



Accelerating the Future of District Heating: From Policy to Practice The REHEATEAST transnational workshop Slovenia, Hungary, Slovakia

Wednesday, 6th May 2026, from 9.00 to 11.45, online

The European Union has set ambitious climate and energy targets for 2050. Achieving these goals – while also improving affordability and energy security – requires maintaining and further developing district heating (DH) as a cornerstone of future heating and energy systems. However, the results of the REHEATEAST project show that this can only be achieved through enhanced energy efficiency, the integration of renewable and waste heat sources, system optimisation, and smarter planning of DH systems.

The REHEATEAST transnational workshop aims to bridge European policy ambitions, cutting-edge DH technologies, and practical regional implementation experience to accelerate the decarbonisation and modernisation of DH systems. The workshop will highlight the role of district heating and cooling within the broader European decarbonisation framework and demonstrate how collaboration and networking can help shape policies and support their effective implementation.

Participants will be introduced to next-generation DH solutions, showcasing how advanced design and operation, renewable energy integration, smart networks, digitalisation, and monitoring tools are applied in 3rd and 4th generation DH systems. By presenting REHEATEAST pilot results, cross-border cooperation, and implementation strategies, the event goes beyond knowledge sharing and opens a discussion on scaling up solutions, strengthening transferability, and enabling wider deployment across the region.

As a key stakeholder in the field of district heating, you are warmly invited to join the REHEATEAST transnational workshop, which will take place **online on Wednesday, 6 May 2026, from 9:00 to 11:45 (CET)**. The workshop will be held in English.

Please, register for the event by **Monday, 4 May 2026, at 17:00 (CET)** via the following [link](#). In the case that the provided link doesn't work, please, input <https://forms.gle/nA3PRfxwKU41LvVQ7> directly into the address bar of your web browser. Participation is free of charge, but registration is mandatory. All registered participants will receive the access link one to two days before the workshop.

The REHEATEAST transnational workshop is organized by the Jožef Stefan Institute, Energy Efficiency Centre.



For further information, please contact: Barbara Petelin Visočnik, barbara.visocnik@ijs.si.



PROGRAMME OF THE TRANSNATIONAL WORKSHOP

- 9.00 – 9.15 Welcome and introduction, workshop objectives and flow**
Stane Merše, head of the Energy Efficiency Centre, Jožef Stefan Institute
- 9.15 – 9.45 European perspective on DHC and decarbonisation**
Aurélie Beauvais, Euroheat & Power
- 9.45 – 10.15 Modern DHC Approaches – Danish Example**
Birger Lauersen, Danish District Heating Association
- 10.15 – 10.30 Break**
- 10.30 – 10.45 On the way towards efficient and sustainable DHC – REHEATEAST lessons learned**
Lea Leopoldović, Energy Institute Hrvoje Požar, Croatia
- 10.45 – 11.30 Case studies & Practical insights**
Presentations from Slovenia, Slovakia, and Hungary highlighting successful interventions and transferable lessons
- **Improving energy efficiency of central heating in Pécs**
Judit Kis-Pongrácz, Pannon European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation, Hungary
 - **Stakeholder cooperation models for successful energy renovation of residential neighbourhoods**
Tamas Solymosi, National Energy Agency, Hungary
 - **Mapping optimal energy sources and potential DH demand**
Pamela Valentová, European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Via Carpatia, Slovakia
 - **Enhancing operational efficiency of Cankova DH system**
Štefan Žohar, Local Energy Agency Pomurje, Slovenia
- 11.30 – 11.40 Q&A with audience**
- 11.40 – 11.45 Summary and closing remarks**