



Dear members, dear friends,

Please find below the second AER Energy newsletter. As you all know, Energy is an important issue right now in the European Union, therefore the AER wants to provide you with as much information as possible on the topic. We hope that this tool will be useful to you and wish you a good reading!

If you wish to publish any relevant information from your Region on energy, do not hesitate to contact us. Take advantage of our large data-base! We will integrate it in our Newsletter and inform our members accordingly.

Best regards,

The AER Committee C 'Regional policies' Secretariat

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AER ENERGY NEWSLETTER JULY 2006

THE AER IS NOW REGISTERED ON THE MANAGENERGY WEB SITE!

The ManagEnergy web site is an initiative of the European Union that helps identify expertise and success obtained through projects and other relevant activities carried out in various regions and localities throughout Europe.

This website has been set up to disseminate the results of successful projects as widely as possible and by doing so to encourage replication of good practice. In particular, it will support the transfer of good practice in energy efficiency, renewables and clean urban transport throughout Europe, including those Candidate Countries seeking to join the EU.

In addition to case studies, the website offers profiles and contact details of energy agencies and other relevant organisations focusing on renewables, energy efficiency and clean urban transport at the local and regional level.

To visit the managEnergy web site and see the AER's registration, please go to:

<http://www.managenergy.net/actors/A3763.htm>

The AER has applied to become a member of the reflection group. The ManagEnergy Reflection Group is an informal think-tank, set up by the Commission, as a global thinking group for local actions on energy. In summary, the objectives of the Reflection Group are to:

- **advise** the Commission on Community legislation, local initiatives, partnerships and good practice that can help identify policy priorities of the EU
- **suggest** supplementary areas of action, which can be particularly recommended on the basis of the experiences at local and regional level
- **disseminate** Community policies and project results to actors at the local and regional level.

Once we have received an official confirmation that we are a member of the reflection group, we will ask you, our members and friends, if you would be interested in representing the AER during the meetings of the reflection group. More information on this will follow in our next Energy newsletter. If you would already like to express your interest, please contact st.comc@a-e-r.org

THE AER'S PARTNERSHIP POOL IS ACTIVE AND ONLINE! USE IT TO FIND PARTNERS FOR YOUR PROJECT UNDER THE LAST IEE CALL FOR PROPOSALS!

As already announced in our first newsletter, our partnership pool can help you to find partners for your project or to find out more about projects submitted by other regions searching for partners. We have created an online project sheet on which you can submit your project. Look under:

<http://www.a-e-r.org/databases/partnership-pool/partnership-pool-on-energy.html>

UP-DATE ON INTELLIGENT ENERGY EUROPE PROGRAMME

For an overview of the Intelligent Energy Europe information days and the 2006 call for proposals, please visit the following link:

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

We would like to remind you that the AER is willing to assist you in the application process for co-funding under the IEE 2006 call for proposals. Do not hesitate to contact us.

Project proposals submitted under the 2005 Call for Proposals

80 successful proposers attended a half-day meeting in Brussels on 31 May to start preparing grant agreements for IEE projects and new local/regional energy agencies. The slides shown at the meeting are available on

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

Video recordings will be available on <http://www.managenergy.tv>.

The IEEA has moved

The IEE Agency is now located in the European Commission's 'Tour Madou' building. The complete address and a description of how to get to us are provided on http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/ieea/contact_location_en.htm

New programme webpage address - new IEEA Emails

As a result of the European Institutions' move to the new ".europa.eu" domain, the IEE homepage is now located on http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index_en.html.

Please update your bookmarks. The old web address will still work during one year.

The new IEEA E-mail addresses are "firstname.lastname@ec.europa.eu", replacing the previous "firstname.lastname@cec.eu.int". Please update your address books. The old addresses will still work during one year.

NEWS ON ENERGY FROM THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Parliament urges EU nations to act on energy savings (2 June 2006)

The European Parliament has urged the Commission to take action against member states not fully complying with existing EU energy-efficiency legislation that it says could slash energy consumption by 10% altogether. Please read more under :

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/energy/parliament-urges-eu-nations-act-energy-savings/article-155764>



EU earmarks billions for renewables research (20 June 2006)

The EU parliament has assigned two-thirds of the next seven years' energy research funding to renewables and energy efficiency. Please read more under :

http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=11611&channel=0

Intelligent Energy Europe will continue during 2007-2013 (1 June 2006)

Intelligent Energy – Europe will continue during 2007-13 as part of the new “Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme” (CIP). The budget for IEE II will be around € 730 million. Please read more under :

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/716&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

INTERESTING PUBLICATIONS ON ENERGY

Publication of the European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR).

The Council of the European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), in collaboration with Energie-Cités and Climate Alliance, has published a guidebook "Save energy, save the climate, save money - A guide for local and regional authorities" aiming at helping municipalities and regions to use energy in a sustainable way.

In this guidebook you will find among other things, ten steps that can help local and regional decision makers to start implementing sustainable energy policies. The publication also contains a pool of ideas, concrete measures and good practice examples in the different areas of planning, design, and construction, running of facilities as well as in the provision of services.

How can local and regional governments take action to achieve sustainable energy? What are the links between local energy policies and climate protection? How to apply for European funding? How to get help; how to find ideas for action; and where to get support for exchanging experiences? Find the answers in this publication.

To download the publication as a pdf file please go to:

http://www.ccre.org/bases/T_599_34_3524.pdf

**How much bioenergy can Europe produce without harming the environment?
European Environment Agency**

Increasing the use of renewable energies offers significant opportunities for Europe to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and secure its energy supply. However, the substantial rise in the use of biomass from agriculture, forestry and waste for producing energy might put additional pressure on farmland and forest biodiversity as well as on soil and water resources. It may also counteract other current and potential future environmental policies and objectives, such as waste minimisation or environmentally-oriented farming.

To download the publication, please go to :

http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2006_7/en