

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY NEWS



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COP25, ECO-VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT
IN SOUTH ASIA, EUROPE NEWS***

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INFORSE at UNFCCC COP25 Madrid, Spain

- Exhibition
- December 9-10, 2019
- Side Event:
- December 13, 2019

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◀ UNFCCC COP24 in Katowice, 2018.

On the left: 'Which side are you on?' Civil society delegates demonstrate their wish that the negotiators are on the peoples' side and NOT the polluters' side.

COP25: Step Up Reductions and Support, also for Loss & Damage

In October 2019, violent downpours displaced tens of thousands in Somalia, submerged whole towns in South Sudan and killed dozens in flash floods and landslides in Kenya, Ethiopia and Tanzania. Rising waters wiped out livestock and destroyed harvests in swathes of the region still reeling from severe drought. These are part of the devastating impacts of climate change, collectively known by the term "loss and damage".

The Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM), established in 2013 under guidance of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), has failed to respond to rising global temperatures, which already are inflicting havoc, as we see in East Africa.

Proposals for concrete financing mechanisms that would enable hard-hit communities to receive rights-based reparations have not yet been addressed. And the longer we postpone climate action, the greater the loss of lives and the other damages.

These climate-induced damages have vast implications for developing countries like Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania whose economies are highly vulnerable to climate change and variability. Uganda, in addition, hosts 3 million refugees and asylum seekers, fleeing from unrest and drought in neighbouring countries.

This *refugee influx* has aggravated the already existing deforestation and land degradation.

The situation is further exacerbated through the use of inefficient traditional "3-stone-fires" and inefficient metal stoves.

Thus, the countries of the world should *not only recognise damages* from climate change, but **step up action on** at least three fronts:

- Commit to *faster, greater reductions of emissions* no later than 2021. *Local solutions must be included* in both North and South, as featured in this issue.
- Developed countries *must increase their support of developing nations* for climate mitigation and adaptation, following the agreements to reach USD 100 billion by 2020.
- Countries *must agree on innovative international financing* solutions to compensate climate victims in developing countries. Market-based solutions, e.g., insurance against climate-related loss and damage, are unsuitable, because they simply place the financial burden on the developing countries. Fees on international aviation would be an obvious first source of innovative financing.

The success of international climate negotiations is to a large extent a question of success on these three fronts.

By Kimbowa Richard, INFORSE East Africa and
Gunnar Boye Olesen, INFORSE Europe

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Solar dryer in Tanzania.
Photo by TaTEDO.
See article on pages 4-8.

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◀ INFORSE participated with exhibition and side event in cooperation with INFORSE's regional coordinators, ENDA and INSEDA, at UNFCCC COP24 in Katowice. INFORSE also participates with side event and exhibition at UNFCCC COP 25 in Madrid.



Raise Climate Ambitions: UN & Beyond

When the UN Secretary General, António Guterres, hosted the Climate Summit on September 23, 2019, he called for countries to present plans in line with 45% reduction of global greenhouse-gas emissions by 2030 and with net zero emissions by 2050.

Together, with an immediate peaking of emissions, such plans would be likely to limit global climate change to 1.5 °C.

Many pledges and proposals were made at the Summit, but only a few countries honoured the call for strong reductions by the UN Secretary General.

The pledge to reach zero emissions by 2050 has been made now by as many as 65 countries, but many large countries are conspicuously absent, from China and the USA to Australia, Japan, and Poland, among others.

Seventy countries worldwide have agreed to raise their targets for 2020, but how much they will reduce is not certain and many large emitters are missing.

In addition to countries, many cities, regions, and companies have committed to reductions and to climate neutrality by 2050 or earlier. Again, many of the largest entities are missing, including Google, which, instead, has chosen to support climate-denying think-tanks in the USA.

The COP25 and the imminent arrival of 2020 mark a crucial time to muster higher ambitions and greater efforts. It is imperative to ensure that those with commitments keep their promises, and to push the others into taking responsibility for the effects of their choices on the global climate. This push must be towards countries as well as companies.

COP25 Priorities:

While emission reductions and support are keys to limiting the climate crisis, the COP25 is also about getting the rules right. Most parts of the Paris Rulebook were agreed at COP24 in 2018, including important guidelines for the NDCs (national determined contributions). Some key elements, however, are missing. Among them are:

- The rules for how countries can cooperate to fulfill their commitments jointly are still missing. This follows from article 6 in the Paris Agreement, and bad rules can undermine the whole effort. It is important that the guidelines be negotiated to exclude old emission-reduction units from the Kyoto Protocol and to avoid all forms of double counting.
- Climate action should not include dangerous solutions, such as geoengineering and nuclear power.
- Local solutions and popular participation must be recognised as key in climate action, including in NDC development and implementation, as well as in the climate technology framework.
- There must be full transparency on the NDC developments and reviews, as well as on any cooperation to fulfill commitments jointly. The enhanced transparency framework must be operationalised. In addition, transparency should extend to the flow of climate-related support from industrialised countries to developing countries.
- The discussions should be advanced on making all financing flows compatible with the Paris Agreement, including how to stop financing for fossil fuels.
- The countries should commit to presenting long-term strategies by 2020, leading to climate neutrality by 2050.





New East Africa NGO Cooperation

By Mary Swai, TaTEDO, Tanzania; Ruth Kiwanuka, JEEP, Uganda; Justus M. Munyoki, SusWatch Kenya; and Richard Kimbowa, UCSD, Uganda.



INFORSE members are cooperating in a 3-year project in 2019-2022 in East Africa. The Project entitled: East African Civil Society for Sustainable Energy & Climate Action (EASE & CA). The Partners are: SusWatch Kenya, UCSD and JEEP in Uganda, TaTEDO in Tanzania, INFORSE-East Africa c/o TaTEDO, INFORSE, and NFRE in Denmark.

The NGO Partners focus on strengthening CSOs' networking and advocacy for better climate targets, financing of local, sustainable, pro-poor, gender-responsive climate- and energy solutions in development strategies and in implementation.

The overall development objective is to provide increased access to sustainable energy and to other climate solutions in local communities in Uganda, in Kenya, and in Tanzania, with the full and effective participation and leadership of both women and men, to improve livelihoods and to reduce poverty. The plan is to combine Civil Society Organization (CSO) activities in ways that reinforce each other. The project primarily works towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1 (poverty), SDG5 (gender), SDG7 (clean energy), SDG13 (climate action), and SDG17 (partnerships).

Objectives/Activities include:

- **Local Activities** in 3 districts in Uganda: Empower poor, rural communities to secure access to clean energy and to improve their livelihoods in an economic and climate-friendly way. Seminars and training are presented to rural households, including training of trainers (ToTs), of local leaders, and of planners. Themes include clean cooking, water, food security, tree planting, solar energy, sustainable energy & development, income generation to reduce poverty, and entrepreneurship.

- **National level:** Strengthen CSO activities in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. Formulate strategies & scenarios for 100% renewable energy in Kenya and in Uganda. Organise meetings of CSO coalitions, joint CSO proposals, presentations for national planners and decision-makers, dialogues with stakeholders, and media campaigns.
- **International Level Advocacy:** Strengthen networking and participation of CSOs, exchange of experience, and give voice to CSOs at UN Climate Negotiations (UNFCCC).
- **Publish:** East African Catalogue of local solutions (print, web, mobile).

Baseline Reports: At the beginning of the project, the partners conducted baseline studies. These document the status of sustainable energy and of climate actions, policies, and strategies, as well as of plans and implementation at national, regional, and international levels. These studies also identified opportunities for advocacy, and participation in development planning, implementation, and mapped out CSOs and SMEs working within the field. These formed basis for designing advocacy strategies and approaches to influence relevant policies as well as strategies.



You can read about the activities in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania in the following pages.

▼ EASE-CA Partners at the Kick Off meeting at JEEP in Uganda on July 22-26, 2019.



EASE-CA Project Partners:



JEEP - Joint Energy and Environment Projects, Uganda

www.jeeppolkecenter.org



UCSD - Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development, Uganda

www.ugandacoalition.or.ug



TaTEDO - Tanzania Traditional Energy for Development Organization, Tanzania

www.tatedo.org



SusWatch - Sustainable Environmental Development Watch, Kenya

www.suswatchkenya.org



NFRE - Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy, Denmark

www.folkecenter.dk



INFORSE - International Network for Sustainable Energy

www.inforse.org

www.inforse.org/africa



The EASE-CA Project is supported by CISU - Civil Society in Development, Denmark.

www.cisu.dk

More: www.inforse.org/africa/EASE.htm



Uganda: JEEP Raising Awareness and Training in 3 districts

JEEP's activities are in three districts in Uganda, Nakasongola, Nakaseke, Nebbi Districts. The areas and populations of these districts range from 2000-3500 km² and from 150-380 thousand people, respectively. The activities in the districts include:

- Conducting a baseline survey
- Organising awareness-raising seminars for community members (local rural households), CSOs, district-, and sub-county leaders.
- Training members of rural households in energy-saving stove construction, tree planting, nursery establishment, water accessibility, income-generating activities, and hay-basket making.

During the first seminars, the leaders recognized the environmental problems and learned about the available solutions. They committed themselves to cooperate with JEEP, raising awareness of sustainable environment-conserving practices in their communities. Solutions promoted include planting trees around households and institutions; disseminating energy-saving technologies, especially cook stoves; solar energy; and encouraging of green enterprises. Challenges, and outcomes of the first seminars, in the three districts included:

- **Nakasongola District** is in a region, where the dry season is long, up to 6 months, which usually results in loss of livestock and of crops. Development agencies such as FAO have constructed valley dams and boreholes, but the drought still overpowered supplies, which dried up during the beginning of this year.

The district leaders welcomed the EASE CA project. They promised to support more awareness-raising and a heightened focus on enforcing set policies / bylaws about environmental conservation. The need to plant indigenous trees was specially emphasized. JEEP also was asked to help organize a national dialogue on the region's environmental problems.

- **Nakaseke District** has two zones: the rangeland/ cattle corridor, which is dominated by pastoralists, and the southern crop-based zone, which is dominated by cultivators. The southern part is believed to have been covered by forests before farming/ agriculture began. Nakaseke is facing serious environmental challenges, e.g., deforestation, soil erosion, lack of clean water, reduced soil fertility, vermin, land wrangles, poor sanitation, poor waste disposal/-management, pollution, loitering animals, bush-

burning, poorly planned structural establishments, and pits left behind after soil excavation. The main causes of the deforestation are the unsustainable charcoal production, large-scale clearing of land for farming, and bush-burning. JEEP learned about heavy encroachment on forest reserves, for which Nakaseke requested JEEP's support to restore Nabiika local forest reserve.

- **Nebbi district** has a tropical climate with a short, unreliable first rainy season and a more reliable season later in the year. The main economic activity of the people is agriculture with major emphasis on food crops such as cassava, maize, beans, sorghum, and groundnuts. Cash crops in the district include coffee, cotton, and sugarcane.

Nebbi is one of the districts in which all forests were depleted as land was cleared for agriculture, leading to scarcity of fuel wood. It also suffers from long dry spells. Though not commonly discussed, another economic activity that JEEP observed is a lot of charcoal production. The charcoal is of very high quality because it is made from those indigenous slow-growing, strong species which, when cut, take a long time to grow again. This led to the district enacting a charcoal-production ordinance banning further production of charcoal, BUT the challenge will be popularizing and enforcing this ordinance. Leaders requested JEEP's assistance in this effort. The district leaders pledged to work hand-in-hand with JEEP to restore the degraded environment as well as to ensure sustainable use of natural resources.



▲ From left to right: improved clay stove, hay baskets for slow cooking, energy saving stove, demonstration of solar light, and of solar lanterns. Photos by JEEP, Uganda



▲ Pictures from awareness raising seminars organised by JEEP in Uganda.



▲ Pictures from Uganda (left to right): cooking with biogas, making clay liner for improved cookstove, improved cookstove (Lorrena model), traditional cooking with three stones.

Uganda: NGOs urge Uganda Government to Scale up Energy Efficiency to Secure Sustainable Energy for ALL and to Increase Local Climate Action



▲ Uganda Civil Society Policy Brief, October 2019.

The Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD), along with the Joint Energy and Environment Projects (JEEP), working together as members of INFORSE East Africa in Uganda, issued a statement entitled: *'Uganda should Scale up Energy Efficiency to Secure Sustainable Energy for ALL and to Increase Local Climate Action'*. This was part of the 2019 Uganda National Energy and Minerals Week, which was held from 23 to 29 September, 2019 in Kampala with the aim of sensitizing Ugandans to the importance of efficient utilization of energy. Public awareness of the event was amplified by publicity for the UN Climate Action Summit 2019, which was held concurrently in New York.

The statement was driven by the NGOs' concern that many rural Uganda households are facing increasing energy costs or are spending more time collecting firewood at the expense of other work. Similarly, for the urban residents, the price of a bag of charcoal (quality notwithstanding) has skyrocketed to as high as Ugshs 100,000 (USD 27) and is still rising.

In Uganda, wood fuels are heavily used for cooking in rural areas, while charcoal provides for most of the cooking needs of the urban population. The high demand for wood fuels, which are used inefficiently, results in overuse and depletion of forests. With time, the land available is becoming scarce. Households

prefer to use the land for food crops rather than for planting trees. Production of charcoal is carried out under primitive conditions, with an extremely low efficiency at 10 to 12% on weight-out to weigh-in basis. To produce 1 kg charcoal, 9 kg of wood are needed, which translates into 22% efficiency on an energy-output-to-energy-input basis (Energypedia, 2019). At the same time, biomass use by households is very inefficient, as they rely on the traditional, inefficient three-stone fireplace.

- The NGOs therefore called on the Government to take the following actions:
- fast-track the enactment of the (delayed) Energy Efficiency and Conservation Bill into law, in order for the Energy Efficiency Strategy (2010-2020) to take effect in support of much needed country-wide climate action and promotion of sustainable energy;
- increase investment in research, development, and dissemination of efficient and modern biomass technologies in a more coherent way, as current efforts are heavily relying on the private sector / individuals;
- scale up public information and education efforts as a matter of urgency beyond the annual energy-week events. Examples include campaigns on energy-saving devices and tips, more efficient light bulbs, and re-use of resources that take energy to provide;
- support to the Uganda National Bureau of Standards more strongly in the execution of its mandate to enforce standards and quality control of electric equipment and of energy-saving devices on the market, as some of these devices use obsolete technology or are energy-inefficient;
- provide institutional support for urban and rural local authorities to heighten political attention and coordination amongst the key sectors to escalate gradually the improvement of energy efficiency and access in rural areas; and
- incorporate renewable-energy technologies into buildings and infrastructures to reduce their fossil energy consumption.

▼ Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD) Executive Committee emphasizing energy efficiency as key for Uganda.



Tanzania: Overcoming Challenges of NDCs' Implementation

The NGO Tanzania Traditional Energy Development Organization (TaTEDO), also as INFORSE-East Africa coordinator, is focusing on strengthening CSOs' networking, advocacy, and contributions to sustainable, pro-poor development policies in addressing climate change in the EASE-CA project.

Tanzania CSO Coalition Meeting

On 27th September, 2019, the Tanzania CSOs' coalition meeting was organized by TaTEDO and held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The main objective of the meeting was to discuss and to agree on joint policy recommendations regarding review and implementation of Tanzanian Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). During the meeting, CSOs identified some of the barriers most likely to hinder smooth implementation of the NDC:

- Inadequate coordination and alignment of climate targets and policies;
- Inadequate engagement of all relevant stakeholders;
- Inadequate integration of NDC into national development priorities; Knowledge gap; and
- Inadequate financing of climate solutions.

They also identified possible solutions to overcome these barriers, including:

- Strengthen the capacity of lead institutions, as Tanzania's NDC Focal Point, to develop and to implement NDC-related policies and programs, to coordinate with sector ministries, and to engage stakeholders in NDC implementation process.

In Tanzania, TaTEDO participated in two stakeholders meetings organized towards UNFCCC COP25. These, so called PreCOPs, were the following:

Tanzania-EAC Pre-COP 25, Dodoma

On October 10-11, 2019, the Government of Tanzania and the East African Community (EAC) held a National Climate Change Consultative Meeting with participation from ministries, from CSOs, and from the EAC secretariat. Among the recommendations were:

- The work on a balanced rule book should be completed to strengthen implementation of the Paris Agreement;
- Capacity-building, along with technology development and transfer, should be facilitated adequately to allow effective implementation of climate-change initiatives, including NDCs;
- Developed countries should support Africa in the realization of the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI) and African Adaptation Initiatives (AAI); and
- Adequate and predictable financial mechanisms should be developed for effective implementation of climate change programmes and projects.



◀ Tanzania CSO Coalition at the meeting in September, 2019.

- Establish a participatory and inclusive approach to stakeholder engagement in NDCs' reviews, implementations, and reporting.
- Treat climate change as a development issue and address it in development strategies as well as in policies to promote low-carbon development, resource-use efficiency, and resilience-building.
- Translate the NDCs into simple form in local languages to ensure that the information is understood by the public. Process and package the information in simplified formats such as infographics/illustrations, etc., to enable the public to comprehend issues easily.
- Strengthen capacities of various actors at different levels to develop appropriate financial proposals or requests for funding assistance from different sources and for the specific sectors identified in the NDCs.
- Scale up public funding and attract private-sector climate-resilient investments through improved policy and in the regulatory environment.

The identified issues and recommendations are being presented to relevant government authorities and stakeholders in the form of a policy brief, and are being shared widely on social media, web sites etc.



Participants in the meeting formed groups to deliberate on national positions. Some key priorities identified by these groups were:

- The balance between mitigation and adaptation should be enhanced through provision of means of implementation for national development goals (with equal weight for adaptation).
- Mitigation initiatives must be informed by principles of the convention particularly the principles of equity and of common but differentiated responsibilities within respective capabilities.
- Developed-country parties must continue to fulfil their pre-2020 climate finance commitment of USD 100 billion per year during the period.

Article continues on the next page ▶



▲ Pictures from Tanzania (from top): combined improved cookstove and baking oven, high efficient cookstoves, efficient electric pressure cookers, efficient two-pot stove with chimney, using solar dryer (also on front page) Photos by TaTEDO.



▲ NGO representatives at Civil Society Pre-COP25 in Tanzania on 22 October, 2019.

Tanzania Civil Society Pre-COP

On 22nd October, 2019 the Civil Society Pre-COP25 meeting organized by the Forum for Climate Change (Forum CC), agreed recommendations including:

- Urge for immediate enhanced efforts in greenhouse-gas emission reductions, as per the best available science, most notably the recent IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C.
- Call upon countries to raise their respective NDC ambitions by committing to the rapid energy transformation required to cut global emissions by 50% by 2030 and to reach net-zero emissions by 2050, in line with the recent IPCC 1.5°C Special Report.
- Stress that the NDCs should include all elements and not just mitigation-centric measures. The reviewed NDCs in 2020 should have a time frame of five years that accounts for the global view.
- Emphasize that any transition as part of the response measures to developing countries needs to be just,

gradual, gender-responsive, and supportive of (not compromising) poverty reduction.

- Underline the urgency of financing losses and damages, rather than sidelining it from negotiations and, specifically, in operationalization of the Paris Agreement.
- Technology development and transfer needs to be accompanied by capacity-building to ensure successful and rapid adoption of sustainable technologies and relevant knowledge for their usage in local areas.
- Urge countries to finalize the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture to catalyse concrete actions in building resilience into agriculture systems.
- Recommend strongly that both pre- and post-2020 financial commitments be equipped with a robust transparency framework that will monitor, verify, and review both the ex-ante and ex-post information to be communicated.

► Coalition partners during the 100% renewable energy meeting in Nairobi.



Kenya: 100% Renewable Energy for Kenya

Attainment of sustainable energy services is a necessary precondition for achieving developmental goals that extend far beyond the energy sector.

With this in mind, Sustainable Environmental Development Watch Kenya (SusWatch Kenya), as part of the EASE & CA project, held a National Coalition Meeting on September 25, 2019 in Nairobi to discuss the draft strategies and *scenarios for 100% renewable energy* for Kenya.

The meeting brought together 20 participants, representing CSOs, NGOs, academia, private sectors, and government officials from the Ministry of Energy as well as from the Ministry of Environment & Forestry.

The participants agreed in principle that conversion to *100% Renewable Energy is important* in the light of the current global energy and climate-change challenges.

A global energy transition is already advancing. This provides *ambient momentum and knowledge* on which national actions can be anchored.

The participants mapped the present situation, barriers, and opportunities, calling for wider stakeholder participation to contribute to the transition in Kenya.

The representative of the Renewable Energy Directorate of the Ministry of Energy expressed his appreciation of EASE & CA initiatives and his hopes for a fruitful partnership in these efforts.

Kenya's Visions and Progress

The official *Kenya Vision 2030* states plainly that reliable, adequate energy is a keystone of development. It is absolutely required if we are to meet our goal to transform Kenya into an industrialized middle-income country that provides a high quality of life to its entire citizenry, and to achieve Kenya's "*Big 4 Agenda*" on Food Security and Nutrition, Manufacturing, Affordable Housing and Universal Healthcare. Kenya also has an ambitious target of achieving *100% access to modern cooking services by 2030* and has a *target of universal access to electricity by 2022*. To achieve these targets, several measures are in progress. In December 2018, the *National Electrification Strategy* was launched with focus on using both grid- and off-grid solutions.

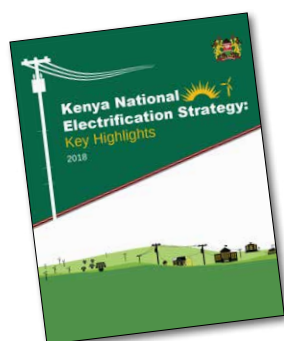
The government is supporting *Solar PV electrification of public institutions*, including health facilities. There is a feed-in-tariff scheme for renewable energy. There are *promotion programs on improved, efficient cook stoves* for households and for institutions.

100% Renewable Scenario by EASE-CA project

In the framework of the EASE & CA project, the NGO partners are developing a *100%-renewable energy scenario and proposed strategies* for Kenya. The scenario strengthens the national response to climate change and remedies energy deficits while supporting Kenyan national development strategies. Launch is planned for spring 2020.



▲ Community celebrating electricity access through solar photovoltaics
Photo: National Electrification Strategy.



▲ Front page of the Kenya Electrification Strategy, Key Highlights 2018.



New South Asia NGO Cooperation Strengthen Eco-Village Development

INFORSE members continue to work on strengthening the Eco-Village Development (EVD) Concept to be ready for further upscaling in the framework of a new NGO cooperation project in 2019-2020.

The Concept was developed in between 2015-18 by INFORSE-South Asia national coordinators i.e. INSEDA in India, CRT-N in Nepal, Grameen Shakti in Bangladesh, IDEA in Sri Lanka; and CANSA, INFORSE and DIB in Denmark.

In the new cooperation project, the Partners' activities strengthen the Concept, bridge some gaps, and find opportunities to major scale up. These include:

- Developing feasibility studies for four new areas/ climates, one for each country. This includes developing templates, collecting data, making gap

analysis, mapping the scale-up opportunities.

- Expanding networking and capacity-building based on organisational/network mapping, and an interview guide.
- Mapping needs and concerns of interested NGOs and of other potential partners.
- Organising meetings, workshops, and training of trainers (ToT).
- Establishing cooperation with new local organisations, partners, and networks in the forms of memoranda of understanding (MOUs).
- Developing social enterprise models.

The findings will be presented and discussed in a joint Partner meeting, and the next steps will be planned towards upscaling.

The project is supported by Civil Society in Development (CISU), Denmark.

Eco-Village Development (EVD) Concept combines a number of local solutions for poverty reduction within sustainable energy, water management, and agriculture in a participatory planning framework. It was developed hands-on in villages in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka in 2015-18.

Publications and outreach include:

- A Socio-Technical Training of Trainers (ToT) Manual on Eco-Village Development in South Asia, 2018. 130 pp. Published in English, Hindi, Nepali, Bangla and Sinhala.
- White Book: Climate Mitigation and Adaptation with Eco-Village Development, 45 pp. 2018.
- Presentations at INFORSE's Side Events at UNFCCC COP 21, 22, 23, SB 42, 44, 48 in 2015-18.
- Part of Registry of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Good Practices and Success Stories.
- Launch of Consortium linking EVD with micro financing institutions by CRT-N and Manushi in Nepal.
- Presentation at the European Development Days 2019 of the European Commission in Brussels in June 2019 at an event organised by the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN).

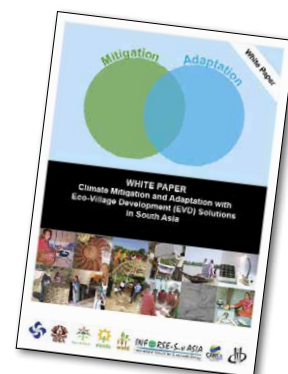
The EVD basket of solutions includes: improved cookstoves with chimney/ chimney hood, household biogas for cooking, rainwater harvesting, solar vegetable/fruit drying, greenhouses, organic gardening, composting, solar-powered home systems for lighting, improved water mill for grinding and to produce electricity for the community, hydraulic ram pumps, biomass waste for rural brick production, solar-powered water pumps and electricity for a school, solar-powered street lights, fish ponds, small hybrid solar wind turbine powering a hospital. Most solutions are low-cost, and some are very innovative using local materials, e.g., bamboo.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): poverty (1), food (2), healthy life (3) life long learning (4) gender (5), water (6), energy (7), sustainable production (12) climate (13), forest/desertification (15), peaceful inclusive society (16.7).

Download publications and read more: www.inforse.org/asia/EVD.htm
www.inforse.org/asia/Publications_EcoVillageDevelopment_SouthAsia.htm



▲ Eco-Village Development (EVD) solutions with participatory planning achieving climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as several SDGs in South Asia.



▲ Front pages of publications on Eco-Village Development (EVD) in South Asia: ToT Manual and White Paper on Mitigation and Adaptation, 2018.

INFORSE-Europe News



Zero Carbon Britain: Rising to the Climate Emergency

With the looming climate crisis and the increasing climate concerns in the UK and worldwide, long standing INFORSE member the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) in Wales has launched a new, updated Zero Carbon Britain report. The report shows what a net zero transition for the UK could look like. It combines 'powering up' 100% renewable energy with energy efficiency to 'power down' energy use and sustainable land-use, offering more healthy diets.

Read more: www.cat.org.uk/info-resources/zero-carbon-britain/

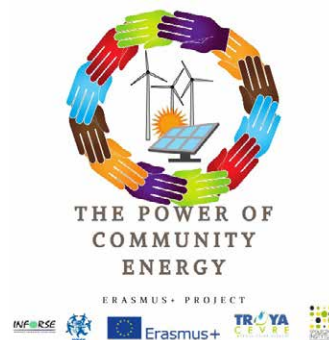


Power of Community Energy

In November 2019, INFORSE-Europe participated on the Kick-Off Meeting of a new NGO Cooperation Project "The Power of Community Energy" in Warsaw, Poland. The Partners are Social Ecological Institute in Poland (coordinator), INFORSE-Europe, WECF and Troya Environment Association in Turkey.

The results will be: a short guide on how to organise renewable-energy cooperatives; a comparative analysis; and databases with focus on Eastern Europe, Poland and Turkey. The next Partner meetings will be in Germany and Denmark in 2020 including the INFORSE-Europe Seminar on 18-22 August, and in Turkey in 2021. The Project is supported by the EU Erasmus+ Program.

Read More: www.inforse.org/europe/POWER_CE.htm



17-21 JUNE 2019
EU SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY WEEK



INFORSE-Europe co-organised two events at EUSEW, Brussels, Belgium, June 2019:

- **Ecodesign and Energy Labels: Setting Standards for Consumers**, organised by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN), CENELEC, European Environmental Citizens' Organisation for Standardisation (ECOs), European Environmental Bureau (EEB), INFORSE-Europe, and the CoolProducts Campaign.
- **Life after The Clean Energy Package: unleashing the power of renewable energy for citizens and communities** organised by REScoop.eu, Cities Northern Netherlands, Energy Cities, FoE-Europe, ICLEI, INFORSE-Europe, and the World Future Council.

Read more: www.inforse.org/europe/seminar.htm



Vision Statement on Community Power - 2019

INFORSE-Europe with 11 other networks and organisations launched a Vision Statement of Our Joint Community Power Coalition: "Putting people, communities and local authorities at the heart of Europe's energy transformation"

Read the statement at www.inforse.org/europe/pdfs/Vision-Community-Power-Coalition_2019.pdf



European Development Days (EDD), Brussels, June 2019

INFORSE presented the Eco-Village Development Concept at EDD'19 in Brussels on the event entitled "Rise of The Eco Village - How community-based design and supportive technologies are creating new models for equality and sustainability". The event was organised by and with inputs from: CTCN, UNIDO, UNEP, UNFCCC, REDES, Grobund, and INFORSE. Read more on page 9.



INFORSE-Europe in Denmark, 2019-2020

In 2019, INFORSE-Europe, together with the Danish member SustainableEnergy, has organised several events for the citizens with support from Europa-Nævn. Eight workshops with citizens collected input as to how EU should push towards a more sustainable future, with special focus on transport and on sustainable consumption.

The inputs were collected and presented to the Danish candidates to the EU Parliament at a final big conference debate.

In 2020, the activities continue. Samsø Energy Academy will organise a seminar on EU and sustainable views. SustainableEnergy will organise events on EU Green New Deal, and others.

More: www.inforse.org/europe/europa-naevnet.htm

Sufficient Demand is Key to Transition to 100 % Renewables

The transitions to renewable energy and to climate-neutral societies are hampered by the continuing growth of consumption, transport, etc., especially in wealthy societies. Therefore, the négaWatt association in France has focussed on energy sufficiency in their popular proposals for the transition of France to renewable energy. INFORSE-Europe and négaWatt, along with other organisations and researchers, are planning to develop energy scenarios and proposals centered on the concept of sufficient energy supply. How much consumption, transport, housing area, etc is sufficient to support a good standard of living?

For many Europeans, a lower level of the most climate-damaging consumption types is certainly sufficient, such as flying and driving. Others will need

a higher level of some types of consumption, for instance, of heat, for those living in energy poverty today.

New Project for Denmark, Latvia, and Lithuania

This new European initiative intend to involve local inputs and collaborative expertise to formulate proposals for each European country involved, and for EU. Denmark, Latvia, and Lithuania will be early beneficiaries of a smaller project slated to begin in 2020, anchored by INFORSE-Europe, Aalborg University, and other partners. They will incorporate the concept of sufficiency into energy plans, with support from the Nordic Council of Ministers.

More: www.inforse.org/europe/Vision2050.htm .



By Gunnar Boye Olesen,
INFORSE-Europe Coordinator



▲ Preparatory meeting of négaWatt, INFORSE-Europe and others. in Paris on 28-29 October, 2019.

Ecodesign for Energy Transition

Ecodesign regulations and energy labelling have been some of the largest drivers of energy efficiency. They are combining to reduce EU greenhouse-gas emissions by approximately 290 million tons of CO₂e by 2020.

The Coolproducts Coalition, of which INFORSE-Europe is part, has launched a bold proposal to use the Ecodesign regulation and energy labelling of the EU in the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. The first proposed initiative, to be implemented as soon as possible, is to allow energy labels of "A" only for the most efficient heating, such as efficient heat pumps. Currently, even relatively efficient gas boilers are A-labelled.

Next step is that by 2030, the ecodesign regulation would remove single gas boilers from the market, allowing only renewable- or renewable-assisted heating.

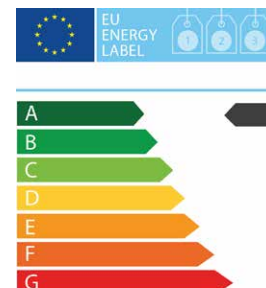
Actions to reduce climate effects of heating of buildings are important because emissions of heating represent almost a quarter of the EU energy consumption and of CO₂ emissions. Some 2/3 of this energy is used in fossil-fuel boilers.

Read more: www.coolproducts.eu/product/boilers , www.inforse.org/europe/eupolicy.htm

Use The Revision for Action

The Ecodesign and energy labelling rules for boilers and water heaters are currently being revised, and this is a good opportunity to take a bold step towards decarbonising heat. We propose to adapt the energy label for heating products to the new Energy Labelling Regulation. Accordingly, the "A" label becomes the highest class (no "A+"). With this rearrangement, the fossil-fuel boilers will sink to the bottom of the scale, receiving no more than "F" or "G". Articulating this early revision of the energy-labelling scheme would contribute to clear market visibility for efficient heating technology.

The proposed changes should be done while maintaining the current unique labelling scheme for central heating. Any split labelling scheme between different technologies (boilers, heat pumps, etc.) would obstruct proper comparisons, would fail to drive innovation, and would confuse consumers as well as installers. From 2030 renewable-driven technologies might be assisted marginally by fossil fuels that can be replaced with renewable fuels until 2040.



▲ The simple A to G label scale that the Coolproducts Coalition propose for boilers, heat pumps etc.

Community Energy in the UK By Pete West, Dorset Community Energy, UK.

There are currently about 260 not-for-profit community energy groups in England and Wales, who over the past 8 years have raised around £150 million (£165 million) to finance renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

As an example, INFORSE-Europe member Dorset Community Energy raised £0.5 million through a local share offer in 2016 to finance solar PV on 12 schools and 4 community buildings. Over 75% of the investors (members) are local residents. Members receive 5.5% annual interest on their shares and their capital is returned in equal instalments over a period of 17 years. The schools and community building benefit from a total of £30,000 per year in free or low cost solar electricity used within the schools.

In addition, volunteers provide educational workshops in the schools where the community-financed solar panels are installed. However, the UK government closed the Feed-in Tariff for new renewable energy installations after 1st April 2019, which has made it very difficult for new projects to pay a reasonable rate of interest to shareholder members whilst at the same time providing a financial benefit to schools.

Therefore at the moment, most UK community energy groups are unable to develop new projects. However, they have a lot of accumulated experience, which is now being shared through regional community energy networks to help strengthen the sector and identify new opportunities.

More: www.communityenergyengland.org



▲ Community owned solar PV at Greenford and Milldown CE Primary School, UK



**INFORSE at
UNFCCC COP25
2019, Madrid, Spain
SIDE EVENT & EXHIBITION**



**UNFCCC COP 25
MADRID, SPAIN**

**INFORSE - AIWC - INSEDA
EXHIBITION:
DECEMBER 9-10, 2019**

**INFORSE - SUSWATCH
INSEDA - CCDB - SE**

**SIDE EVENT:
FRIDAY, DEC. 13, 2019
13:15 - 14:45**

Room: 6

**Local Solutions with
Poverty Reduction in NDCs.
Experiences from
East Africa, South Asia,
Latin America**

Speakers /Moderators:

East Africa:

- Richard Kimbowa, INFORSE-East Africa, UCSD, Uganda;
- Nibert Nyandire, SusWatch, Kenya.

South Asia:

- Mohammad M. Hasan, Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB);
- Sohail Ahmed, Grameen Shakti / INFORSE-South Asia, Bangladesh;
- Kalyani Raj, All India Women Conference (AIWC), India.

Latin America:

- Roque Pedace, INFORSE Latin America;
- Gunnar Boye Olesen, INFORSE/ Sustainable Energy (SE), Denmark;
- Judit Szolczyk, INFORSE.

www.inforse.org/COP25.php3



**INFORSE is a
world-wide network of
145 non-governmental
organizations in
60 countries**

INFORSE was established in 1992 at the UN "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro to promote a transition to efficient and sustainable use of renewable energy.

The organisations work with renewable energy and sustainable development to improve environment and to reduce poverty through advocacy as well as by raising awareness.



Lobby United Nations:

INFORSE has NGO consultative status with the UN ECOSOC since 1998, and with the UNFCCC since 2002. It has sent delegations to many of the Climate COP-meetings as observers as well as organized official side events and exhibitions.



Lobby European Union:

INFORSE-Europe is registered in the EU lobby register and has a permanent seat at the EU Ecodesign Directives' consultations.



Communication:

The communication is facilitated by this newsletter, Sustainable Energy News, a database of more than 1000 relevant contacts.

Supporters of the network and projects have included the EU, DANIDA, CISU, SIDA, the Nordic Council of Ministers, AirClim, ECOS, Swiss Fund, and the Danish Europa-Nævn.



Activities: INFORSE's member organizations often work together to achieve progress through policy advocacy, to build capacity through exchanges of information and of services, and through cooperation projects. These include:

- "Southern Voices on Climate Change", an NGO capacity-building program.
- Low-Carbon, Pro-Poor Development Strategies in Africa and South Asia.
- Eco-Village Developments as Climate Solutions in South Asia.
- Power of Community Energy
- Social participation in local energy planning in Poland.
- Local sustainable energy planning and advice center in Belarus.
- 100% renewable-energy scenarios for the EU, for Denmark, Baltic Countries, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kenya etc.
- Cool Products Campaign for the EU EcoDesign Directive.
- NGO cooperation projects in Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, Russia, Ukraine and Denmark.
- EU and sustainable energy information and debates in Denmark
- Creation of a network of NGOs and researchers on low-carbon scenarios.
- Educational programs e.g., SPARE, DIERET, and a database of school materials.
- Renewable energy and eco-village development manuals in South Asia.

WWW.INFORSE.ORG



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CAUSE: Support 100 % Renewable Energy World
www.causes.com/sustainableenergy100



**European Sustainable Energy NGO Seminar
August 18-22, 2020, Denmark**

INFORSE-Europe is organising a one-week seminar at the Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy (NRF) on August 18-22, 2020.

The main topics addressed will be energy communities, 100 % renewables scenarios, and local planning.

NFRE is an INFORSE-Europe member organisation, which has a large renewable-energy demonstration, training and research center in Denmark.

More: www.inforse.org/europe/seminar_19.htm