **EUCO2 80/50 prospective Core Partnership**

- 1 Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg - Lead Partner
- 2 METREX - Core Partner [representing 50 European metropolitan regions and areas]
- 3 Verband Region Stuttgart - Practice Partner
- 4 Glasgow and the Clyde Valley - Core Partner [GRIP pilot project Lead Partner]
- 5 Stockholm County Council - Core Partner [GRIP pilot Partner]
- 6 Regione Emilia-Romagna - Core Partner [GRIP pilot Partner]
- 7 Regione del Veneto - Core Partner [GRIP pilot Partner]
- 8 Institut d'aménagement et d'urbanisme de la région d'île de france [IAURIF]  
- Core Partner
- 9 Comunidad de Madrid - Core Partner
- 10 Organisation for the Planning and Environmental Protection of Athens - Core Partner
- 11 Capitalregion Berlin-Brandenburg - Core Partner
- 12 YTV Helsinki Metropolitan Area - Core Partner

Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research

Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg - Metropolitan Region of Hamburg - November 2007  
Conference - **Climate Change - The role of Metropolitan regions in the Current Debate –  
Best Practice and Cooperation.**

See the web site [www.climatechange.hamburg.de](http://www.climatechange.hamburg.de)

Greater London Authority - METREX London 2008 Conference on  
**Climate change/Urban change**



See the web site [www.EUCO2.org](http://www.EUCO2.org) for continuing information about the project



See the web site at [www.grip.org.uk](http://www.grip.org.uk) for further information on the GRIP model



See the web site at [www.eurometrex.org](http://www.eurometrex.org) for further information about METREX



A European metropolitan response to energy use, climate change and the reduction of urban greenhouse gas emissions

**Expression of interest in participating in a Europe wide metropolitan greenhouse gas emissions mitigation project - EUCO2 80/50 - under the INTERREG IVC programme of the EU**

Name.....

Position.....

Organisation.....

Address.....

.....

.....

.....

Telephone .....

Fax .....

E-mail .....

Signature.....

**Please fax to METREX at +44 [0] 1292 317074 by Friday 21 September 2007**



**METREX** 125 West Regent Street GLASGOW G2 2SA Scotland UK