



Euro-ELECS 2015

Latin-American and European Conference on Sustainable Buildings and Communities

“Connecting People and Ideas”

First Announcement – Save the Dates 21-23 July 2015

Welcome to Euro-ELECS 2015

Euro-ELECS 2015 is the first Latin-American and European Conference on Sustainable Buildings and Communities. It will be held in Guimarães, Portugal, from the 21st to the 23rd of July 2015.

This event is the evolution of the several previous ELECS (Encontro Latinoamericano sobre Edificações e Comunidades Sustentáveis), which started in 1997 and were held biannually since 2001.

Euro-ELECS 2015 is an innovative scientific event that aims to bridge the gap between the academic environment, society, theory and practice connecting European countries and the countries of Latin America.

For this reason, in addition to the scientific content organized by prominent world researchers, the programme will include activities like workshops, technical visits and the presentation of practical experiences, which will be conducted in association with industrial partners.

About 500 participants, exhibitors and visitors are expected from all over the world. The target groups are: Architects, Engineers, Researchers, Construction Industry Representatives and Policy Makers.

The organizers are pleased to invite you to this 3-day conference in Guimarães and to share with you the Portuguese culture, traditions and gastronomy during and after the conference.

Conference Topics

- Innovation and improvement of sustainable construction materials or systems (low and high tech solutions)
- Sustainable design solutions (low cost, reuse, eco efficiency, renovation, retrofitting, urban renovation)
- Sustainable building technologies and management
- Technical knowledge transfer *
- Nearly zero energy buildings
- Policies and strategies for a sustainable built environment
- Governance for a sustainable built environment
- Empowerment and participation processes for sustainability
- Social housing and buildings affordable to all
- Assessment tools (life cycle analysis, rating tools and monitoring) *

- Education for sustainability
- Urban mobility and accessibility
- Urban agriculture / food production
- Resources (water and energy) and residues management

* for sustainable materials, buildings, neighborhoods and building sector

Venue

Euro ELECS 2015 will be hosted at Guimarães. This city is located in the North of Portugal, 50 km from Porto, the second largest city of Portugal. The nearest airport is Porto International Airport (OPO), located 40 km away from University of Minho. From there participants can take a bus (transfer service), a train, a taxi or rent a car to arrive at the event. From Porto city centre the participants will find hourly train and bus connections. For those who will arrive from Spain, Guimarães is about 60 minutes from Vigo. Guimarães is connected by highways to Porto and Vigo.

Guimarães is an historical city that had an important role on the birth of Portugal and it was settled in the 9th century; it is one of the country's most important historical cities. Its historical centre is a UNESCO World Heritage Site making it one of the largest tourist centres in the region. The city is often called the "birthplace of the Portuguese nationality" or "the cradle city" (Cidade Berço in Portuguese). Guimarães was also the European capital of culture in 2012, the European city of sport in 2013 and it is preparing the application to the European Green Capital Award in 2017.



Guimarães Castle and Historical Centre of the city

The School of Engineering, at University of Minho, will be hosting the event. The main auditorium has 550 seats and there are several smaller *auditoria* suitable for parallel sessions. Depending on the number of attendants there are other facilities in Guimarães that can also be used.



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