



PRESS MEMO

COVENANT OF MAYORS

The Covenant of Mayors is an initiative promoted by Local and Regional Authorities of the European Union and supported by the European Commission for energy saving and fight against the climate change. The Covenant is a commitment by signatory towns and cities to go beyond the objectives of EU energy policy in terms of reduction in CO₂ emissions through enhanced energy efficiency and cleaner energy production and use.

EIB FACILITY ELENA

Elena - European Local Energy Assistance, is a financial instrument of the European Investment Bank which provides non-refundable grants to Municipalities and Regions for technical assistance relating to investment projects in energy saving, energy efficiency, renewable energies, and sustainable urban transport.

ZLIN REGION IN BRUSSELS

The Rose House
46 Boulevard de la Cambre
B1000 – Bruxelles
Tel. (32) 2 6411760(8)
Fax (32) 2 6411769

Zlín Region in Brussels organized the presentation of Covenant of Mayors and EIB ELENA Facility for Czech and Slovak Regions in Brussels

The global fight against climate change is a top priority for the EU and local actors can profit of several initiatives for realising projects in the field of energy saving and energy efficacy. The Zlín Region in Brussels organised an event to explain how.

On the 2nd of March 2010, the Zlín Region in Brussels has hosted at the city Regus conference centre a meeting with the Covenant of Mayors and the participation of the European Investment Bank (EIB) in videoconference from Luxembourg.

The event, the fifth of a series that is involving all EU Regions, was the unique targeting specifically the Czech and Slovak Regions. Participants, including Mr. Doubrava from EC DG Energy, discussed contents and modalities of membership within the Covenant of Mayors as well as the potential advantages for local administrations in getting involved.

The EIB introduced the recent ELENA Facility that provides funds - up to 90% of eligible costs - connected to public investments in energy saving and energy efficiency. This technical support may be of different types, for instance: feasibility and market studies, structuring of programs, business plans, energy audits, preparation of tendering procedures and contractual arrangements and project implementation units. Actually, the ELENA facility, created in partnership between the European Commission and the EIB, ensures that municipalities and regions in Europe have access to financial specialists and technical experts to realize efficient investment programs in energy efficiency and renewable technologies. Those projects will contribute to fighting climate change and to the creation of much-needed new job for local companies and service providers.

Presentations have been followed by a debate and an exchange of information among participants.

For more information about the Covenant of Mayors, see:

www.eumayors.eu

For more information about the EIB and the ELENA Facility, see:

http://www.eib.org/products/technical_assistance/elena/index.htm

For more information about the Zlín Region in Brussels and its activities, see: www.zlinregioninbrussels.eu



Press release
March 2010

Date:
02. 03. 2010

Editors reserve the rights to abridge the releases, respectively for their stylistic and linguistic adjustment. The author accounts for objective accuracy. The material contained in this press release is provided for general information purposes only and does not contain a comprehensive analysis of each item described. Links to external sites should facilitate readers' access to information and we do not take responsibility for the currency of the links or the contents of the web pages referred to. • **Publisher:** Representative Office of the Zlin Region in Brussels • **Body of Editors:** Mattia Crosetto, Petra Janošková • **Graphic design:** HAL9000Limited ©2009