

Activity Report 2008

(v. November 2009, approved by General Meeting)

INFORSE-Europe carried out the following activities in 2008:

- Worked with formulation of EU policies for sustainable energy (renewable energy and energy efficiency) and provided inputs to the formulation processes, mainly based on inputs from members. 14 press releases and inputs were made on new EU energy policy formulation, including the energy & climate package, Ecodesign, energy efficiency in buildings, EU energy cooperation with Ukraine, regional integration in Africa, sustainable use of biomass, and others.
- Worked with implementation of EU policies for sustainable energy on European level, (Ecodesign, research and development), as well as national implementation of a number of EU policies (building directive, energy targets etc.), with special focus on implementation in Bulgaria, Slovakia, Romania and Poland, and in Ukraine that is covered by an EU Neighbourhood Agreement.
- **Reviewed the use of Structural Funds** in Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, and recommended improvement of programs to increase their use for sustainable energy projects.
- Worked with Sustainable Energy Visions 2050 with scenarios for transitions of energy sectors and short-term plans for Bulgaria, Latvia and Lithuania as well for the entire EU. The Lithuanian vision was successfully presented in the the Lithuanian Parliament and television
- **Continued to develop training materials** in sustainable energy and organised two cross-border training tours in respectively Denmark and Finland for Belarus NGOs.
- Worked with other INFORSE regions and with other NGOs on influencing the global energy & climate agenda, including NGO participation in the UNFCCC COP 14 in Poznan in Poland with exhibition and side-event.
- Worked with NGOs in European Eco-Forum on promotion of sustainable energy at the Pan-European level, participated in one conference and meeting of the European Energy Charter Energy Efficiency Working Group (PEEREA working group).
- Organised 4 policy seminars/conferences in Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia, UK.
- Presented policy proposals at three larger events (in Spain, Hungary, Ukraine).
- Organised two European seminars:
 - **One-day European Sustainable-Energy Policy Seminars in Brussels**, March. The event was organised together with EREF. NGOs, and 2 EU Parliamentarians and 3 EC representatives participated as speaker's and there were 50 participants.
 - **Three-day European Sustainable-Energy Policy Seminar Paris**/Montreux hosted by the French member "CLER" in October.
- Organised 2 Board Meetings
- **Participated in the EU Ecodesign Consultation Forum**, discussing regulation to limit consumption of energy using products: electric motors, pumps, and fans, external power supplies, white goods,
- Worked with members on environmental education activities for schools (Portugal, Romania, and others) with the SPARE program that reaches out to 7000 schools in Russia and countries of the previous Soviet Union.
- Updated and improved the sustainable energy education database
- **Improved the website and contact database** (600 European organisational contacts). The website continued increase of the popularity to almost 25,000 visitors/month; compared to 17,000/month in 2007 in average.
- Published and distributed 4 issues of Sustainable Energy News (4 * 1,600 2,500 copies), as well as brochures on the network activities.
- **Conducted a course of DIERET** (Distance Internet Education in Sustainable Energy), and continued to develop the material (300+ pages, 450+ illustration).
- **INFORSE-Europe became registered in the new EU voluntary register** as a European interest organisation.

INFORSE-Europe is a network of 70+ non-governmental organisations (NGOs) from 34 European countries working for sustainable energy on the political level and with practical solutions. More information: www.inforse.org/europe