Intelligent Energy Europe

Project Fact Sheet

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Energy and Urban Planning in Restructuring Areas (ENPIRE)

Programme area:	Energy; urban planning; spatial planning; urban renewal; municipal policy; EPBD; sustainable energy communities; local community planning on energy	
Status:	ongoing	
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	Municipality of Breda	The Netherlands
	Comm. d'Agglomération Chalon-Val-de-Bourgogne	France
	SOFTECH Energia Tecnologia Ambiente s.r.l.	Italy
	Cenergia Energy Consultants	Denmark
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	SOLVING FRANCE	France
	National University of Ireland, Dublin	Ireland
	European Green Cities ApS	Denmark
	Gerry Cahill Architects	Ireland
	MEPCO s. r. o.	Czech Republic
	STÚ-K, a.s.	Czech Republic
Website:	www.enpire.eu	
Objective:	Raise awareness at local level of the opportunities of preparing an energy strategy in urban planning	
Benefits:	Guidelines and tools to support local decision makers will lead to significantly lower energy uses.	
Keywords:	Energy; urban planning; local community planning on energy	
Duration:	01/2008 - 12/2009	
Budget:	€ 1.109.210 (EU contribution: 50%)	
Contract number:	EIE/07/189	

ENPIRE

ENERGY IN URBAN PLANNING AND IN RESTRUCTURING AREAS

Short description

ENPIRE will evaluate the state of the art on energy and urban planning in participating countries to gain and share experience on “Energy and Urban Planning” and policy benchmarking. This project leads to recommendations and guidelines for local policy process. ENPIRE has an active dissemination policy and focuses on local target groups in all EU 27 Member States.

An evaluation of the state of the art, local experience and existing knowledge in the participating countries on energy and urban planning will be used to set-up guidelines which will be applied in 6 case studies in restructuring area’s. Special attention will be paid to the local context in Eastern Europe.

The outcome of local case studies will lead to conclusions and recommendations for future projects and the dissemination task within ENPIRE. At an international symposium the work will be presented. Each participant will disseminate the conclusions and recommendations nationally.

Expected and/or achieved results

- In 6 projects spread over Europe the process of preparing an energy vision study was carried out and lessons were learned with respect to planning, stakeholders, tools and implementation.
- The specific lessons from these local projects were analyzed and collected in an evaluation report;
- A set of Guideline documents has been prepared addressing the process, the setting of ambitions, the role of different actors, local legislation and ways to reach a joint agreement on energy ambitions.
- An energy vision document is available for each of the local projects, mostly in the local language with an English summary. The documents can serve as example for parties wishing to start their own energy planning process.
- In international workshop will be held in Dublin at 19 November 2009 to present the project results to a wide audience.
- Publications in local professional media will disseminate the ENPIRE lessons to specific target audiences.

Lessons learnt

- Local authorities are in a good position to initiate the process of preparing an energy vision.
- A wide scope of actors should be involved in initial discussions about ambitions. These discussions may cover more aspects than only energy or CO_2 reduction but can also address energy costs and comfort levels for inhabitants, technical building improvement, etc. In this way a common set of interests can be identified with regard to improvement of existing buildings or the requirements for new buildings.
- A broad consensus among stakeholders on the desired ambition level is crucial for success in the implementation phase.
- Technical analyses should be used to support and guide this ambition setting process, but parties themselves will have to decide on the ambition they want to commit themselves to.
- An energy vision should consider also the options for the project area as a whole and not be restricted to measures on a building level.
- Technical solutions should preferably have a high degree of flexibility to accommodate future changes in energy infrastructure, energy demand and energy pricing.
- Regulations that place an upper limit on the cold rent can be serious bottleneck for the economic feasibility of investments in energy saving measures. Consideration of *total* living costs (i.e. rent plus energy costs) and guarantees by property owners on the maximum level of these total living costs in the future will help to overcome this problem.