



ASSISES EUROPÉENNES DE LA TRANSITION ÉNERGÉTIQUE®

The European Energy Transition Conference

From 30 January to 1 February 2018 in Geneva

The event

Every year, elected representatives, players involved in sustainable energy and climate plans, heads of local authority departments, businesses and civil society gather at the European Energy Transition Conference to analyse current challenges, take part in debates, exchange viewpoints and discuss the practice-changing trends under way. Over 3,000 participants participate in the conference; more than 100 debates, forums and meetings take place in order to present concrete projects, illustrate these trends with European examples and share experiences. 20 Plenary sessions provide inspiration to participants with key note speakers and debates around controversial issues with policy makers. Workshops are selected via a call for contributions and organised in parallel of plenary sessions, as well as site visits. The conference is organised at the end of January each year, becoming the place to meet your counterpart on an annual basis. Each year, it is organised by one of the three organising local authorities.

The 2017 edition

More than **3,750 participants**, **12 European countries** represented, **3 days** of debates with more than **350 speakers** in **120 events** – plenary sessions, workshops, forums.

The European Energy Transition Conference is co-organised by:

Grand Genève



Dunkerque
Grand Littoral
COMMUNAUTE URBAINE



BORDEAUX
MÉTROPOLE



In addition, Energy Cities is responsible for the coordination of the preparation of the event programme.

The participants

Participants to the European Energy Transition conference are doing the transition in their respective field at local level. Around 300 elected representatives are attending and half of the audience work directly for local authorities, being cities or regions. If the participants are mainly French because of the conference location, the event has been opening to European debates along the years and has become European with the support of EU Commissioner Šefčovič in 2016. Many enterprises are presenting their innovation and come to develop partnerships. In addition, a special Energy transition jobs Forum is offering a brokering space for enterprises looking for professionals and job seekers to meet.

In 2018, the conference will explore the theme of “BORDERS? BOUNDARIES? LIMITS? of the future energy system”

From 30 January to 1 February 2018, the 20th European energy transition conference will take place for the first time in a cross-border territory placed at the boundary of the European Union: Grand Genève will host the debate and give a special light to the inter-territories cooperation on energy transition.

Being at a border, in a territory composed of many different institutional players and multi-level public authorities, the conference will be the occasion to challenge the current energy system boundaries. With new energy sources being more local, what are the partnerships to be developed beyond current “administrative limits”? A system is defined by its boundaries, when they change, it implies new rules have to be agreed between all actors.

Limits? We often hear that we have already spent beyond the limit of what is acceptable for the planet, but also that renewables like sun and wind, or sea are limitless... Innovation is driven by pioneers ignoring or questioning limits. What can we learn from these processes? Finally EU borders are moving, what does it mean the Energy Union for cross-border energy systems? What cooperation?

Read, seen and heard in 2017.... at the European Energy Transition Conference in Bordeaux

“It is upon us (the local players) that the implementation of energy transition rests [...] There are benefits for health, the economy and employment. There are also financial innovations [...] Energy transition means the will to adopt a reasoned model of society, a balance between energy supply and demand, a much better quality of life for the inhabitants”

Alain JUPPÉ - Mayor of Bordeaux, Chairman of Bordeaux Métropole.

“The Paris Agreement was adopted with unprecedented speed, which shows a collective awareness of the issues at stake [...] The climate-air-energy plans are an opportunity to target at one fell swoop a reduction in the carbon footprint, health, employment and the quality of life [...] The movement is under way; it needs to be amplified in order to make energy transition irreversible.”

Bruno LECHEVIN - Chairman of ADEME

“The Energy Union cannot be achieved in Brussels, only with the local players in the regions [...] It is the biggest challenge of our century.”

Maros ŠEFČOVIČ - European Energy Commissioner

“Working with neighbouring regions is inspiring and the projects are structuring.”

Pierre-Jean CRAFTES - Vice-Chairman ARC Pôle Métropolitain, Grand Genève