



Terrain view Spinnerei, © Thomas Riese

**Fraunhofer Center for
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LEIPZIG AS A LIGHTHOUSE CITY IN: SPARCS - SUSTAINABLE ENERGY POSITIVE & ZERO CARBON COMMUNITIES



Background

Cities were one of the key actors in the Paris climate summit. The EU has committed to the goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) developing a Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET plan) and introducing the Smart Cities Initiative with the goal of 30 European cities acting as lighthouse cities, and fostering replication, at the forefront of the transition towards a low carbon future by 2020.

Project description

SPARCS engages 31 partners from eight EU Member States (Finland, Germany, Portugal, Cyprus, Greece, Belgium, Czech Republic, Italy) and 2 non-EU countries (Ukraine, Island). The Lighthouse cities Espoo (Finland) and Leipzig (Germany) implement large demonstration projects. The Fellow cities Reykjavik (Island), Maia (Portugal), Lviv (Ukraine), Kifissia (Greece) and Kladno (Czech Republic) prepare replication projects with hands-on feasibility studies.

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Our services

The SPARCS project at Fraunhofer IMW is conducted through its Innovation Acceptance Group. Fraunhofer IMW is responsible for two contributions:

Fraunhofer IMW's Innovation Acceptance Group supports the participating cities in the development of a guide with tools and procedures to foster social empowerment of citizens and relevant stakeholders for the development and implementation of SPARCS solutions.

As a member of the Leipzig consortium, the institute accompanies the City of Leipzig during the implementation of energy transformation actions within the project.

Moreover, Fraunhofer IMW's Professionalizing Knowledge Transfer Processes Unit provides a methodological framework to develop a City Vision 2050 for urban transformation and energy transition, piloting in Leipzig, and supporting other participating cities in developing their own vision of the future for 2050 by presenting the lessons learned.



European Union

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Project partners:



VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd. (coordinator) + 29 Partners from 8 EU member states

Project homepage:

www.sparcs.info

Project duration:

1.10.2019-30.9.2024