

The European Federation of Regions and Agencies for Energy and Environment (FEDARENE)

AER Breakfast Briefing
Representation of Mid-Sweden
27/11/2008

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Overview

- **FEDARENE: Who we are?** (*history, objectives*)
- **Fostering interregional exchanges of best practices**
- **The regions as key actors of EU energy policy :**
 - *The “Declaration of the European Regions” and the “Covenant of Mayor”*
 - *Committee of the Regions’ report: the 2nd strategic energy review & the recasting of the Energy Performance in Building Directive*

Background: FEDARENE's Development Milestones

- First regional energy and environment agencies created at the end of the 1970's
- Debates on Energy and Environment intensified in the 90's (1992: Rio summit / 1997: Kyoto protocol)
- FEDARENE is created in 1990 at the initiative of 6 regions (Rhône-Alpes, Provence-Alpes Côte d'Azur, Wallonia, País Vasco, Aquitaine and Nord-Pas de Calais)
 - Regions and Regional Agencies
 - Energy actors implementing energy actions and policies on the field
 - Decentralised approach of energy issues
 - 2 main lines of actions: Energy efficiency / Renewable energy
- Brussels office established in November 1991
- 40 members in 1995 → in 2008, more than 50 members, in 15 member states

FEDARENE today: Members and Structure

- **More than 50 Members in 15 Members States**
- **The members are the greatest contributors to FEDARENE's budget** (70% of the budget= membership fees) → great level of independence
- **Members activities:**
 - Advice (technical, financial, regulatory – towards industry, public authorities, citizens)
 - Prepare and implement energy strategies at regional/local level (SEC; Eco Clusters; ...)
 - Implementing policies (directly / indirectly) and projects/programmes (ex: renewable energy project, grant schemes)
 - Awareness-raising

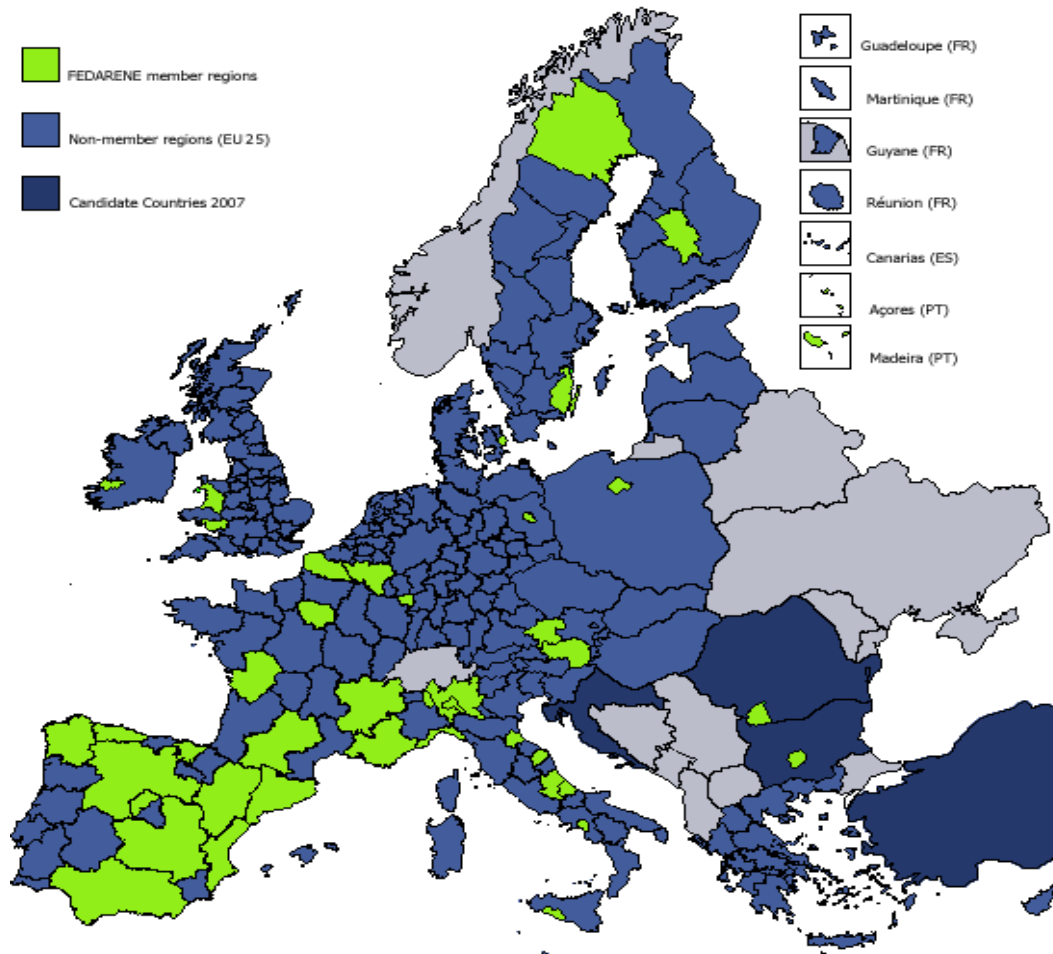
FEDARENE today: Members and Structure (cont'd)

FEDARENE members' activities: A topical example: Energy Performance in Building (EPBD)

- Support to the transposition / elaboration of the regulatory framework: analysis of the existing building stock, development of standards and norms adapted to the context, strategic planning...
- Energy assessment & certification scheme : methodology and implementation
- Building capacity: Information and training for the professionals (energy auditors, construction sector, integrating less common techniques etc.) & establishment of suppliers and installers networks.
- Elaborate financing scheme for retrofitting (third party financing, low (zero)-rates grants, etc.)
- Management of grant schemes
- Advice to public authorities for energy improvement to their own buildings
- Working with the population: Promotion of insulation and energy efficiency measures, behavioural changes: energy info points, call centres, information sessions...

→ EU Energy policy will not reach EU citizens
without regional/local actors

FEDARENE today: Members and Structure (cont'd)



FEDARENE Objectives

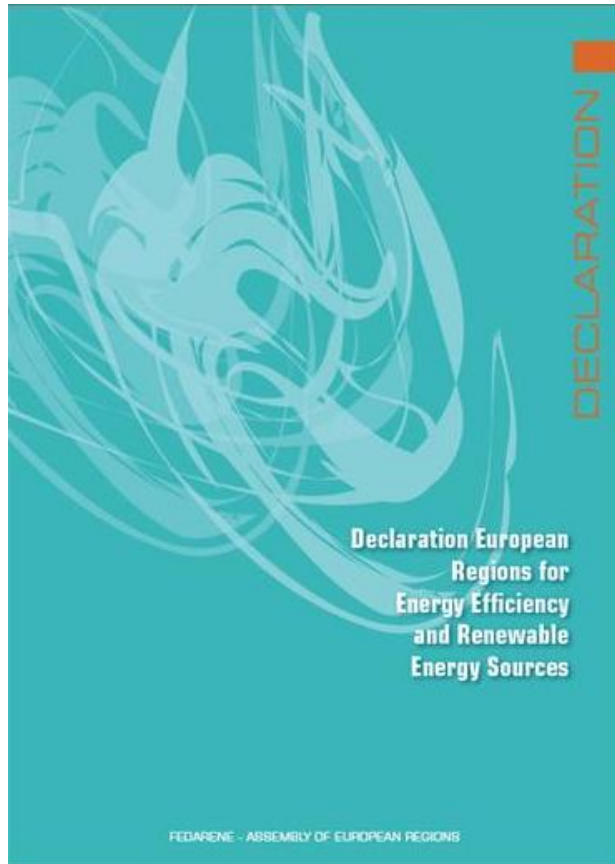
- **Forum for exchange of ideas and experiences:**
 - Foster exchanges of experience among the members (various instruments)
 - Diversity of the members (structure, scope of action, etc.) → vast array of competencies and solutions to almost all energy and environmental concerns
 - Springboard for the creation of new agencies
- **Representing its members at the EU level**
 - Make the voice of the regions heard in the debates on energy and environment policies at the European level
 - Promotion of its members towards EU-level institutions & other energy actors / Bring latest EU info to the European regions
 - Force of proposition to influence policy decisions taken at various level (national, EU, international) but that have to be implemented in the regions/localities

Fostering interregional best practices exchanges

- **Main objective and day-to-day activity of FEDARENE**
 - A few examples:
 - **Clusters (Upper Austria → Rhône-Alpes)**
 - **Zero-interest rates for energy efficiency (NPDC → Milan, Walloon region)**
 - **Energy Info points (Walloon region → Milan)**
 - ...
- **European Projects**
 - Currently about involved in about 10 EU projects very diversified in type (RTD, awareness raising, ICT, energy planning, award competition...) and in topics (financing schemes, renewable electricity, electricity efficiency, biofuels, biogas, behavioural changes etc.)
 - E-Newsletters
- **Poles of Excellence**
 - New initiative – stocktaking (best practices), pro active preparation of positions/projects etc.
 - Greenhouses Gas Observatories (study)
 - Energy Performance in Building (1st phase finished)
 - Transport and mobility (under creation)
 - Third party and other financing scheme (planned)

Declaration “The European Regions for Energy Efficiency and renewable energy sources”

- Launched by FEDARENE and the ÖÖ ESV - with the support of the Assembly of the European Regions
 - 86 Regions have signed and submitted their targets (qualitative and quantitative) in the field of Energy Efficiency and promotion of renewable energy
 - Tool for promotion of regions' actions towards the EU institutions
 - Available in all EU languages from FEDARENE's website (www.fedarene.org)



Declaration "European Regions for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources"

Recognising the crucial role of energy for economic development and the environmental situation in Europe and

Understanding the important contribution sustainable energy production and use can make to a positive economic and environmental development and

Acting out of responsibility for future generations and in partnership with other regions across Europe,

We, the undersigned regional and local governments, have made a commitment to increasing our share of renewable energy and to boosting energy efficiency in our regions. We acknowledge that energy efficiency and renewable energy sources are most important cornerstones of sustainable development because they contribute to environment and climate protection, to local job creation and economic growth, to security of energy supply, to independence from energy price fluctuations as well as to social cohesion and innovation.

Recognising the importance of local and regional action in making sustainability happen, we are actively promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy sources in our own buildings, installations and sites as well as to the citizens, municipalities and businesses in our regions.

Deeply concerned about climate change and the increasing dependency on imported fossil fuels and their impact on our environment and economies, **we call upon other European regions**, but also upon local and national governments as well as the European institutions, **to join forces for a better and more sustainable energy future!**

www.fedarene.org/publications/projects/Contrat\Res-e-Regions/declaration.htm

The Covenant of Mayors

- *bring together the mayors of Europe's most pioneering cities in a permanent network to exchange and apply good practices across these cities and beyond to improve energy efficiency significantly in the urban environment.*
- Formal commitment: Reduce CO2 emission beyond the EU 20% objective
- launched on 29 January 2008
- More than 30 cities have already signed the Covenant – about a 100 have expressed an interest
- Call for tender for a “Secretariat” of the Covenant: launched in June – closed on Sept 5th
- Regions to act as supporting structure (already a reality today!)

CoR Report (under preparation)

- **The strategic energy review**

- Published on November 13th → “2nd SER package”
- Programmatic, far-reaching text
- Main focus: Energy security

- **Energy Performance in Building**

- Recasting of the existing directive from 2002
- Crucial Energy Efficiency piece of legislation (40% of EU energy use)
- Precise, simplify, complete and strengthen

→ **Rapporteur: Jean-Louis Joseph, Vice President of the PACA Region / FEDARENE President**

Thank you!

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