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Press release

16 November 2017

Start of the European innovation project ASSURED for the fast charging of electric vehicles

For the next four years, 39 partners from 12 different countries will be developing advanced solutions to enhance zero-emission urban fleets, coordinated by the Free University of Brussels.

The formal launch event of the ASSURED project took place in Barcelona today, designed to promote the electrification of urban transport vehicles using advanced fast charging solutions, co-financed by the European Union, coordinated by the Free University of Brussels and led in terms of electric buses by the International Association of Public Transport (UITP).

The ASSURED innovation project (an acronym extracted from *fast and smart charging solutions for full size urban heavy duty applications*) will be carried out over four years, from October 2017 until September 2021, on a budget of 23.64 million euros, of which 18.65 million are provided by the EU.

The consortium behind it has 39 members from 12 countries including practitioners from across the entire value chain: public transport authorities and operators, manufacturers of buses, trucks and light vehicles, electric energy providers, suppliers of charging infrastructure, national and international associations, municipalities, consultancy companies and research institutes.

The objectives of ASSURED can be summarised in the following points, with a view to zero-emission electric traction vehicles being adopted by commercial and public transport fleets that run medium- to large-sized vehicles.

- Development of modular solutions for new generation high-powered chargers (up to 600 kW)
- Interoperable and scalable solutions for high-power charging
- Development and testing of efficient wireless charging solutions up to 100 kW
- Assessment of the cost, energy efficiency and impact on the electricity grid
- Testing of solutions developed from ASSURED on 6 public transport buses, according to the TRL 7 definition, in cities of the European Union
- Support for standardisation bodies (for example, CEN-CENELEC, ISO, IEC)
- Protocol for standard compliance and interoperability tests

Within the project, the UITP heads up the activities connected with electric buses, specifically trials in the different participating countries and coordination with the end users, as well as spreading the word about the project in order to use the results as effectively as possible. The

1 / 2



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six practical *case studies* to validate the vehicles' technology will take place in Turin / Lyon (share by these two cities in Italy in France), Gothenburg (Sweden), Jaworzno (Poland), Helmond (Netherlands), Bayonne (France) and Castejón (Navarre, Spain).

At a later stage, other cities will carry out trials as part of ASSURED: Osnabrück (Germany) and Barcelona will test the interoperability between buses and different makes of chargers in real-time operation; Gothenburg will do the same with buses and trucks while in Eindhoven (Netherlands) they will trial intelligent charging for a large-scale fleet.

Taking part in the launch event, which was held as part of the Smart Mobility World Congress were **Dionisio González**, director of Advocacy and Outreach at the UITP; **Noshin Omar**, professor from the Free University of Brussels and the project's coordinator; **Josep Maria Armengol**, Director of Bus Engineering at TMB, who acted as the host partner; and **Álvaro Nicolás**, attached to the Mobility Management department of Barcelona City Council.