Virtual founding conference of "E.I.T. – Environmental Innovative Technologies" in Timişoara (Timiş, Romania) as a counterpart of the Platform Environmental Technology in Germany on 20 and 21 October 2020

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EIT

ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES

KEY TAKE AWAYS

CONCLUSIONS

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

WATER TREATMENT

CLIMATE NEUTRALITY BUILDINGS

WASTE MANAGEMENT

RESSOURCE EFFICIENCY

DECARBINISATION

BILATERAL TASK FORCE

PU & E.I.T Romania Taskforce was formed in March 2020. We have reinforced our bilateral initiative in Oct 2020 with our partners from the Universities, Private Sector and Public Sector. Support is needed from Local Administration.

CLUSTER & PROJECT ORIENTED

Taking into account the pandemic travel restrictions, we have initiated an online cluster project oriented approach, focusing on 4 main clusters retained now as being the most impactful : AIR, WATER, ENERGY, ACADEMICS & POLICY MAKERS.

Our purpose is to generate projects answering to local environmental issues through our joint initiative.

E.I.T ROMANIA NETWORK EXPANSION

Public sector's support is key to ensure the success of this initiative, both at local and at national level. Working together with Town Halls, Regional Committees and Public Ministeries is key in order to generate projects with real socio-economic value which can improve our overall life quality.

Plattform Umwelttechnik

SUMMARY
DAY #1:

- Too few participants, both from Romania and Baden-Wuerttemberg.
    - Romanian side: only the people who were all present at the meetings in March 2020. Additional participants were: TESTO (Cluj), AQUATIM, AQUADEMICA, additional Faculty of Arts & Design (UVT), Denkstatt and National Centre of Sustainable Consumption and Production (double role as newly elected counsellor at City Hall Timisoara).
    - The idea was to extend the EIT Taskforce formed March before spreading the EIT Romania information to a larger target population.
    - More interested stakeholders/representatives are needed form the private sector, also from the local authorities.
    - Baden-Wuerttemberg: the persons present in March plus a representative of the company Ascentec GmbH.
- Petronela will deal with the design of the website and other promotional material.
- More dynamism has been brought into the process.
- In Romania there are no helpful links such as to Steinbeis companies.
- According to Petronela, it was a productive meeting, even if the participation of private companies left much to be desired.
- HAI did not participate but expressed the will to participate in EIT.
- ActualConnect (Cosmin Georgescu and Bogdan Stoica) have also made a declaration of intent to participate.
- ***During the current difficult situation (global corona pandemic) it is important to look for effective ways of further cooperation such as on-line exchange!***

DAY #2:

Video greeting from MD Helmfried Meinel (Ministry for the Environment, Climate and Energy Baden-Wuerttemberg)

Main results of the breakout group discussions:

a) air (Leader: Dr Volker Bauer) – contact details (see list of participants)
- The focus of interest for the time being is on air improvement in Timişoara.
- On Friday, 2020/10/30, the interested parties will meet via a Skype conference.
- The aim is to exchange information on possible projects.
- Hopes are high for the participation of Romanian companies interested in cooperating with PU companies.

b) Water/wastewater (Leader: Robert Körner) – contact details (see list of participants)
- AQUATIM shows particular interest about sewage sludge treatment.
- Currently, industrial and landfill wastewater is discharged into the municipal sewage treatment plants. → The sewage sludge is therefore not suitable for use as fertiliser (hazardous waste).
- There is great potential for finding innovative solutions.
- Networking between industry and universities could lead to major improvements.
- Mrs Cristina Borca (AQUATIM) has given an indication of a public procurement platform (www.licitatii-seap.ro), (Romanian: seems more like an auction platform.)
- Possibly Petronela could give insight here.

- It is expected that Romanian tenders will also be published on the European public procurement platform TED (https://ted.europa.eu).
- For market development in Romania, it would be helpful for a plant manufacturer like WEHRLE to have a local partner company with a network of waste management and/or industrial companies and associations (topic: wastewater treatment, water recycling, recovery of valuable materials).
- If there is the possibility of an exchange with decision-makers (Ministry of Environment?) on the subject of landfill leachate or industrial wastewater, WEHRLE would be happy to provide direct or indirect advice, if necessary by contributing to E.I.T. events.

c) *energy (Leader: Philipp Poferl) – contact details (see list of participants)*
- Result slide (initiators, target group, opportunities, topics, challenges)
- The most important thing for constructive cooperation is to find additional partners!

d) *academia (Leader: Prof. Dr Ulrich Trägner) – contact details (see list of participants)*
- The Mannheim University of Applied Sciences strives for close cooperation with the West University Timişoara (UVT) within the ERASMUS programme (funding programme of the European Union).

STATUS OF THE EIT FOUNDATION (PETRONELA):

- Is in the legislative process (duration: approx. 3 months).
- Sponsorships: preparation of a list of names, intentions, etc.
- Memberships: Preparation of proposals for contributions, application forms, statutes, etc.
- Creation of a website.
- Intensive activities to attract members in Romania.
- ***To sign, the German partners must physically travel to Romania; it is currently uncertain when this will be possible.***

Stuttgart and Timişoara, 30 October 2020

signed Ingrid Müller signed Petronela Solovastru