

THEMES: COP28, GREEN LIFESTYLE FULFILL- SUFFICIENCY.EU, EUROPE LOCAL SOLUTIONS IN SOUTH ASIA EAST AFRICA - 100 % RENEWABLES



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INFORSE members at the INFORSE's exhibition at COP27 in Egypt Delegates from INFORSE Secretariat, CRT, Nepal; IDEA, 5ri Lanka; INSEDA and Development Alternatives, India; Grameen Shakti, Bangladesh; Suswartch Kenya; DIB and SustainableEnergy Denmark; and Copycin International 11SA

# Climate Stability Needs More Actions - Also More Soft Climate Policies

If the gap is to be filled between the current climate plans and emission reductions needed to stay within the 1.5 °C global warming target, a lot more reductions are needed. We also need to step up the climate funding by developed countries to the promised level of US\$ 100 billion per year since 2020.

The INFORSE network with more than 140 civil society organisations from around the world, calls for increased climate action, including the inclusions of new climate policy areas and increased climate funding for developing countries. We do not want questionable solutions such as nuclear power or geoengineering, but more new climate policies in line with sustainable development. This includes, among other, policies for sufficiency, i.e., sustainable lifestyles, as well as policies for sustainable energy access.

It is increasingly understood that without **more sustainable lifestyles** in the high-emitting societies, and for high emitters in all societies, it is probably impossible to reduce emissions fast enough to keep the 1,5 °C climate target. However, in climate plans and in the UNFCCC Global Stocktake (GST) we find **only a few sufficiency policies.** 

If we are to succeed with a **change to more sustainable lifestyles**, policies should be introduced that reduce emissions and also make it appealing to move to more sustainable lifestyles.

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Editorial Address: INFORSE-Europe, Klosterport 4F, 1. fl, 8000, Aarhus C, Denmark. T: +45-86-227000 E: ove@inforse.org W: www.inforse.org Published by INFORSE International Network for Sustainable Energy INFORSE is a worldwide NGO network formed at the Global Forum of the "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1992. INFORSE has Consultative Status to UNFCCC and UN **Sustainable lifestyle - sufficiency** is both about reducing environmental impacts and about maintaining or increasing well-being. To help policy makers, we in INFORSE-Europe are working with researchers to identify attractive, sustainable lifestyles for Europeans and to identify the policies to introduce them.

Reduction of emissions is also about reducing the emissions linked to lack of access to clean energy. This is a problem for around a billion people as well as a climate problem with deforestation from overuse of fuelwood etc. Progress is being made for access to electricity, while clean cooking is lacking behind, but there are solutions. In the INFORSE network, we have identified and reported on a number of local sustainable energy solutions for energy access. This includes, among others, clean cooking solutions adapted to different situations, from simple improved cookstoves to biogas plants and to highly efficient electric pressure cookers. They can, combined with tree planting, stop much deforestation while also improving life.

Now it is up to the policy makers to include policies for sustainable lifestyles and for clean energy access, including clean cooking, in climate policies including the coming NDCs.

Gunnar Boye Olesen, Raymond Myles, Mary Swai / Estomih Sawe, Roque Pedace INFORSE Coordinators

Editors: Gunnar Boye Olesen Judit Szoleczky Text advice: Pete West

Layout: Charlotte Søby

Illustration on the front page: COP28 logo, icons of FULFILL project, and of civil society movement.

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# We Need Stronger Global Cooperation to Manage the Climate Crisis

When in 2015, the Paris Agreement was agreed, there was new hope that finally a global agreement was in place to solve the climate crisis. Now, implementation is in full swing, but it is more visible than ever that ambition must be increased. If countries want, the Paris Agreement can still be a framework for keeping the 1.5 °C target, but it is urgently needed that:

- Countries agree that so far the efforts with the national climate plans, the NDCs, are insufficient as documented with the both the Global Stocktake (GST) and reports by the researchers in the IPCC.
- Countries set a course for the new NDCs from 2025 that strongly reduce emissions in line with the 1.5 °C target. To achieve that, countries should agree a tripling of renewable energy until 2030, as well as doubling of energy efficiency efforts, and introducing new climate policy areas, including sufficiency and sustainable energy access with local solutions. They should also leave out inefficient and dangerous solutions, such as nuclear power and geoengineering.
- Developed countries honour their promise of providing US\$ 100 million/year for developing countries with half of that for the increasingly needed climate adaptation.

- The progress on a climate loss & damage fund is continued with decisions of operationalising the fund
- The sectors not covered by the NDCs, including shipping and aviation, shall have ambitious reduction plans in line with the 1.5 °C target and greenhouse gas taxes to make low-emission paths more cost-effective. The tax revenues to be used for climate finance of developing countries.
- Investments and subsidies for fossil fuel extraction and use must be changed to investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency and sufficiency, including favourable loans for investments in developing countries that today suffer from limited funds and high interest rates.
- That new cooperation and promises are made operational and captured internationally, for instance in the already agreed "Mitigation work programme (MWP) to urgently scale up mitigation ambition and implementation"

We can still limit global warming to 1.5  $^{\circ}$ C, but the time is running out, emissions must peak within a year, and strong reductions must follow. With the above proposals, it is possible. Now it is up to the policy makers.

#### GLOBAL



JOIN US!
INFORSE's PARTICIPATION
UNFCCC COP28
Dubai, UAE

#### **EXHIBITION Booth #1**

1-6 December, 2023 INFORSE, AIWC, INSEDA, SUSWATCH, SE

#### SIDE EVENT:

Sustainable lifestyles, Sufficiency Supporting Just Climate Action, Stronger NDCs

Date: Sat., 9 December 2023, Time: 15:00-16:30 (GMT+4) Room: SE Room 7

Organisers: INFORSE, Association négaWatt, France; Fraunhofer Institute, Germany; Sustainable Energy, Denmark.

Presentation of results from the FULFILL Research Project.
Read more: pages 4-7.

#### **SIDE EVENT:**

100% Renewable & Local Solutions: Africa, South Asia & Local Climate Resilience and Poverty Reduction

Date: Friday, 8 December, 2023 Time: 11:30-13:00 (GMT+4) Room: SE room 1

Organisers: Global Ecovillage Network, Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy, Denmark; INSEDA India - INFORSE S.Asia Suswatch Kenya - INFORSE EA

Presentation from the Eco-Village Development (EVD) Project in South Asia. Read more: pages 8-9. EASECA Project in East Africa. Read more: page 11.

Also online, read more at www.inforse.org/cop28.php

Don't Nuke the Climate! INFORSE, together with many other civil-society networks and organisations, is deeply concerned about the false promises of the nuclear industry and the countries behind. Nuclear energy is slow, very expensive, unsafe, and inherently dangerous. It obviously poses a risk of causing radioactive catastrophes due to operational failures, leakage of nuclear waste, terrorism, and war. In case of accidents, the costs are enormous, (evacuation, rehousing of people, health care, death). There is no insurance company that will insure it. Additionally, the technology can be used to produce nuclear weapons. Every dollar invested in nuclear power takes aways money from the real solution of renewable energy and energy efficiency, and, therefore, worsens the climate crisis.

Read more: https://dont-nuke-the-climate.org/ and www.inforse.org/nuclear

### FULFILL-SUFFICIENCY.EU I



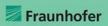


Edited by Gunnar Boye Olesen, and Judit Szoleczky, INFORSE-Europe



Living a Good Life With Less























# Sufficiency in Climate Policies - European Projects Show Where & How

There is an increasing understanding that sustainable lifestyles should be part of the transition to climate neutral societies, but now the question is how to move from this understanding to integrate this in climate action?

The ongoing FULFILL project, where INFORSE-Europe is a partner, is to provide some answers to this question, using the concept of sufficiency.

It is important to stress that increased sufficiency is realised with infrastructure and economic signals in place that makes it appealing to adopt more sufficient lifestyles. People in Copenhagen and Amsterdam, the two "bicycle-capitals" of Europe, are bicycling because it is convenient and often faster than driving a car, not because they are more climate concerned than other Europeans. Additionally, sufficiency policies should maintain or improve well-being of the citizens in order to be successful.

# To help policy makers move sufficiency from headlines to actual policies, the FULFILL project is:

 Collecting literature on sufficiency, documenting a large volume of publications already available on sufficiency.

- Surveying 9,500 European citizens about how sufficient are the lifestyles they have today and their opinions on moving to more sustainable lifestyles. See page 5.
- Surveying existing sufficiency initiatives and analysing how and why citizens engage in these activities, the barriers, and their results. Identifying recommendations to municipalities. See page 6.
- Conducting *Citizen Science Workshops* like "World Cafe" to identify citizens' opinions. (still ongoing)
- Identifying policies to increase sufficiency in European countries and on EU level See page 7. (still ongoing)
- Modelling the effects of sufficiency initiatives with a national input-output model (still ongoing)
- Proposing sufficiency policies to strengthen the climate action, developing proposals for the EU NDC and for the 5 countries national climate plans - NECPs (national energy & climate plans) (still ongoing).
- Finding relevance and potential impacts of sufficiency lifestyles beyond the EU (still ongoing).

What is Sufficiency? The term "sufficiency" is relatively new, In everyday language many call it green or sustainable lifestyle - "living a good life - with less".

In the FULFILL project, we understand the sufficiency principle as "creating the social, infrastructural, and regulatory conditions for changing individual and collective lifestyles in a way that reduces energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions to an extent that they remain within planetary boundaries, and simultaneously contributes to societal well-being".



FULFILL project partners meeting in Brussels in June 2023.

The FULFILL Project "Fundamental Decarbonisation Through Sufficiency By Lifestyle Changes" is an interdisciplinary social science project exploring how sufficiency lifestyle changes and citizen engagement contribute to decarbonising Europe, while at the same time contribute to well-being. As results, the project will provide recommendations to policy makers.

The project is bringing together research institutes, academia, think-tanks and NGOs and validates the recommendations through citizens science activities. Partners are Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research ISI, (coordinator) and Wuppertal Institute in Germany, EURAC and POLIMI in Italy, negaWatt and Jacques Delors Institute in France, Green Liberty in Latvia, and INFORSE-Europe in Denmark.

The FULFILL project is funded by the Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme of the European Union.

Follow the results at: www.fulfill-sufficiency.eu and www.twitter.com/fulfilleu and www.linkedin.com/company/fulfill-fundamental-decarbonisation-through-sufficiency-by-lifestyle-changes

#### Surveying the Sufficiency of 9,500 Europeans - What is Motivating?

Europeans are living in many different ways with very different degrees of sufficiency.

To be able to make good sufficiency policies it is important to know how the variation is today, to be able to target the policies to move people into more sufficient lifestyles.

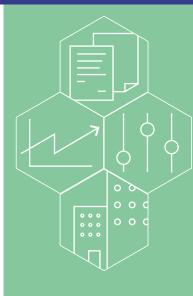
A sufficient lifestyle should have a low climate and environmental impact, while at the same time have a high degree of well-being. Well-being is defined by combining aspects of how well people are living, both considering how satisfied they are and that they are not deprived, i.e., that they have no problems to pay their bills etc.

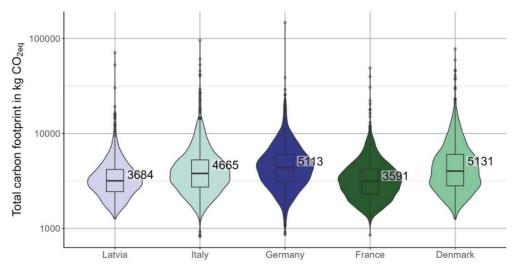
Other aspects as gender, income level, and rural/ urban division are also important to characterise the lifestyle.

In the FULFILL project, researchers organised a survey of 9,500 Europeans in 5 countries: Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, and Latvia.

The survey covered selected private consumption of heat, electricity, transport, food, and clothing (not including consumption during work). Aviation was excluded because the survey was for the year 2021, where aviation was limited to various degrees because of Covid19.

The survey showed a large variation in climate footprints, from below 1 to over 10 tons CO<sub>3</sub>eg/year, with national averages ranging from 3.7 and 5.1 tons CO<sub>a</sub>eq/year and a majority with footprints near the average The variations followed similar patterns in all five countries, but with different averages, see graph below.





▲ Carbon footprint from the participants in the survey showing how many people have a certain amount of footprint of the consumption types covered. OBS: The CO<sub>2</sub> scale is logarithmic.

#### Carbon Footprint vs Well-being - Women Majority in Low-footprint Group

Comparing carbon footprint and well-being, the researchers divided the responses into high, average and low carbon footprint.

Those with the lowest carbon footprint (lowest 25% quartile) were divided into those with above average well-being, and those with below average.

Those with the lowest footprint and high well-being were further divided in the very sufficient with low emissions in all types of consumption and the others.

The result was that of those with the lowest carbon footprint, 45% were above average in well-being and 55% were below. Thus, the survey showed no significant link between low carbon footprint and low or high well-being.

The survey also showed that in the in the group with the lowest footprint there was a majority of women and of urban dwellers.

Read more details in the "Report on the first survey and identification of the sufficiency groups", available at the FULFILL project's website www.fulfill-sufficiency.eu.





**FULFILL at UNFCCC COP28: Side Event:** 9 December, 2023 INFORSE - Fraunhofer ISI -Negawatt - SE See more: page 3

inforse.org/cop28.php



### FULFILL - SUFFICIENCY.EU I















Examples of sufficiency initiatives mapped e.g., repair cafes, eco-villages, cloth exchange shop etc.

#### A Wealth of Local Sufficiency Initiatives - 50 examples

European countries harbor a rich and diverse spectrum of sufficiency initiatives. In the European FULFILL research project we have mapped *50 examples* of such initiatives, which address sufficient lifestyles in housing, mobility, and food consumption in 5 EU countries (Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, and Latvia) and one non-European country (India).

These initiatives encourage, for example, the *re-use of* vacant buildings or sharing of spaces. They stimulate car sharing or ride sharing, the use of alternative modes of transport like cargo bikes, or new variations of public transport. They reduce energy-intensive delivery or material-intensive packaging of goods. In the food sector, they promote new relationships between local producers and consumers.

Local sufficiency initiatives tend to **reduce consumption** by setting examples with:

- Reduction of waste, e.g., in packaging-free shops
- Reusing products in second-hand shops, and in exchanging and sharing shops and networks.
- Repairing, e.g., in repair cafés
- Recycling, e.g., by converting used products into raw materials for new consumer goods
- Reducing living space with Tiny Houses
- Combining co-housing with organic agriculture, locally grown food and others in eco-villages

The sufficiency initiatives analysed in FULLFIL are mostly voluntary and non-profit, e.g., associations and cooperatives of civil society but there are also commercial sufficiency initiatives. They are thriving and people engaged in the initiatives are generally improving their well-being and/or finding a meaning of life in the initiatives.

The initiatives featured show many examples of sufficiency practices that can **inspire sufficiency policies**, but they **also meet many obstacles**. They are dependent of **support from the society**, in some cases economic support, but in all cases that the *society gives them the space* needed to unfold, *physical space* as well as *space in legislation* and in *planning* and practices of local authorities.



# Policies for Sufficiency -16 European Cases

There are many policies that can increase sufficiency in societies, alone or in combinations. In the FULFILL project, we have analysed *16 sufficiency policies* in Europe.

One group of policies are aiming at changing diets to less greenhouse gas intensive food with less meat and more plant proteins. This includes several policies to introduce vegan and vegetarian food in public canteens with a vegetarian day a week, a vegetarian option available all days, an internal meatlevy to give a price signal for the chefs in charge of buying supplies for the kitchen, as well as lifting a ban against vegetarian meals in public canteens. Another policy is a lower VAT for plant-based food. The cases show that policies for more plant-based food have several obstacles, but they can be overcome with the right policies and actors. For instance, in Denmark and Germany proposals for national legislation for more plant based food in public canteens failed, but afterwards several municipalities have introduced such policies.

Another group of policies are aiming at **reducing greenhouse effects of housing.** Some policies are aiming at reducing dwelling size per capita by allowing people to live in tiny houses and promoting co-housing with more shared spaces. Other policies are promoting the recovery of abandoned buildings and introducing progressive tariffs on energy and water use, increasing the tariffs with higher consumption.

This third group of policies are aiming at **reducing greenhouse effect of personal transport** with abolishing a national regulation for minimum parking spaces at buildings, creating low emission zones, and supporting bicycle infrastructure, including "super bicycle paths" for longer commuting. Another policy is a ban on short-haul flights.

A general conclusion from the policies is that national governments are important enablers or stoppers of sufficiency policies. This makes the inclusion of sufficiency policies in national climate plans very important. Also municipalities can be important actors in the introduction of sufficiency, for instance as early movers. Business lobby groups were found to be opponents, for instance trying to stop the policies for softer mobility. Civil society appears as a driving force, both organised associations, as a bicyclists association promoting bicycle paths and less organised groups of people.

Read more about the sufficiency initiatives analysed and the comparative analysis of sufficiency policies at the FULFILL Project Reports D. 4.1 to 4.5. https://fulfill-sufficiency.eu/our-research/Recommendations from Policy Brief on Initiatives https://fulfill-sufficiency.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/How-can-municipalities-support-local-sufficiency-initiatives-4.pdf



#### **Policy Examples:**

**Active Bicycling:** Using a bicycle for commuting instead of a car eliminates emissions from use of car, and also from making them. The shift is also very good for the health.

Promoting policies include investment in good, safe bicycle routes, parking places; land-use planning to locate workplaces, shops and schools near dwellings; awareness campaigns; (tax benefits e.g., for bicycle to work), climate taxes for cars.

**Food, More Plant Based:** Eating more vegetables and less meet and milk reduces climate impact of food and is also healthier for Europeans that eat too much meat and animal fat. Promoting policies can include meat-free days in public canteens, support for development of plant-based ready-made food, information, climate taxes.

**Smaller Houses:** Many European people want to live in a smaller house, for instance people in the tiny house movement, but the building regulations make it difficult to get permission for the small houses. Policies should promote small houses, including row- and cluster houses.



#### CLEVER Scenario with Sufficiency as Key in 1.5 °C Compatible Scenario - NO Nuclear - NO CCS

The CLEVER scenario for EU, UK, Norway, and Switzerland is a new scenario developed by a group of NGOs and researchers including INFORSE-Europe, coordinated by négaWatt, France, which is also partner of the FULFILL project.

The CLEVER scenario shows how combined expansion of renewable energy, focus on energy efficiency and sufficiency can keep emissions within the remaining greenhouse gas budget for 1.5 °C global warming.

With development of renewable energy close to official targets, stronger emphasis on energy efficiency, and introduction of sufficiency as a third main policy field, the proposed development avoids new nuclear and Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS).

Hydrogen is included, but only for industry and hard-to-abate transport.

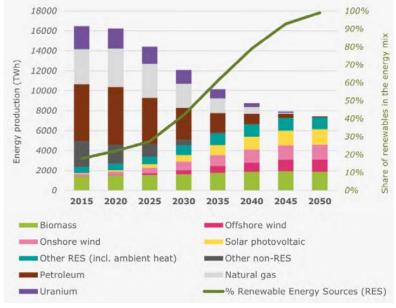
The sufficiency trajectories lead to reductions in transport, modal shift to softer transport, reductions or reduced growth to buildings and reduced material use.

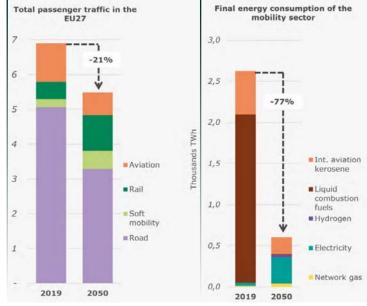
The scenario also includes increased carbon sequestration with increased forests and change of agricultural practices.

As part of the sufficiency, the scenario includes reductions of use of materials with a large climate footprint such as cement and metals, and scarce materials such as lithium.

The CLEVER scenario is a bottom-up scenario with national scenarios that are available online, adding up to the European scenario.

See descriptions of the CLEVER scenarios at https://clever-energy-scenario.eu/





▲ Energy supply development in the CLEVER energy scenario for EU-27.

▶ The high importance of sufficiency showing for passenger transport, where a small reduction in transport can give huge reductions in energy use, when combined with modal shift and electrification.



Photos from the EVD Project meeting in October 2023 in Bangladesh and in April 2022 in Nepal.

# Eco-Village Development in South Asia NGO Cooperation Projects' Results

45+ Eco-Village **Development Solutions in** the Database are in 7 main categories, including:

- 2-pot and 1-pot improved cookstoves (ICS) with chimney
- multi-purpose ICS making also hot water
- solar powered lanterns and street lights
- mini-grid powered by solar PV and micro hydro
- solar box cooker
- solar fruit dryer
- efficient e-cooking
- household biogas plants
- composting baskets
- rain water collecting tanks
- organic gardening
- bamboo used for compost baskets, solar dryers and as reinforcement with cement at biogas plants and water tanks
- participatory planning methodology

Find the solutions in the database: www.inforse.org/ evd/output/solution\_list.php and in the publications.

Since 2015, INFORSE members in South Asia have been testing, demonstrating and are now implementing a new generation of eco-village development (EVD) projects in different climate zones in Bangladesh, Nepal, India, and Sri Lanka.

The partners in the project include INFORSE-South Asia regional and national coordinators: Integrated Sustainable Energy and Ecological Development Association (INSEDA) in India, Integrated Development Association (IDEA) in Sri Lanka, Centre for Rural Technology (CRT/N) in Nepal, and Grameen Shakti Bangladesh and DIB, which is the lead organization in Denmark, INFORSE as a global network partner, and INFORSE-South Asia and Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSA) as regional network partners. The project is supported by CISU, Denmark.

In 2023, there are three new publications, which document and promote the eco-village development.: These are an outreach paper, an assessment of the implementation, and a paper on Social-Enterprise Model tailored to eco-village development solutions. The new and older publications including a training manual also in national languages, and the database represent a solid knowledge on eco-village development, which will be also presented at the COP28 in Dubai in a side event on December 8, 2023, and in a final webinar on December 18, 2023.

The Eco-Village Development (EVD) Concept is based on a participatory planning process, and uses a basket of low-cost climate solutions. The local solutions increase climate resilience, mitigation and adaptation as well as development through improved livelihoods and income generation. The EVD Concept serves many of the Sustainable Development Goals.

In the following page, we give an overview of the publications and resources produced in the last years.



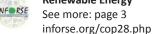
Database: www.inforse.org/evd

All resources are available at the Database of 45+ Local Climate Solutions, Publications, Media (photos, videos) and Organisations working in the area.



**EVD at UNFCCC COP28:** Side Event: 8 December, 2023 **GEN - INSEDA - SUSWATCH** Nordic Folkecenter for

**Renewable Energy** 



NGO Cooperation Project: Next Generation Low-Carbon, Climate Resilient Eco-Village Development (EVD) in South Asia

Read more: Database, Publications, Policy Briefs, Event Proceedings:

www.ecovillagedevelopment.net & www.inforse.org/asia/EVD.htm RESOURCE LIBRARY DATABASE: www.inforse.org/evd

The Eco-Village Developemnt (EVD) concept has been promoted by INFORSE-South Asia members in cooperation with CANSA within the framework of Projects since 2015. The Projects have been supported by CISU - Civil Society in Development, Denmark.















www.crtnepal.org www.gshakti.org www.ideasrilanka.org www.inseda.org www.inforse.org/asia www.cansouthasia.net www.dib.dk www.inforse.org





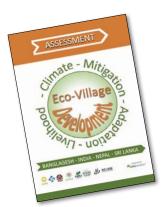








#### Main Publications of the Eco-Village Development Project



Assessment publication: Climate Mitigation, Adaptation and Livelihood Assessment of Eco-Village Development in Villages in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka

Launch on 8 December 2023 at COP28, 50 pages.

Outreach publication: Low-Carbon Climate Resilient Eco-Village Development in South Asia in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka

2023, 52 pages, ISBN: 978-87-970130-9-0.

Social Enterprise Models (SEM) for Eco-Village Development Solutions, in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka December 2023 (coming)



Socio-Technical Manual for Training of Trainers (ToT) - Manual on Participatory Planning, Technology and Knowledge Transfer of Eco-Village Development (EVD) in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh

Available in English, Bangla, Hindi, Nepalese, and Sinhala. 2018, pp. 132 ISBN: 978-87-970130-3-8.

**Eco-Village Development as Climate Solution - Proposals from South Asia.** Available in English, Bangla, Hindi, Nepalese, and Sinhala. 2017, 4th edition, pp. 60, ISBN 978-87-970130-1-4.



#### White Paper: Climate Mitigation and Adaptation with Eco-Village Development (EVD) Solutions

Methodology of how to quantify the climate mitigation impacts and to assess the adaptation effects.

2018, pp. 45. ISBN 978-87-970130-0-7.

**Policy papers** advocating inclusion of these solutions in policies, as well as in strategies of municipalities, development banks, and the Nationally Determined Contributions to meet the targets of the Paris Agreement.

Village development plans, feasibility studies, posters, brochures, success cases, videos, proceedings of presentations at side events of the UNFCCC Conferences of Parties (COPs).







Download publications from: www.inforse.org/asia/Publications\_EcoVillageDevelopment\_SouthAsia.htm www.inforse.org/evd/output/publication\_list.php

#### News from the new INFORSE member PDAP in Bangladesh:

Participatory Development Action Program - PDAP, together with Sopnil Bright Foundation, helped fishing communities affected by the flood caused by a cyclone in October 2022. The warning of the cyclone saved their lives as they could move away, but their houses and belongings were submerged and washed away in a very short time.

Through the project, 240 families got support, e.g., reparation of houses, donation of food, cloth, and assistance to repair fishing net and boats. The activities were supported by the Kyeema Foundation.

Read more: www.pdapbd.org

Photos by PDAP, Bangladesh







#### **EUROPE**

























### **NEWS from INFORSE-Europe**

#### Better Green Deals with Civil Society Proposals - New Project Started

INFORSE-Europe is working with CSOs from Scandinavia, Baltic countries, Belarus and Ukraine on a joint project during 2023-2024. The main activities are:

- Identifying the best mitigation measures to realise the transition that is ongoing with the Green Deal.
- Develop visions and proposals for better implementing Green Deal and climate plans in the partners' countries.
- Develop scenarios and visions for transition for Latvia, Lithuania, and Belarus. Given the current situation for Belarus, the focus will be on long-term strategies and a vision for a Green Belarus.
- Communication on the proposals and physical dialogues with CSOs at seminars in Norway in March 2024 and in Latvia in September 2024, as well as a presentation for the Nordic Council.

The partners are INFORSE-Europe (coordinator), Norges Naturvernforbund, AirClim Secretariat in Sweden, Atgaja in Lithuania, Latvian Green Movement, Ekokoncepcija in Lithuania representing civil society in Belarus, and Ecoaction in Ukraine. The project is supported by Nordic Council of Ministers.

To follow the project, see www.inforse.org/europe. CSOs are also invited to participate in seminars of the project.

#### Shifting Subsidies away from Fossil Boilers Can Decarbonise EU Heating by 2040

Europeans use a lot of energy to keep warm, and more than half of that is fossil fuels. In a new study "Green Heat for All" by the NGO network EEB with INFORSE-Europe experts, an analysis was made for each of the 27 EU countries. It shows that in 10 countries out of 27, new fossil fuel installations are still subsidised and in half the countries, electricity tax is higher than gas tax. The good news is that in 16 countries, the payback time for changing to green heating (heat pumps / solar) is 7 years or lower.

If the fossil fuel subsidies were stopped and the subsidies for green heating were increased to 3,2 billion €/year, almost all homes in EU could be fossil fuel free by 2040. The subsidies should reduce pay-back to 7 years in countries where it is currently longer and provide interest free loans for citizens that need it for the investment, leaving no one behind.

The work is part of the Coolproducts Campaign, see the report at www.coolproducts.eu

#### Ecodesign for Energy Efficiency, Cleaner Air and Circular Economy

While EU Ecodesign and energy labelling regulations have supported the shift to energy efficient products, new, exciting developments are on the way:

- New requirements are coming for more energy efficient boilers, stoves, hobs, ovens, range hoods, etc.
- New requirements are coming for cleaner air from burning of wood and coal in homes.
- The scope of ecodesign is extended to cover circular economy for many new products with requirements for repairability, reuse-ability, recyclability and less use of harmful chemicals.

INFORSE-Europe pushes for better ecodesign regulation as part of the Coolproducts Campaign.

#### EU Energy Poverty Advisory Hub (EPAH) in actions with INFORSE members in Hungary

In 2023, 51 municipalities from 12 countries across Europe received technical assistance in the process of tackling energy poverty. In Hungary, two INFORSE members were selected as expert organisations working closely with a municipality, Energiaklub in a small town with 8000 households, and EPEN in a small municipality with 450 houses.

EPEN, together with university students, made extensive energy (poverty) mapping. The mapping showed that most of the buildings are heated with firewood, the price of which has been skyrocketing, and used 10-30% of income for energy bills. The energy efficiency of the buildings is low (built before 1979), the heating equipments are outdated, the air quality emission exceeds the WHO threshold on 180 days a year, and the energy consciousness of the inhabitants is low. Based on the mapping, EPEN is giving advice how to achieve cheaper and cleaner heating with planning and awareness campaign.

The results will provide inspirational cases for other local governments aiming to undertake similar processes, and similar calls will be available.

More information: www.energy-poverty.ec.europa.eu/get-support/technical-assistance\_en

## SELNEE Catalogue: What You Can Do to Save Energy and Use Renewables - English, Ukrainian and Russian DIERET Online Education material NOW also in Ukrainian

Both online resources were finalised and updated in Ukrainian through the SELNEE Project supported by CISU, Denmark in 2021-2023. The project partners were REA in Ukraine, NFRE in Denmark, CES in Belarus and INFORSE-Europe. Read more: https://inforse.org/europe/SELNEE.htm

SELNEE Catalogue: https://selnee.rea.org.ua/en/ and DIERET in Ukrainian: https://dieret.rea.org.ua/uk/

#### Local Climate Actions Continues in Uganda

The INFORSE members, Joint Energy and Environment Projects (JEEP), Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD) and the Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy (NFRE) continue promoting sustainable local energy solutions and improved livelihoods for poor rural communities in Uganda. New activities are based on the learnings of the NGO cooperation EASE & CA project (2021-23), and supported by the Civil Society in Development (CISU), Denmark in 2023-24.

The focus of the new project "Climate Action for Improved & Sustainable Livelihoods" (CAISL) is on Nebbi District, Northern Uganda to make it a JEEP model district in climate mitigation measures and built-up community resilience, accessibility to environmentally friendly solutions and advocacy skills.

The project implementation is progressing as planned with inception meetings to introduce the intervention to the stakeholders including district and subcounty leaders and similar minded civil society organizations. Similarly, community drives and energy hubs were conducted with the major aim of awareness raising on sustainable local energy solutions. This involved practical demonstrations of the efficiency of alternative technologies such as solar, fireless basket cookers, energy saving stoves and others.

CAISL project implementation is in close collaboration with identified partner CSOs like Creative Living Against Poverty (CLAP). They provided valuable support in environmental conservation through planting 30

palm tree seedlings around the school compound of Angal Secondary School, training in rocket Lorena stove construction and biomass briquette making.

New training material has been made with many pictures and in local language. From October initial training has taken place by ToTs (Trainers of Trainers) from the previous EASE&CA intervention 2019 to 2023. Leaders were trained in advocacy by UCSD and are ready to speak on local radio and give inputs in writing on issues like tree planting, bush burning as well as the change to energy saving stoves, basket cookers and other sustainable solutions.

The first innovative installation of LED lights in schools was carried out by the JEEP team after the concept was developed in cooperation with NFRE.

Community energy hub raising awareness on local sustainable energy solutions in Uganda. Photo by JEEP, Uganda.

More information: JEEP www.jeepfolkecenter.org

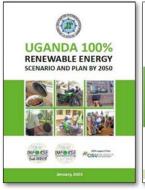
NFRE www.folkecenter.net/caisl/

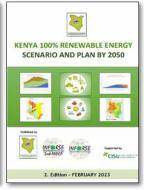
Publications of the EASE & CA Project: Catalogue of Local Solutions -Online-Offline and Brochure in 5 languages



www.localsolutions.inforse.org

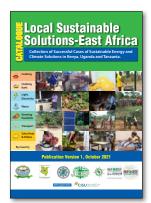
100 % Renewables in Kenya and Uganda







■ 100 % Renewable Energy Scenario and Plan by 2050 in Kenya and in Uganda, Update: March 2023. Published by INFORSE national coordinators, Suswatch Kenya and UCSD in Uganda in cooperation with IN-FORSE Secretariat, and INFORSE East Africa. ISBN 978-87-970130-7-6, ISBN 978-87-970130-8-3 Download the Reports and Policy Briefs from: INFORSE-Africa: www.inforse.org/africa/EASE.htm UCSD, Uganda: www.ugandacoalition.or.ug SUSWATCH, Kenya: www.suswatchkenya.org



#### ▲ The Catalogue of Local Sustainable Solutions - East Africa

Collection of Successful Cases of Sustainable Energy and Climate Solutions in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. 60 Cases, 148 pages. Updated in March 2023. ISBN: 978-87-970130-6-9 Published by the EASECA Project Partners: INFORSE, UCSD, IEEP, TaTEDO, Suswatch Kenya, NFRE. ▲ Brochures in English, Swahili, Luo, Luganda, Runyankole. 2023, pp. 12 Download the pdfs from: W: www.inforse.org/africa/EASE.htm @ www.localsolutions.inforse.org



EASECA at UNFCCC COP28: Side Event: 8 December, 2023 **GEN - INSEDA - SUSWATCH** - Nordic Folkecenter



See more: page 3 inforse.org/cop28.php

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**INFORSE Publication of the Synergies Across Continents Project:** 

"Local Solutions Proposed for Climate **Action & Development and Policies to** Promote & Scale-up Local Sustainable **Energy Solutions**"

#### Launched on 30/8 2023. 92 pages.

Developed by INFORSE Coordinators in Africa, Latin America, South Asia and Europe.

#### Available in English, Spanish and French Download from:

www.inforse.org/synergies.php, and www.inforse.org/latinamerica/es/ publicaciones-y-posiciones/





**INFORSE at UNFCCC COP28:** Exhibition: Booth #1 1-6 December, 2023



**Side Events:** 8 December, 2023 100% RE & Local Solutions

9 December, 2023 **Life Style Changes** 

See more: page 3 inforse.org/cop28.php



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

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

The network and members work for increased use of renewable energy and sustainable development to improve the environment and to reduce poverty through advocacy as well as by raising awareness.



#### **Advocacy at the United Nations:**

INF®RSE INFORSE has NGO consultative status with the UN ECOSOC since 1998, and with the UNFCCC since 2002.

> INFORSE has sent delegations to many of the UN Climate COP-meetings as observers, and organized official side events and exhibitions.



#### Advocacy at the European Union:

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



#### Communication:

The communication is facilitated by this newsletter, Sustainable Energy News, our web site, Facebook, Twitter, and an online database of more than 1000 relevant contacts.

Financial supporters of the network and projects have included CISU, DANIDA, EU, SIDA, Norden, AirClim, ECOS, and Europa-Nævnet.



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

Past and present examples:

- Promoting local climate and sustainable energy solutions in East Africa.
- Eco-Village Developments as Climate Solutions in South Asia.
- Low-Carbon, Pro-Poor Development Strategies in Africa and South Asia.
- "Southern Voices on Climate Change", an NGO capacity-building program.
- Power of Community Energy, Europe.
- Local sustainable energy planning and advice center in Belarus.
- 100% renewable-energy scenarios for Kenya, Uganda, Denmark, Baltic Countries, Armenia, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, EU.
- Partner in Cool Products Campaign for the EU EcoDesign Directive etc.
- Integrating energy sufficiency in energy plans and scenarios.
- NGO cooperation projects in Eastern and Central European Countries.
- 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.

#### **INFORSE's Vision and Aims**

INFORSE is a network of non-governmental organisations that are active in the field of sustainable energy.

We share a common vision:

A world where energy services, necessary for a just and human centered development, are provided in a sustainable way using renewable energy.

#### We emphasise:

- Defending the environment and combating climate change; • Phasing out nuclear and fossil energy consumption; • Increasing reliance on local solutions; • Ensuring equal access to energy across class, ethnic and gender lines;
- Improving income generation through renewable energy solutions, particularly by the poor; and • Increasing energy efficiency.

INFORSE has consultative civil society organisation (CSO) status at the UN ECOSOC since 1998, and at the UNFCCC since 2002, and has participated on UN Conference of Parties with Side Events, and Exhibitions. See more on participation at the UNFCCC COP28 on page 3.

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