

Quarterly newsletter of the Intelligent Energy Executive Agency (IEEA) N°3 – February 2006



Welcome to the third newsletter on the Intelligent Energy – Europe Programme!

This newsletter will not only inform you of the state of play concerning future projects under the programme and the next opportunity to apply for financial support for your

activity. But it also includes – and this is new – a much larger number of short announcements and updates on ongoing projects.

I am pleased to note the growing visibility and the tangible results generated by the more than 200 projects carried out by our partners across the EU with the help of the IEE

programme. At the same time as energy policy challenges continue to make headlines in the daily news it becomes increasingly apparent that these projects are an important part of the solution.

With the beginning of 2006, the IEEA has become fully responsible for the management of the IEE programme and for managing its own affairs. But this will not mean any dramatic change. We will continue our close co-operation with the European Commission's Energy and Transport Directorate-General, combining policy and action, and we will keep up our efforts to provide you with management and communication services.

Looking forward to continued contact...

Patrick Lambert
Director of the IEEA

NEWS ON THE IEE PROGRAMME

2005 call for proposals: 230 applications received to date

With the exception of applications for COOPENER projects and European events, the 2005 call for proposals was closed on 31 January 2006. To date, the IEEA has received 230 applications for financial support under the Intelligent Energy – Europe programme. Even though a few more parcels may reach the Agency in the next day or two, this number is not likely to change significantly. The lion's share of the applications – 221 proposals altogether - are European projects to promote energy efficiency, renewables and sustainable transport. The remaining 9 applications concern the creation of at least 2 new local or regional energy management agencies, hence around 28 agencies altogether.

The efforts to communicate the 2005 call and to address organisations and groups not yet involved in the IEE programme finally paid off: approximately one third of the organisations taking part in the applying project consortia are newcomers to the programme.

2006 call for proposals: first announcement and tentative schedule

The 2006 call for proposals - the last under the current IEE programme - is likely to be published in May this year. Approximately 55 million Euros will be made available to co-finance projects on energy efficiency, renewables, intelligent use of energy in transport, cross-cutting 'horizontal' projects, and the creation of new local or regional energy management agencies.

Again, most thematic areas of the global work programme 2003-06 will be open for proposals, with the exception of COOPENER projects and the 'Dissemination & Promotion' area (the so-called "Horizontal Key Action 5").

The deadline for sending applications will probably be the end of October 2006. It will apply to all types of activities, i.e. European projects, new local and regional energy agencies and also European events. For the latter, however; there will be a second deadline at a later stage, which has not been

The IEEA, with the help of external experts, will evaluate in spring 2006 all project proposals received. Most of the work will be done during the weeks of 20-24 March and 3-7 April 2006 in Brussels. The applicants who achieve the best scores will be contacted in May 2006 by the IEEA to negotiate and settle with the Agency their final work plan and grant agreement. The signature of this agreement and thus the kick-off of the projects will take place in autumn 2006.

Applying for co-funding for COOPENER projects (deadline 28 February 2006) and European events (28 April 2006) is still possible. Attention: financial support for events taking place before August 2007 should be requested under this current call for proposals, and not under the 2006 call (next article), because of the long lead-time needed to evaluate the proposals and prepare the funding contracts. As a general principle, events should not take place earlier than 9 months after the deadline for submission.

fixed yet. As a general principle, events should not take place earlier than 9 months after the deadline for submission.



The IEEA will organise a European Info Day in Brussels to help you apply for IEE co-funding and to provide opportunities to network with colleagues from across Europe. This year's Info Day will take place on 30 May 2006 – make a note in your diaries! National Info Days will be organised in each of the participating countries. More information on the 2006 call and the Info Days will be published on the IEE webpage as soon as it is available.

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

At this stage, the information in this article is only indicative and it does not constitute any formal commitment on behalf of the European Commission.

IEE webpage use: 500 per cent growth in one year



With 130,000 page views and 45,000 downloads only in January 2006, the IEE webpage is continuing its transformation into one of the main information sources on intelligent energy in Europe. Over the last 12 months, the use of the page has gone up

more than 5-fold. The page, which is updated on a daily basis, offers now a wide array of information on the IEE programme with its almost 300 projects, events and energy agencies. It is also increasingly used to support the hundreds of partner organisations carrying out Intelligent Energy – Europe projects up and down the EU, for instance through a new dedicated “implementing your project” section.

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

Contractors’ Meetings – more impact through co-ordination and exchange

We will inform you in the following of the outcomes of series of contractors’ meetings organised by the IEEA in recent months.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/intelligent/events/meetings_en.htm

COOPENER (6-7 December 2005)



This meeting brought together 20 project teams including participants from national authorities of Cameroon, Niger, Tanzania, South Africa, Burkina Faso, Madagascar and Ghana. Related Commission services were present with the Energy & Transport and Development Directorate-Generals, and the EuropeAid Co-operation Office. Two days of vivid discussions helped to get to know each other, to discuss the contribution of COOPENER projects to the delivery of sustainable energy services, and identify areas of shared interest.

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Sustainable Energy Communities & Think globally, act locally (6 February 2006)

This meeting brought together the leaders of all 10 IEE projects in this area and several representatives of the communities involved in the projects - 22 persons altogether. The first public part included presentations on the wider energy policy context, the Commission’s Sustainable Energy Campaign, and short summaries of all projects. The second part of the meeting was internal, involving only the project leaders. Two working groups came up with concrete proposals on how to improve information exchange and avoid overlaps between the various projects, e.g. through the management of common databases, cross-testing of planning tools, coordination of communication, shared conferences etc..

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Education projects (7 February 2006)

The purpose of this meeting was to share information between IEE projects working on, or having an important component of, energy education. Patrick Lambert, the IEEA Director, opened the workshop. The subsequent presentation of 6 projects was followed by lively discussions on the

possibility of creating a thematic network for better co-operation and a greater impact. The 3 genuine energy education projects (FEEDU, Active Learning and Kyoto in the Home) met afterwards to strengthen co-ordination and clarifying contractual issues together with the IEEA.

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http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/intelligent/projects/horizontal_en.htm

STEER - training local energy agencies (8 February 2006)

The coordinators of 4 STEER projects for the transport-related training of local energy agencies informed each other on the state of play of their projects and discussed their experiences with the first training sessions held. The meeting helped identify opportunities to organise a common training schedule and strategies to promote the entire series of trainings to potential participants. The meeting took place during the 2006 ManagEnergy Conference on local energy action.

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http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/intelligent/projects/steer_en.htm

New local/regional energy management agencies (9 February 2006)

More than 40 participants from 20 European local and regional authorities, who had just signed the agreements on IEE-support for the setting up of 24 new energy management agencies, attended this workshop. The main focus was thus on how set up such agencies and contribute to their sustainable future with support from the IEE programme. Patrick Lambert from the IEEA and Pedro Ballesteros from DG TREN emphasised in their welcoming addresses the priority which the Commission is giving to local action on energy, and to the importance that local authorities are committed to the long-term success of the new agencies. The participants spent then most of the morning discussing all necessary management steps and challenges. Each consortium met then separately with their project officer in the afternoon, to address specific issues in more detail.



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ManagEnergy

Under the motto “The contribution of Local Actors to the EU Action Plan for Energy Efficiency”, the 5th Annual ManagEnergy Conference took place on 7-8 February 2006 in Brussels. More than 400 participants followed an interesting and varied programme and contributed to the various round tables and plenary debates.



Copies of the new 2006 Energy Agencies Map and Directory, and of a new brochure with 12 examples of good practice from energy agencies across Europe were distributed at the even, but are also available on the ManagEnergy website.

The IEEA contributed by organising a workshop on the new opportunities for local energy agencies under the IEE Programme, which was attended by approximately 50 participants. More details on the Conference and its outcomes are available on the ManagEnergy webpage. The slides of the IEA workshop can be downloaded from the IEE website.

<http://www.managenergy.net/conference/2006.html> / http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/intelligent/library/publications_en.htm

The ManagEnergy Initiative is supported by Intelligent Energy - Europe

Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign 2005-2008

The Campaign has opened a new desk to support the organisation of Energy Days or Weeks throughout Europe to mobilise consumers, businesses and decision-makers. Generally organised at the local, regional or national level, they involve the wider public in a wide range of activities related to the production or use of renewable energy sources and energy efficiency. The support includes technical advice, communication tools, and media promotion. In addition, Energy Day/Week organisers



will be entitled to use the Campaign logo. If you are organising, promoting, setting up or planning an energy Day, please contact the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign team.

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The Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign is supported by Intelligent Energy - Europe

PROJECTS OF THE MONTH

The **COGEN**challenge information campaign on small-scale cogeneration takes off



COGENchallenge, the European information campaign on small-scale cogeneration, has kicked-off on 7 February 2006. 9 partners from 6 different countries will work hard this year to make potential users aware of this innovative energy-saving technique. "Proven small-scale cogeneration products

are available on the market", project co-ordinator Frank Knecht says, "yet, not enough people are aware of the benefits it could bring them. We will inform energy sector professionals as well as the 'man on the street' to overcome this information deficit." To this end, the project team will 'train the trainers', establish 6 regional "small-scale cogeneration facilitators", organise a series of workshops and media events, and spread information material, such as fact sheets, brochures, best practices, contact lists and calculation tools.

The project website serves as a central information hub: **COGEN**challenge will gradually build up an on-line showcase of 1,000 of small-scale cogeneration installations from across Europe – including 50 new projects initiated by the project - to demonstrate the reliability and adaptability of this technology. Owners, operators and suppliers of small-scale cogeneration units from across Europe are invited to include their unit by signing up to the campaign on <http://www.energie-cites.org/cogen-challenge>. Almost 30 projects have been registered to date - just one week after the launch of the campaign!

Small-scale cogeneration has a maximum electrical capacity of 1 MW. Typical applications include houses and apartment buildings, hospitals, schools and universities, office buildings, airports, swimming pools and leisure centres, hotels,



Cogeneration suits many different needs: A school in Frankfurt/Germany (left) covers 80% of its heat demand with two 50 kW gas engines. A small cogeneration plant in Thieulloy/France (right picture) with a 240 kW microturbine fuelled by biogas heats a greenhouse and sells its power output to EDF.

restaurants and stores, but also greenhouses, the food processing industries and other industries such as pulp and paper or textiles.

The launch of the **COGEN**challenge campaign coincides with increasing European efforts to promote this technology: the new European Cogeneration Directive, which enters into force in February 2006, creates a framework for the promotion of high efficiency cogeneration in Europe and represents the first European Directive especially dedicated to this technique. The recent Commission Green Paper on energy efficiency highlights it as one of the most important European Directives on energy efficiency.

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REALISE-Forum - analysing support policies for electricity from renewables

The REALISE Forum project is based on the acknowledgement that policies matter. Led by a joint contact point in Berlin and 5 national desks (Germany, Italy, Slovenia, the Netherlands and Norway), the project analyses how support policies for electricity from renewables relate to each other and to ongoing electricity market reforms, and to what extent market liberalisation impacts on the desire to "green"

the emerging power markets. What are, hence, the experiences with national feed-in schemes and tradable green certificates? And is it possible to come to a co-ordinated approach at the EU level? First findings from national surveys and hearings as well as in depth-interviews carried out in 2005 have been documented in country reports, which are available on the project website.



The overall approach of REALISE is consultative and consensus-based: it provides a platform for exchange and facilitates organised dialogue by bringing together views of public authorities, industry, utilities, regulators, financial institutions, consumers' associations, environmental NGOs, and other stakeholders

involved in policy making or research. The emphasis is thus on the degree of consensus between these groups ("actors' cohesion") on the effectiveness of national support schemes in relation to key market aspects, the willingness to change these schemes in the short term, the sort of transition that should be given priority and the reasons underlying such conversions.

To complement their consultation activities, the REALISE partners are organising international workshops for discussion and exchange. The first event, which focused on tradable green certificate schemes, took place in Milan in December



2006. It gave also rise to discussions on the feasibility of co-ordinated approaches between neighbouring countries. A second workshop will take place in Maribor, Slovenia, on 10-11 May 2006. It will look into national feed-in schemes for electricity from renewables, especially in the accession countries, and possible harmonisation criteria. A concluding international conference in November 2006 in Berlin will present the major findings and discuss lessons and recommendations for future policy-making.

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Boosting the COMPETENCE of local energy agencies on transport matters

Led by Austrian Mobility Research and carried out by 19 partners from 14 European countries, the COMPETENCE project has set itself the task to boost the knowledge and capacity of local management and energy agencies in Europe to address urban transport issues.

This is being achieved at two levels: At the European level, three 1-week "train-the-trainer" sessions are being organised for the COMPETENCE partners themselves. The knowledge acquired is then being spread within each partner's own country during the second phase. What is the advantage? The European training is given in English, but the national know-how sessions will be delivered in the national language of each of the 14 countries covered, reaching out to a much larger audience.

The national know-how sessions for local/regional energy agencies will be organised in 2006. If you would like to participate in one, please send an E-mail to your local COMPETENCE partner who will inform you about dates,



venues and contents of the sessions. A list of the local partners is available on the project website under "Find a Partner". Participation is free of charge.

COMPETENCE addresses a variety of training topics, including fundamentals on transport & energy; vehicle technology & alternative fuels; public transport; mobility management & travel awareness; walking and cycling; energy conservation through urban design; telematics for energy efficient transport; pricing and parking space management; driving style and in car devices; EU policies and programmes; change management; information platforms and websites; preparation and submission of proposals; and citizen participation process.

Materials on each topic can be downloaded from the project website.

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Turning Information into Empowerment: Strengthening Gender and Energy Networking in Africa (TIE-ENERGIA)

Why is it that many policies and projects that seek to increase access to improved energy in Africa have not seen the corresponding benefits materialize? Undoubtedly, one of the main reasons is the, often complete disregard of the gender aspects of energy, an absence TIE-ENERGIA intends to address by raising the awareness of planners, policy-makers and practitioners themselves.

Launched in January of 2005, TIE-ENERGIA is tackling this absence head-on by holding a series of twelve national workshops attended by a select group of development practitioners, as well as implementing gender audits in three countries to identify gender gaps in energy-poverty policies.

With one country-level gender audit underway, and completion of one of the three workshops in which the trainers



Image: "Source: GRATIS"

of the national workshops themselves are trained, results are already being felt.

As one workshop participant, Francis Songela of the Tanzania Traditional Energy Development Organization (TaTEDO) relates, 'Before, gender was hidden. People were talking about gender and the need to consider it, but no one knew how to approach it.'

Now no longer the case, Mr. Songela is already putting to use his newly acquired knowledge by both integrating gender into

TaTEDO's upcoming energy projects and by planning a workshop for those within TaTEDO, this in addition to the Tanzanian workshop he is planning for March.

Indeed, such an outcome is the rule, and with the bulk of capacity building yet to come, the impacts are likely to be deeply felt across Africa. As Lydia Muchiri of Practical Action - Eastern Africa relates, 'the fact that I can now pick up the phone and call colleagues [across Africa] to discuss mainstreaming gender into energy is very gratifying to me.'

The TIE-ENERGIA project has improved effectiveness of working on gender and energy through the collaboration and partnerships that have been created

The project works in 12 countries in Africa and continues until June 2007 with support of Intelligent Energy - Europe and co-funding from SIDA.

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NEWS FROM IEE PARTICIPANTS

Projects started in 2005

The first version of **EPLabel software** is now available on www.eplabel.org, bringing us one step closer to the **energy certification of public buildings on the basis of their actual energy use**. EPLabel is about getting the facts straight for each site and building (building sector and sub-type, floor area, annual consumption of each energy ware, on-site renewables etc.). The resulting energy performance indicators help then identify energy saving measures.



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to-use **procurement standards for green electricity and sustainable building materials for European public authorities**. The roundtables took place in the French Saint-Denis (December 2005) and in Florence (January 2006, see image). More than 25 experts from public authorities, suppliers and research bodies participated in the debates. A third roundtable on energy efficiency in public buildings will be held on 31 March 2006 in Bolzano/Italy.



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The **IMPACT** partners have published on the project website some newsletters and a first report on the preparation for the planned **tests of energy performance certification of buildings in 6 pilot countries**. The project will help implement the European building directive and create energy performance certificates by preparing and testing quality control systems, tools and communication measures.



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The **EEBD** project has examined **vocational training needs in relation to the European Buildings Directive**. A majority of the 950 respondents to a recently conducted survey on this matter stressed the importance of calculation methods and software, and of building certification procedures. But the study highlighted also a general lack of information on the Directive. The findings will feed into the planned development of a training tool. A mailing list has been set up and an electronic newsletter will be distributed as soon as the main elements of the tool and some modules are available on the project website.



www.eebd.org

The City of Vienna was awarded the **"GreenBuilding Partner"** status in January 2006 for having modernised a swimming hall, reducing energy use for heating by 64%. GreenBuilding is the European Commission's programme for energy efficiency of non-residential buildings. The main project website offers links to **8 new national GreenBuilding webpages** which are available in the national languages. The project team encourages currently potential participants in 10 European countries to get involved the GreenBuilding programme.



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Urban wind turbines are a fairly new product. The market is underdeveloped and there is apparent lack of knowledge with these products. In order to permit their potential development, the **Wineur** project brings information related to the existing technologies, the economics, the regulations, procedures and guidelines. A brochure and report on these topics have



become available on the project website:
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The **Display™ Campaign** is heading towards a major event in late 2006 – the first **Towards Class 'A' Award** ceremony. All municipal and local authority members of the Campaign are encouraged to apply and share their **success stories** with others through displaying them on the project website. The Display™ Campaign is a voluntary scheme under which local authorities can publicly display the energy and environmental performances of their public buildings using the same label that is used for household appliances.

Awards: http://www.display-campaign.org/page_214.html
 Success stories: http://www.display-campaign.org/page_41.html

The **ECOHEATCOOL** partners have finalised their **assessment of heating and cooling markets in Europe** with coherent and aggregate descriptions of both sectors. Based on the Primary Energy Factor concept, the project consortium has also created a tool to analyse the energy performance of different heating/cooling options.



The next project phase will identify opportunities for more CHP and district heating/cooling in 32 European countries. These will be

translated into strategic recommendations for decision-makers.

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Ecofys, Lund University, the Wuppertal Institute and Politecnico are analysing the **key factors behind success or failure of energy efficiency policies**. The **AID-EE** project consortium has reconstructed and assessed implementation processes and it is currently undertaking a detailed analysis of 20 different instruments used in different sectors and countries from across Europe. The results will be made available in autumn 2006 through 6 advanced courses for policy-makers and executive institutions.



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The **ELEP** project has published on its website the results from interim reports on **interconnection standardisation and charging rules for distributed generation**. The project will help identify and remove barriers that are currently restricting the uptake of distributed generation within EU Member States. Findings and recommendations of the interim reports will be presented and discussed at a **workshop on Innovative Network Concepts and Interconnection Standardisation and Charging Mechanisms** to be held on 8 March 2006 in Berlin. This meeting is arranged in cooperation with the **DG-GRID** project.

Registration for the workshop: ✉ tendonkelaar@ecn.nl or thomas.bouquet@cogen.org 🌐 www.elep.net

The **EMS-Textile** project helps **improve energy management practices in the textile industries** of Greece, Portugal, Spain, and Bulgaria, as well as other countries and industries. The project partners have developed an **energy management standard** with guidelines for its implementation, and a **tool for energy auditing**. In addition, research findings about the energy consumption of the textile sector are available in a special report created to support energy benchmarking.



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The **RECEIPE** project partners have conducted a **survey of plastics processing companies in Europe**. 60% of responding companies fear for the future of the European industry unless significant short-term action is taken on energy issues and costs. The survey revealed interesting details about site-specific energy consumption and costs in this sector. Companies can download the report from the project website, as well as fill in a questionnaire to benchmark their own performance.

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The **RES Market-Places** project concentrates on rural areas, where it helps setting up **regional market places for renewable energy sources and for energy efficiency measures** in buildings. The project partners have finalised their analysis of the current state of renewables and energy efficiency in Austria, Ireland, Italy,

Germany, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. The results, together with best practice examples and planned events, are available on the project website.

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The **PROPELLETS** project will be present **new and innovative heating pellets systems** in Spain, Austria, United Kingdom, Finland and Italy at Pellets Forum in Wels, Austria, on 1 March 2006.



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ThermalNet is a **pan-European Forum for thermal biomass conversion** covering three technologies: pyrolysis, gasification and combustion. The first issue of the **free biannual newsletter** has just been released. The newsletter provides comprehensive coverage of current research news and events on thermal biomass conversion. In addition, the **new project website** provides links to the individual technology websites and provides information on new events, activities, outputs from the Network and information on forthcoming Thermalnet events.

Newsletter subscriptions and more info: Emily Wakefield, Aston University
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The **Copenhagen Strategy on Offshore Wind Power Deployment** was published on 28 October 2005 following the European Policy Seminar on Offshore Wind Power (Copenhagen, 27 October 2005). A follow-up meeting in Germany is envisaged.

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The participants of the **ST-ESCOs** project, which supports the **creation of solar thermal energy service companies** in Europe, have organised **4 stakeholder workshops** in Greece, Austria, Spain and Italy. End-users, manufacturers, financial institutions, engineering firms, lawyers, public authorities and others participated in the debates. Background reports and the results of the **market analysis** carried out for each country are available on the new project website.

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The **RURASU** project transfers energy management capacity and services to rural areas through so-called Rural Advice Support Units (DASUs). Having addressed relevant topics at three on-site project meetings, the project partners have created an **action agenda and reports on the set-up and operation** of these units. Once finalised, these will be made available on the project web site.



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The **RUSE** project helps new EU Member States to **design sustainable energy projects under the EU Structural Funds**. The project website is available in English, Polish, Lithuanian, Czech and Slovak. It offers a **database** of good practice case studies, a recent **newsletter** on sustainable energy in the current and future programming period, and a **help desk** with advice on

how to design a project and apply for co-funding from the Structural Funds.

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Led by Danish Miljø Media, a specialist in TV and video productions on environmental and sustainable development themes, the **REislands** project will develop a **1-hour video on the benefits from renewable energy use in island communities**, including best practice examples. Copies of the video in 6 European languages and a 3-minute downloadable clip will be made available on the  **European REislands** project web site

🌐 www.europeanreislands.net.

Treatise - Training in Environmental Transport - began in January 2005 and has to date produced **reference manuals, an ecodriving simulator and a PC-based green fleet management tool. Cleaner transport training** in several of the 8 partner countries has also started. The three training manuals - covering Cleaner Fuels & Vehicles; Ecodriving; and Mobility Management - have been translated into each partner's language and can be downloaded from the project website. During 2006 the project's first priority will be to provide further training courses in all 8 countries as well as establishing local cleaner transport projects in conjunction with organisations that have received training.

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www.treatise.eu.com



Following an open consultation, the **e-atomium** partners have determined the 4 most relevant topics for their planned

New projects starting in 2006

(for a complete list of all new projects see 🌐 http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/intelligent/projects/index_en.htm)

The **STAR BUS** project will help local decision-makers **compare different urban bus models** and to take the best choice from an energy and environmental point of view. The partners plan to develop an **integrated tool which allows assessing and evaluating pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions** in economic terms, combined with "classical" economic costs and other criteria. The tool will use data from a new **"well to wheel" emissions database**. It will be tested under real conditions by bus companies, networks and cities participating in the project.

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60 European cities in 15 countries are currently using **bicycle audits (BYPAD)**. The new **BYPAD Platform** will **expand the use of this method** to more cities, regions and auditors in the new EU Members States through information provision and **training of certified auditors**, thereby improving the quality of cycling policies and increase bicycle use in Europe. The Platform will organise regional workshops and international seminars, develop a good practice database and publish newsletters.

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training of energy agencies and other local actors on transport and mobility themes: mobility management; alternative fuels & vehicles; awareness raising & communication campaigns; demand management incl. urban planning & transport. Tailor-made training programmes will be offered between February and June 2006 in Belgium, France, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands and the UK.



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The **INSABA** project develops strategies for the access of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to productive renewable energy applications. An **assessment of the production/business profiles of SMEs in Botswana** has just been finalised (a similar study on Namibia is planned) and will be published on the project website, which offers also a **tool to identify suitable locations**. Any feedback would be appreciated. The project partners invite also companies from SADC and EU to participate in the **Renewable Energy Shows in South Africa, Botswana, Namibia and Zambia**, which will be preceded by round-table presentations with national officials and the media.

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The **ENABLE** partners organised **national workshops in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda** in autumn 2005 to raise awareness of the **importance of energy for poverty alleviation** and to strengthen local knowledge and cross-sectoral dialogue. The workshop reports are available from the project website. The provision of modern energy services is an overlooked yet crucial concern in improving the health, education and general quality of life of the people living in rural areas of many developing countries.

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With 16 partners from all over Europe, the **Active Learning** project will contribute to energy savings in school buildings and homes by **teaching children on how to use energy efficiently** through hands-on and experimental activities. The project advocates that children can be important resources in their own education. They will develop **teaching material**, implement **energy monitoring** and work to promote active learning into national school curricula. Cooperation with other energy education projects is important.

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The **EffCoBuild** project concentrates on **pilot "Energy Efficiency Communities"** in the building sector. The pilot communities are located in Austria, Slovakia, Germany and Slovenia. Each of them will develop a full set of measures and implement one of them as a pilot project.

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The project **ThERRA** has just had its kick-off meeting. The aim of the project is to develop **common definitions for renewable heat**. At the present time, definitions vary from country to country.

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The kick-off meeting of the **AGRIFOREENERGY** project took place in Graz, Austria, in January 2006. Coordinated by the Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Styria (Austria) and with 4 partners from Italy, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia, the project will facilitate more co-operation among farmers and forest owners to mobilise the large biomass potential from private forests and agricultural land, and to **integrate the agricultural and forestry sector as raw material or energy supplier into energy markets**. Know-how transfer between local areas and countries is foreseen.

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The vision of the **EPI-SoHo** project is to improve **efficient and rational energy use in social housing stocks across the EU** whilst at the same time raising standards of living and global environmental benefits. The EPI-SoHo project focuses on cost effective methods for large scale energy performance assessments; embedding energy assessment data in policy processes for social housing management; investigation of problematical issues concerning "cost-of-living" related to energy saving; and collaboration between local authorities, social housing associations and the private sector on energy efficiency.

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SHARE is a partnership of **8 European areas** representing a wide range of types of social housing in new and old member states, rural and urban, north and south. SHARE aims to raise the level of **sustainable energy retrofitting in social housing** in the participating areas,



through establishing local /regional multi-sectoral **social housing energy forums** to steer a programme of training, awareness and advice and investigate new finance options. A proactive dissemination programme will spread the word further afield to social housing networks and stakeholders.

Catrin Maby, Severn Wye Energy Agency ✉ catrin@swea.co.uk

The **GROUND-REACH** project will promote the **wider use of ground coupled heat pumps** through a number of **studies and a large scale promotional campaign**. The campaign will reach out to key professional groups via a dedicated website showing the benefits and availability of the technology, an international conference and exhibition, press releases, email campaign, and series of meetings.

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The **SolCamp** project has the vision of increasing the use of **solar thermal systems on camping sites**, one of the most suitable locations for such applications. Together with local and regional camping and handicraft associations, the project partners will develop **SolarCheckCamping** - a standardised, neutral consultant tool. The project is led by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sonnenenergie (DGS) and includes partners from Germany, Wales, Poland, Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Italy, Spain and Portugal.



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Heat storage technologies can greatly improve the performance of solar collectors, heat pumps, micro

cogeneration, and biomass systems. Yet, an internationally co-ordinated and programmed approach, long-term objectives and funding are necessary to achieve the final breakthrough. The **PREHEAT** project has thus the vision of integrating the large number of companies working on heat storage technologies into a coherent European heat storage community. **Two large international conferences and several national workshops** are planned to make policy-makers aware of the economic and environmental potential of the opportunities.

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The new **PROEFFICIENCY** project will promote the most **eco-energy efficient cooling and lighting products** through pilot promoters' initiatives and pilot consumers actions.

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The **REFUEL** project will provide an ambitious, yet realistic **roadmap for the development of biofuels until 2030**. The project will be presented at the **Biofuels Markets Conference** in Brussels on 16/17 February 2006. Any feedback from stakeholders is appreciated.



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The **MICROGRIDS** project will promote the development of **micro-grids with a high penetration of renewables to support the electrification of little rural villages in Senegal**, helping to overcome rural poverty and to initiate sustainable development. Several partners from Senegal participate in the project, which trains and informs energy sector professionals, trainers and teachers, private sector companies and local authorities.

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The **RIAED** project will set up a new **international network of French-speaking experts on energy access**. A web-portal will be online at the end of June 2006. It will offer a range of collaborative tools, monthly newsletters, blogs, documents etc.

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The **PURE** project will boost the installation of **building-integrated photovoltaic systems** in European regions with great solar potential but few installed systems to date. Five so-called "**Demo Relay Nodes**" - a sort of facility consisting of 50-100 m2 housing exhibitions, dissemination and promotion activities - will be set up in Spain, Italy, Portugal, Greece and Slovakia around July 2007.

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The **4EM-MCP** project was launched in Brussels on 24-25 January 2006. The project partners from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania will **extend, promote and apply the European Commission's Motor Challenge Programme** through national programmes in the new EU Member States and in Candidate Countries. Any industrial company can participate in the Motor Challenge Programme, which helps it improve the efficiency of its motor-driven



systems.

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The **1st International Workshop of the Motor Challenge Programme** will take place on 22 March 2006 in Vienna. The **DEXA – MCP** partners seek the participation of energy agencies that work on industrial energy efficiency. Participants from the new Member States and Candidate Countries are particularly welcome.

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 Ⓜ <http://www.energyagency.at/service/veranst/motor2006.en.htm>

The **SEENADE** project aims to contribute to the enhancement of the range, scope and quality of **energy advice provision in the European Community**. Effective advice is essential, both to achieve the potential take-up of measures and to realise the full potential



energy savings from such measures. It is also crucial to the effective impact of energy performance certification. SEENADE will provide an **evaluation of existing provision, an online toolkit and interactive energy advice forum**.

Catrin Maby, Severn Wye Energy Agency ✉ catrin@swea.co.uk

The **BEPINET** project has the objective to establish permanent specialised **training platforms for biomass technologies for the Andes and the Amazonian regions** in Latin America. The BEPINET partners will develop their activity in close collaboration with **BEPITA**, another Intelligent Energy - Europe project **covering the African region**. The coordination of BEPINET and BEPITA projects by the same European team will allow the clustering of these two projects, reinforcing opportunities for South-South exchanges of information and technology transfer.

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The kick-off meeting of the **EAST-GSR** project took place in Ljubljana on 19/20 January 2006. The 10 partners will adapt and promote the **Guaranteed Solar Results (GSR) quality approach to solar thermal applications in Eastern Europe**. National market analysis, pilot projects with telemonitoring equipment and feasibility studies are on the work plan, and extensive stakeholder involvement is foreseen.

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A consortium of 14 European partners is running the 'Energy Efficient Residential Lighting Initiative' - **EnERLIn**. During the next 3 years they will help develop the market for **highly efficient Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL) for residential use** through the creation of a new European CFL-Quality Charter, the design of attractive CFL promotional campaigns, the development of CFL quality criteria, and comprehensive databases.

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 Ⓜ <http://www.efficient-lighting.org> (to be operational soon)

Led by the Traffic and Public Transport Authority in the City of Göteborg, the **START** project will kick off in Göteborg on 23/24 February 2006. It will introduce a package of short-term **measures to make goods distribution in cities more energy efficient**, notably through access restrictions, consolidation centres and incentives. Local authorities,

transport companies and local businesses in each of the participating cities will deliver the measures jointly. More than 75 organisations and more than 150 companies will be involved.

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The **E-Street** project will **increase our knowledge and awareness of intelligent street lighting and accelerate the use of these technologies** in Europe. The project partners plan to assess energy savings for different settings, help to coordinate procurement initiatives, speed up the development of legislation and standards, and communicate "customers needs" on technology and administrative aspects. New standards for vote within CIE and later CEN are very important for avoiding conservative attitudes to hamper the progress.

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The **EL-TERTIARY** project will review available data and their sources on buildings in the tertiary sector to develop **harmonised concepts of empirical methods for data collection on electricity consumption**. It will be tested in more than 100 buildings in 12 EU and Candidate Countries. Any information on existing studies with results from metering campaigns, surveys and other data sources is welcome. The project covers public and private offices, trade, hotels and restaurants, education, health, and all kinds of electric equipment. An expert workshop in June 2006 will seek input into the methodology to be developed.

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The **ENERGY 4 COHESION** project will prepare the ground for the extensive and efficient **use of the European Cohesion Programmes 2007-13 for decentralised energy projects**, combined with targeted promotion of renewables and energy efficiency measures in the less developed regions of Central and Southern Europe. The project will have a political (create suitable conditions for decentralised energy projects), scientific (determine the financial and management prerequisites for projects in areas) and an institutional (local/regional training and capacity building) dimension.

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The Sustainable Urban Development European Network (SUDEN) is the coordinator of the new **Factor 4** project, which will have the ambition to bring about a **4-fold reduction of energy consumption in social housing**. Achieving this objective will be a continuous process. The project partners will place particular emphasis on the analysis of barriers, exchange of information, and on energy efficiency technologies associated with owners' strategies.

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Co-ordinated by KWI Consultants & Engineers from Austria, a project on **"Improving the Social Dialogue for Energy Efficient Social Housing" (ISEES)** has kicked off on 30 January 2006. The aim is to facilitate dialogue between energy users, housing associations, utilities and municipalities to provide those involved with appropriate technical solutions and socio-economic tools to optimise energy use in social housing.

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The **SECURE** project transfers experiences from **innovative demonstration projects** to mainstream **sustainable energy planning in the cities of Malmö, Tallinn, Dublin and Hillerød**. Far-reaching concepts, such as “passive houses” and “carbon neutral cities”, will be assessed and new local energy partnerships will be developed.

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The **SUGRE** project will support the **uptake of green vehicles and the conversion to green fleets** by spreading good practices and experiences with alternative fuels and alternative propulsion.

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🌐 <http://www.greenfleet.info>

Events supported by Intelligent Energy – Europe

15-17 February 2006: VII Regional Forum “Incentives for Renewable Energy and Biofuels” (San Salvador, El Salvador)

🌐 <http://www.sgsica.org/energia>

21 February 2006: Seminar “Local and Innovative Biodiesel” (Brussels, Belgium)

You play a part in the development of Biodiesel? This seminar will present you concrete examples for developing biodiesel potentials and projects undertaken in the different partner countries of this project.

<http://www.fedarene.org/publications/Projects/Contrat/Biodiesel/home.htm>

27 February – 02 March 2006: EWEC 2006. European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition (Athens, Greece)

🌐 http://www.ewea.org/06b_events/events_2006EWEC.htm

02-03 March 2006: European Energy Efficiency Conference (Wels, Austria)

A unique combination of events including the "Energiesparmesse", "Renewable Heating & Cooling", "European Pellets Forum", "Green Electricity for Europe's Regions" and site-visits

🌐 www.wsed.at Contact: Petra Friedrich ☎ +43-732-7720-14386 ✉ office@esv.or.at

02+08-09 March 2006: The Energy Days. Sustainable Construction & Renovation (Brussels, Belgium, during the Batibouw fair)

🌐 http://www.batibouw.com/pdf/EnergyDays_Bat2006_VFinale.pdf

22 March 2006: 1st International Workshop of the Motor Challenge Programme (Vienna, Austria)

🌐 <http://www.energyagency.at/service/veranst/motor2006.en.htm>

23-24 March 2006: ‘Facing the challenge of energy and climate change - Local actors working together more effectively’ (Delft and Zoetermeer, Netherlands)

How can we build “sustainable energy communities” within our municipalities? How can we set up “local intelligent energy forums” so we can work together more effectively? How can we make local initiatives more visible? Energie-Cités offer you the opportunity to discuss these issues with your local partners at this Conference which will focus on the exchanges of experience and innovation.

🌐 www.energie-cites.org/conference. Contact: Jean-Pierre Vallar, Energie-Cités ☎ +33 3 81 65 36 85 ✉ jpvallar@energie-cites.org

28-29 March 2006: Benefits of the use of Sustainable Energy Systems and their integration in island communities (Brussels, Belgium)

🌐 <http://www.islenet.net/>

27-31 March 2006: COGENeration Week 2006 (Brussels, Belgium)

🌐 http://www.cogen.org/events/Cogeneration_Week2006.htm

25 April 2006: The highly efficient use of biomass in CHP plants (Hannover, Germany)

🌐 <http://www.zukunftsenergien.de/hp2/aktuelles/aktuelles.htm>

11-12 May 2006 European PV-Hybrid and Mini-Grid Conference (Aix en Provence, France)

Conference topics: Field experience: operation and maintenance, socio-economics; systems technology; components: storage, inverters, backups; simulation and sizing; market/economics/finance.

🌐 <http://www.otti.de/guenther/ipv2075.html>, contact: Gabriele Struthoff-Mueller, OTTI e.V. ☎ +49 941 29688-29 ✉ gabriele.struthoff-mueller@otti.de

15-17 May 2006: A Future with Zero CO2 Emissions. A European conference for local governments on climate protection and promotion of renewable energy (Stockholm, Sweden)

Leading cities with ambitious targets will meet and formulate agendas to drastically reduce CO₂ emissions. Youth, business and local governments will cooperate in finding methods to start local work on adapting to climate change; conference participants will also benefit from the presentation of the latest technologies and research supporting radical targets. Your participation is encouraged.

🌐 www.iclei.org/itc/stockholm2006 ✉ stockholm2006@iclei-europe.org ☎ +49-761/3689238

19-20 May 2006: 10th International Conference on Passive Houses (Hannover, Germany)

🌐 <http://www.passivhaustagung.de/englisch/index.html>

30-31 May 2006 The Buy Bright Initiative – A Best Practice Platform for Public Sector Energy Efficient Lighting (Brussels, Belgium)

🌐 <http://www.elcfed.org/content.php?level=14&mode=1>

30 May – 01 June 2006: World Bioenergy 2006 (Jönköping, Sweden)

Understand the possibilities of bioenergy to tackle the challenges of climate change, sustainable development and security of energy supply. The event consists of three interlinked parts - international conference, trade fair and study tours – and provides a platform to share knowledge, make contacts and identify business opportunities. World Bioenergy 2006 is held in parallel with Pellets 2006 (see next entry) and the Elmia Waste & Recycling exhibition.

🌐 www.worldbioenergy.se ☎ +46 36 1520 00 Fax +46 36 164692 ✉ worldbioenergy@elmia.se

30 May – 01 June 2006: Pellets 2006 (Jönköping, Sweden)

🌐 <http://www.pellets2006.com/>

01-02 June 2006: Second International Congress on Architecture, City and Energy (Pamplona, Spain)

🌐 <http://www.cibarq.com/>

27-30 June 2006: EuroSun 2006 (Glasgow, UK)

<http://www.eurosun2006.org/>

12-14 September 2006: European Conference for Renewable Energy Policy 2006 (Brussels, Belgium)

24-27 September 2006: Solar Lakes Conference (Friedrichshafen, Germany)

Promoting Renewable Energy Technologies in European Lake Regions

Editorial Information

Intelligent Energy News is the quarterly electronic newsletter of the Intelligent Energy Executive Agency (IEEA) of the European Commission. The information contained in this issue may be reproduced.

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The newsletter is at your service. If you participate in the IEE programme and would like to inform others of the work you are doing, simply send a contribution for the "News from IEE participants" section to Peter Löffler (peter.loeffler@cec.eu.int). The maximum text length is 75 words. **The deadline for contributions for the next Newsletter is 10 May 2006.**

Intelligent Energy – Europe (IEE) is the European Union's programme for energy efficiency and renewables. It supports financially international projects, events, and local/regional energy agencies, which promote the smarter use of energy and the growth of renewable energy sources. Intelligent Energy – Europe contributes to the three key EU energy policy objectives: security of energy supply, environmental protection, and competitiveness.

The European Commission's **Intelligent Energy Executive Agency (IEEA)** implements the IEE programme. With more than 40 staff, the IEEA is at the service of all IEE partners by managing the different projects and events funded under the IEE programme, and by disseminating the know-how and best practices which they produce.

More details on the IEE programme and on the IEEA can be found on http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/intelligent/index_en.html