The Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia (UTCS) is voluntary association of cities founded on April 29, 1994

**UTCS members :**

- 71 cities, 5 municipalities and 5 special members that are municipal parts of Bratislava and Košice

**UTCS members** represent more than 2,5 millions of Slovak inhabitants.

**Main Goals of the Union:**

- Promoting role of cities as centers of regions
- Supporting restoration and protection of the environment and cultural heritage
- Supporting pan-European cooperation focus on Local Agenda 21 and *Intelligent Energy Europe*
- Supporting and promoting *Covenant of Mayors*
CITENERGO Association was created in 2009 thanks initiative of the Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia and Energy Centre Bratislava in the framework of pan European BISE Process.

CITENERGO includes 9 full members (Gelnica, Košice, Kremnica, Nitra, Prešov, Vrable, Šala, Hurbanovo, Kolarovo) and 5 associated members.

CITENERGO main goals:
- Information, administrative and expert support to Slovak municipalities, especially at:
  - Ensuring energy efficiency (EE) and the using of local renewable energy resources (LRER)
  - Accessing information database in the framework of pan European Energy-Cites Association
  - Supporting and promoting of Covenant of Mayor at national and local level
The Covenant of Mayors is the most ambitious European initiative engaging signatory cities to go beyond the EU’s energy and climate goals, the so-called “3x20” objectives until 2020:

- reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 20%
- increasing energy efficiency by 20%
- increasing the share of renewable energy to 20%

New jobs and activities, a better quality of life and lower energy vulnerability are expected on the ground.
In Slovakia there are **in total 2928** municipalities, including **138 cities and towns**

At the end of 2011 there were **6 signatories** from Slovakia:

- The first cities **Nitra** and **Moldava nad Bodvou** signed the CoM in 2008.
- 4 small municipalities with population less than 2000 inhabitants: **Chtelnica, Malženice, Pobedim and Trakovic**e signed up to the Covenant on the occasion of a conference organized on 29 September, 2011 in Bratislava.
The Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia became Covenant Supporter at the beginning of September 2011.

Drivers for cities and municipalities to join the Covenant:

- better access to the EU financing
- Visibility on the international arena
- create new contacts for cross-border cooperation
Slovak Covenant of Mayors National Platform was launched **November 15th, 2011** in Bratislava during a national conference “Effective Energy for Municipalities.

The Platform **brings together local authorities and national actors.**

The **aim is** to create and share a powerful vision and to develop common priorities for action in terms of decentralised energy, territorial cohesion and adaptation to climate change.
19 signatories signed the “National Covenant Networking Platform Charter:

- Cities and towns – 4 signatories
- Ministries and Government bodies - 3 signatories
- Environmental NGOs – 3 signatories
- Professional Associations specialised in energy management and RES - 6
- Associations of local authorities – 2 signatories
- Academy of science and research centres – 1 signatory
**Key actors** which are able to actively participate in the Platform’s activities:

- **Cities**: Kremnica, Gelnica, Medzev and Moldava nad Bodvou
- **Associations of local authorities**: Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia and the Club of Slovak Mayors
- **Government bodies**: Slovak Innovation Energy Agency (Ministry of Economy SR)
- **Professional Associations specialised in energy management and RES**: Energy Centre Bratislava, CEVO, SUN4ENERGY, Association of energy managers (ASENEM)
- **Environmental NGOs**: REC Slovakia (Regional Environmental Centre) and Society for Sustainable Living of Slovakia (STUZ)
The main targets of the National CoM Platform were discussed in Kezmarok, November 25, 2011 during the Presidium of the Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia.

**Key decisions:**

- To promote and continue to build the National CoM Dialog Platform
- To start the discussion about the national Covenant Action Plan development
- To find synergies among actions implemented by different key actors at local and national level
- To organise next Platform meeting in the frame of FORUM CARPATICUM 2012 focused on the Adaptation to Climate Change
The continuous capacity building of the European, national and regional **networks of local authorities** will be crucial for the coming years.

**NET-CoM** project will set up a permanent cooperation among the networks in order to benchmark their experiences, practices, tools and working methods.

**CITENERGO** and **the Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia** will focus their efforts on the strengthening this Net-work and on the implementation successfully their members current or future Covenant engagements.
NET-CoM
Sieteťová spolupráca miest a obcí z 12tich európskych krajín, zameraná na podporu a implementáciu „Dohovoru primátorov a starostov“

CITENERGO – National coordinator of NET-CoM project:
Prepoštská 4, 811 01 Bratislava
phone: +421 2 544 359 14
umosr@gtinet.sk, www.unia-miest.sk