The goal of ME³Gas is to put consumers in control of their energy efficiency and appliances at home as a result of European Directives imposing information requirements on energy consumption as a clear measure for energy-saving usage without compromising comfort or convenience.

The project focus is on ASP7: ‘Embedded Technology for sustainable urban life’. Europe is facing unprecedented energy challenges. These are the result of an increased dependence on energy imports as well as concerns about supplies of fossil fuels, energy consumption cuts and diminished effects on climate change. Nevertheless, Europe continues to waste at least a fifth of its energy, just through sheer inefficiency. There is great potential for reducing the consumption of energy without any loss of comfort or convenience for the user. The goal is to use less energy while still enjoying the same quality of life.

The ME³Gas project is positioned right in the middle of one Europe’s most urgent needs: to achieve a more sustainable and efficient way of consuming energy by reducing the energy intensity and boosting productivity (e.g. through ongoing training, education, knowledge transfer, base lining, measuring, monitoring, control, optimisation, simulations, reviews and business model innovation). In line with this expectation, the ME³Gas project will develop and validate an initial instantiation of a new architecture and the corresponding communication platform to enable the flexible and evolvable interoperation of smart gas metering systems (gas AMI), including the smart meters, end user displays, data concentrators, and utilities information and control systems.

The ME³Gas project aims to rationalise and optimise the energy consumption in households and commercial buildings without compromising comfort or convenience. The project addresses two different but complementary and convergent approaches that define the two main objectives of the project:

- **Smart Gas AMI**: The specification and development of a new generation of gas meters for smart gas metering, based on embedded electronics, communications and the remote management of a gas shut-off valve, and the specification, development and promotion of an open architecture and the corresponding communication protocols for a wireless communication system that allows gas consumption information at every level to be gathered, forwarded and processed promptly, from the end customer to the service providers.

- **Middleware platform**: The development of an energy-aware middleware platform making it possible to network heterogeneous physical devices in a service-oriented architecture. The middleware will hide the complexity of the underlying device and communications technologies for application developers, so that energy efficiency aspects can be included in any application that needs to integrate physical devices or appliances.

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**START**
May 2010
**DURATION**
36 months
**TOTAL INVESTMENT**
€15.7 M
**PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS**
15
**NUMBER OF COUNTRIES**
6