



WHY WE LIKE TO HOST ENERGY CITIES' FORUM



MEET IN 
MECHELEN 

WE VALUE EU COLLABORATIONS

- Population of **87.000 citizens** (5th city in Flanders)
- **High climate ambitions:** SECAP 'Klimaatactieplan Mechelen'.
87 ktCO₂ reduction by 2025 // -40% CO₂ reduction by 2030
- **Covenant of Mayors signatory since 2012.**
Member of the Board of Covenant of Mayors in 2021
- **Green Leaf Award winner 2020**
- Selected for **Intelligent Cities Challenge** and **EU City Facility**
- **Member of EU networks** i.e. Energy Cities
- Co-coordinator of **Urban Agenda's Thematic Partnership on Building Decarbonisation** (2024 – 2027)
- **Partner in multiple EU projects** on climate mitigation and climate adaptation (Interreg, LIFE, EUI, ...)





WE HAVE PLACES TO SHOW

Local practices and initiatives include, among others: **An energy community in a social housing neighborhood**; a smart e-mobility hub and an innovative heat network with sewage water heat recovery and borehole thermal energy storage, a boat tour along the river Dyle showcasing biodiversity and climate adaptation measures, ...



WE HAVE PLACES TO SHOW

Local initiatives to showcase include ...

- [Otterbeek](#) – solar community energy project in a social housing neighbourhood
- [Keerdok](#) – urban renewal with energy-smart mobility hub and fifth generation heat network
- [Dyle](#) – green-blue axis that crosses the inner city of Mechelen and heart of EUI WATSUPS
- [Predikheren](#) – former monastery converted to city library and cultural hub
- ...

WE HAVE STORIES TO SHARE

Many of these initiatives were realised with the support of EU-funded projects. **Mechelen is involved in ambitious European projects** in the fields of energy efficiency, renewable energy, circular economy and climate adaptation.



WE HAVE STORIES TO SHARE

Project	Description	Countries	Period
REFINED	REsidential retrofit, innovative FInancing and NEighbourhood Demonstrations	BE, NL	2025 – 2029
MultiRoofs	Multifunctional Rooftops in Urban Areas	BE, NL, FR, NL, IE	2025 – 2029
<u>Building Decarbonisation Partnership</u>	Integrated Renovation Programmes and Local Heating and Cooling Plans	BE, ES, DE, CZ, IT, FI, PL, HU, LV	2025 – 2027
<u>WATSUPS</u>	Water As The Source of Urban Public Space	BE	2024 – 2027
<u>Waterwarmth</u>	Sustainable heating with aquathermal energy	BE, NL, FR, DE, DK, SE	2023 – 2026
<u>GRITH</u>	Green Renewable Industrial Transition Hotspots	BE, NL, FR, DE, DK, SE	2023 – 2026
<u>PreUse</u>	Public Responses to Enable the Use of Salvaged Building Elements	BE, FR, NL, LU	2023 – 2027
<u>TANDEMS</u>	Encouraging the collaboration between municipalities and energy cooperatives	BE, NL, BG, AT	2022 – 2025
<u>CondoReno</u>	Creating Integrated Home Renovation Services for Condominium Associations	BE, NL, FR	2022 – 2026

WE LOVE TO CO-CREATE

The administration believes in a co-creative approach and emphasizes participation, as seen in initiatives such as our Heat Coalition, local energy cooperative Klimaan, citizens' panel, and other participation projects.



WE LOVE TO CO-CREATE

Our team: political representatives, technical experts and logistic coordinators:



Arthur Orlans

Deputy for Climate & Energy
Board of Mayor and Eldermen



Ighor Van de Vyver

Heat policy advisor
Team Climate



Cédric Goessaert

Communication & events
Team Climate



Filip Van Laer

Coordinator
Meet in Mechelen



>10 colleagues

EU project leaders
Team Climate

**See us
in action**

- [How Mechelen is getting everyone on board to deliver healthy heat](#) (article)
- [Addressing social and technical challenges in condominium renovation](#) (article)
- [Reimagining Mechelen - A City, its River and the Voices of Nature](#) (podcast)
- [Experience of Municipalities with EUFC: The case of Mechelen, Belgium](#) (movie)
- [Meet, sleep, teambuilding. Meet in Mechelen is there for you](#) (website)

WE KNOW THE PERFECT VENUE

The Lamot Conference and Heritage Center is **ideally located in the historic city center**, close to hotels and just a pleasant 10 minute walk along the Dyle to the central station. Its auditorium can host up to 298 people; and parallel sessions and side events can be held in one of the eight other rooms.



WE KNOW THE PERFECT VENUE

Lamot Conference and heritage centre - [link](#)

- Right in the city centre and close to hotels, bars and restaurants
- Pleasant 10 minute walk along Dyle to Mechelen's train station
- Auditorium with capacity up to 298#
- 8 Rooms for sessions and side events from 30# up to 300#
- [Re-experience our Climate Congress at Lamot Centre in April 2024](#)

Other examples of **events we (co-)organised** in Lamot:

Event	Organisation	Media	Period
Climate Congress	City of Mechelen	Aftermovie	April 2024
Day of Spatial Planning – Energy	Association for Spatial Planning (VRP)	Webpage	Nov 2023
100 District Forum	Architecture Workroom Brussels (AWB)	Webpage	Feb 2024
16th Energy Congress	Embuild Flanders and Flux 50	Webpage	Mar 2025

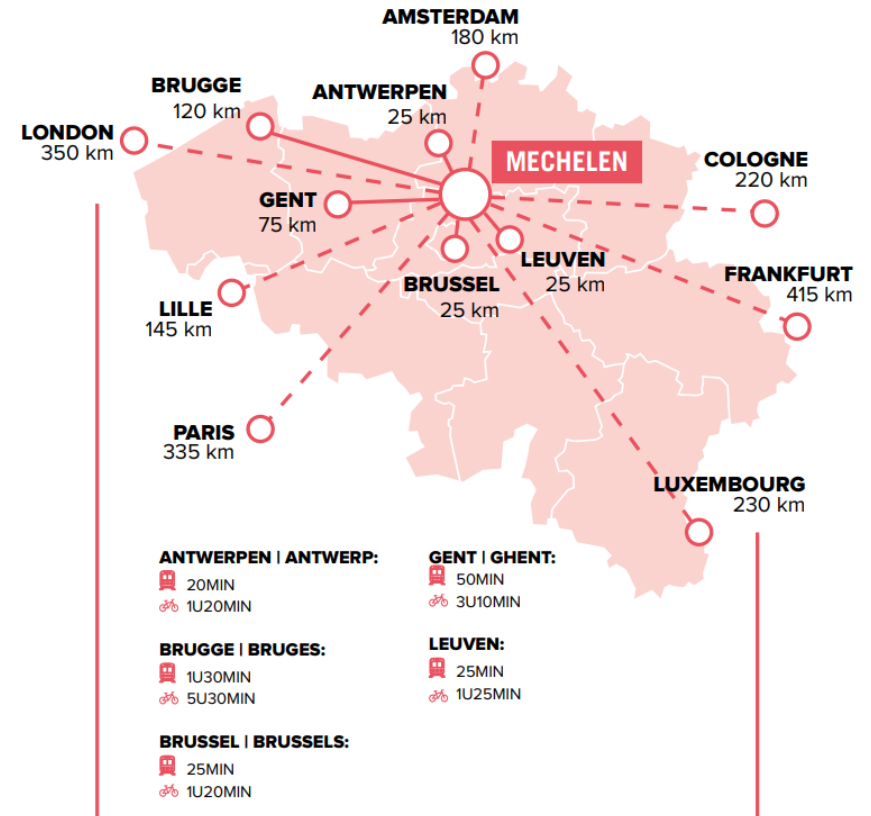


WE ARE THE BEATING HEART OF EUROPE

There are **direct connections to key transport hubs** such as Brussels Airport, Antwerp and Rotterdam. Mechelen has a direct train connection to the train stations in the European Quarter of Brussels. Additionally, Energy Cities' offices in Brussels are only a 30-minute travel from Mechelen.

WE ARE THE BEATING HEART OF EUROPE

- **Direct connections** to key (inter)national transport hubs:
 - Rotterdam Central Station (NL) (1h30)
 - Antwerp Central Station (15 min.)
 - Brussels Airport (11 min.)
- Direct train connections to **European Quarter of Brussels**
 - Brussels – Luxembourg
 - Brussels – Schumann
- **Close to Energy Cities' offices** at Mundo Madou
 - Mechelen to Brussels Central and 15 min. walk from there



WE ARE READY FOR IT

An internal team has already been formed

- Political support of **the Board of Mayor and Aldermen**.
- **Meet in Mechelen** will support the local logistics.
- **The Climate Team** will serve as the main contact point for Energy Cities and mobilise relevant city departments, local actors, and European partners via their projects and networks.

Get inspired by the city of Mechelen with [this beautiful video](#) from our partner Meet in Mechelen



