

Energie-Cités

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TWICE-YEARLY INFORMATION BULLETIN FOR A LOCAL SUSTAINABLE ENERGY POLICY IN EUROPE



DOSSIER

ACHIEVING 20% SAVINGS IN ENERGY CONSUMPTION

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www.energie-cites.org

**"Local actors
working together
more effectively!"**

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▶ Achieving 20% savings in energy consumption

▶ Energy efficiency on the European agenda - at last!

In June 2005 the European Commission published a Green Paper on Energy Efficiency entitled "Doing more with less". This long-awaited initiative reflects the Energy Commissioner's intention to make energy efficiency his personal priority. It is a very welcome step forward.

Energie-Cités INFO has produced a special publication to answer any questions you may have on the subject and suggests initiatives for local authorities to prioritise.

Does the Green paper contribute anything new?

Yes, it suggests a number of good ideas. It proposes a 20% reduction in energy use by 2020. Given the current energy context, with energy prices following an upward trend and climatic risks at the fore, making energy efficiency a priority item on the agenda is more than welcome. However, there is always a risk of losing sight of objectives when it comes to putting priorities into practice. A previous Green Paper on the security of energy supply (published in 2000) concluded that energy efficiency was to be the number one priority, but very little was done to make this happen.

We must therefore pay attention, be vigilant and pro-active.

Do we really need figure-based targets?

The 20% target is not clearly mentioned as one of the Green Paper's objectives, which remain vague. The question to ask is: has Europe any choice but to stabilise, and then reduce its energy use? Until now only a small part (around a third) of the world's population had access to energy. In a few years' time, with the arrival of China and India, this figure will rise to more than 75% of the global population. This creates a wholly different scenario. According to the International Energy Agency, the world will

have to invest \$16 billion in the supply of energy over the next thirty years. The Agency concludes by saying that "this is not sustainable". Rather than **M**egawatts - which have a minimal consumer impact, it is time to invest in **N**egawatts in order to reduce our energy use, a process which has the added benefit of improving comfort and competitiveness.

The value of figure-based targets lies in the possibility they offer of mobilising all players - whether they be the public, mayors, housing managers, or businesses - under a common banner:

What is a Green paper?

It is a document issued by the European Commission to open a debate within the European institutions and among all European stakeholders interested in contributing to it. It is followed either by a White Paper (defining Community strategy) or an Action Plan. In this case the Green Paper will be followed by an Action Plan to be submitted to the Austrian Presidency in March 2006, for adoption before the end of the year. Energie-Cités has published an opinion paper on this subject.

"together towards - 20% !". The Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign could serve as an interface for the exchange of information on the results achieved!

Doing more with less is it a realistic target?

What matters most is using energy better. Although energy-saving has suffered from inadequate policies during the last thirty years, it remains the biggest resource in the EU 25, much greater than oil, over the same period. Had the same trend continued after the 1973 oil crisis, final energy use would have followed the upper line of the green area on the graph below. In reality, it has followed the lower line, as a result of the energy savings and structural changes that were introduced. A further 20% reduction in energy use is therefore possible. However, this would require a drastic change in our patterns of consumption. This is why everybody needs to be involved. To make matters worse, some New Member States will have to develop their economies to catch up with other countries, so energy use in these countries is bound to increase. The EU's biggest energy users will have to step up their current efforts. What is not realistic is to continually use more and more energy!

Is it compatible with the 'Lisbon Strategy' for growth, innovation and employment?

Those who are not yet convinced of this have not fully measured the scope of the change that is already underway. We are faced with two conflicting agendas: growth, innovation and employment on the one hand, and environment, climate protection and intelligent energy on the other. The challenge is to combine the two, for there will be no such thing as sustainable development if we do not reduce our energy use. Creating a sustainable energy world involves promoting social and technological innovation, creating new, relocatable jobs in sectors such as domestic insulation and biomass production, and developing opportunities to export low-energy products. These are the markets of tomorrow and Europe would be well-advised to take the lead in developing them. It is an opportunity we cannot afford to miss!

Is this not a debate for specialists?

This is the core of the problem and a solution has to be found. The Green Paper is something of a lost opportunity. It could have been a catalyst for public

debate across Europe, at all levels - European, national, regional and local - involving social players everywhere, including businesses, local authorities, community organisations, citizens and children, with television as the disseminating media. Imagine the cultural impact of an EU/Member States joint initiative in which citizens aspiring to a more transparent Europe would be given their say. Both the Commission and the Member States underestimate the role of society at large in solving energy problems. "Energy technicians", on the other hand, are incapable of providing adequate solutions.

Who are the players?

A policy with a stronger focus on demand management and renewable energy requires one to redirect attention towards a different set of players. A policy nearly exclusively oriented towards the supply side is compatible with a small number of specialised political and economic decision-makers and with centralised decision-making mechanisms. On the contrary, a policy focussing on the demand- side and the development of a decentralised production must involve a large number of "decision-makers" from all levels, from researchers to

businesses, local authorities and consumers. These decision-makers have little – and sometimes, nothing to do with the energy sector, but their decisions have an influence on final energy consumption. Any demand-oriented energy policy would end in failure if no actions are taken towards and in collaboration with them. Legislation and technology alone are not sufficient. The human factor is essential.

In this context, local authorities have a pivotal role to play which differs from the role played by businesses. Municipalities are closer to their citizens and are involved in everyday activities, they manage the urban environment and are responsible for building, transport and many other activities. They are, therefore, at the most suitable level for the implementation of sustainable energy policies.

The EU Commissioner for Energy strongly supports the role of local authorities...



(...) Actually, local authorities are our big hope and our strong pillar in this because they can really make a

change in cases where the market itself doesn't provide.

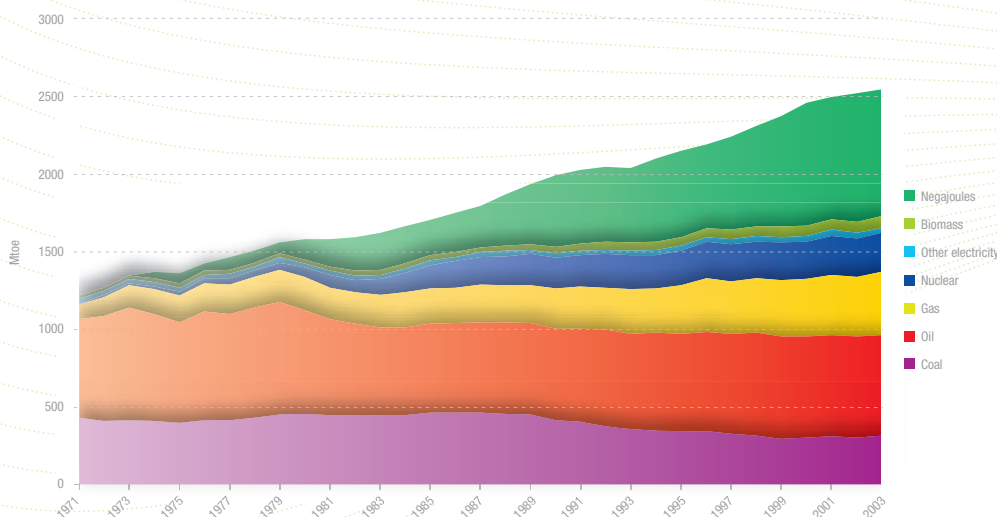
(...) The strength of local authorities is that they are closely related to the citizen. And it's also in the political interest of different political groups and different political platforms (...). So, it means that local authorities are the best equipped to consider long-term energy efficiency issues.

(extract of the interview of Mr Andris Piebalgs, EU Commissioner for Energy)

http://www.managenergy.tv/me_portal/mst/_vi_wm_56_fr/1034/index_player.html

Development of the primary energy demand and of "negajoules" - EUR 25

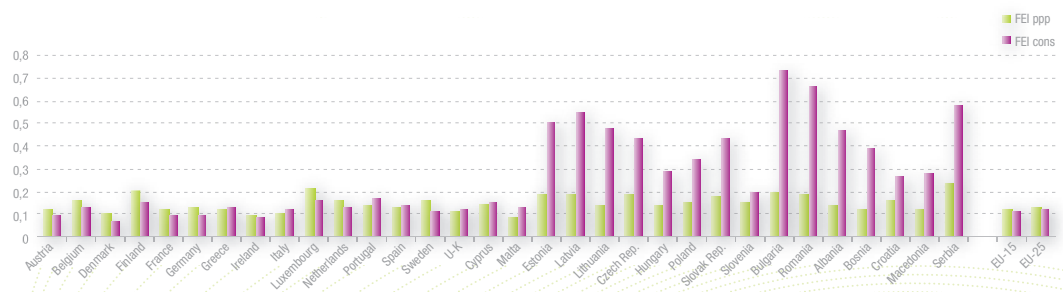
("negajoules" : energy savings calculated on the basis of 1971 energy intensity)



Are local authorities taken into account?

Despite the position of the Energy Commissioner, of whose sincerity we have no doubt (see the diagram), the Green Paper gives regional and local authorities a limited role only. Why? Is the Commission afraid of being on grounds of subsidiarity? In fact, the truth is that local authorities are in practice the very level of responsibility where local areas are planned, via town planning, development, traffic measures, transport plans, etc. They are the only ones to combine all traditional energy sectors, from housing and tertiary to transport and economic activities, and this convergence has a strong impact on energy performance at a local level. Without local authorities, this whole debate is meaningless. They must be supported in their areas of responsibility and their experience taken into account. (see propositions p.5).

Final energy intensity



Are the specific characteristics of New Member States taken into account?

The Green Paper has no specific chapter on the energy situation in New Member States or Candidate Countries. Despite this, a concerted effort should be made to ensure that economical restructuring in these countries integrates sustainable energy issues. The graph above provides information on final energy intensity (energy used/GDP) in each country. The purple bars represent gross values, with no adjustment to living standards. The green bars are adjusted to "purchasing power parity". The graph shows

that some countries lag between 30 and 100% behind Denmark, the highest performing 'cold' country. This poses economic problems such as fuel poverty, as many households pay European-level prices for energy while being paid local wages. The prevailing traditions in centralised economies are also an obstacle to the development of local initiatives. Energie-Cités launched the BISE Forum, bringing together more than 60 partners from 17 countries, to resolve such problems.

USEFUL WEBSITES

- www.energie-cites.org (Energie-Cités Opinion)
- http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/efficiency/index_en.htm (Green Paper)
- www.sustenergy.org (Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign)
- www.bise-europe.org (BISE Forum)

Which are the main aspects of the future Action Plan that Energie-Cités will be looking out for?

The devil will be in the detail. But we are expecting certain key initiatives, aimed at:

- 1 Creating **policies and resources** proportionate with current challenges and established targets.
- 2 Integrating Intelligent Energy issues in the **Lisbon Agenda** and all EU sectoral policies.
- 3 Acknowledging the specificity of **New Member States** and Candidate Countries, by using more resources from the Structural Funds to finance energy efficiency measures, including social housing renovation projects.
- 4 Recognising explicitly the **role of local authorities** as indispensable players in achieving energy efficiency targets, through a series of practical proposals.(see p.5, 10 measures).
- 5 Recognising the importance of the **human factor** in achieving the targets set and reinforcing capacities at all levels, both local and European.
- 6 Integrating the need to combat **fuel poverty**.
- 7 Promoting **tested measures and good practices**, such as the attachment of **energy labels** on a maximum number of products and appliances.
- 8 Encouraging **networking** between local authorities so as to increase good practice.
- 9 Proposing **financial schemes** that are adapted to energy-saving investments, which are often negligible in cost.

An Energy Intelligent policy should combine two closely integrated aspects: efficient energy use and local renewable energy. This involves taking action at all levels - global, European, national, regional and local - and involving all players, whether they be public, private, individual or collective, in the construction of a sustainable society. This remains, however, a distant goal and everybody needs to be involved to make this happen. Energie-Cités INFO would like to share its ideas on what municipalities can do to achieve the "20% target" by 2020.

▶ How is it possible to reduce energy use by 20% in cities by 2020?

- 1 Have adequate 'in-house' **human resources** (elected representatives, energy managers, energy teams, interdepartmental organisational structure) and externally (e.g. local energy agencies). If no one is in charge, there can be no such thing as policy making.
- 2 Introduce an energy efficiency policy on their **own premises** (covering buildings, lighting, municipal services, etc.). This could generate energy savings of up to 30 to 40%. Local authorities must be a **role model** for local residents and players.
- 3 Define a **strategy** with **figure-based targets** and **sector-based action plans**: mobility and transport plans, energy efficiency plans for housing schemes, small and very small enterprise plans, domestic plans.
- 4 Get **all local players** - private, public and community - involved in a Forum, so as to create a "sustainable energy community" and encourage initiatives in order to meet the 20% target. Local authorities should also exploit the innovation potential of the community at large.
- 5 Convey their message to all local residents through **information, communication and educational campaigns**. To develop efficient and sustainable practices, citizens and young consumers need to be informed and encouraged by their municipality.
- 6 Stimulate the emergence of a **local intelligent energy market** through their procurement policies, when purchasing goods, services and energy. This is an extra way of creating jobs. **Banks** also have a critical role to play in financing public and private investments.
- 7 Use **urban planning** (land use planning and development areas) as a major tool for influencing energy use patterns. More than 20% of locally-consumed energy is affected by urban planning decisions.
- 8 Take specific action to combat **fuel poverty**, as energy price increases cause serious financial problems for certain households. Improving energy efficiency in housing is more sustainable than the simple provision of social benefits.
- 9 Influence the **local energy market** by promoting energy-efficient solutions (e.g. cogeneration) and the use of local resources: every euro spent is a euro that stays in the local economy and contributes to its growth.
- 10 Take an active part - and encourage their employees to take part - in **networks to exchange experience** at national and European level. Promoting one's achievements and learning from others is a good investment.

▶ Municipalities show that change is possible!

- 1 **Brasov** (RO) and its four-strong local energy agency team have invested in human resources to enable action in various areas: energy consumption monitoring, the implementation of the Display™ Campaign, including art-based educational activities, the launching of an Energy Information Centre and many other projects.
- 2 In **Besançon** (FR), energy use in municipal buildings dropped by 40% in the 1980's, resulting in a saving of €1.8 million in the municipal budget for 2005. Given that this saving will recur every year, the costs of the energy team are more than covered.
- 3 In **Delft** (NL), the Delft climate protection plan - "Climat 3E" - does not contain any truly new measures, but concentrates instead on tried and tested concepts. Since 1999 Delft was able to reduce its CO₂ emissions by 33,500 tonnes. This success proves that the city is on the right track.
- 4 In **Southampton** (GB), the Southampton Sustainability Forum (SSF) was created in 2004 and the Southampton Community Strategy was published, following citywide consultation, to identify key challenges, such as energy.
- 5 In **Lausanne** (CH), the "Service de l'énergie" (Energy Department) is very active in getting the local population involved in efficient energy management. The new information and awareness-raising campaign focuses on the Display™ Campaign and its first targets will be teachers, technical staff and students.
- 6 In **Dobrich** (BG), the Municipality decided to replace local space heating systems in 31 sites. Through sustainable public procurement in line with EU standards, Dobrich chose a contractor possessing an ISO 9001 Certificate. This is a first step towards an energy efficient tendering market in Bulgaria!
- 7 In **Freiburg** (DE), the combination of measures to improve mobility (400km of cycling paths, tramways, interconnection of the various modes of transport around the railway station, etc.) with measures in the housing sector (buildings using 40 kWh/m²/year or 15kWh/m²/year - i.e. €90 /year, or producing more energy than they use) is showing the way forward.
- 8 In **Cork** (IE), the following actions were implemented to deal with the problem of fuel poverty: €150,000 Euros in 2004 were spent for upgrading the heating systems in their social housing stock. A National seminar was organised in 2005 on the topic of Fuel Poverty in the low income housing sector.
- 9 In **Växjö** (SE), the municipality continues with its "zero fossil fuel" target. The percentage of oil used for the municipality's heat supply dropped from 44% in 1993 to only 10% in 2004, and biomass now accounts for 84% of total energy usage. Cogeneration, district heating and public-private partnerships are proving happy bedfellows.
- 10 **Bielsko Biala** (PL) has taken full advantage of networking opportunities to exchange good practice over the last decade, both at national level within the Polska Siec "Energie-Cités" network and at European level within Energie-Cités. This sets an example for all municipalities in New Member States, not to mention other countries!



Facing the challenge of energy and climate change "Local actors working together more effectively!"

11th Annual Conference of Energie-Cités, Delft-Zoetermeer (NL), 23rd-24th March 2006

"Sustainable Energy Communities" will be the theme of the 11th Annual Conference of Energie-Cités. This will provide an opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss tried and tested initiatives for mobilising and involving local players - businesses, citizens, associations, local authorities, etc. - to solve energy problems.

In fact the upward trend in energy prices and climatic disasters is there to remind us that our development model is not sustainable. Living in our century necessitates the invention of a model of civilisation that focuses on reducing both emissions and fossil fuel use that can be reproduced in the rest of the world. Local authorities should involve the maximum number of local players, including the public, in rising to this challenge.

The conference is co-organised with the municipalities of Delft and Zoetermeer and is supported by the European Commission – DG TREN. Come and join us in Delft-Zoetermeer with your local partners; our conference will prioritise the exchange of experience and innovation.

▶ For further information

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2006 "Towards Class A" Award for the best communication campaigns!

Energie-Cités and its partners - CEMR¹, EuroACE², ACE³, EnEffect- have just launched a Campaign for the 2006 "Towards Class A" Award. The aim is to reward the best communication campaigns launched by municipalities in the context of the European Display™ Campaign.

The Display™ Campaign aims to encourage municipalities to raise the awareness of building users about the energy and environmental performance of their public buildings.

The "Towards Class A" award shall offer an incentive for municipalities to improve their communication strategies, ultimately leading to the improvement of the buildings performance towards Class A or to become a "Shining Example".

The award is open to all municipalities and local authorities who are members of the Display™ Campaign.

Further information on the award (evaluation criteria, application forms etc.) is available on the Campaign's Website, under the "TCA Award" section. The deadline for sending application forms is set for the 7th of April 2006. An international expert jury will examine the applications and make their decision in spring 2006.

¹ The Council of European Municipalities and Regions,

² European Association of manufacturers of energy efficiency products in buildings

³ The Architects Council of Europe

▶ For further information

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BISE ACTIVITIES

More than 100 representatives from 17 countries for the 2nd BISE Forum Sofia (BG), 26-28 October



More than 100 representatives of municipalities, national energy agencies and NGOs from across 17 countries from New Member States, Candidate Countries, the West-Balkan and Ukraine attended the 2nd BISE Forum in Sofia from the 26th to 28th October.

Under the main theme, Improving Energy Efficiency in Municipalities, Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs, in an exclusive interview, informed participants about the Commission's Green Paper on Energy Efficiency.

During this Forum a new, more operational aspect to the BISE process was initiated. Practical issues of local energy management such as the role of municipal energy managers; energy efficiency in buildings and funding opportunities for municipalities were discussed during the 3 day Forum..

Emerging from the Forum is the fact that the majority of the participants are working on a common project that will allow them to implement practical activities at local, regional, national and European level.

This event was supported by the European Commission (TAIEX and the DG TREN).

▶ For further information

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(A. Piebalgs interview)

National "BISE" Forums

National BISE Forums involve municipalities, energy agencies and centres, as well as associations of local authorities and many other partners.

Since May 2005, six national "BISE" Forums have been organised in six countries:

- Montenegro, Podgorica, 26th May
- Lithuania, Kaunas, 8th June
- Slovakia, Banska Bystrica, 16th June
- Poland, Bielsko-Biala, 30th September
- Romania, Brasov, 13th October
- Latvia, Riga, 11th November

Other programmes are scheduled for Macedonia, Albania, Croatia, etc.



Jan Olbrycht, MEP, Vice President of the 'Intergroup Urban & Housing' in Bielsko-Biala (PL)

The BISE process is well underway in most of the countries involved. We would like to congratulate all the national, regional and local partners for their involvement in the organisation of these forums and in the BISE process itself!

▶ For further information

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2nd Forum BISE, Sofia (BG), 26-28 October 2005

European BISE-ness Council for Energy Efficiency in Municipalities

Aiming at bringing together private companies interested in energy efficiency issues, such as stimulating the market for sustainable energy products and services, a European Business Council for Energy Efficiency in Municipalities called "BISE-ness" Council has been launched at the 2nd BISE forum in Sofia.

Recognising the power of influence of bottom-up initiatives in improving the local energy situation. Energie-Cités launched in 2004 the BISE process inviting representatives from 120 municipalities across 17 countries from Central and Eastern Europe and the Balkans.

Today, BISE involves more than 60 partners from the public sector, associations of municipalities and NGOs to ensure that there is integration. But this is still not enough. Turning ideas into reality requires the strong involvement of the private sector acting in the field of energy efficiency: banks, insurance companies, ESCOs, manufacturers, energy companies need to join the movement.

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A big success for the Energy Week in Brasov (RO)

The week 10th – 14th October 2005 or the Energy Efficiency Week in Brasov had energy efficiency as its main topic.



The events of this week were targeted at a large variety of people: teachers and pupils, local administrators, local citizens.

Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th October: official launch of the Display™ Campaign in Romania with huge posters on the front of municipal buildings, educational actions in schools, press conferences, etc.

Wednesday 12th October: inauguration of the 1st Energy InfoPoint in Romania, a public information centre on energy that will be open every day.

Thursday 13th October: 1st BISE Forum in Romania with around 30 participants and many partners. Zdravko Genchev (BG) and Gérard Magnin attended the event, as well as Gabriel Andronache, Deputy Mayor of Brasov and Vice President of Energie-Cités.

Friday 14th October: Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting of Orase Energie in Romania.

Hundreds of people took part in the event.

The Energy Week was brilliantly organised by the Municipality of Brasov and ABMEE, the SAVE local energy agency. The agency is composed of four very dynamic members and is a good example of what can be done at local level to promote sustainable energy policies.

► For further information
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www.bise-europe.org: a website at your service



Like any ambitious project, BISE needs an efficient communication strategy that will give it a high profile and a clear visual identity, as well as contributing to its expansion.

www.bise-europe.org is both a communication tool and an interface designed to

facilitate the exchange of information. It comprises six sections:

- News on the BISE process at European level and in each country involved
- A comprehensive overview of the players involved in the process
- Information on the activities of the network, country by country, and on the European BISE forums
- A section for developing partnerships with the private sector
- A virtual multimedia library to download useful documents
- Useful links.

We urge you to include the BISE website in your favourite links and encourage all partners to support the project by putting a BISE link on their own sites.

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BISE training in networking practice in Besançon

Around 15 participants from 6 countries (Bulgaria, Slovakia, Poland, Lithuania, Hungary and the Ukraine), all involved in national "energie-cités" networks, attended a one-week training session last September in Besançon.

This training course focussed on the main actions involved in the creation/development of national networks. The Energie-Cités team facilitated the session which covered the following aspects: creation, management, communication, services and products, financing, project management etc. The session provided participants with an opportunity to learn, exchange ideas and build up a core of committed people in each country.

The training course was organised within the scope of the BISE - Better Integration towards Sustainable Energy - process, which is supported by the European Commission, the French embassies and ADEME.

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The Display™ Campaign on the starting blocks in Switzerland!



The Display™ Campaign was officially launched in Neuchâtel on the 27th October, during the Energy Day in French-speaking Switzerland and was a real success.

The cities of Chaux-de-Fond and Echiroilles presented their first practical experiences of the Campaign and Lausanne their communication campaign aimed at schools.

The 60 French-speaking communes of the association Cité de l'énergie® now have access to Display™, a Campaign which aims at encouraging the voluntary display of the energy and environmental performances of municipal buildings.

The REVE Jura-Léman project* has been instrumental in giving French speaking-Switzerland the opportunity to become a pilot region in a European-wide Campaign.

* a network of towns and cities for sustainable energy policy supported by the Interreg IIIA programme for reinforced cross-border co-operation between France and Switzerland

▶ For further information

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Sustainable mobility in Europe: it looks set to last!

After the success of the European Mobility Week 2004, this years event, which once again ended with the European "In town, without my car!" Campaign on the 22nd of September, once more demonstrated the importance of these two awareness-raising campaigns as the flagships of sustainable mobility in Europe.

1,400 towns and cities took part in the European "In town, without my car!" Day 2005 and 838 decided to go even further by organising a whole week of events and initiatives dedicated to sustainable mobility with "Clever Commuting" as a central theme. In total, at least 147 million citizens in Europe were given the opportunity to test new modes of urban transport and reconsider the place given to the car in the city in order to promote a more sustainable mobility in urban areas. Citizens from other countries (Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Japan, South Korea Venezuela, Taiwan) joined for the first time the campaign.

Both campaigns were a success! So why not step up our efforts in 2006 and make it daily practice?

▶ For further information

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e-Atomium - transport & mobility training for energy agencies & local actors

The e-Atomium training programme aims to increase the knowledge and competencies of energy agencies and other local actors (e.g. civil servants) in the field of sustainable energy use in transport.

The tailor made training programmes will be implemented in six different countries (BE, FR, IE, IT, NL and UK). The first training sessions will be organised between February and June 2006.

After having identified their existing knowledge and knowledge gaps, experiences, training needs and aspirations, the partners are currently setting up the necessary didactic strategies and developing the training material.

Based on the exchange of information with the target groups, the 4 most relevant topics for the training were selected: mobility management; alternative fuels & vehicles; awareness raising & communication campaigns; demand management including urban planning & transport.

The partners are convinced that they will contribute efficiently to make sustainable energy use in transport a part of the energy agencies core activity!

▶ For further information

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Small hydro: pilot local plans prepared in five countries

If you want to build a small hydro, you will come up against an administrative obstacle course that would put off the most committed developer. The smaller the plant, the more discouraging it is. To smooth the passage through the barriers, five pilot local plans have been prepared in FR, GR, IE, PL and PT as part of SPLASH, an Altener funded project.

The agreed framework of acceptable sites identified in cooperation with all the main interests concerned should speed up the approval process, reduce transaction costs in developing sites and generally promote the development of small and micro hydro.

Indeed small hydro planning proved to be a completely new concept. One interesting observation is that three of the five plans were designed to develop small hydro on historic mill sites as an aid to tourism and local development. This evidently is seen could as a real economic motor and could promote the acceptance of sites.

Two reports are of interest to readers of Energie-Cités INFO:

- a best practice guide on local planning for small hydro (EN, FR) and
- a small report on innovative technologies available for low head hydro.

Both of which were prepared by Energie-Cites as support to project partner Ademe (the French national energy agency). The project is led by IED (Innovation-Environnement-Development), France.

▶ For further information

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New energy impulse in Verona

Raising awareness at local level about energy consumption problems is a priority for Verona (IT).



The Municipality is currently launching an important initiative : the European Display™ Campaign . As a sign of their strong commitment to use Display™ as a communication tool, several meetings have been planned at primary schools

to raise the learners awareness and improve their first understanding of environmental issues.

Identifying bad practice, monitoring the temperature, controlling the lights and electronic instruments, drafting possible energy saving solutions are some of the tasks that learners will carry out. No doubt Display™ will help develop a new energy culture in Verona!

▶ For more information

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Kaunas awarded the European Energy Award (eea®)

Kaunas (LT) was awarded The eea® during the final European Energy Award conference in Genoa, Italy (January 2005).

The eea® label is granted to cities that have implemented exemplary energy related measures. Kaunas (Lithuania) is the first municipality within the Baltic States region and western part of the EU to be awarded the European Energy Award.



Genova 26th January 2005. Pedro Ballesteros Torres (EC) gives Kaunas municipality Award.

To stress this success the national conference was held in Kaunas on July 04th, 2005.

▶ For further information

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York's ecoDepot

From the moment it was elected to run for City council, the administration was determined to advance the transformation of York into a sustainable city. With the ecoDepot they are just doing this.

It is believed that the ecoDepot will be the largest timber framed straw clad building in Europe, incorporating many environmentally sustainable features: grey water recycling, renewable energy, and intelligent climate control.

cling, renewable energy, and intelligent climate control.

We must change the way we do things because we know better. Because it is time to tread more lightly on the planet that sustains us.

▶ For further information

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Munich "German national capital of energy conservation"

Munich, the federal capital of Bavaria, was the award winner of the German "national capital of energy conservation" contest in the category "cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants".

77 municipalities from all over Germany took part in the "national capital of energy conservation" contest. The contest aims to reward municipalities with an efficient energy management and public communication strategy, an innovative support programme and a climate-friendly town planning policy.

The award ceremony took place in Berlin (DE) on 29th June 2005.

▶ Pour en savoir plus

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Energie-Cités, an associate partner of the "Sustainable Energy Europe" Campaign

Energie-Cités is an associate partner of the 2005-2008 "Sustainable Energy Europe" Campaign. The Campaign is a European Commission initiative which aims to raise public awareness and promote sustainable energy production and use across Europe.

The "Sustainable Energy Partnership" is one of the main instruments within the Campaign, designed to involve and support various projects and programmes in the field of sustainable energy.

Two large-scale projects managed by Energie-Cités are in the process of being classified as Campaign partners. These are: "Towards Class A" and BISE. Let's join forces to face the energy and climate change challenge!

The 1st Campaign annual conference will be held in Brussels (BE) on 28 and 29 November and Energie-Cités will be actively involved in this event.

▶ **For more information**

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The call for proposals under the EIE programme - deadline 31st January 2006!

The European Commission has launched a call for proposals for the 'Intelligent Energy Europe' 2005 work programme. The call is closing on 31 January 2006 for type 1 and type 2 actions (except COOPENER: 28 February 2006), and on 30 November 2005 and 28 April 2006 for type 3 actions.

In total, approximately €51 million of financial support will be made available for 3 types of actions. For the action "Creation of local and regional energy agencies" €200 000 is available per agency that is created.

▶ **For more information**

http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/intelligent/index_en.html

Annual ManagEnergy Conference on Local Energy Action

The conference will take place in Brussels, Belgium on 7-8 February 2006. Projects and outcomes from local and regional actions supporting the Green Paper objectives will be the priority. Book the dates in your diary now.

▶ **For further information**

www.managenergy.net

Being a member of Energie-Cités, is to draw on the experience and skills of a European network in order to:

- ▶ **Involve oneself in innovative initiatives** at local level such as the European campaign Display™
- ▶ **Participate in European projects:** Energie-Cités has already allowed nearly 400 local authorities to get involved in projects co-financed by the European Commission
- ▶ **Discover new practices** which have proved their worth elsewhere: a database of more than 500 good practices is available on our Internet site
- ▶ **Get your own projects known and made use of** on an international scale through our action in the communication field
- ▶ **Influence Community legislation** by participating in the consultation process and enter a dialogue with the European institutions

Being a member of Energie-Cités, is also to contribute your know-how and so make a practical contribution to building a new Europe.

For further information, please contact the Energie-Cités Secretariat.



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