

## PRESS INFORMATION

### **Biofuel Cities European Partnership – Looking forward to 2009**

**Freiburg, 17 December 2008 – As 2008 comes to an end, the Biofuel Cities European Partnership looks back at its achievements and anticipates a 2009 rich with events and activities.**

More than one year has passed since the Biofuel Cities European Partnership was officially launched at the Clean Vehicles and Fuels Symposium in Stockholm, Sweden, in November 2007. Now, with 2008 drawing to an end, the Partnership looks back at its achievements so far and offers a preview of what is going to happen in the coming months.

In 2008, the number of participants continuously increased, with the figure now exceeding 1,200. The website [www.biofuel-cities.eu](http://www.biofuel-cities.eu) has developed exciting new features, where interested stakeholders can access a wide range of information on the varied and sometimes controversial world of biofuels. New this year was the Networking Corner, where companies and organisations working in biofuels can be easily discovered and contacted. If your company is not already there, be sure to alter your contact details to be included. Moreover, the Biofuel Cities online databases contain more than 230 projects, 380 resources and almost 200 events, which together make the website one of the most complete and reliable source of information for all those working or interested in biofuels.

Only in the last months of the year, several workshops and study tours were organised, giving participants the opportunity to learn about the application of biofuels. In October and November, three important events took place: namely, the final workshop for European biofuels end-users in Warsaw (Poland); the final Biofuel Cities End-user Study Tour in Tübingen (Germany), and the workshop on current developments in the EU biofuel policy, in Cracow (Poland). The high level of participation and involvement in all the events clearly demonstrates the interest of end-users, many of whom are local governments, in learning more about this topic.

Building on this success, the Biofuel Cities team is now looking forward to the New Year. The new agreement on the use of biofuels again reconstitutes the field of biofuels. In this new scenario, the Biofuel Cities European Partnership, as a neutral stakeholder platform, will keep on contributing to the debate on biofuels for transport.

The partnership has already planned numerous events and activities for next year. Products, such as a Technical Guidance on the Application of Biofuels, a Guide on Sustainable Biofuel Procurement and a Policy Handbook will all be ready in the upcoming months. A monitoring system for biofuel projects, in the form of an easy-to-use online tool, will also be available soon, enabling registered participants to assess their biofuel projects and results. Moreover, the Biofuel Cities European Partnership can be visited at the World Biofuels Market – the Europe's largest biofuels congress and exhibition - taking place in Brussels in March 2009.

Help us contribute to driving debate and progress in the biofuel sector. Join the Biofuel Cities European Partnership now!

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### **Background Information:**

The Biofuel Cities European Partnership is a forum for the application of biofuels. Open to all stakeholders in the area of biofuels for vehicles, it offers [www.biofuel-cities.eu](http://www.biofuel-cities.eu) - a one-stop-shop for information on biofuels application; online facilities, workshops and study tours to exchange and network with your peers and learn from experts; news, publications and tools to provide information, guidance and support.

Biofuel Cities European Partnership participants have full access to all features and participation is free. The Partnership was unofficially launched in August 2007, when 625 biofuels professionals and other interested stakeholders signed up. The official launch of the European Partnership took place at the Clean Vehicles and Fuels Symposium in Stockholm on November 2007.

The Biofuel Cities European Partnership was created and is managed by the Biofuel Cities project, which aims to demonstrate the broadscale use of new and innovative biofuel technologies. Biofuel Cities covers the complete chain from feedstock to biofuels production, distribution and utilisation in vehicle fleets. The project is co-ordinated by seven partners\* that share unique and extensive experiences, not only on biofuels research and application and sustainable mobility, but also on the specific needs of local governments and private enterprise. It is supported by the European Commission under the EU's Sixth Research Framework Programme.

\*SenterNovem, Exergia, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, INEM – International Network for Environmental Management, IPIEO – Institute for Fuels and Renewable Energy, NEN – Netherlands Standardisation Institute, VITO - Flemish Institute for Technological Research

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