



PRESS RELEASE

The first Introductory Regional Workshop on the Project Covenant of Mayors-East in Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan

Almaty city, February 19-20, 2014 – the team of the project «Covenant of Mayors–East» with the support of the European Union conducted the **First Regional Workshop for potential and acting signatories of the Covenant of Mayors** in Almaty city.

The goal of this Seminar: capacity building and training of the local government representatives, energy managers, national coordinators, other stakeholders and potential partners of the «Covenant of Mayors» in the area of energy management, promotion of the implementation of the commitments made by the cities-signatories under the Covenant.

About 45 participants from five Central Asian countries participated in the Seminar:

- Representatives of the current cities-signatories of “Covenant of Mayors”,
- Representatives of the cities – potential signatories of the Covenant of Mayors,
- Representatives of the national coordinators and supporters of the Covenant.

Today 9 cities-signatories have signed «Covenant of Mayors»: Aksu, Astana, Lisakovsk, Petropavlovsk, Satpayev, Taraz (Kazakhstan), Osh and Talas (Kyrgyz Republic) and Somoniyon (Tajikistan).

The Seminar contributed to the implementation of the project «Covenant of Mayors- East» and promoted cooperation between already acting and potential signatories of Covenant of Mayors, national coordinators and supporters of the Covenant in the Central Asian region. Moreover it created a basis for the experience exchange between the cities of Central Asia in the area of energy management, energy efficiency and sustainable energy.

The Seminar was facilitated by international experts: leader of the capacity building work package of the “Covenant of Mayors” project Andriy Kyrychiv, Association «Energy Efficient Cities of the Ukraine»; scientific/technical Project member, Irene Gabrielaitiene, PhD, EC Joint Research Center; coordinator of the project Help Desk Iryna Horodyska, and the project technical expert Maryana Prystupa.

The project activities are financed by the European Union.

Organizer: “Covenant of Mayors” project team in collaboration with the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia (CAREC).

Venue: CAREC, 40 Orbita-1, Almaty city.

Note for the editor: The “Covenant of Mayors” is a Flagship Initiative of the European Union, which unites local, regional and national authorities in achieving voluntary commitments on reduction of CO2 emission by at least 20% as of 2020 through increase of energy efficiency and introduction of renewable energy sources.

Additional information is available on the official website of the project: http://www.soglasheniemerov.eu/index_ru.html or through the contact data given below:

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"The project is implemented by the European Association of local authorities " ENERGY CITIES", in partnership with the European Association of local authorities "Climate Alliance", the Ukrainian Association of Energy Efficient Cities, and the Central Asian Regional Environmental Centre"

The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

"The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders".