



Keeping our cities renewably warm

Second in a series of KeepWarm e-seminars on the modernisation of district heating systems

8 October 2020 at 14h-15h30 CEST (WebEx)

Register here: <https://iclei-events.webex.com/iclei-events/onstage/g.php?MTID=e1c995a325aa7911fc7920088a558d6ac>

The EU-funded project [KeepWarm](#) aims to accelerate cost-effective investments in the **modernisation of district heating systems** (DHS), particularly in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) where DHSs are often still inefficient and remain overly reliant on fossil fuels. KeepWarm therefore promotes sustainable pathways to retrofit existing DHS by upgrading their **operational efficiency** and switching to local **greener energy sources**.

There is a distinct need to retrofit **renewable energy** (RE) technologies into DHSs across Europe, as a means of accelerating decarbonisation, not to mention added-value in terms of public health, economic innovation, etc. The technologies and infrastructure necessary to harvest RE (as well as sustainable excess heat) sources are not only already technologically mature, but also financially attractive. Most DHSs would find themselves able to start RE deployment today, whether increasing the RE-share to reduce their coal/oil/gas needs or with an even more ambitious full **phase-out of fossil fuels**.

Our second international e-seminar¹ emphasises especially the great potential from exploiting **solar thermal** and **biomass** resources (as well as other RE like **heat pumps**) by forward-thinking DHSs. It will particularly focus on relevant examples from four KeepWarm target countries: **Croatia**, **Latvia**, **Slovenia** and **Serbia**. Even though the common thread in all four cases will be about DHS RE-retrofits, the contexts to be presented still offer sufficient variety for distinct perspectives, and with insights applicable to other countries and RE sources.

Additional to these four country cases, KeepWarm will also formally launch its newest public materials, especially its [RE-DH guidance booklet](#) meant to inspire strategic decision-making and further replication/investments for integrating/switching to RE-DH.

¹ The first e-seminar, "[Keeping our cities efficiently warm](#)", focused on energy efficiency retrofits for DHSs in Austria, Czech Republic and Ukraine, as well as launching our "[DHS Showroom](#)" which highlights all 23 of KeepWarm's pilot DHSs and provides quick summaries of their national contexts.

Agenda

- 14h **Welcome and moderation:** George Stiff and Carsten Rothballer, ICLEI Europe
- 14h10 **The implementation of solar energy in DHS, cases from Croatia,** Marko Čavar, REGEA (Regional Energy Agency of Northwestern Croatia)
- 14h20 **The use of biomass and smart devices in District Heating in Latvia,** Signe Mārtiņkrista, ZREA (Zemgale Regional Energy Agency)
- 14h30 **The role and contribution of DH to the development of sustainable heating in Slovenia,** Nejc Jurko, KSSENA (Energy Agency of Savinjska, Šaleška and Koroška) and Jure Čižman, JSI (Jožef Stefan Institute)
- 14h40 **The Priboj heating plant in Serbia and its path towards the complete transition of heating from fossil fuel to biomass wood chips,** Goran Živković, Vinča Institute
- 14h50 **Moderated Q&A**
- 15h25 **Wrap-up and conclusions:** Carsten Rothballer, ICLEI Europe



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