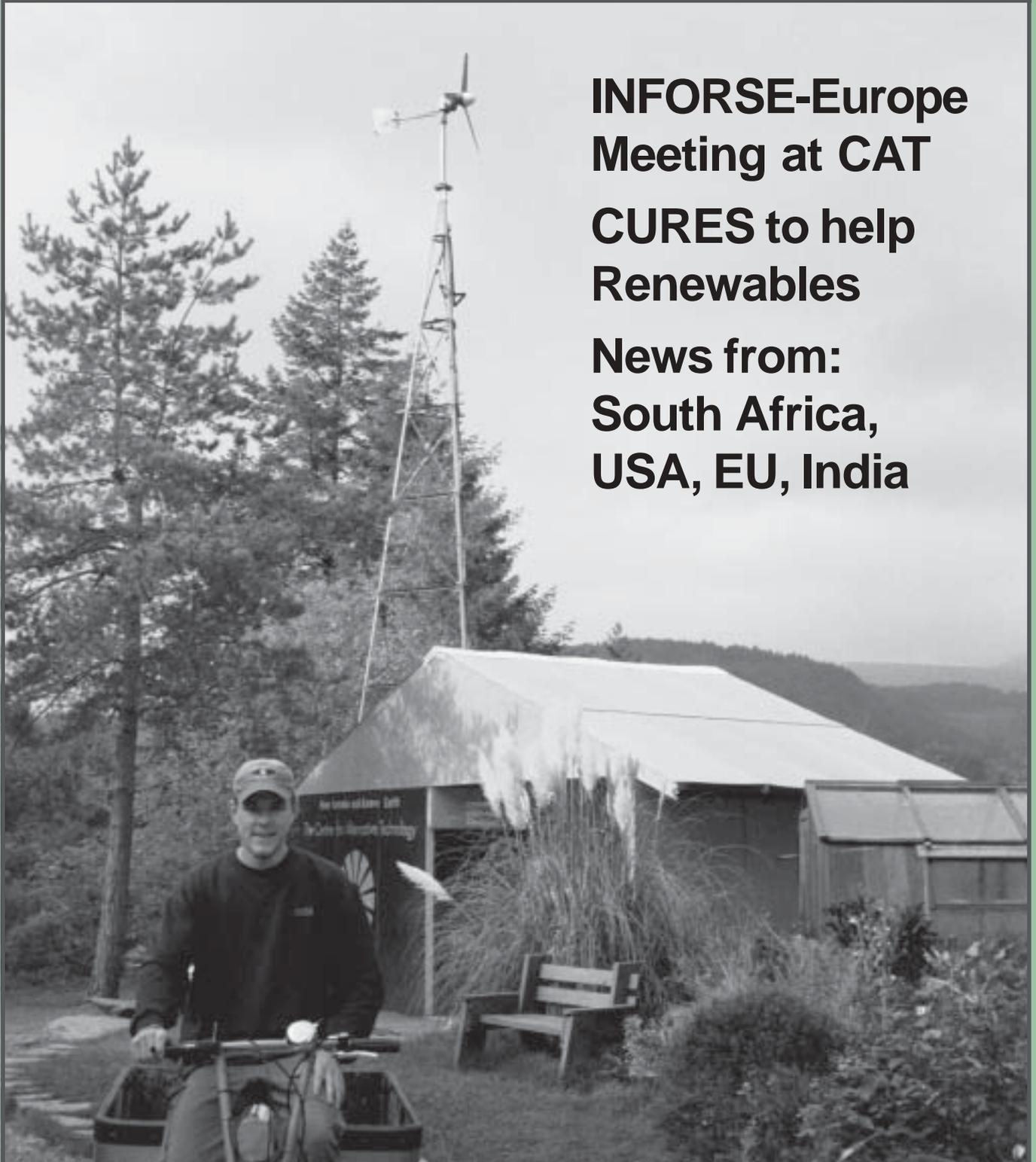


SUSTAINABLE ENERGY NEWS

Newsletter for **INFORSE** International Network for Sustainable Energy.

No. 42, October 2003



**INFORSE-Europe
Meeting at CAT
CURES to help
Renewables**

**News from:
South Africa,
USA, EU, India**

Sustainable Energy News

ISSN 0908 - 4134

Published by:

INFORSE

International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE)

is a worldwide NGO network formed at the Global Forum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1992.

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Deadline for the next issue:

25. 11. 2003

Next issue: December 2003

The newsletter is quarterly.
Feel free to use the information,
but please state the source.

Annual subscription rate:

EUR 25/year. Plus bank cost
at checks: EUR 10.

The newsletter is free of charge
to INFORSE members and a
few contact NGOs as long as
possible.

Printed:

Husets Trykkeri
Århus, Denmark.

Photo on the front page:

Centre for Alternative
Technology, Wales, UK.
(see article on page 6).

Photo by Judith Szoleczky,
INFORSE-Europe/OVE.

Citizens United ...

“Our vision is a world where poverty is eradicated, gender equity is the norm, all people have access to clean and affordable energy services and catastrophic climate change is avoided.”



Photo: Chulla Training by AIWC, India

These words open “*The Future is Renewable*”, the NGO declaration for the International Renewable Energy Conference to be held in Bonn in 2004 (“Renewables 2004”).

It was written by NGOs that met in Bonn, October 5-7, 2003.

This meeting also became the start of the Citizens United for Renewable Energy and Sustainability (CURES), a new network of NGOs that have joined together in preparation for the “Renewables 2004” Conference.

From the point of view of INFORSE, it is very welcome that the NGO community can cooperate on this issue, and can find common ground in spite of the many differences between the various organisations.

INFORSE supports the declaration and will participate in CURES.

The Declaration goes some steps further in identifying problems and solutions, and it does so in line with the INFORSE Charter. It continues with,

“We (the people of the world) need to take clear and decisive steps to:

- *Transform the global energy system away from one dependent on fossil fuels, large hydro and nuclear power to one that is based on new renewables and energy efficiency. The Kyoto Protocol is the first step for this transformation and Russia must ratify it immediately.*
- *Create a special focus and programme for delivering appropriate clean and affordable energy services for the 2 billion people who are without these energy services as a key element to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). We call for free energy services for basic needs, allocated per person recognizing livelihood strategies in different countries.”*

The declaration’s last part is a list of the most important commitments that the NGOs find are needed from governments as well as from other stakeholders. The first commitment in the list is to set ambitious targets for renewable energy.

If a number of progressive countries can agree upon a vision similar to the one in the NGO Declaration, and can take the steps necessary to realise it, the world will be a large step further towards sustainable development.

This, unfortunately, is in no way given. A number of progressive countries must unite on this issue, implement new policies at home, start new cooperation, and use their influence in existing international institutions such as the UN and the World Bank.

To make that happen, the new NGO network will have a busy time ahead, at the preparations for the conference in Bonn as well as in the progressive countries.

Gunnar Boye Olesen
Gunnar Boye Olesen
INFORSE Coordinator

Sustainable Energy News

In spite of the delay in producing this issue, we are committed to continuing to publish 4 issues a year.

For INFORSE members and Sustainable Energy News subscribers, the next issue (December) will have the Sustainable Energy Contact List attached, while others can download it from the internet.

INFORSE Joins WCRE

INFORSE has joined the World Council for Renewable Energy (WCRE), which is promoting an international institution for renewable energy. WCRE is organising a conference to be held May 30-31, 2004, in Bonn, Germany, focusing on creating such an organisation and on international cooperation on renewable energy.

Read about WCRE at www.wcre.org

REEEP Launch

The inaugural meeting of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership took place on October 23, 2003, in London. INFORSE organisations have participated in several of the regional preparatory meetings. We welcome the initiative and hope that NGOs will continue to play an active role in the partnership.

Read more about the partnership at www.reeep.org.



CURES for an Energy – Sick World:

NGOs are preparing for 2004 conference on renewable energies

By Werner Kiwitt / INFORSE and Artefact, Germany

From October 5 to 8, 2003, about 50 representatives from the most relevant international NGOs in the fields of development and environment held a workshop in Bad Honnef near Bonn in Germany in order to prepare common positions and strategies for the official conference to be held in Bonn June 2-4, 2004.

The last World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg had been organised by the United Nations with a lot of public attention but, from the view of NGOs, little change to the better in governments' goals and implementation of concrete steps for a more sustainable energy policy, since a few influential countries could block a general consensus on CO₂ - emissions and replacement of fossil and nuclear energy sources by renewable energies. The NGO community that had organised a wide coalition of environmen-

EU Energy Initiative from Words to Action

The EU Energy Initiative for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development was launched at the WSSD in 2002 as a partnership between EU countries and African, Pacific, and Caribbean countries. Since then, the initiative has been coordinated by a small unit in the EU Commission's development department. Now the initiative's first larger conference is being planned to take place in Nairobi, November 20-21. Following this conference, energy for poverty alleviation and sustainable development is expected to be integrated into a number of the cooperation agreements between EU and African countries. Following this, assistance programs

can be changed accordingly. The goal is to improve the present situation, where less than 16% of EU energy assistance has been used for renewable energy excluding large hydro, and less than that on direct poverty alleviation activities. The concern raised by NGOs that the initiative might finance nuclear energy in, e.g., South Africa has not materialised; but the initiative is still under preparation.

Basic information on the initiative is available at the EU Commission's website, at the address http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/energy/initiative/index_en.htm.



From left: Richard Worthington, Earthlife Africa; Stephen Karakezi, FWD in Kenya; Werner Kiwitt, Artefact (top); Mika Ohbayashi, ISEP in Japan (below); Roque Pedace, Rejima in Argentina,

tal and development organisations felt hidden away to their far-off conference site while the governments avoided binding regulations. Therefore, the NGO community now wants to take the initiative for Bonn 2004 into their own hands. Since the conference on renewable energy is taking place upon invitation of the German government and not by the UN, its outcomes can't be blocked by individual countries. Each government is in a position to take anticipatory steps on its own. In particular, the European community and the hosting German government shall be constructively supported and given guidelines to further develop and implement proven successful strategies, such as guaranteed feed-in laws for renewable energies, as benchmarking instruments for slower countries. The preparatory workshop, organised by the German Founda-

tion of Environment and Development along with the Heinrich-Boell Foundation, brought together subject-matter specialists from organisations such as Greenpeace, Worldwide Fund for Nature, Development Alternatives India, and Greenhouse Project South Africa.

For the presentation of the many small NGOs active in this field, the International Network for Sustainable Energy was also asked to participate. Several other INFORSE-Network members from East Africa, South America, and Japan joined the workshop as speakers of other regional and subject-matter organisations.

In a very intensive and productive process, positions on environmental as well as economical and social issues were compiled in a joint declaration which has been forwarded to other NGOs and regional conferences as "CURES: Citizens United

for Renewable Energy and Sustainability”

The document underlines the importance of clear on-grid regulations and of supporting ambitious goals for increasing amounts of renewable energies. However, CURES stresses the need to define targets equally, and to include off-grid energy options mainly for urban marginalised and rural populations.

Unavailable or unaffordable household energy for 1,6 billion people worldwide means lack of not only electricity but often also cooking energy.

Therefore, much emphasis was put on the position that all eventual funding schemes via the international financing instruments should provide equally for south-to-south transfer of technology and management to develop and demonstrate successful non-electrical, regionally produced technology.

Experience with a number of top-down projects has shown that non-governmental organisations, with their specific knowledge of local conditions and social expertise as well as their approach to ad-

justing technology to the needs of people today and tomorrow are needed more than ever, in order to avoid mistakes of the past and to guide governments and industries on their way towards a sustainable future.

The Bad Honnef workshop was an important milestone.

All INFORSE members are invited to participate actively in this process and in the preparatory conferences on the way to “Renewables 2004” in Bonn on their respective continents.

Bonn 2004 International Conference for Renewable Energies

In the coming year, the international conference for renewable energy in Bonn, Germany, June 1-4, will be the major focus for international cooperation on renewable energy. The expected outcomes include targets for renewable energy, agreements on national and international political measures for renewable energy, guidelines for good policies in the energy sector, and establishment of a follow-up process. Since many countries have agreed to increase support for renewable energy with targets, it is expected that many countries, and maybe even regions, will present new targets and implementation strategies to the conference. It is also possible that a number of countries will establish an international institution, a convention, or both, to promote renewable/sustainable energy. It is a conference of interested countries. NGOs as well as other stakeholders are invited to the conference and to most part of the preparations, but it is not a UN conference, so normal UN procedures for NGO participation do not necessarily apply. The organiser of each event resolves questions regarding participation.

Preparation start in Denmark

The first preparatory meeting took place in Sønderborg, Denmark, September 17-19, 2003, at the invitation of the Danish government. The conference discussed market integration and barriers to renewable energy. The participants agreed to a statement with many valuable recommendations for promotion of renewable energy, including the need for targets. However, the statement has too much focus on markets as solutions as well as on use of the Joint Implementation and Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

The statement and all presentations from the conference are available at www.mim.dk/reconference/.

NGOs' Preparations in Bonn

On October 5-7, 2003, NGOs from around the world met in Bonn (see article on this page and editorial) and endorsed a declaration, “Citizens United for Renewable Energy and Sustainability”, expressing a number of positions concerning the process. They also formed the network the ad-hoc network CURES (see editorial). INFORSE is supporting the declaration posted at www.inforse.org.

Latin American & Caribbean

This region of the world has a preparatory meeting in Brasilia, the capital of Brazil, October 29-30, 2003. INFORSE is represented by the Latin American coordinators Emilio Lebre la Rovere, LIMA, Brazil and Roque Pedace, REJIMA, Argentina.

Africa

The African preparatory meeting will be organised in Nairobi, Kenya, November 20. INFORSE will be represented by the East African Coordinator / Uganda Focal Point, Timothy Byakola, Climate Development Initiative, Uganda, possibly along with other members.

Asia

The Asian preparatory meeting is expected to be in New Delhi, India in January or February in 2004.

INFORSE will follow that meeting via our South Asian coordinator, Raymond Myles, INSEDA, India possibly along with other members.

Europe

European preparation will continue with the “European Conference for Renewable Energy - Intelligent Policies Options”, 19-21 January, 2004, Berlin, Germany. The event is being organised by the EU Commission and others. The expected results of this event are strategies for increasing renewable energy uptake in an enlarged Europe and renewable energy targets for 2020. INFORSE will be represented by the European coordinator Gunnar Boye Olesen, OVE, Denmark and by others. The first announcement of the conference is on-line at: www.erec-renewables.org/Berlin2004.htm.

Global Preparations

Between January and June, 2004, there will be one or more preparatory meetings integrating the outcome of the regional meetings before the global meeting.

Steering Committee

The process is being guided by an international steering committee with 50 members, including NGO representatives. From INFORSE organisations participates Jane Kruse, Danish Folkecenter for Renewable Energy, representing World Wind Energy Association. WWF and Greenpeace are also represented. The next meeting will be in December, 2003.

Bonn 2004

The International Conference for Renewable Energies in Bonn will take place on June 1-4, 2004. In parallel to the official conference, there will be exhibitions, side events, NGO meetings, etc.

Read more about the conference at www.renewables2004.de.

News from South Africa

Wind Power on South Africa's Horizons

A New Turbine Market

CEHN (Corporación Energía Hidroeléctrica de Navarra, S.A.), a Spanish-based company, recently revealed a proposal for a massive wind energy development in South Africa. The proposal combines the development of a local wind turbine manufacturing market with the installation of wind energy capacity. Stimulation of a local turbine-manufacturing market will generate myriad economic benefits, including the creation of 1,310 direct jobs and 13,000 indirect jobs. As South Africa's turbine manufacturing industry matures, its eventual export orientation will foster sustainable economic benefits.

A 49.5MW pilot project wind farm, including 33 1.5MW wind turbines, is planned for 2004. Following evaluation of the pilot project, CEHN anticipates the construction of additional turbines, whose total generation capacity will reach 1,000MW. Turbine construction between 2004 and 2010 will require a total of 1.1 billion EUROS in direct investment, according to CEHN estimates.

The project budget will also include 10 million EUROS for a new research and development centre for wind energy in South Africa. This will encourage technological improvements to wind energy and increase the competitive advantages of South Africa's new turbine manufacturing market.

CEHN has recognized that an adequate regulatory framework in South Africa will be essential for the project's success. CEHN suggests that the initial price for wind energy be set at 50 – 55c/kWh, with a 15-year binding Power Purchasing Agreement contract and annual reviews. The price for electricity could also be reduced as income increases from carbon credits.

The Darling Wind Farm

Ground-breaking for South Africa's first commercial wind farm will occur this autumn on the country's Western Cape. Construction of the Darling Wind Farm, which will have a total generation capacity of 13MW by 2006, will occur in two phases. The first phase, due to be completed by the end of 2004, will include the construction of four 1.3 MW wind turbines. The second phase, which will begin in 2005, will add six 1.3MW turbines to the farm, and produce an additional 7.8MW capacity. The energy generated on the farm will be transmitted through the national grid to the Cape Town Unicity.

While supplying Cape Town with clean and reliable energy, the Darling Wind Farm will also stimulate the development of a local wind-energy industry in South Africa. An educational center at the project site will foster research, training, and outreach to stakeholders and parties interested in replicating the project's successes. In accordance, South Africa's Department of Minerals and Energy has declared a national demonstration project.

Nuclear Project Moves Forward

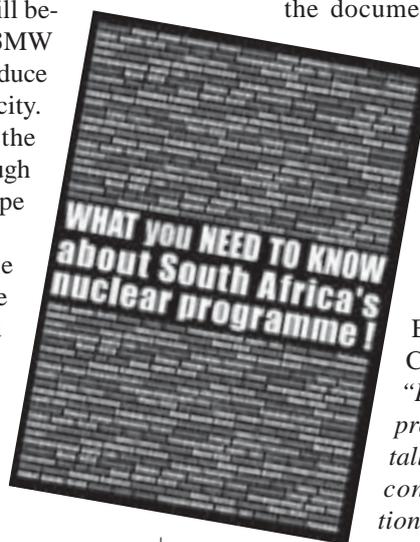
On 26 June, 2003, South Africa's Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) authorised the nuclear Pebble Bed Modular Reactor project, which will include a reactor at Koeberg, fuel manufacture at Pelindaba, and associated materials transport. While DEAT issued a positive record of decision on the project's environmental impact assessment (EIA),

the document has elsewhere been criticised on many counts, including its failure to undertake meaningful analysis of alternatives to the development.

Liz McDaid of Earthlife Africa Cape Town stated, "In our view, the EIA process has been totally flawed. Despite considered opposition from public and environmental groups

including opposition from the Cape Town local authority, despite no solution for the spent fuel, despite using consultants who had worked for Eskom for the last 15 years, and despite numerous process and content problems, the government has approved the EIA. This Pontius Pilate attitude of Government to its responsibilities is extremely worrying".

Earthlife Africa is currently pursuing a legal challenge of the EIA authorisation/record of decision.



Source:

Issue No 15 of *SENSE – Sustainable Energy News* by e-mail – a service of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Partnership (SECCP), a project of Earthlife Africa Johannesburg, in partnership with WWF, Denmark.

Earthlife Africa is member of INFORSE.
E-mail: seccp@earthlife.org.za
<http://www.earthlife-ct.org.za>

More info on nuclear:

Booklet: *What you need to know about South Africa's nuclear programme!*

It can be downloaded in PDF file - 1Mb from the Earthlife's web site.

Pan-European Sustainable Energy Seminar

The Pan-European Sustainable Energy Seminar, held in Wales on September 30 - October 4, 2003 at the Centre for Alternative Technology, featured discussions of sustainable energy technology and of EU policies on climate and energy.

The Seminar closed with a discussion on renewable energy communities in Europe.

This discussion was organised in co-operation with the European Renewable Energy Council.

See presentations and pictures

from the seminar at

www.inforse.org/europe/seminar03 .



Participants of the Seminar. Some of the seminar participants participated as observers on the General Meeting. The participants were from Germany, Spain, Latvia, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Italy, Poland, Denmark, Romania, Malta, Sweden, Lithuania, Croatia, Slovenia. Raymond Myles, the INFORSE South Asia Coordinator also participated as observer.



Center for Alternative Technology in Wales, where the Seminar and the General Meeting was held.

See more information:

www.inforse.org/europe

- Annual Action Plans and Activities
- Bylaws and the Charter
- Membership List,
- Membership Application Form
- Seminar '01, '02, '03 Proceedings
- Projects in CEE countries: Russia, Romania, Ukraine, Belarus, Hungary
- INFORSE Vision 2050,
- Online education DIERET
- EU Policy update
- Sustainable energy News (pdf)
- Collected Success Stories

INFORSE - Europe Meeting and Priorities

By Gunnar Boye Olesen, INFORSE-Europe Coordinator

The General Meeting of INFORSE-Europe was held at the end of the Pan-European Sustainable Energy Seminar. The 14 participants, representing 9 member organisations, discussed future INFORSE activities and approved reports of last year. Among the priorities for the coming year were:

- participate in the preparations to the international renewable energy conference in Bonn in June 2004, as well as in the conference itself and its outcome;
- follow EU energy and climate policy;
- organise sustainable energy seminars, in Spain, in Croatia, and in Germany;
- continue Distance Education on Renewable Energy (DIERET) & education activities.

The EU Commission will be asked for support for INFORSE-Europe as an environmental network, but the network will not wait for eventual support to start the activities listed below.

- To follow EU energy and climate policy, the network is looking for volunteers, from members as well as others. Each volunteer will get one or a few policies to follow (a directive, as strategy or similar), and will develop updates and proposals for INFORSE policies. Interested volunteers should contact INFORSE-Europe.
- The network is already following the preparations for the Bonn2004 conference and will continue to do so.
- The DIERET will be sold by the net-

work on CD's for 15€ each. For organisations wishing to use the material in training, the price will be lower.



The two coordinators, Gunnar Boye Olesen (left) and Emil Bedi (right), were reelected for 2004 by the INFORSE-Europe's General Meeting



Greenhouse Emissions Trading Coming Fast

Since the EU emissions-trading scheme was adopted in July, discussions have started in all the EU countries on how to allocate the emission allowances for the scheme, which starts in 2005. Already, by April, 2004, the countries must present emissions allocation plans for 2005. At least 95% of the emissions will be allocated for free, while the last 5% can be sold at national auctions.

In the meantime, the EU Commission has proposed a new directive linking the EU emissions trading scheme with Joint Implementation and the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol (the "link-directive"). The risk of this is obviously that the companies as far as possible will buy emissions in the Eastern European and developing countries, rather than finding the optimal mix of emissions inside the EU. A large input of emission credits with low standards and therefore low prices can undermine the EU emissions-trading scheme. If this happens, it will lead to little reduction inside EU. If the JI and CDM credits are held mostly to a low standard, they will not lead to much reduction in Eastern Europe or in developing countries, and any benefit to the global environment will be minimal.

Environmental organisations including Climate Action Network Europe, Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace, and WWF see no justification for this "link directive". INFORSE-Europe shares this view. On the other hand, industry groups and some countries, including Denmark, are lobbying for the widest possible input of credits, even from Russian and Ukraine "hot air" (national emission allowances that the countries cannot use because of high allocations of emissions under the Kyoto Protocol).

The harm that the "link-directive" will do to the environment depends on the amounts and quality of emissions that are entering the system. In the proposal from the Commission, there is a limit of 6% of total emission allowances. If this is compared with the overall EU commitment of 8% greenhouse gas reductions, it seems that the companies will be allowed to buy most of the emission reductions from outside EU. However, most companies will have to make larger reductions than 8%,

because the transport sector has had emission increases since 1990 (the base year of the Kyoto Protocol) and is not included in the EU emissions trading scheme. Thus, the other sectors must have higher reductions than 8% to meet the overall EU reduction commitments.

Another issue is which credits will be allowed. One of the most controversial proposals is to use credits from large hydropower. In spite of previous reservations that the EU has expressed about including large hydro in CDM, there is no limitation to this in the proposed "link-directive". Another issue is credits from sinks (uptake of CO₂ or other greenhouse gases). The Commission's proposal excludes sinks, but contains some ambiguous wording in its Explanatory Memorandum.

The link directive will be discussed by the EU environmental ministers, probably in December.

As a way to set high standards for CDM and JI, the WWF and other organisations have established a "gold standard" for CDM credits coming from projects in renewable energy and energy efficiency that are truly additional to the development without the credits.

Read more at www.climnet.org, www.inforse.org/europe, and about the gold standard at www.panda.org/about_wwf/what_we_do/climate_change/what_we_do/business_industry/

Intelligent Energy - Finally

Since the new energy framework program "Intelligent Energy" entered into force August 4, rumours have been flying about the new calls for proposals to the SAVE and ALTENER programs. Currently it seems that the calls will come in December or January. There will also be calls for international cooperation on energy (the COOPENER Program) and the transport energy program STEER. The EU Commission has made a special website with news from the Intelligent Energy Program: http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/intelligent/index_en.html

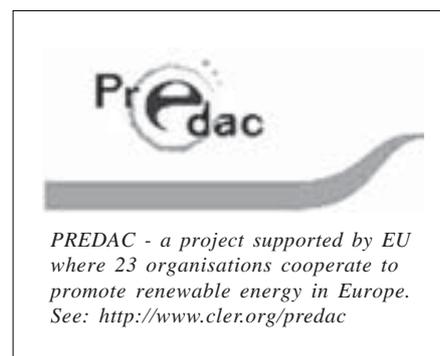
A Bit of Support for Cogeneration

While plants for cogeneration of heat and electricity continue to suffer in many European countries, an EU directive is on its way for support of cogeneration. It introduces the term "high-efficiency cogeneration" that shall enjoy some of the same rights that renewable energy has for feed-in and use of the electricity grid, but not necessarily the same tariffs.

This and other details were agreed on by the EU energy ministers on September 9, 2003. Now, the European Parliament has to give its second opinion on the proposal until December 24. It is likely that the directive can finally be adopted in the beginning of 2004.

The directive will not be a revolution in development of cogeneration, but the cogeneration industry welcomes it anyway.

Read more at www.inforse.org/europe.



ECO-design for Energy Efficiency

A new "Eco-design" framework directive was proposed on August 1, 2003, by the EU Commission for energy-consuming equipment. The aim is to improve the overall environmental performance of these products during production and use as well as after use. It will be a framework for "eco-efficiency" standards of different equipment, aiming to minimize environmental impacts by reducing energy consumption as well as other factors that harm the environment. The standards will be elaborated for products that have a significant sales volume in EU and an important environmental impact.

Read more about the directive proposal COM(2003)0453 at <http://www.inforse.org/europe>

News from India

By Raymond
Myles,
INSEDA,
INFORSE
South Asia
Coordinator



Energy Partnership Coming up in India

The Global Village Energy Partnership (GVEP) has started activities in India with a conference in June focusing on energy for the many villages outside the reach of the electric grid. GVEP is a partnership launched at the World Summit for Sustainable Development last year.

It is led by the World Bank's ESMAP facility and by UNDP, but out of the organisations that have joined the partnership, 51% are NGOs. The hope of the participants in the conference was that GVEP and other partnerships would help increase access of the people to modern and clean energy sources.

One of the objectives of the GVEP is to bring different stakeholders together with a common platform so that a dialogue can begin about achieving the goal of delivering energy to the poor.

The conference itself was a good example of this, with participants from different ministries and government agencies, national and international NGOs, UNDP, World Bank, a number of institutes, and others.

INFORSE was represented by Raymond Myles of INFORSE South Asia / INSEDA, and by others.

At the meeting, participants formed a core-group, including the All Indian Women's Conference (AIWC, Indian national focal point for INFORSE), to work on knowledge management and on capacity-building in the framework of the partnership.

Since the conference, the participants have been discussing other organisational issues for national partnership activities, including formation of an Indian partners' group.

It is expected that REST (see in the box) will play an important role in the partnership activities.



Biogas construction in India - Successful renewable energy. Photo: AIWC, India

REST: Indian National Support for Energy for the Poor

To help fulfil the goal of providing electricity to all the villages by 2007, the Indian government has formed The Rural Electric Supply Technology (REST) mission.

REST will work with the Indian Ministries of New Energy Sources (MNES) & Ministry of Rural Development at the policy level for increased rural energy access. At the implementation level, the strategy is to strengthen economic activities to enhance income levels of the poor, which would lead to increased demand for power. In this context, REST is working with micro finance institutions.

Most Indian financing for rural electrification passes through the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC). While this body has substantial resources, NGOs have found it difficult to access these funds.

A new Electricity Bill of 2003 provides for a paradigm shift in the approach to rural electrification. Under this bill, NGO's, user associations, and grass-root organizations have been asked to provide workable solutions to energy problems at the grass-root level.

Who Lacks Electricity?

Until recently, the official Indian statistics showed that 80,000 villages were without electricity. This was based on the definition that a village is unelectrified if nobody on the village has electricity. According to a new definition, a village is electrified if at least 10% of the households have access to electricity.

This suddenly increased the number of unelectrified villages by 50%, to 120,000. Of these villages, the Ministry of Power has estimated that 18,000 are unelectrifiable with grid-based electricity. The villages must be supplied with electricity locally in order to fulfil the of electricity for all.

An important question is whether they will get diesel generator sets in the villages or renewable energy.

The REST (see in the box) is "technology neutral", so this question is open and will be addressed, village by village, during the implementation.

Harnessing the Wind in America's Great Plains

Historic Ceremony: America's first native-owned and -operated utility-scale commercial wind development



By Suzanne Slarsky,
USA, volunteer for
INFORSE

Rosebud Sioux Reser-
vation, South Dakota,
USA: On 1 May, 2003,
an historic ceremony

on the windy plains of South Dakota drew the attention of politicians, power generators, sustainable energy advocates, and Native communities across the United States. At this ceremony, South Dakota's Rosebud Sioux Tribe launched America's first native-owned and -operated utility-scale commercial wind development.

The project brings needed economic development and vital industry to the Rosebud Sioux Reservation, and encourages Native communities across the country to take advantage of the sustainable resources that are available on their reservations.

The Rosebud Sioux Tribe Wind Turbine Project began in 1995, when the tribe began assessing the wind resources on its reservation. The Rosebud reservation is located in a particularly windy area of South Dakota, where wind resources are excellent but generally underutilized for energy generation. The wind assessment provided scientific evidence of the Rosebud reservation's excellent wind resources, and the data were subsequently utilized in the tribe's successful application for a wind project matching grant from the United States Department of Energy.

As the Rosebud Sioux wind project moved forward into the planning and development phases, it gained the support of stakeholders in a variety of sectors. While the US Department of Energy and the US Department of Agriculture financed the project, the US Environmental Protection Agency, Department of the Interior, and Department of Defense also played key roles. DisGen, Inc. engineered the project. Local utilities and the Western Area Power Administration provided connection to the local grid, transmission technology, and guaranteed purchasing. NativeEnergy, Inc. arranged green tag sales to ensure the project's financial and environmental success. The Intertribal Council on Utility Policy (COUP), Honor the Earth, and the Foundation for the

American Indian also contributed to the realization of the project's goals. As Bob Gough of the Intertribal COUP observed, "this success clearly demonstrates ..federal-tribal partnership"

Eight years of planning and development for the Rosebud Sioux Wind Turbine Project came to fruition on 1 May, with the dedication of a new 750kW NEG Micron wind turbine. The turbine has an annual production capacity of 2,400,000 kWh, which is enough to service about 220 South Dakota homes. The turbine's energy will be sold to Basin Electric Power Cooperative, offsetting the CO₂ emissions and other pollution from the coal-fired power generation upon which the region has historically relied. In addition, NativeEnergy, Inc. of Vermont has marketed the green tags for which wind power qualifies to thousands of green power supporters.

While the Rosebud Sioux Wind Farm provides the direct benefits of clean, sustainable energy to the local community, it also demonstrates to other Native communities that independent power generation is possible, and that it can generate much-needed income. Indeed, two dozen reservations in the American northern Great Plains have a combined wind power potential that exceeds 300 GW, which is about half the entire installed generation capacity in the United States.



*The blade lift of
the tribe wind
turbine in
February, 2003.
Photo by
NativeEnergy, Inc.*

Wind assessments and environmental studies are currently being planned for wind farm developments on several tribal reservations, and many of the contributors to the Rosebud Sioux Project are continuing their cooperative efforts to help additional Native communities to secure the benefits of wind power.

Mike Gaydosh of the US Environmental Protection Agency noted, "As we move forward, we do so mindful to protect not only the environment, but also cultural resources and sacred sites, and to ensure the development process is inclusive and collaborative, while focused on building truly sustainable economies through clean, renewable power generation."

Sources:

- NativeEnergy, Inc. "The Rosebud Sioux Tribe Wind Farm". 145 Pine Haven Shore Road, Suite 1176, Shelburne, VT 05482, USA. Ph: +1 800 924 6826
E-mail: info@nativeenergy.com
<http://www.nativeenergy.com/>.
- US Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, "Rosebud Sioux Tribe: 750 KW Wind Turbine Installed".
<http://www.eere.energy.gov/>.
- US Environmental Protection Agency, "EPA to help dedicate first tribal wind turbine". <http://yosemite.epa.gov/>.

Publications



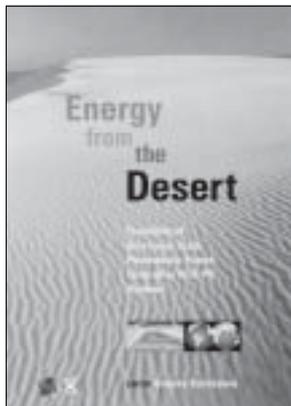
Solar Installations

By Lars Andrén

Following an in-depth technical description of water-based solar heating technology, this book details several practical applications for solar power in public and private facilities. Single- and multi-family dwellings, industrial facilities, schools, sports complexes,

and outdoor pools are suggested as potential sites for deployment of the technology. The text is oriented to the needs of diverse readers, including designers, installers, end-users, and academics.

ISBN 1-902916-45-X; 130 pages; 2003.



Energy from the Desert

Edited by K. Kurokawa

This book explores a potential methodology for harvesting solar energy from the world's desert landscapes. Deployment of large-scale photovoltaic power generation (VLS-PV) systems in desert regions could fulfil global energy needs while promoting environmental sustainability. The text examines the technology,

financial models, environmental impacts and policy implications of this concept. Case studies from the Sahara, Gobi and Negev deserts provide focused, location-specific recommendations for VLS-PV implementation.

ISBN 1-902916-41-7; 195 pages; 2003.

Both publications are published by James & James, Ltd.
8-12 Camden High Street, London NW1 0JH, UK
Ph: + 44 20 7387 8558, Fax: + 44 20 7387 8998
Email: jxj@jxj.com, <http://www.jxj.com>



Thirteen Environmental Stories From Central Asia

It brings to light a number of natural obstacles that the regions' residents are currently facing. Case studies address such issues as radioactive waste disposal in Kazakhstan's Melovoe mines, pollution of Uzbekistan's Amu-Daria River and the radioactive scrap metal market in Kyrgyzstan.

ISBN 82-7701-022-2; 44 pages; 2003.



Environment and Security: Transforming Risks into Cooperation

It explores numerous environmental hotspots in Southeastern Europe and Central Asia that are challenging human development and security. Water and groundwater pollution, availability and distribution, industrial and agricultural pollution, toxic and radioactive waste, land degradation, salinisation, desertification, and natural resource depletion are addressed at various sites in the region. Numerous maps provide in-depth illustrations of these phenomena.

ISBN 82-7701-023-0; 34 pages; 2003.



Environment in Central and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia

The CD-ROM is produced in both English and Russian, provides a guided virtual media tour of environmental issues in the region. Local environmental stories, a photo archive, and local authority contact information make these issues clear and accessible.

ISBN 82-7701-021-4; CD-ROM. 2003

The two texts may be downloaded from GRID-Arendal's website, and the CD may be ordered through the contact below.

Contact: GRID-Arendal, UNEP, Ieva Rucevska, Programme Officer, Longum Park, Service Box 706, N-4808 Arendal, Norway. Ph: +47 3703 5738, Fax: +47 3703 5050
Email: ieva.rucevska@grida.no, <http://www.grida.no/enrin>



The Middelgrunden Offshore Wind Farm

Edited by Ann Vikkelsø.

Denmark's Middelgrunden Wind Farm is the world's largest cooperatively owned wind development. In fewer than seven years (1993 to 2001), the project progressed from vision to reality, and its 20 turbines currently provide four percent of Copenhagen's energy needs. This booklet provides information about the project's planning, construction and completion, including technical details about the turbines, budget data and organizational structure of the cooperative. The publication may be downloaded at http://www.middelgrunden.dk/projektinfo/mg_pjece.htm

ISBN 87-986690-3-6; 27 pages; 2003.

Contact: Copenhagen Environment and Energy Office
Blegdamsvej 4B, 2200 Copenhagen N, Denmark, Ph: +45 35 37 36 36,
Fax: +45 35 37 36 76, Email: kmek@kmek.dk, <http://www.kmek.dk>

Events

Events with * means that INFORSE is participating on the event.

November 19-21, 2003

City Energy Strategies Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa

Expected launch of the African Energy Cities Network

Info: info@sustainable.org.za

<http://sustainable.org.za/>

CESConference/AboutConference.htm

November 20-21, 2003 *

Energy for Africa, Nairobi, Kenya

Includes African preparation for "Renewables 2004" in Bonn.

Info: *The EU Energy Initiative for*

Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development,

http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/energy/initiative/index_en.htm.

November 23-26, 2003

World Wind Energy Conf. Renewable Exhibition, Cape Town, South Africa

Info: World Wind Energy Association,

<http://www.sbs.co.za/wwec2003>

<http://www.wwindea.org>

November 28, 2003 *

European Conference - Wind Energy Local Financing, Paris, France

Info: colloque@welfi.info

<http://www.welfi.info>

November 28, 2003

2nd Symposium on "Renewable Energy in Developing Countries", Basel, Switzerland

Info: info@oekozentrum.ch

www.oekozentrum.ch

December 1-5, 2003 *

Rio03 World Climate and Energy Event, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Info: info@rio03.com

<http://www.rio03.com>

December 1-12, 2003

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, COP 9, Milano, Italy

Info: UNFCCC Secretariat, Germany.

secretariat@unfccc.int, www.unfccc.int

January 19-21, 2004 *

European Conference for Renewable Energy - Intelligent Policies Options, Berlin, Germany

Includes preparation for Renewables 2004

Info: EU Commission,

Tren-Cto@cec.eu.int

http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy/res/index_en.htm

January 19 - February 6, 2004

NGO Leadership, Development & Social Change 2004 Gateway Course

Int'l Institute of Rural Reconstruction,

Y.C. James Yen Center, Silang, Philippines

Info: <http://www.global-partnership.net>

<http://www.iirr.org/html/>

[International.htm](http://www.iirr.org/html/International.htm)

E-mail: Education&Training@iirr.org

February 4-6 2004

First International Conference on Renewable Energy, New Delhi, India

Info: Central Board of Irrigation &

Power

cbip@giasdl01.vsnl.net.in,

cbip@cbip.org,

<http://www.cbip.org>

February 16-19, 2004

Asia/Pacific Region Microcredit Summit Dhaka, Bangladesh

Info: info@microcreditsummit.org

<http://www.pksf-bd.org/>

[aprm_summit_brochure.htm](http://www.pksf-bd.org/aprm_summit_brochure.htm)

March 3-6, 2004 *

World Sustainable Energy Days, Wels, Austria

Includes European Pellets Conference, Green Electricity Forum, "Energiesparmesse"

Info: office@esv.or.at

<http://www.esv.or.at>

March 28-31, 2004

Global Windpower Conference 2004, Chicago, USA

Info: sminer@awea.org

<http://www.awea.org/global04.html>

April 7-9, 2004

Asia Renewable Energy Fair and Conferences, Beijing, China

Info: info@gracefair.com

<http://www.gracefair.com/>

[reasia_home.htm](http://www.gracefair.com/reasia_home.htm)

May 10-14, 2004

2nd World Conference and Technology Exhibition on Biomass for Energy, Industry and Climate Protection, Rome, Italy

Info: biomass.conf@etaflorence.it

<http://www.conference-biomass.com/abstracts>

May, 30 - 31, 2004 *

Second World Renewable Energy Forum: Global Benefits and Policies, Bonn, Germany

Info: info@world-council-for-renewable-energy.org

<http://www.wcre.org>

June 1-4, 2004 *

"Renewables 2004", International Conference for Renewable Energy, Bonn, Germany

Info: Secretariat of the Conference

info@renewables2004.de

<http://www.renewables2004.de>

See articles on pages no. 3 and no. 4 in this issue

June 1-5, 2004

"Bioenergy2004", World Conference on Bioenergy, Jönköping, Sweden

Info: info@svebio.se

<http://www.svebio.se>

September 20-22, 2004 *

Second International Ukrainian Conference on Biomass for Energy, Kiev, Ukraine

Info: zhelyezna@biomass.kiev.ua

<http://www.biomass.kiev.ua>

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If you have internet access, check your contact details online at <http://www.inforse.org/regions.php3>

If you have corrections, please return the completed form or email before November 30, 2003 to:

Sustainable Energy News / INFORSE

G1. Kirkevej 82, DK-8530, Hjortshøj, Denmark.

Ph: +45 86 22 70 00, Fax: +45 86 22 70 96

E-mail: inforse@inforse.org

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