

Quarterly newsletter of the Intelligent Energy Executive Agency (IEEA) N°4 – June 2006

Welcome to the fourth newsletter on the Intelligent Energy – Europe Programme.

Good news: the 2006 call for proposals has just been published - another opportunity for European organisations to apply for financial support to run their projects and organise events for energy efficiency and more renewables. What is more, it is now confirmed that the IEE programme will continue during 2007-13 as part of a broader European framework programme for competitiveness, innovation, job creation, eco-innovation and climate protection. You are invited to find out more details on these developments in this newsletter.

Whilst looking at the future of the IEE programme, let's not forget about the present. More than 1000 partner organisations working on more than 200 ongoing projects are

already helping to achieve the objectives of the IEE programme. The second part of this newsletter provides you with updates on the latest steps and results in a variety of areas including buildings, industry, renewables, biofuels, or intelligent energy in developing countries.

Is it the increasing availability of these concrete results which is stimulating the growing interest in the IEE programme? More than 15,000 downloads only of the last issue of this newsletter seem to indicate it. In any case, if you have any ideas of how we can offer you a better information service – just let us know.

Best regards,

Peter Löffler
IEEA Communications Officer

NEWS ON THE IEE PROGRAMME

Green light for Intelligent Energy – Europe II



With its decision to adopt the first "Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme" (CIP), the European Parliament has paved the way for a continued European effort to change systems and habits and use energy more intelligently. The €3.6 billion support programme, which will run from

2007-13, includes an ambitious Intelligent Energy – Europe II programme with a total budget of €730 million.

The new IEE programme, similar to the ongoing IEE I programme 2003-06, will encourage the uptake and demand

for energy efficiency, promote renewable energy sources and energy diversification, and stimulate the diversification of fuels and energy efficiency in transport. The final adoption of the programme by EU Member States in the Council is expected to follow later on this month..

The priorities for the start of IEE II will be defined in the annual work programme 2007, which the European Commission plans to adopt in early 2007. This would mean the first call for proposals under the new programme could be expected in early spring next year.

 http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/enterprise_policy/cip/index_en.htm

2006 call for proposals: a great funding opportunity for your projects

Yet another push towards the smarter use of energy and more renewables in Europe: the 2006 call for proposals - the last under the current IEE programme - has been published on 29 May 2006, opening a five-month period during which applications for financial support can be submitted. Organisations from the EU Member States, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein have the opportunity to make use of the €50 million or so available to co-finance actions for the promotion of energy efficiency and

renewables. It is estimated that this support will enable about 100 projects, 20 energy agencies and 25 European events to go ahead. The deadline to send proposals for European projects, one-off events or the setting-up of local/regional energy agencies is 31 October 2006. In difference to last year's call, there will therefore be only one deadline for events this time.

 http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/call_for_proposals/index_en.htm

More than 30 IEE info days to help you apply



The IEEA organised a European Info Day on 30 May 2006 in Brussels to provide advice on how to apply, present ongoing projects and first results, explain the policy context, and outline the lessons learnt and the future perspectives of the programme. The event was successful: 450 participants attended and another 250 followed the morning session on the Internet through the ManagEnergy broadcast service. All presentations and links to the videos from the Info Day are available on:

 http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/events/infodays_en.htm

Those who could not attend the European Info Day can still attend a series of National Info Days organised in participating countries. The events planned to date are

- Austria: 22 June 2006, Vienna
- Bulgaria: 14 June 2006, Varna
- Czech Republic: 15 June 2006, Prague
- Cyprus: 7 July 2006, Nicosia
- Denmark: 6 June 2006, Copenhagen
- Estonia: 13 June 2006, Tallinn
- Finland: 23 August 2006, Helsinki
- France: 22 June 2006, Paris / 23 June 2006, Grenoble / 29 June 2006, Toulouse

- Germany: 13 June 2006, Kiel / 29 June 2006, Oldenburg / 11 July 2006, Frankfurt
- Greece: 10 July 2006, Athens
- Ireland: 7/8 June, Dublin
- Italy: 16 June 2006, Florence
- Malta: 15 June 2006, Valletta
- Netherlands: 23 June 2006, Utrecht
- Norway: 12 June 2006, Trondheim / August 2006 (tbc), Oslo

- Poland: June 2006, Warsaw
- Slovakia: 16 June 2006, Bratislava
- Slovenia: 8 June 2006, Ljubljana
- Spain: 23 June 2006, Madrid
- Sweden: 20 June 2006, Stockholm / 19 June 2006, Gothenburg
- United Kingdom: 19 June 2006, London

Full details on IEE National Info Days:

☞ http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/events/infodays_en.htm

2005 call for proposals: new intelligent energy projects are in the pipeline

A team composed of external experts, IEEA staff and the European Commission has already evaluated most of the proposals for IEE projects and new local/regional energy agencies submitted under the 2005 call for proposals. The IEEA informed in late May 2006 all applicants of the results and invited the proposers of 82 projects and 17 new energy agencies to negotiate grant agreements, which will involve more than 700 partner organisations. A half-day meeting to start this process took place on 31 May in Brussels. It was attended by 80 participants, and many more online viewers

followed it via the ManagEnergy internet broadcast service. Presentations and links to the videos from this meeting are available on

☞ http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/negotiation/index_en.htm

57 proposals for the organisation of European events submitted under the 28 April 2006 deadline have not yet been evaluated, and 41 proposals for COOPENER projects are currently in the final stages of evaluation. The results of both processes are likely to be available in late June 2006.

IEE contractors' meetings

The IEEA is currently preparing 3 contractors' meetings in the following areas of the IEE programme:

Energy-efficient products (20 June 2006, London). This meeting takes place as a side event to the 4th International Conference on Energy Efficiency in Domestic Appliances and Lighting (EEDAL'06).

Social housing (21/22 June 2006, Brussels).

Buildings (November 2006, Lyon). This meeting takes place during the 4th European Conference on Energy Performance & Indoor Climate in Buildings (EPIC).

☞ http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/events/meetings_en.htm

ManagEnergy

ManagEnergy KidsCorner, an initiative of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Energy and Transport, is now available in all 20 EU languages and Bulgarian. KidsCorner web pages for schoolchildren feature animations, e-cards, a photo gallery, picture downloads, information and links to other websites, games and videos on energy saving, renewable energy and transport.



The [KidsCorner teacher database](http://www.managenergy.net/kidscorner) is a quick and easy way for energy actors and teachers across Europe to find online lesson plans, information and multimedia resources on everything from solar energy and biofuels to CFL light

bulbs and safer routes to school. It provides direct links to over 280 online energy education websites in 30 languages.

A new KidsCorner game has been developed and will be launched online in June 2006. Players help Joules ride his mountain bike over a changing landscape to collect sunflowers to make biodiesel for Aunt Freda's racing car. At the final level, the KidsCorner mascot, Ronaldo the football playing Reindeer, collects solar panels in his snow mobile (also powered by biodiesel, of course)!

☞ www.managenergy.net/kidscorner (follow the links for your language)

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ManagEnergy provide also a wide range of information in its June 2006 newsletter:

☞ <http://www.managenergy.net/news/news.html>

EIC Network: Promoting Intelligent Energy - Europe to SMEs

Active in 42 European and Mediterranean countries, the Euro Info Centres (EICs) inform, advise and assist small and medium-sized businesses on all EU matters.

High petrol prices and the need to save energy have recently become crucial issues for SMEs. Changing their attitude towards energy consumption is of vital importance for them, and they should also be fully aware of new business opportunities in the area of renewables and energy efficiency.

For these reasons, several EICs recently decided to work at the grassroots level, promoting EU activities relating to intelligent energy: The EICs of Florence and Toulouse, and the Flemish EIC of Brussels, organised information days to



explain funding opportunities of the 2006 call under the IEE programme. In the words of Paola Ballini from the EIC Florence, these events will "explain the contents and procedures for designing a good project, which fully reflects European energy policies".

Last but not least, several EICs have involved themselves in the promotion of intelligent energy production and consumption by joining the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign as associates.

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PROJECTS OF THE MONTH

Integrating photovoltaic energy in urban planning (PV-UP-SCALE)

The large-scale use of photovoltaic energy (PV) in our cities is an important element of sustainable electricity supply in Europe. PV has little impact on the built environment when fully integrated into buildings, and predicted cost reductions are likely to make it fully competitive in the mid-term. PV technologies and products themselves have been investigated and demonstrated successfully through a large number of projects. Yet, for their large-scale uptake in built-up areas it is the urban planning and decision-making process that matters. Many of the people involved need to know more about the possibilities of PV as power-producing building material and about the implications of its wider use within cities.

The PV-UP-SCALE project is designed to address this challenge. Launched in early 2006, its objective is to increase the



From single building-integrated PV...

to

...PV urban planning



knowledge and to change perception of all urban planning stakeholders in relation to PV, informing them of economic drivers, bottlenecks, grid issues, and other dos and don'ts. To this end, the project partners plan to organise a series of workshops and develop a quality handbook on the basis of experiences gained from relevant urban development projects in the Netherlands, Germany, France, Spain and the United Kingdom.

PV-UP-SCALE does not only contribute to the IEE programme objectives but it also relates to the Photovoltaic Power Systems Programme of the International Energy Agency (IEA), an agreement conducting projects on the application of solar photovoltaic electricity

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🌐 www.pvupscale.org

E-CHECK IN CRAFT SMEs: energy fitness for your company

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) account for a significant part of business in Europe. Yet, they often consume more energy than necessary and many of them lack capacity to address shortcomings and improve their energy performance.

This is the starting point of the "E-Check in Craft SME" project: how can we provide SMEs with simple yet effective methods and with the necessary human resources to cut down their energy costs? A smart solution is to recruit "E-Checkers" from the workforce of each company, provide them with special training and a handy calculation tool, and let them undertake energy checks within their company.

"We are very pleased to offer a practical, useful concept especially developed for small and medium size crafts' enterprises to help them identify energy saving potentials", said Dr. Volker Becker, Deputy Head of the UZH, the environment and transfer centre of the chamber of crafts in Oberhausen/Germany.

The results of the project, which started in early 2005, are now becoming visible. Having successfully completed their training courses, nine craftsmen from the plumbing, heating, ventilation, air-conditioning and electricity sectors received their "Energy-Checker" certificate at the UZH on 29 April 2006.

The E-Check partners have created a special calculation tool based on the Excel software, which allows to quickly identify, analyse and evaluate the energy consumption, energy costs

and key performance indicators of bakeries, butchers, carpenters, and glass, paint and small food producers. On the basis of a quick energy check of all relevant appliances, the "E-Checker" develops an action plan comprising of all measures to save energy and cut costs, ranked by the most relevant priorities such as investment costs, pay-back time and negotiability. He then presents and explains his findings to the owner of the enterprise, providing valuable recommendations for investment decisions in energy-saving measures.

The "E-Check in Craft SME" project involves Germany, Spain, Greece, Bulgaria and Ireland. Following the trainings, all E-Checkers will accomplish

three pilot tests in crafts' enterprises for further refinement. By the end of 2006 the finalised E-Check-calculation tool will be ready for use in 5 different crafts and 5 different languages.

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🌐 www.energy-check.org

Photo: E-Checkers with their training certificates and Maren Kornmann, co-ordinator of the project. Source: UZH

e-check
IN CRAFT SME



MIRREIA: partnerships and project support for rural electrification in Africa

MIRREIA (Mitigating Risk and Strengthening Capacity for Rural Electricity Investment in Africa) kicked off with a workshop in Nairobi in April 2005. The project identifies key policy, regulatory and financial barriers to investment in rural electrification in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda by bringing together the key policy makers, regulatory bodies, financial institutions and private developers.

There is a major need in the region and throughout sub-Saharan Africa for increasing access to electricity in rural areas to promote economic development and alleviate the effects of poverty. In parallel with this, there is an ever-increasing interest from the private sector, both locally and internationally, in developing rural electrification projects.

The project team has been working closely with a number of developers in each of the countries, providing technical support and facilitating discussions with the relevant institutions in order to bring renewable electricity projects to fruition.

In March 2006, the MIRREIA partners collaborated with the e7 Fund and UNEP to host a regional workshop in Nairobi for key institutional players in rural electrification - government officials, energy regulators, rural electrification agencies, private and community project developers - from Kenya,

Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, South Africa, Madagascar, Mali, Namibia, Zambia and Lesotho.

The three-day event was marked by extensive dialogue amongst participants both in the main forum and in the numerous break-out sessions. There was overall agreement on the need for governments to prioritise rural electrification and ensure clear and transparent systems are in place to support development. Governments should have a long-term vision of "rural electrification for economic development", including a multi-sector approach involving the private sector.

With regard to finance, there is an ongoing need for capital subsidies, thus governments should

continue to play a leading role in conjunction with local and international donors. Finally, it is essential that the barriers to local and small size commercial finance availability be removed to ensure greater private sector and community involvement. The full proceedings will soon be available on the project website.

In conjunction with the ongoing project developer support, the next major activity under the MIRREIA project will be a detailed study of the financial framework in the region, the availability of finance and the key barriers to local investors.

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🌐 <http://mirreia.energyprojects.net/>



ECODRIVEN: a synchronised European-wide ecodriving campaign

Ecodriving is 'hot'. Showing car and truck drivers how to drive their vehicle in safe and fuel-saving ways is cost-effective, easy to achieve and leads quickly to solid environmental improvements, namely substantial contributions to Kyoto and air quality targets. Yet, whilst ecodriving forms part of climate change policies in some European countries (Austria, Spain, Netherlands) most governments failed to make more use of this effective no-regrets measure so far.

Several national energy agencies have therefore joined forces in the ECODRIVEN project, a synchronised European-wide campaign to bring the potential and benefits of ecodriving to the attention of passenger car, van, lorry and bus drivers, and policy makers in 9 EU countries. The ECODRIVEN partners are aiming high: one year of intensive campaigning activity will bring ecodriving to

the attention of 2.5 million drivers with the help of local car dealers, fuel stations, Touring Club consumer stores, tyre suppliers, drivers' associations, driving schools municipalities, SMEs and haulers. If the project succeeds, it will avoid half a million tonnes of CO₂ emissions until 2010, reduce other air emissions from road transport, and lessen road accident rates.

ECODRIVEN, which started in January 2006, builds on the previous 'Ecodriving Europe' project and is closely linked to other transport projects supported by Intelligent Energy - Europe, such as TREATISE, e-Atomium, Competence, and SUGRE. The project partners are currently preparing campaigning materials and fine-tuning their approach.

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NEWS FROM IEE PARTICIPANTS

For more details on IEE-supported projects go to http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/projects/index_en.htm

Buildings and Social Housing

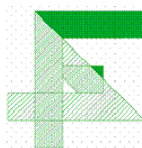
4th Newsletter of the Display™ Campaign published

Published in late April 2006, the newsletter informs you about the 'Display - Towards Class A' Award 2006, presents the first relay city in Slovenia and the campaign partner CEMR, and provides the latest statistics on the development of the Display™ campaign. The newsletter can be accessed from the main menu of the project website. The Display™ Campaign is a European voluntary scheme to encourage local authorities to publicly display the energy and environmental performances of their public buildings using an energy label similar to the one used for household appliances.

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🌐 <http://www.display-campaign.org>

Pilot projects wanted for factor 4 improvements in social housing



The FACTOR 4 project is making progress towards identifying a typology of social housing which is suitable for a factor 4 improvement in greenhouse gas emissions before 2050 through energy efficiency improvements of at least 30% and the use of renewable energy sources. After May 2006,

the project partners will start to identify suitable buildings. Social owners, especially from Denmark, France, Germany, Italy and Romania, who are interested in the project and would like to suggest pilot demonstration projects are asked to

contact the project coordinator (details below). The ensuing steps will include the development of a life cycle costing model to support decision-making of social owners and their public financial partners.

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Energy labelling of construction products



Partners from eight European countries join forces in the GREEN-IT project to label the energy performance of building construction products. Labelling would thus become a means to promote best practice amongst manufacturers and motivate them to support European

policy objectives through the development of new products.

At their first meeting, the GREEN-IT partners agreed a labelling approach based on thermal performance criteria and building operational energy, assessing building products against their contribution to the overall energy performance of buildings.

Work on benchmarking of building construction products manufactured in Europe is still ongoing. Workshops to inform and actively involve the industry in the project are planned for the period between June and October 2006, followed by workshops for designers, engineers, developers and other building professionals towards the end of the year.

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State of the art of sustainable summer comfort published



The KEEP COOL partners have published new state of the art reports on sustainable summer comfort on the project website. In addition to summaries and descriptions of

the most important technologies and applications, KeepCool provides descriptions of best practice in existing buildings, a survey of national and regional legislation on summer comfort, and lists of suppliers and experts for sustainable cooling in every participating country. A tool kit for building owners and planners will be available shortly.

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Renewables in buildings

The kick-off meeting of the RESINBUIL project took place



in Burgos (Spain) on 2-4 March 2006. The eight project partners (from Spain, Italy, Slovenia and Romania) will promote the use of renewable energy sources in buildings. Their three-pronged strategy will comprise of concrete market, promotional and training actions to increase the installation and use of small scale appliances, especially those powered by solar and biomass energy.

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Ventilation of buildings: distance learning



The Vent Dis.Course project had its first evaluation workshop for the distance learning training material it is developing on 16 May 2005 in Prague. This was organised by REHVA under the auspices of the 17th international conference of air-conditioning and

ventilation. It was attended by representatives of professional bodies from Europe and the US, academics and students who made specific comments and promised valuable contributions. The workshop presentations are available in the project's website. The training material is also being evaluated by 10 European experts. Three additional evaluation workshops are planned later in the year in the UK, Greece and France. Pilot distance training will start in October 2006.

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Craftsmen can become qualified building energy auditors

Tests undertaken in the framework of the IMPACT project in France and Germany show that craftsmen -like chimneysweepers in Germany- and non-energy experts -like lead-asbestos-termites experts in France- could potentially be turned into qualified energy auditors and help address a massive need for energy performance audits of buildings. However, they require special support and training. The IMPACT tests provided also evidence of the need to provide homeowners with personal explications of buildings' energy certificates and measures for improvement. The latter may indeed be a crucial factor when it comes to translating energy performance certificates into real measures for improvement. Project newsletters and a first report on the test preparation can be found on the project website.

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GREENLIGHT seeks partners in Central and Eastern Europe



The GREENLIGHT programme has become a key player in the promotion of energy-saving lighting in non-residential buildings and streets. Active already since 2000, its outreach in Central and Eastern European countries has been very limited, though. Since the beginning of 2006 this has changed! The New GREENLIGHT project is active in nine countries of the region and it invites organisations, which promote and undertake efficient lighting renovations, to become partners of GREENLIGHT. Please contact us for obtaining promotion materials in some of the local languages and for more information on how to become a GREENLIGHT partner.

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Pilot E-TOOL for energy saving in buildings

The E-TOOL partners are now testing their TOOL for energy saving measures in 6 European countries with different climate and building traditions. The aim is to develop and demonstrate a simple tool for existing buildings based on the methodology of operational assessment. The project will generate a database with typical energy consumption and saving measures for benchmark purposes. Partners from other projects are invited to contact E-TOOL partners for exchange of information.

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Sustainable Energy Communities

Be Climate Smart in Malmö

As a part of the SECURE project, the Swedish City of Malmö makes its citizens more aware of the link between their choice of lifestyle and climate change. 'We want to make climate change a local issue here in Malmö, showing that we affect the climate and that global warming affects us', says Johanna Ekne from the City of Malmö, who has launched a major awareness campaign in co-operation with the cities of Tallinn, Dublin and Hilleröd.

The Campaign started in April 2006 with "That's smart, that's Climate Smart" advertisement boards. They will be followed in autumn 2006 by a second, more specific series of advertisements explaining the concrete steps everyone can take to reduce greenhouse gases emissions. In parallel, a new climate change exhibition of the City of Malmö will be displayed in various places across the city



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 www.secureproject.org, Photo: Daniel Nilsson, City of Malmö

BELIEF is on track!

Launched in March 2006, the BELIEF partners will work hard to set up a 'Local Intelligent Energy Forum' in 20 local communities from 11 European countries. These Fora can be established e.g. as part of a Local Agenda 21

BELIEF

Building in Europe Local Intelligent Energy Forums

process, a climate protection programme or through a wider partnership at city level. During the course of the project, each Forum will involve local stakeholders in the creation of a sustainable energy action plan (including an investment plan) and monitor the results achieved in terms of increased energy savings and use of renewables.

The second Steering Committee meeting and first workshop of all BELIEF partners on 14/15 June 2006 in Rennes (France) will discuss the form and management of the Fora in different countries. It will be part of a major regional event on global warming with an expected 200 participants - a great opportunity for Rennes to mobilise national, regional and local actors on the question of energy.

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Sustainable energy communities in Italy, Romania and Bulgaria

The NEC project partners had their first meeting in Foligno in February 2006. The project will create sustainable energy communities in Foligno (Italy), Brasov (Romania) and Rousse (Bulgaria), focussing on buildings (energy certification, boiler inspections according to a common methodology), transport (transport planning, renewable of bus fleets, promotion of biofuels) and education (training courses). The next exchange between the project partners is foreseen in June 2006 in Romania



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Energy efficiency in industry

Huge saving potential in streetlights



According to estimates of the E-STREET project, approximately 70 million streetlight luminaires illuminate Europe's roads. Upgrading them over a period of 10-15 years would result in massive energy savings given that average improvement is in the 40-70%

range. Meetings with manufacturers of new intelligent street lighting technology at the "Light and Building" event in Frankfurt (April 2006) showed increasing interest of the world's leading developers in this business opportunity. The next E-street workshop will take place in Prague on 8/9 June 2006.

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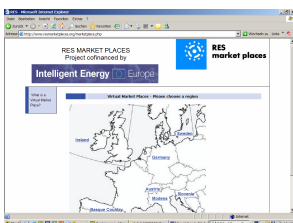
Energy management in the textile industry



The EMS-TEXTILE consortium developed in the past months an energy management standard for the textile industry, complete with implementation guidelines and information on energy efficiency practices for the underlying industrial processes. The partners conducted also energy audits in 15 enterprises, the results of which helped fine-tune a benchmarking report in this industry sector. May 2006 saw a project meeting, the distribution of leaflets and the organization of workshops in Greece, Portugal, Spain and Bulgaria. The pilot implementation of energy management in selected enterprises will commence in June 2006.

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Renewable energy sources



Virtual market places for renewables

The RES MARKET PLACES project, which started in 2005, has set up virtual market places for renewable energy sources and energy efficiency up in each region participating in the project.

An interactive map with more details on each market place can be found on the project website, which provides also information on seminars, conferences and planned actions.

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ELVA training event on local value chains for renewable heat

The ELVA project partners are currently organising a 1-week training course on "Establishing local value chains for renewable heat" (Güssing, Austria, 13-17 November 2006).



The aims of this training week are to make the participants (e.g. national and EU policy makers, trainers of local politicians, energy advisors at local level, etc.) aware of the opportunities created by local value chains for RES heat, to educate them in how to establish public-business-citizen partnerships and to show them how small and larger biomass heating projects can be developed and operated. The ELVA project is dedicated to establishing local value chains for renewable heat by developing new business opportunities in related value chains, such as forestry, agriculture, tourism and manufacturing.

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Renewable heat from wastewater



WasteWaterHeat

The first workshop of the WasteWaterHeat project took place on 2 May 2006 in Berlin. It presented information about the technology, system design and project development steps for projects using wastewater as an energy source. About 50 engineers, building-owners and representatives of wastewater-management companies attended. More information about the workshop and on the partners, tasks and results of the project is available on the project webpage. National project websites provide details of activities undertaken by each partners at the level of individual countries in the respective national language. The WasteWaterHeat team encourages building owners and municipal authorities to realise projects using wastewater as an energy source.

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PROPELLETS partners inform about European pellet heating systems



Which pellet heating systems are available in the European market, what are their possible applications, and which new products are currently under development? Led by Spanish firm ESCAN, the PROPELLETS partners participated in early March 2006 at the European Pellets Forum in Upper Austria to provide information and advice on these questions. The event, which took place in the framework of the World Sustainable Energy Days, attracted pellet-business firms, wood companies and associations, local energy organisations, engineering companies and potential end users of pellet heating systems, including almost 40 key actors from Asturias (Spain), Central Finland, South-West England and Italy.



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EUBIONET analyses solid biofuel markets and legislation

Policies, definitions and classifications for biomass and waste differ from



country to country, resulting in a patchy implementation process of various relevant EU Directives in Member States. The EUBIONET partners have evaluated the relationship between EU and national legislation in these areas, including discussions of first findings at a workshop on 30 January 2006 in Utrecht (Netherlands). Final country reports can be downloaded from the project website.



The project partners are now concentrating on an evaluation of the current situation and future trends of biomass fuel trade in Europe. Results of this ongoing work will be presented at a workshop in Lappeenranta, Finland on 24/25 October 2006, which will be followed by a study tour to Russia.

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🌐 www.eubionet.net

Photo: Wood pellets are the most internationally traded solid biofuel in Europe and trade is increasing. They are used both for heat and electricity production (Vapo Oy)

Renewables and energy efficiency in rural areas



The RURASU project partners informed local actors of various energy efficiency and renewable energy subjects at two major events organized during the first half of 2006:

A conference on "European Directive for Energy Efficiency of buildings, new techniques and technologies" held in Katerini, (Pieria, Greece) in March 2006 provided insights into the European Buildings Directive, and informed of possible partnerships and training through RURASU project partners.

In May 2006, the "Sustainable Design and Construction" conference in South Ayrshire, Scotland, included workshops, a presentation on low energy houses in Germany and on European funding opportunities.

In both cases, the project partners produced educational materials, leaflets and an 'information acquisition tool'.

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Towards the development of biomass partnerships

After 14 months of activity, the BIOMASS PARTNERSHIP partners dispose now of inventories of potential biomass heat projects and equipment, a number of ongoing or finalised feasibility studies, and stakeholder/contact lists. More than 1400 participants took part in over 50 workshops, trainings and events organised in the framework of the project, which has also been presented at large-scale conferences. The project catalysed the creation of 27 partnerships involving 202 different organisations, and the partners developed altogether 16 publications, such as guidelines for heat entrepreneurs and information brochures, with a print run of just under 5000. More details and



downloadable versions of the publications are available on the project website.

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Regions for renewable energy

Politicians from 8 European regions signed up to a new "Declaration of European Regions for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources" at the "Green Electricity for Europe's Region" conference in March 2006 in the Austrian city of Wels. This declaration was developed in the framework

of the RES-E REGIONS project. The initial signing event was actively supported by the European FEDARENE network.



Other regions joined the initiative soon after, bringing the current number of signatories to 16 regions from 8 countries. The declaration will increase the commitment of European regions to sustainable energy, render their actions more visible, and encourage other regions to follow suit.

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Biofuels

Two new European standards for bio-ethanol fuel

Within only 3 years, the BIET Standard project has made significant progress towards the creation of European bio-ethanol standards for automobile fuels. The BIET Standard partners have finalised the so-called CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA) 15293 on a fuel with 85% alcohol content for adapted cars also referred to as E85. In addition, the draft standard prEN 15367 for blends of up to 5% bio-ethanol in petrol was published recently. Both documents will help boost the wider use of bio-ethanol as a 21st century fuel. The BIET Standard project was supported by the ALTENER II programme and led by the Dutch Standardisation Institute, from which both documents can be bought.

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Biodiesel as a competitive and commercial product

The PRO-BIODIESEL project is picking up pace after its kick-off meeting on 1 February 2006 at the Spanish biodiesel plant of Caparrosa. The project will promote the wider use of biodiesel as a competitive and commercial product in the European fuel market. It brings together partners from Spain, Austria, Greece and Germany, including a biodiesel producer, two fuel retailers, one biofuel association, a research centre and a university. Their work will relate to the production of biodiesel from different pure vegetable oils, the compatibility of logistics and distribution systems, the development of specific regulations and standards, the constructive involvement of vehicle manufacturers, and increased awareness and uptake by end-users'.

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Transport

E-atomium training sessions started successfully

During March, first e-Atomium training sessions were held in Ireland, the UK and Belgium. The sessions were designed to encourage discussion and input from attendees, and draw parallels between sustainable transport issues and their own personal and professional experience. Feedback about this approach was very positive, with a number of people expressing interest in future training for colleagues. In the following weeks, more e-Atomium training sessions will be organised in Belgium, the Netherlands, France and Italy. E-Atomium is about enhancing the capacity of energy agencies, advice centres and local authorities to address sustainable energy use in transport.

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Transport training sessions in your countries – participation free of charge!

Between May and December 2006, the partners of the COMPETENCE project organise 'National Know-How Transfer Sessions' on topics related to transport & energy, including management and travel awareness, alternative fuels and vehicle technologies, quality in public transport, walking &



cycling, parking space management, driving style and car devices etc. Training and materials will be provided for free and in the respective national language. Training sessions will take

place in Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

Anybody interested is kindly invited to participate. You only need to contact your national COMPETENCE partner to ask for the exact date, venue and topics covered. A contact list is provided on the project website under "find a partner".

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A good start for START

START, a joint IEE project about more energy-efficient goods transport in cities, kicked off with stimulating discussions at the first consortium meeting in Göteborg, Sweden, in February 2006. The participating cities of Bristol, Göteborg, Ljubljana, Ravenna and Riga will carry out their work plan in close co-operation with the transport sector. The focus will be on combining access restrictions for freight transport, incentives, and new solutions for goods distribution. A workshop in Riga on 5/6 June 2006 will discuss the setting-up of freight logistics centres and the sensitive question of access restrictions - how to define the restrictions, whom to target, how to enforce them etc. -, applying them to Riga's historical town centre. The workshop results and experiences from the other cities will be summarised in a report which will be published on the project website.

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MOVE towards more sustainable transport

The MOVE project is about increasing the commitment of seven European energy agencies in as many countries to sustainable transport. The project kick-off meeting and two workshops took place in Kalmar, Sweden, in early 2006 April. Discussions focussed on the acquisition of the knowledge and tools needed to carry out



mobility actions in each region. The project consortium will benefit from exchange with existing European initiatives for mobility management. The ultimate result will be virtual mobility agencies within the participating energy agencies to carry on with the work.

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Financing mechanisms for intelligent energy

“Energy Efficiency through Energy Services” conference

Decision makers from policy, finance and the energy service industry attended this Conference on 31 May 2006 in Berlin, which was part of the communication work of the EUROCONTRACT project. Coinciding with the entry into force of the EU Energy Services Directive it discussed good practice and future prospects for energy services in Europe, and presented the European Energy Service Award to honour outstanding achievements in energy service market development.

Last year, the EUROCONTRACT partners launched the European Energy Service Initiative last year to provide a platform for energy services and their success. It gives good reference cases the much-needed better visibility and will help create more projects and new applications

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Citizen-financed sustainable energy projects: Municipal partners wanted

The PRIME project partners are still looking for municipalities in Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy and Slovenia which are interested in the realisation of citizen-financed sustainable energy projects in public buildings. The municipalities will receive important information, tools and practical help especially from the national partners in the project consortium. Information is now available on the new project website.



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Sustainable energy in developing countries

Promoting energy from biomass in Senegal and Cameroun

The partners of the ENEFIBIO project are currently undertaking a survey to assess the potential and actual biomass energy use within SMEs in Senegal and Cameroon. The findings, which are expected by the end of May 2006, will be discussed in early June at a project meeting in Cameroon, feeding at the same time into the preparation of 2 sectoral meetings in Dakar and Yaounde. During the Yaounde meeting, the project team will start organising training courses for potential project developers in Senegal and Cameroon to carry out pre-feasibility studies for bio-energy projects. More details will be provided in the next newsletter and on the ENEFIBIO website.

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Workshop on rural energy access in Africa

The ENABLE project partners joined forces with the East African Community (EAC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to hold a Regional Workshop on Rural Energy Access hosted by the EAC in Arusha, Tanzania from 13-15 March 2006.



Debates amongst some 50 participants from the health, water, energy, education, agriculture, environment and finance sectors

helped identify and prioritise the elements of a regional energy

access strategy and investment programme that will lead to high impact, low-cost and scalable solutions. The main output was a set of actions structured by level of intervention (international, national or local) and theme. More information is available in the third ENABLE newsletter.

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SIE-Afrique project reveals national energy data from Niger, Senegal and Togo

In late January 2006, the national teams of the SIE-AFRIQUE project presented their first annual reports on national energy information systems (EIS) in Niger, Senegal and Togo. According to these reports,

- in Niger, biomass energy consumption accounts for 87% of the national consumption, in Senegal 40%, and in Togo 67% (2003);
- the ratio of petroleum product imports to total exports is 31% in Niger, 41% in Senegal, and 26% in Togo (2003). Taking into account 2005 and 2006 oil price increases, it will now be well over 50% in all 3 countries, leaving little national resources for development projects;
- the current level of rural electrification (9,000 new families per year) is less than 1/5 of official objectives (50,000).

The national project teams are currently preparing surveys of national household energy consumption, notably of biomass energy. Country reports (“Rapport SIE”) can be downloaded from the project website, and national EIS websites are under preparation.

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Events supported by Intelligent Energy – Europe

For a full list of IEE-supported events go to http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/events/index_en.htm

14-15 June 2006: Second Steering Committee meeting and first workshop for all BELIEF partners (Rennes, France)

 http://www.energie-cites.org/spip/IMG/pdf/programme_rennes.pdf

21-23 June 2006: 4th International Conference on Energy Efficiency in Domestic Appliances and Lighting (EEDAL'06) (London, UK)

 <http://www.livegroup.co.uk/eedal>

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

 <http://www.eurosun2006.org>

19-25 August 2006: WREC 2006. World Renewable Energy Congress Exhibition and Awards (Florence, Italy)

 <http://www.wrec2006.com>

September 2006: European forum on energy education (Paris, France)

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

Promoting Renewable Energy Technologies in European Lake Regions

October 2006: Energy for the Periphery (Pamplona, Spain)

October 2006: Buildings Energy Efficiency in the Baltics. Advanced technologies and local experience (BENEFIT) (Riga, Latvia)

25-27 October 2006: 3rd BISE Forum. How to finance municipal energy efficiency projects and municipal energy networks in BISE countries? (Riga, Latvia)

 <http://www.bise-europe.org>

05-09 November 2006: Intelligent Energy for SMEs Forum 2006 (Rimini, Italy)

13-17 November 2006: Training week on “Establishing local value chains for renewable heat” (Güssing, Austria)

 www.ieeprojects.net

29 November- 01 December 2006: EPIC 2006 - 4th European Conference on Energy Performance & Indoor Climate in Buildings (Lyon, France)

29-31 January 2007: 2007 European Renewable Energy Policy Conference (Brussels, Belgium)

 <http://www.erec-renewables.org/events/default.htm>

May 2007: SYNBIOS II - The Syngas Route to Automotive Biofuels. The second international seminar on biofuel production by thermal gasification of biomass (Stockholm, Sweden)

May 2007: Avila Energy Forum (Avila, Spain)

Editorial Information

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

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If you **subscribe to the News Alert Service** on http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/whatsnew/subscription_en.htm you will be automatically informed each time a new issue is published.

The newsletter is at your service. If you participate in the IEE programme and would like to inform others of your work you can send a contribution for the “News from IEE participants” section to Peter Löffler (peter.loeffler@ec.europa.eu). The maximum text length is 100 words. **The deadline for contributions for the next Newsletter is 1 September 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.

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://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index_en.html