**City of Brno and SIX Center cooperate on smart city project**

The City of Brno became a team member of the European project *Rotterdam, Umea and Glasgow: Generating Districts in Sustainable Energy Deployment* (RUGGEDISED). The project team consists of 34 partners from 8 different European countries. Cities of Rotterdam, Umea and Glasgow will demonstrate exploitation of smart technologies for the development of urban districts on their territories (*Lighthouse cities*). Cities of Brno, Gdansk and Parma will prepare themselves for the exploitation of smart technologies for five years and will learn to exploit those (*Follower cities*).

The consortium of the RUGGEDISED project has been completed by 15 partner companies, 9 academic partners and 4 providers of services for small and medium enterprises. The City of Brno will be supported by the Center of Sensor, Information and Communication Systems (SIX) at Brno University of Technology.

For the RUGGEDISED project, the total budget EUR 17.7 million was approved. The City of Brno and the SIX Center have been granted by EUR 400 000 in total.

“Brno is the second Czech city (after Prague) which has obtained this prestigious grant. The grant crowns a year of an intensive preparation. I personally hope that the participation of the City of Brno in the RUGGEDISED project will result in a higher quality of life of citizens, new jobs and more efficient operation of the City”, comments the Mayor of Brno Petr Vokřál.

“Thanks to the RUGGEDISED project, Brno can access unique knowledge and experience of European smart-city leaders. A five-year intensive cooperation should result in first smart-city urban areas in Brno. The territory of the exhibition ground, South Center and Špitálka should be developed as new socially, economically and energetically sustainable urban districts. I am personally glad that the City of Brno has become a part of the prestigious consortium which understands technologies as a tool for positive changes of the city”, states the Smart-City Deputy Jaroslav Kacer.

“The SIX Research Center is grateful for the chance to apply outputs of research of information and communication systems to technologies of smart cities. Swift, reliable and accessible wireless communication, secure and efficient processing of data and its open publication are the fundamentals of the intelligence of smart cities”, adds Prof. Zbynek Raida from the SIX Center.

“As a member of the city council, I fully support the RUGGEDISED project from its beginning, and consider it as an international success of Brno. We have become a part of a selected grant of the European Commission which is going to give an example of developing new urban districts and cooperating with other partners in their development,” comments the city councilor Marek Janíček.

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| The RUGEDDISED project, the registration number 731198, was submitted within the call *Smart and Sustainable Cities* of HORIZON 2020. | flag_yellow_high |