

REGENERGY - Network of pioneering communities and regions working on innovative heat energy solutions

Programme zone / Zone de programme:

East / Est

Type / Type

Network / Réseau

Topic / Thème

Objective 1 and 2 areas / Régions des objectifs n°1 et n°2

Problem description / Description du problème ciblé par le projet

The availability of secure and efficient regional energy systems is an essential prerequisite for regional development, particularly for structurally weak regions. In its Green Paper on the Security of Energy Supply, the European Commission singled out heating as the largest energy sink that is mainly based on fossil and imported fuels. Municipalities play a key role, as they are suppliers of (district) heat as well as regulators, policy-makers, planners, investors, and consumers. Specifically, the New Member States and bordering regions with their extensive district heating systems face serious financial, technical and institutional problems. Major caveats include, fragmented decision-making structures, lack of coherent support policies for (district) heating and cooling and financing constraints.

Overall objective / Objectif général de l'opération

The overall objective of "Regenergy - Network of Pioneering Communities and Regions Working on Innovative Heat Energy Solutions" is to contribute to a secure, environmentally sound, and affordable provision of heat energy. Partners from ten countries aim at creating an interregional support and information network of regional and local authorities, utilities, universities, energy agencies, and regional development agencies to promote the exchange of experiences and to identify, disseminate and encourage best practices in core areas such as innovative policy approaches and financing.

Expected results / Résultats attendus

The operation increases the capacities of municipal and regional decision-makers to promote energy efficiency and security of supply of heat energy. It provides dissemination of practical information, supports authorities in the identification of investment potentials in heating systems, in the diversification of energy sources, and in the development of projects eligible under EU Structural Funds. In the long run, the operation promotes energy efficiency and a more effective use of Structural Funds and contributes to regional development and the mitigation of social disparities. Activities include policy assessments and the elaboration of policy and methodological guidelines for municipal decision-makers. Partners also collect and document good practice cases, develop a financial evaluation framework and make concrete proposals for projects and financing possibilities. Based on thematic workshops and seminars with potential multipliers and investors, partners identify two to three pilot projects and conduct related (pre-) feasibility studies.

Lead partner / Partenaire principal	Contact person / Personne à contacter	Duration / Durée
Bundesministerium der Finanzen (BMF) Wilhelmstr. 97 10117 Berlin GERMANY	Dr. Brigitta Kauers Tel.: 49 1888 682 2646 Fax: 49 1888 682 88 2646 E-Mail: brigitta.kauers@bmf.bund.de Web: www.regenergy.org and new: www.reg-energy.org	April 2005 - December 2007
		Total budget / Budget total: 1.621.233 €
		ERDF contribution / Contribution FEDER: 989.442 €
		Norwegian contribution / Contribution des fonds norvégiens: 0 €



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Partnership / Partenaires

Name of Institution, Town /Titre de l'institution, Ville	Country / Pays	Region / Région	Contact information / Détails de contact
Environmental Policy Research Centre, Free University of Berlin (FFU), Berlin	GERMANY	BERLIN	Phone: 0049 30 838 550 98 umwelt1@zedat.fu-berlin.de
Leipzig Municipal Utility (SWL), Leipzig	GERMANY	SACHSEN	Phone: 49 341 121-3216 guenther.corves@swl.de
Investment Bank Schleswig-Holstein (IB SH), Kiel	GERMANY	SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN	Phone: 49 (04 31) 99 05 36 60 hans.eimannsberger@ib-sh.de
Danish Energy Authority (DEA), Copenhagen	DENMARK	Hovedstadsregionen	Phone: 45 (0) 3392 6865 tha@ens.dk
Storstrøem County, Nykøbing F.	DENMARK	Vestsjællands, Storstrøms og Bornholms Amter	Phone: 45 (0) 5484 4851 bjr@npk.stam.dk
London Borough of Enfield, Enfield	UNITED KINGDOM	LONDON	Phone: 00 44 208 3793857 sule.nisancioglu@enfield.gov.uk
Baltic Energy Conservation Agency (BAPE), Gdansk	POLAND	POMORSKIE	Phone: 0048 (0) 58 347 55 35 kgrecka@bape.com.pl
District Heating Enterprise of Gdansk (GPEC), Gdansk	POLAND	POMORSKIE	Phone: 0048 58 5243 960 anna.jakob@gpec.gda.pl
Energy Agency Lithuania (ENA), Vilnius	LITHUANIA	LIETUVA	Phone: 00370 5 262 9731 m.franckevicius@ukmin.lt
Lithuanian Energy Institute (LEI), Kaunas	LITHUANIA	LIETUVA	Phone: 00370 8-37-401801 skema@isag.lei.lt
.. .	other	other	Phone: . .
Tukums Town Council, Tukums	LATVIA	LATVIJA	Phone: 371 3122707 inguna@tukums.lv
Institute of Physical Energetics, Latvian Academy of Science (IPE), Riga	LATVIA	LATVIJA	Phone: 003717558681 energy@edi.lv
Zala County Non-Profit Development Company, Nagypáli	HUNGARY	NYUGAT-DUNANTUL	Phone: 00 36 92 564 048 Zmf-kht@axelero.hu
Region Abruzzo, L'AQUILA	ITALY	ABRUZZO	Phone: 0039 0862 364273 marco.deluca@regione.abruzzo.it
Barcelona Energy Agency (BEA), Barcelona	SPAIN	CATALUÑA	Phone: 34 9 32914892 tpujol@barcelonaenergia.com
Development Company of Magnesia S. A. (ANEM S. A.), Volos	GREECE	THESSALIA	Phone: 30 24 21 09 26 00-5 ekatsaro@uth.gr
Technological Educational Institute of Crete (TEI), Chania	GREECE	KRITI	Phone: 30 28210 23058 gboyrd@tee.gr
Kaliningrad Region Administration, Department of Energy and Fuel Complex, Kaliningrad	Russian Federation	other	Phone: 007 0112 59 93 79 energy@gov.kaliningrad.ru
.. .	other	other	Phone: . .



Name of Institution, Town /Titre de l'institution, Ville	Country / Pays	Region / Région	Contact information / Détails de contact
Roskilde University, Department of Environment, Technology and Social Studies, Roskilde	DENMARK	Hovedstadsregionen	Phone: 45 4674 2528 tk@teksam.ruc.dk
London Borough of Haringey, Haringey	UNITED KINGDOM	LONDON	Phone: 0044 208 489 5538 Sule.Nisancioglu@haringey.gov.uk
Gdansk University of Technology, Heat Technology Department (GUT), Gdansk	POLAND	POMORSKIE	Phone: 48 58 347 2254 dmikiele@pg.gda.pl
Region Zealand, Soro	DENMARK	Vestsjællands, Storstrøms og Bornholms Amter	Phone: 0045-47875838 br@regionsjaelland.dk



Activities / achievements so far

Since the beginning of RegEnergy in 2005 several steps have been undertaken to foster a secure, efficient, environmentally sound and affordable heat energy supply on regional/local level. In a number of meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars and efforts across all 5 project components the following main activities were realised: a) Five guidelines were elaborated which address technical, political, financial and methodological issues of regional and municipal heat supply transformation. Additional to the original design of the project, five regionally adapted guidelines were elaborated in national languages entailing specific regional/national information. b) Practice and theory was bridged in a number of studies which analyses, e.g. general conditions for heat energy supply and the assessment and results. Also, a study assessing employment effects of selected projects and measures was developed. Good insight was derived from eight good-practice case studies on regional and local policy measures that promote sustainable heating, including policy assessment to screen and evaluate the cases. Additionally, a software tool for local policy makers was made available in the internet www.reg-energy.org. Seven case studies illuminated innovative financing instruments which helped develop a financial evaluation matrix and leading to five financial proposals. Demonstration projects with innovative solutions were visited in Italy, Spain and Latvia. This resulted in pre-feasibility studies and recommendations considering applicability to projects in other European countries. Seven study visits in combination with workshops contributed to the linkage between practice and theory. c) During the programme the network of pioneering communities and regions working on innovative heat energy solutions has strengthened. Besides cooperation within the network, private public partnerships and cooperation projects integrating other actors as well as follow-up initiatives were started. d) The progress and content of the project were not only monitored and reported by the steering committee and the project manager but also internally discussed in various conferences and meetings. e) The findings of Regenergy were regularly shared on the website www.regenergy.org and presented at a fair. Also informative flyers were printed and newsletter sent out. Additional to the original outline, the Regenergy partners also elaborated a web-based 'Tool for Policy Makers' accessible on the new website www.reg-energy.org. This secures a sustainable disseminating of the project and its findings to a broad international audience.

More information:

www.regenergy.org and new: www.reg-energy.org



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