INFORSE-Europe Annual Report - 2019-2020

Report of activities in International Network for Sustainable Energy-Europe (INFORSE-Europe)
Period: 1 April 2019 - 31 March 2020

EU POLICY

INFORSE-Europe is an active partner in EU policy processes.

During the period, INFFORSE-Europe has co-organised two events during the EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW 2019) on Energy Communities and on EU Ecodesign on June 18 and June 20, 2019.

INFORSE-Europe developed positions on EU Ecodesign and Energy Labelling together with ECOS as part of Coolproducts Coalition, including a proposal for decarbonising heating, and has followed standardization of woodstoves, range hoods, and others with ECOS.
INFORSE-Europe followed the development of the Paris Agreement Compatible (PAC) scenario for fast transition of EU to sustainable energy. The project was organised by the Climate Action Network Europe and others.


Link: inforse.org/europe/pdfs/Vision-Community-Power-Coalition_2019.pdf

INFORSE-Europe promoted citizen’s participation in renewable energy generation and transition of the energy system in EU, which included:

INFORSE-Europe started the “The Power of the Community Energy Turning Rights into Reality Across Europe!” project, which is led by Social Ecological Institute (Poland) and is in cooperation with WECF (Germany) and Troya (Turkey). The project is supported by EU Erasmus+. The start included a start-up meeting in Warsaw, Poland on November 4-5, 2019. The First newsletter was published in January 2020, which we translated to Danish. POWER Project’s web site: inforse.org/europe/POWER_CE.htm
INFORSE-Europe participated in development and promotion of strategies and scenarios for the roads to low-carbon economies with 100% renewable energy, considering sufficiency of energy use.


INFORSE-Europe started cooperation with negaWatt in France and others on national and European scenarios for transition to sustainable energy with focus on sufficiency.

INFORSE is partner to the 100% Renewable Energy Platform (global100re.org), where we took part in the launch of the World Renew Day, in Bonn on June 22, 2019. Link: renewday.global100re.org

INFORSE-Europe also cooperated with other INFORSE regions on developing 100% Renewable Energy scenarios, e.g. the Kenyan 100 Renewable Energy Scenario together with SusWatchKenyan the framework of the EASE-CA Project.
INFORSE-Europe follows climate policies at the international level with other INFORSE regions, mainly in UNFCCC. We participated in climate negotiations in Bonn in June 2019 and in COP25 in December 2019 in Madrid, Spain. INFORSE led the organization of a side event on December 13, 2019, and made an exhibition. The successful participation was a result of cooperation among INFORSE members worldwide. The side events were organized by INFORSE, and Suswatch Kenya, INSEDA, SE and CCDB in cooperation with UCSD, TaTEDO, CRT Nepal, IDEA, Grameen Shakti, DIB, NFRE, and CAT in UK. Link: inforse.org/cop25.php3.

Funding was mainly from cooperation projects with Southern INFORSE networks (see below).

Pictures from the UNFCCC COP25 side event (above) and exhibition (left)
The INFORSE-Europe’s Secretariat cooperated with INFORSE regions in South Asia and East Africa on promotion of low-carbon developments and on local eco-village developments as climate solutions.

In July 2019, INFORSE-Europe started a new 3-year NGO cooperation project “East African Civil Society for Sustainable Energy & Climate Action (EASE-CA) lead by Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy with support by CISU, Denmark. The East African partners are: JEEP, UCSD (Uganda), Suswatch (Kenya), TaTEDO (Tanzania).

EASE-CA Projects web site: inforse.org/africa/EASE.htm

In the beginning of 2020, INFORSE-Europe finalized the 1-year NGO cooperation project on Eco-Village Development (EVD) with INFORSE South Asia, which is led by DIB (Denmark) and was also supported by CISU, Denmark. In the period, an application was submitted to CISU for a larger continuation of the activities in South Asia.

The South Asian partners are: INSEDA (India), IDEA (Sri Lanka), CRT (Nepal), and CANSA.

The EVD Projects web site: inforse.org/asia/EVD.htm

European Development Days:

INFORSE-Europe was invited by CTCN to participate on an event on the European Development Days (EDD), which was in parallel to EUSEW in Brussels in June 2020. We presented the Eco-Village Development concept in South Asia.
INFORSE-Europe made a number of debates and information activities on EU and sustainable energy together with the Danish members, SustainableEnergy, Samsoe Energy Academy and the Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy.

The main activities were seminars seeking citizens opinion on what EU should do for the transition to sustainable energy, the largest one was a debate with 5 candidates for the EU Parliament in May 2019 before the election. The activities were was funded by a 3-year grant from Europa-Nævnet, which is a fund for information and debate on EU in Denmark in 2018-2020.

Link to events: inforse.org/europe/europa-naevnet.htm

Outreach: Sustainable Energy News

Newsletter:

With support from the projects one issue of Sustainable Energy News was published in 2019. It includes news from the network, and projects of the members. It was printed in 1500 copies and mailed to 900 organisational receivers.

Links:
inforse.org/s_e_news.php3 and inforse.org/doc/SEN83.pdf
Outreach: Home page and Social Media

Web site
The website was updated with new events, activities, and projects as well as the online contact database.

Links:
www.inforse.org/europe
www.inforse.org
www.inforse.org/asia
www.inforse.org/africa

Social Media:
The Facebook and twitter accounts were updated regularly.

twitter.com/INFORSE_EU
facebook.com/INFORSEEurope
facebook.com/INFORSE
twitter.com/INFORSE_org

Organisational Development

INFORSE-Europe maintained the office and coordinator leading the Secretariat in Denmark and a coordinator in Belarus.

Fundraising, New projects

INFORSE-Europe has followed up on the project ideas from the General Meeting in 2017. Several concepts are developed, including one on sustainable energy education. We applied for funding for three projects:

- A one-year NGO cooperation project on scenarios and strategies for Belarus and Ukraine with CES, REA and Nordic Folkecenter. Applied to CISU, Denmark.

- A Project on Energy Sufficiency and Scenarios in EU with negaWatt in France and others, a Horizon 2020 Project (first step of the application).

- INFORSE-Europe also participated in other fundraising, including a proposal for an eco-village in North West Russia, with an application to the Nordic NEFCO.