



ISLENET

European Islands Network on Energy & Environment



NEWSLETTER

May 2007

A word from the Manager

Dear Readers,

Since the past year energy has climbed to the top of the policy agenda.

The Green Paper for the new energy policy for Europe includes concrete proposals with the aim of achieving sustainability, competitiveness and security of energy supply.

The Special Energy Council on 15 February 2007 endorsed the 20% share of renewable energies in overall EU energy consumption by 2020 and a 10% binding minimum target for the share of biofuels in overall EU transport petrol and diesel consumption by 2020. It also endorsed a 20% improvement in energy efficiency by 2020.

The European Council, which gathered the EU Heads of State and Government on 8 and 9 March, adopted a European Energy Action Plan with the three goals of security of supply, efficiency and environmental compatibility. It also set a firm target of cutting 20% of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 - the EU will be willing to put this goal up to 30% if other developed countries make similar commitments.

The European Commission has launched a public consultation in order to prepare the Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan). The deadline is 13 May 2007.

With respect to calls for proposals, ISLENET with its network of partners have been preparing for the first FP7 calls (with deadlines 3 May and 28 June 2007) and the IEEA call (with the deadline of 28 September 2007). To this aim, we have established a new section in our website, "**New project ideas**" to facilitate the exchange of ideas and the development of partnerships.

Happy reading,

Panos Coroyannakis
Manager, ISLENET

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ISLENET is holding its Annual Conference in Brussels 9-10 October 2007

ISLENET is holding its 2007 conference in Brussels on 9-10 October.

This year we are hoping to be able to invite a higher number of participants. The event will coincide with the Open Days 2007 of DG REGIO, 8-11 October 2007, which is expecting to draw more than 2500 people from all over Europe.

This year we will focus on RES (Renewable Energy Sources) and RUE (Rational Use of Energy) technologies that are more appropriate for island communities with the view to building technology platforms that will strengthen inter-island cooperation.

Please visit the ISLENET website for updates regarding the conference programme and the venue. Details will be announced in the coming weeks.

Intelligent Energy Europe held its European Info Day on 19 April 2007

This year's European Info Day registered the highest number of participants on record: 650 delegates attended this event and received advice on how to apply for IEE funding under the 2007 call, available in the 'Call documents' section.

Approximately €52 million are available. The deadline for submitting proposals is 28 September 2007.

HIGHLIGHTS

More funding per project

Up to 75% of the eligible project costs will be supported, up from 50% in previous years.

Simpler overhead calculation

A 60% flat rate on direct staff costs will be applied to calculate indirect costs.



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Focus on 5 policy objectives

Projects should be designed to contribute to enabling policies, market transformation, behavioural change, access to capital, and training.

Integrated initiatives

This new funding area focuses either on local areas or on subjects considered of particular interest, such as bio-businesses, co-generation or energy services.

One proposal, one agency

Funding for the creation of new local or regional energy agencies will continue to be available to public authorities, but only one applicant will be required.

More information:

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

2007 Spring Council – 8-9 March 2007 An integrated climate and energy policy

The European Council by linking energy saving with a clear commitment to promoting renewable energies conveys an important message to energy markets to invest in sustainable and innovative energies.

Energy Policy for Europe at a glance

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from developed countries by 20% by 2020
- Improving energy efficiency by 20% by 2020
- Raising the share of renewable energy to 20% by 2020
- Increasing the level of biofuels in transport fuel to 10% by 2020

For more information

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/energy_policy/doc/2007_03_02_energy_leaflet_en.pdf

The conclusions were:

The European Council underlines the vital importance of achieving the strategic objective of limiting the global average temperature increase to not more than 2° C above pre-industrial levels.

Integration should be achieved in a mutually supportive way. With this in mind, the Energy Policy for Europe (EPE) will pursue the following three objectives, fully respecting Member States' choice of energy mix and sovereignty over primary energy sources and underpinned by a spirit of solidarity amongst Member States:

- increasing security of supply;
- ensuring the competitiveness of European economies and the availability of affordable energy;
- promoting environmental sustainability and combating climate change.

With respect to climate protection, the Council expresses the need to launch negotiations for a post 2012 agreement which should build upon and broaden the Kyoto Protocol architecture and provide a fair and flexible framework for the widest possible participation.

The European Council emphasises that the EU is committed to transforming Europe into a highly energy-efficient and low greenhouse-gas-emitting economy and decides that, until a global and comprehensive post-2012 agreement is concluded, and without prejudice to its position in international negotiations, the EU makes a firm independent commitment to achieve at least a 20% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 compared to 1990.

The European Council stresses the necessity of an efficient, safe and sustainable European transport policy. In this context, it is important to proceed with actions to increase the environmental performance of the European transport system.

Energy Policy

Global warming, together with the need to ensure security of supply and enhance business competitiveness, make it ever more vital and pressing for the EU to put in place an integrated policy on energy combining action at the European and the Member States' level. As a milestone in the creation of an Energy Policy for Europe (EPE) and a spring board for further action, the European Council adopts a comprehensive Energy Action Plan for the period 2007-2009, based on the Commission's Communication "An Energy Policy for Europe".

The Action Plan sets out the way in which significant progress in the efficient operation and completion of the EU's internal market for gas and electricity and a more interconnected and integrated market can be achieved. It envisages the nomination of EU coordinators for four priority projects of European interest.

It develops clear orientations for an effective European international energy policy speaking with a common voice. It fixes highly ambitious quantified targets on energy efficiency, renewable energies and the use of biofuels and calls for a European Strategic Energy Technology plan, including environmentally safe Carbon Capture and Sequestration, to be examined at the Spring 2008 European Council meeting.

Follow-up

In the light of the integrated approach to climate and energy policy the Energy Action Plan will be kept under regular review within the context of an annual examination by the European Council of the progress made and results achieved in implementing the EU's energy and climate



change policies. The Commission is invited to put forward an updated Strategic Energy Review in early 2009, which will serve as the basis for the new Energy Action Plan from 2010 onwards to be adopted by the spring 2010 European Council.

Public Consultation - European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan)

The European Commission proposes to present, in 2007, a 'European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan)' (COM (2006)847).

To prepare the SET-Plan, the European Commission has launched a public consultation. This offers the opportunity to all interested stakeholders to express their views on the need for, and possible contents of, the SET-Plan at the earliest stage of its preparation.

Please, give your opinion through the following on-line questionnaire before 13 May 2007.

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/res/consultation/setplan_en.htm

Maritime policy to bring jobs and fight climate change

High-level Conference: "Towards a Future Maritime Policy for the Union: A European Vision for Oceans and Seas", Bremen, 3 May 2007

On 7 June 2006, the European Commission adopted a Green Paper on a Future Maritime Policy for the European Union. The Green Paper is accompanied by a number of [background documents](#) which have been produced by European Commission Working Groups and by the Maritime Policy Task Force which oversaw the drafting of the Green Paper.

The consultation process will last until 30th June 2007.

Once the period of consultation comes to an end, the formal feedback on the results of the consultation will be provided in two Communications from the Commission which are scheduled for adoption on 10 October 2007. These will be addressed to both the European Council and Parliament. One Communication will summarise the results of the consultation process and the other will outline the vision for a future maritime policy.

Commission President Barroso said at the High-level Conference that an integrated approach to maritime policy could help ease the consequences of climate change, such as rising sea levels and increasingly violent storms, through research and investments in coastal regions. The future policy could also support the development of new sea-based energy sources – such as methane hydrates from the seabed – "opening up possibilities that could dwarf all reserves of oil and gas known today"

and providing "huge employment opportunities in the coastal regions and beyond".

The proposals, due to be presented by the Commission in October 2007 once the consultation process is over, will, for the first time, gather under a single heading sectors that are currently treated separately despite their interconnections and possible conflicts of interests: fisheries, shipbuilding, port activities, tourism, coastal management, marine research, environmental protection and maritime safety to name just a few.

More: <http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/>

The Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change

The President of the European Commission has decided to establish an Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change, consisting of 11 personalities, all with very high public profiles in the area of energy and climate change.

The Group's task will be to advise the President on the nexus of energy and climate change. The group will meet in future to discuss wider issues, such as the legislative proposals stemming from the energy package adopted on 10 January 2007, and future G8 meetings on energy and climate change.

The Group will be asked to look at different options facing Europe in terms of future energy policy, based on the adopted energy package. The work will be carried out in cooperation with the Commission's Bureau of European Policy Advisers and bring valuable expertise from outside the Commission.

The members of the Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change

- Prof. César Garcia Dopazo, Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain
- Mr Nicolas Hulot, Fondation Nicolas Hulot, Paris, France Photographe et journaliste
- Prof. Claudia Kemfert, DIW (the German Institute for Economic Research), Berlin
- Mr Allan Larsson, Chairman of the Board, University of Lund, Sweden
- Mr Claude Mandil, International Energy Agency, Paris, France
- Professor Carlo Rubbia, CERN (Nobel Prize Laureate Physics 1984), Geneva, Switzerland
- Prof. Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, CMG, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), Germany
- Sir Nicholas Stern, HM Treasury, London, United Kingdom
- Mr Peter Sutherland, Chairman, BP plc, London, United Kingdom



- Professor Viriato Soromenho-Marques, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal
- Michael Zammit Cutajar, Ambassador on Climate Change, Malta

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/07/92&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>



Eurobarometer: Europeans support greater EU action on energy and climate change

Europeans support greater EU action on energy and climate change. The overwhelming majority of EU citizens are concerned about climate change. Europeans are well aware of the impact of energy production and consumption on climate change and global warming, while a majority feel that the best way to tackle energy-related issues would be at EU level.

Photovoltaic barometer 2007

The European photovoltaic market reached the heights once again in 2006. According to the first estimates available, the additional capacity installed in 2006 could amount to 1,245.7 MWp, permitting total European Union capacity to rise above 3,400 MWp. The European Commission White Paper targets have thus been reached four years ahead of time. EurObserv'ER presents this sector's current state of development in its barometer published in issue N° 178 of Systèmes Solaires Le Journal des Énergies Renouvelables.

2006 Wind Power Barometer

The European Union reached a record installation figure in 2006 with an additional 7,613.3 MW, bringing total installed EU capacity up to 48,042.3 MW. The year was marked by some pleasant surprises and confirmations, like the return to growth of the German market, the take off of the French market, the confirmation of the firmness of the British market, as well as confirmation of the spectacular growth of the Portuguese market. EurObserv'ER presents this sector's current state of development in its latest barometer, published in issue number 177 of Systèmes Solaires.

Interactive Barometers

A new tool is available on line to consult data from the EurObserv'ER Barometers. It's a module that

allows internet users to set their own query parameters themselves by crossing a sector, an indicator (economic, energetic or political), a year and a geographic zone (a country or a group of countries) at the same time.

The results are displayed on maps of Europe that also provide information on sector potentials, (data published since 2001). The system can also be used to download desired results in the form of a PDF or Excel format file. The EurObserv'ER Barometers Project is supported by the European Commission.

<http://www.eufores.org/index.php?id=29>

European Mobility Week 16-22 September 2007

ISLENET is encouraging all local authorities to participate in the European Mobility week.



16-22 September 2007

How can a local authority participate?

Local authorities are invited to improve the attractiveness of the city, the well-being of citizens and contribute to a better life for all.

Interested local authorities are asked to:

- register their events online stating their compliance with the general outline and guidelines of the initiative (www.mobilityweek.eu) and
- formally sign the European Mobility Week Charter.

Criteria for participation are:

- Organise a week of activities, taking into account the 2007 focal theme «Streets for people».
- Implement at least one new practical measure that is made permanent and which contributes to modal transfer from the private car to sustainable modes of transport and to a more sustainable urban mobility in general.
- Organise the «In Town Without My Car!» event, i.e. setting aside one or several areas that are reserved solely for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport during the entire day, preferably on Saturday 22 September.



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Participants are welcome to contact the European Info Point or their national coordinator for any advice. They are also encouraged to consult the Handbook, which is especially elaborated in order to help them in the practical organisation of the Week. A communication kit containing the common European communication aids and tools is available on the European Mobility Week website:

More information:

www.mobilityweek.eu

valerie.benard@eurocities.eu

PROJECT NEWS

RERINA meeting and Cyprus event



The RERINA project is the study and classification of the European Insular Areas in relation to their potential to implement Renewable Energy Sources (RES) applications.

The 3rd RERINA project meeting took place in Cyprus on the 29th and 30th of March 2007. During the meeting the partners presented sustainable energy plans for three island communities in Sardinia, Crete and Cyprus.

On the 31st of March the Cyprus Institute of Energy held a local RERINA INFO day. During the successful event attended by more than 100 participants, Cyprus authorities, the Cyprus Energy Institute, the University of Cyprus, renewable energy organisations, local industry and construction companies and a variety of interested local actors and citizens.

For more information and to download the presentations made during these two events visit:

<http://rerina.net/>

European Conference

The RERINA project plans to hold on 11 October 2007 a Conference in Brussels. This European event will focus on how insular communities can develop an integrated methodological approach and implement efficient Sustainable Energy Plans.

The project partners will invite a large number of participants representing European institutions, local authorities, energy agencies, universities and the industry.

3-NITY meeting



The aim of the 3-NITY project is to demonstrate how the concept of "Sustainable Energy Communities" can become a reality without too much additional effort in terms of costs and human resources.

The project partners are continuing their work in developing the Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC). One of the tasks is to send a self-assessment questionnaire which has been specially designed to help each community assess their current progress in relation to sustainable energy management locally. The target group is partly the municipality itself (political, administrative and technical staff), and not least important its relevant stakeholders (building associations, energy providers, citizen groups, schools etc.). The questionnaire covers the areas of leadership, people, policy and strategy, partnership and resources, processes, customer/citizen/people/society and key performance results.

The EFQM methodology will be used in the development of the questionnaire in the context of the 3-NITY project. EFQM is the European Foundation for Quality Management. It is a not for profit membership foundation, and the primary source for organisations in Europe looking to excel in their market and in their business.

This questionnaire will produce results allowing the comparison of different SECs regarding their state of development in terms of Sustainable Planning (SUSPLAN), Sustainable Measures and Activities (SUSMAC) and Sustainable Excellence (SUSTEX), the three pivotal components of the 3-NITY project.

The 3rd project meeting took place on 23 April 2007 in Brussels and focused on the understanding of the EFQM process. This was accomplished through a number of presentations and two case studies.

Visit the project website for more information:

<http://www.ieeprojects.net/treenity.html>



SOLCO meeting and website



SOLCO's global aim is the removal of the non-technological barriers in using solar cooling technologies and chilling systems.

In order to meet this objective the project will undertake the following:

- identification of the non-technological barriers that hamper the use and implementation of solar technology and chilling systems,
- the training of the market actors and potential users, and
- the raising of awareness about these technologies as well as a large and targeted dissemination of information and results.

The SOLCO kick-off meeting took place in Agrigento on 23-24 February 2007. The project has now developed its website. For more information please visit:

<http://www.solcoproject.net>

UPCOMING EVENTS

European Wind Energy Conference & Exhibition

7-10 May 2007, Milan Convention Centre, Milan, Italy

The European Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition is holding its "Annual General Meeting" for all wind energy professionals.

The 2007 event will bring together over 4000 key players from the wind and electricity sectors for 4 days of intensive networking, new business development and information exchange.

More information: <http://www.ewec2007.info/>

European Biomass Conference

7-11 May 2007, the 15th European Biomass Conference and Exhibition takes place in Berlin, Germany.

The Programme Outline, providing you an overview of the topics during the Conference week and the Conference Programme (including the Conference Registration Form and many helpful details) are available at:

www.biomass-conference.com

Sustainable Regions and Municipalities 2007

8-10 May 2007, Växjö Concert Hall, Växjö, Sweden, Sustainable Regions and Municipalities 2007

Conference Objective: To support and enable the regional and local implementation of EU policies and directives in the field of energy and transport.

For more information www.energikontor-so.com or send an e-mail to conference@energikontor-so.com

EET 2007 Conference

2nd European Ele-Drive Transportation Conference to take place in Brussels, from 30th May to 2nd June 2007.

European Association for Battery, Hybrid and Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles aisbl/ivzw c/o VUB-FirW-ETEC Bd. de la Plaine, 2 BE 1050 Brussels Tel +32 2 629 23 63 - Fax +32 2 629 36 20 <http://www.aveve.org>

Browse to <http://www.cleanvehicle.com> and sign our on-line petition to support the clean vehicle.

International Bioenergy Conference & Exhibition

3-6 September 2007, Jyväskylä, Finland International Bio-energy Conference and Exhibition

The Conference will focus on the factors affecting the future of the bioenergy, biopower and bio-based modern technologies and products, including logistic systems, management, total procurement chains, the effects of the energy market, the influence of green marketing and other trends affecting forestry, agriculture, industry and climate.

More information:

<http://seminaarit.ohoi.fi/default.asp?seminarID=6>

