

INTERNATIONAL CLEANTECH NETWORK

NEWSLETTER

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NETWORK

Table of Contents



1. Executive Summary
2. ICN Project Development
3. Internationalisation
4. Strategic Partnerships
5. C40 City Solutions Platform
6. Knowledge Sharing

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**GLOBAL
NETWORK
OF LEADING
CLEANTECH
CLUSTERS**

Executive Summary



The first six months of 2017 have been very exciting for the International Cleantech Network (ICN) focusing on project development, internationalisation and knowledge-sharing within the cleantech sector. In March, ICN held its Annual Meeting in Lyon in France, hosted by ICN member Tenerrdis.

The Annual Meeting also provided an opportunity for clusters to exchange best practice, discuss ICN strategy and visit relevant cleantech and energy companies in the region of Lyon.

This year, ICN also executed a number of agreements with cleantech actors, including the Urban Future Lab incubator in New York City and Sustainia, which showcases ground-breaking cleantech solutions through its joint UN database. Finally, companies from the ICN network are also participating in the newly initiated C40 City Solutions Platform, which aims to help cities achieve their sustainability goals.

ICN Project Development

ICN leverages its position as a leading hub of cleantech actors to drive collaborate on large-scale multilateral projects. This year alone, ICN has initiated, finalized and submitted three project proposals. All results are expected in fall 2017.

Project #1: SWITCH Africa Green

This project aims to boost the green economy and establish a bioeconomy cluster in Mpumalanga Province of South Africa. This project was submitted March 2017.

Project #2: COSME

If granted, this funding will support specialized services to act as a springboard for ICN members' SMEs to enter dynamic cleantech markets in the United States and China. COSME was submitted in May.



Project #3: DIXHEAT

This project, submitted in June, proposes to retrofit Europe's inefficient district heating networks.

Internationalisation

ICN provides a unique platform for members to engage with cleantech actors around the world, and offers opportunities for partnerships and collaboration to members.



ICN Passport is a service offering members one-stop-entry into a foreign market through local key contacts, privileged access to local clusters, including meeting facilities.

ICN Passport has been used extensively in 2017, facilitating business contacts and opportunities for members' SMEs.

Strategic Partnerships

ICN provides a unique platform for members to engage with cleantech actors around the world.



In 2017, ICN signed an MOU with Sustainia, allowing companies to showcase their sustainable solutions on the Global Opportunity Explorer, a joint project with the UN Global Compact. The Global Opportunity Explorer highlights the opportunities businesses in sustainable development.



ICN has also formed a strategic partnership with Urban Future Lab, NYC's leading clean energy incubator. The partnership allows ICN members to benefit from a fast-tracked application procedure, providing them with a springboard into the dynamic US cleantech market.

C40 City Solutions Platform

CSP aims to provide sustainable city solutions through public-private partnership. The pilot projects will take place in the following cities: Rio de Janeiro (Waste management), Seattle (Mobility), Melbourne (Water management) and Sydney (Renewable Energy).

ICN members provide solutions for the City Solution Platform, and 36 ICN member companies have applied to participate so far.

The C40 CSP project is well underway, with workshops already taking place in the four cities chosen for the pilot project. Several ICN member companies have taken part in each workshop held so far.



Knowledge Sharing

In 2017, ICN has sought out and circulated information for the benefit of its members and held cluster-2-cluster meetings both at the Annual Meeting as well as virtual task force meetings through conference calls.

In addition, members have been informed on an ongoing basis about opportunities through ICN newsletters, the webpage and direct e-mail.

Such knowledge sharing keeps members up-to-date on key events in the cleantech world. It also allows them to learn from each other, including identifying effective SME support services used by partners which could be implemented at home.





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