

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY NEWS

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

No. 64, April-May 2009



- *Long Road to a Climate Deal*
- *Solar in Uganda & in Romania*

- *IRENA*
- *SPARE*



Sustainable Energy News

ISSN 0908 - 4134

**Published by:
INFORSE-Europe**



**International Network for
Sustainable Energy (INFORSE)**

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

Editorial Address:

*Sustainable Energy News
INFORSE-Europe
Gl. Kirkevej 82, DK-8530
Hjortshøj, Denmark.
T: +45-86-227000
F: +45-86-227096
E: ove@inforse.org
W: <http://www.inforse.org/>*

Editors:

*Gunnar Boye Olesen
Judith Szoleczky
Niki Fowler (text advice)*

Advisory Board:

*Emil Bedi, FAE, Slovakia
Sécou Sarr, ENDA, Senegal
Timothy Byakola, CDI, Uganda
Raymond Myles, INSEDA, India
Lalita Balakrishnan, AIWC, India
Tetsunari Iida, ISEP, Japan
Emilio La Rovere, LIMA, Brazil
Roque Pedace, Rejima, Argentina*

Deadline for the next issue:

15 June 2009

Next issue: *April-May 2009*

*The newsletter is published
quarterly.*

*Feel free to use the information,
but please state the source.*

Annual subscription rate:

EUR 25/year.

*The newsletter is free of charge
for INFORSE members
as long as possible.*

Printer:



*Fjerritslev Tryk,
Denmark
2,000 copies*

*Sustainable Energy News has
been supported by the
European Commission
DG Environment - Civil Society
Support to INFORSE-Europe
in 2004-09.*

*The articles reflect the views of the
authors, and of INFORSE, not of
the financial supporters.*

*Photos on the front page are
from the articles of this issue.
Photo of demonstration in front
of the EU Building in Brussels
by Edouard Toulouse (ECOS).
Photos of EU exhibition at
EUSEW '09 and "Delay Kills"
ice sculpture at COP14, Poznan
by Judith Szoleczky (INFORSE).*

Climate Policies for a Global Deal



Penguins demonstrating. See article on p. 7.

Next to the economic crisis, climate policy is at the top of the global political agenda, and for good reasons: The time to change the trend of increasing emissions is shorter than ever if we want to avoid really harmful climate change and keep global warming below 2°C.

In addition, we have less than seven months left until the global climate conference COP15 in Copenhagen in December, which could be the venue for a global climate deal. Of course the global climate negotiations will not end with COP15; but the conference will be a landmark for the success or failure of global climate politics.

As part of a global climate deal, the industrialized countries will have to set high domestic targets as well as to commit sufficient resources for emission reductions in the developing world, probably not less than the current official development assistance (ODA), on average. Systems like the current CDM mechanism, whereby the Northern countries can choose between domestic reductions and reductions in the South, are no longer sufficient, if they ever were. We need reduction actions in all parts of the world.

If we as promoters of ambitious climate policies are to win support for these policies on the national agendas, in which other topics often dominate, it is crucial that we focus on the synergies between ambitious climate policies, sound economic recovery plans, employment policies, etc. At times when some industries are lobbying hard to get support for polluting productions or to build coal-fired power plants, we need to prove that ambitious climate policies are good, not only for the global environment, but also for the national economies; that emission reductions with reduced fossil-fuel use are better for the economy than subsidies for polluters. It will require good analysis, as well as partnerships with many different stakeholders that can benefit from the employment, local development, etc.

To reach agreements for large support from industrialized countries to developing countries, the global benefits of this support must be made very clear. Of course the support should lead to less climate change, but the additional benefits can also be very important. India, for instance, has large renewable energy resources and low greenhouse-gas emissions per capita, but its current, rapid development is mainly based on fossil fuel. If India continues on this development path, it will be an increasing importer of fossil fuel, driving up fossil-fuel prices and harming the economies not only of India but also of other countries. If India, alternatively, continues its economic development with energy from renewable sources combined with energy efficiency, it will not need massive fossil-fuel imports. Instead, it will be the home of a gigantic market for sustainable energy, leading to bigger markets for producers of renewable-energy and energy-efficiency solutions, but also to lower costs world-wide for some of the sustainable-energy technologies.

An ambitious climate policy gives large responsibilities to the North, but also to the South. If the Northern countries commit to large support for the South, that support must be used in effective ways to reduce emissions. The support cannot be used for speculative causes such as development of new generations of nuclear power, nor for environmentally disastrous solutions, be they nuclear power, large hydro schemes, or plantations for biofuel in rainforests or similar. The support must be clearly dedicated to sustainable use of renewable energy, energy efficiency, reductions of deforestation, and similar proven and safe solutions.

Gunnar Boye Olesen
Gunnar Boye Olesen
Editor

Finally, IRENA



Successful Founding

On January 27, 2009, the founding conference of the International Renewable Energy Agency, IRENA, was held in Bonn, Germany. This followed two decades of proposals from INFORSE and many others for a global organisation for renewable energy and energy efficiency, and in particular a two-year intensive phase of discussions among interested countries. The dialogue among the countries was initiated by Germany and in particular by Mr. Hermann Scheer, who headed the German efforts.

The founding conference was a real success, with 75 countries signing the statute of IRENA. Another 50 countries and numerous NGOs attended the event. Since then, more countries have signed the statute and the number is now 81. This includes 22 EU countries, 5 other European countries, 29 African countries, 8 Latin American countries, 9 Middle-Eastern countries, and 8 Asian countries.

Crucial Decisions Ahead

The process now continues with a conference in Egypt on June 29-30, 2009, where the location of the headquarters and the general secretary shall be decided. Formally, these decisions are only for the interim, as the final decision can only be taken after 25 countries have ratified the statutes of IRENA and once a conference of parties can be organised. This will probably happen in the beginning of 2010.

The expectation is, however, that the decisions to be taken in Egypt in June will be confirmed by the first conference of the parties in 2010. Therefore the discussions of where to place the headquarters and whom to choose to lead IRENA are heating up.

Dilemma: Where? & Who?

4 countries have proposed to host the headquarters: Austria, in Vienna; Denmark, in Copenhagen; Germany, in Bonn; and United Arab Emirates (UAE), in Abu Dhabi.

Of these, Denmark, Germany, and Austria all have strong experience in renewable energy and ambitious plans for its further development, while UAE is planning to invest 60 billion US\$ in nuclear power, probably much more than in renewable energy. On the other hand, UAE is lobbying hard to get the headquarters assigned to its capital and might win support from the many Arab states that, rightly find the Middle East lacking in headquarters of international institutions, see this as a way to change that. It is very unfortunate that this would happen at the expense of renewable energy.

For the post of general secretary, 4 European countries have proposed candidates.

All in all, crucial decisions lie ahead for IRENA before its development into a successful institution.

*Read more on IRENA at:
www.irena.org.*

Join ! Low-Carbon Societies Network

CSOs & Researchers on Scenarios

INFORSE-Europe has started a project together with four partners to bring together civil society organizations (CSOs) and researchers working with scenarios for low-carbon societies.

The project will bring together CSOs and researchers at seminars and on the internet via the project website. At the website it will be possible to register online for inclusion in the online contact database and to receive news from the project.

The project also includes low-carbon scenarios for Germany and France, as well as methods for stakeholder interaction in development of scenarios that will be used in Germany and France.

Climate Action Network France is the project leader. Other project partners are Germanwatch, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), and Centre International de Recherche sur l'Environnement et le Développement (CIRED) in Paris.

The first public event of the project will be a seminar at Artefact in Germany, November 10, 2009.

*Read more about the new network:
www.lowcarbon-societies.eu.*



The Visions from INFORSE-Europe and CAT, as well as the new Low-Carbon Societies Network were presented on the event organised by INFORSE-Europe at EUSEW '09.



INFORSE Visions

INFORSE-Europe is developing further its sustainable energy visions with a scenario for Denmark that will show in more detail how to reach a fossil-fuel-free energy supply by 2030, and with estimated costs of energy options for Belarus, Latvia and Lithuania. The visions developed in 2008 for Bulgaria, Belarus, Lithuania, and Latvia will be used with exhibitions and other activities this year.

INFORSE-Europe presented the Visions for EU at the European Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW'09) in February and at the INFORSE-Europe - EREF seminar in April, 2009.

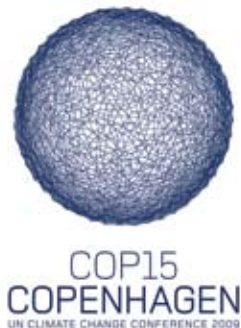
Both events were part of the EU European Sustainable Energy Campaign, where INFORSE-Europe is Associate.

Read about:

*- INFORSE-Europe Visions at
www.inforse.org/europe/Vision2050.htm.*

- Proceedings of the events:

*www.inforse.org/europe/seminar09_BXL.htm
and
www.inforse.org/europe/conf_EUSEW_09_INFORSE.htm*



The Long Road to a Global Climate Deal



Next Steps

The calendar for the official climate negotiations in 2009 is now:

- Bonn, June 1-12: Negotiations continue in the subsidiary bodies that prepare for decisions at the COPs.
- Bonn, August 10-14: Informal and closed negotiations in the subsidiary bodies.
- Bangkok, September 28 - October 9: Negotiations continue in the subsidiary bodies.
- November 2-6: Negotiations continue in the subsidiary bodies.
- Copenhagen, December 7-18: COP15. In addition to this, the climate negotiations will be on the agenda at G8-meetings, "major emitters' meetings", EU summits and many other events during 2009.



Financing in the South - Lack of Trust

An important part of the negotiations concerns the involvement of developing countries and the compensation that industrialised countries will give to developing countries to make them accept that they cannot increase greenhouse gases to the extent that they have in past development. As nobody absolutely needs greenhouse-gas emissions for development, it is simply a question of sharing the extra costs of energy and agricultural solutions that avoid greenhouse-gas emissions, when they do incur extra costs.

This, of course, is difficult to evaluate. A global amount of 100 billion US\$/year has been proposed by some NGOs, including support to stop deforestation and other degradation of vegetation. In addition the sum of 50 billion US\$/year annually has been proposed to assist developing countries in adapting to the increasing climate change.

The EU countries have discussed giving to developing countries a portion of the income from sale of emissions allowances, but when they discussed it at the EU Summit in March, the conclusion was only that they will continue discussions at the next EU summit in June.

Little Progress

After the COP14 in Poznan, negotiations for a global climate agreement continued in Bonn in March and April, 2009.

Formally, the one-week session was to evaluate the level of reductions in industrialised countries and to continue other parts of the negotiations. Unfortunately, little progress was made. Some highlights from the negotiations are:

- USA has started to play a constructive role, but is in a "listening mode" and is not making commitments (yet).
- No agreement was reached regarding an interval for reductions by 2020 for industrialised countries. Reductions agreed in industrialised countries would lead to a reduction from 4% to 14% of 1990 levels for these countries together. But some of it could be achieved with purchase of emission credits from developing countries.
- Climate Action Network is now calling for at least 40% reductions in industrialised countries and the group of Small Island Development States is calling for 45% reductions, also in industrialised countries. If this is combined with substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions growth in developing countries, a global peak of emissions is possible before 2020.
- There seems to be agreement on the establishment of a register of National Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) for developing countries. The register can be an important tool in identifying emission-reducing activities that could gain support from developed countries. Unfortunately the funding of such a register is not agreed; in principle a detail, in practice a possible stumbling block.
- Reductions of emissions from international shipping and aviation (referred to as bunker fuel or just "bunkers") is progressing and could be part of an agreement at COP15 in Copenhagen. There are proposals from Norway and Mexico.
- There are now proposals in the negotiations for financing activities in developing countries from sale of emission allowances in industrialised countries

and from bunker fuel; such proposals could be part of an agreement in Copenhagen.

- There seems to be an agreement to strengthen technology transfer and cooperation on climate mitigation and adaptation technologies, but the institutional framework for this and many other elements are not agreed.
- In negotiations on reductions of deforestation and degradation (REDD), a two-step approach is proposed whereby the first part of the activities should be financed by (global) funds and the next part by some kinds of market-based mechanisms. Increasingly, plantations are being included in the REDD discussions, potentially marginalising the protection of the natural areas that was the original point of these negotiations.

Two Important Proposals

While many things are still uncertain for a future climate agreement, the UNFCCC secretariat has made two important proposals for negotiation texts.

One text includes amendments to the Kyoto Protocol, summarising the different proposals made during the negotiations. The main content of this is 8 different ways of expressing future reduction commitments, including different commitment periods. Proposed commitments address periods including 2013-2017, 2013-2020, 2013-2017, and 2018-2022. In other proposals the commitment is to a pool of greenhouse gases per country until a target year. Unfortunately the proposals do not include the sizes of the reductions, except for proposals from the Philippines and South Africa.

Another text summarizes proposals for commitments for all countries with possible targets for industrialised and developing countries, ways how above-mentioned NAMA's could be organised, how financial mechanisms to support them could look like, and others.

See <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awg8/eng/07.pdf> (Kyoto Protocol) and <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awgla6/eng/08.pdf> (global agreement).



In addition to the discussions on the amount of transfers from North to South, the discussions are slowly starting regarding the modalities. The group of developing countries, G77, has proposed funds under the climate convention (UNFCCC), while the World Bank is building a Climate Investment Fund (CIF) that might play a role. It is clear that the majority of developing countries do not want a major role for the World Bank in future climate funding.

There is an unfortunate *lack of trust* in the negotiations. The developing countries are afraid of committing to anything before they know that the industrialised countries are seriously committed to reductions at home AND support for reductions in the global South. The industrialised countries, for their part, claim that major emitters among developing countries must limit their emissions as part of a future global climate agreement.

Reductions in EU & USA

Since the climate COP14 in Poznan in December, the EU countries have formalised agreements to reach a 20% reduction of greenhouse-gas emissions between 1990 and 2020 with the possibility of raising the goal to 30% reductions if a sufficiently ambitious global climate agreement is reached. One uncertain issue is what precisely will trigger the EU to go for 30% reductions by 2020 instead of 20%, or to adopt a target in between. When will an international agreement be ambitious enough? How large should the reductions be that are to be made by the USA and other industrialised countries? How large a commitment will developing countries make?

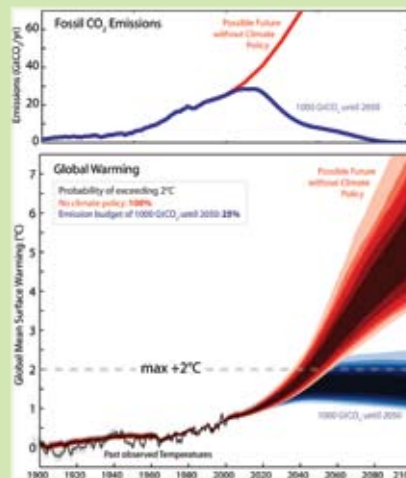
In the meantime, the USA has started discussions of national actions to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions with energy-efficiency requirements, support for renewable energy, and a cap-and-trade system to limit greenhouse-gas emissions. The current proposals discussed in the US

House of Representatives would lead to 0-7% reductions compared with 1990, or 17-24% below 2007 emissions. It is, however, uncertain when the proposal can be adopted in the US Senate and if the country will be able to make any commitments at COP15 in Copenhagen. This US proposal seems substantially less ambitious than the EU target of 20% reductions, but given that the EU target includes the reductions in the former socialist EU countries in the 1990's, the difference is smaller than it appears to be. The 27 EU countries reduced their emissions by 11% between 1990 and 2006, so the effort required to go from this level to the -20% target in 2020 (of 1990 emissions) will probably be easier than the US ambitions of 17-24% reductions from current (2007) levels. On the other hand, the reductions in the former socialist countries came with a price, and even though they were not part of a deliberate climate policy, they should carry weight in any discussion of a fair future climate agreement.

30% of the permitted emissions for 2000 - 2050 have been emitted already

A new study shows that if we want to limit global warming to 2°C we must limit carbon emissions to 1000 billion tons of CO₂ in the first half of this century + 500 billion tons of CO₂-equivalents of other greenhouse gases. Then we will have a 75% chance of keeping global temperatures within 2°C. As we already have emitted 300 billion tons of CO₂ globally since 2000, we have only 700 billion tons left for the remaining 41 years. To keep within this limit, we could make global emissions peak in 2010 and reduce linearly to less than half of 1990 emissions by 2050. We could also make emissions peak in 2015 and reduce them to close to zero in 2050.

Read: Study by M. Meinshausen, B. Hare, etc. See: www.pik-potsdam.de/news.



At the climate negotiations in Bonn in March, representatives of the scientific climate panel, IPCC, confirmed the IPCC conclusion that to limit global warming to 2°C, global emissions should peak around 2015, industrialised countries should reduce emissions by 25-40% between 1990 and 2020, and developing countries should reduce emissions by 15-30% compared with their expected development in 2020. After 2020, stronger reductions should follow. With the assumptions used by IPCC, this would yield just a 50% chance of keeping global warming within 2°C.

See: www.ipcc.ch

Global Development Rights Framework

With the strong reductions needed to limit man-made climate change, it is difficult to find a fair division of reductions that allows development of the South to reduce poverty. A proposal for such a fair division is the Global Development Rights Framework, where all citizens have an obligation to reduce emissions depending on their income and emissions. Because international agreements are made among countries, the efforts of a country shall depend on the wealth of those of its citizens that have sufficient income to be out of poverty. The proposers of the GDR have set this income level to 20 US\$/day. With this framework, poor countries should contribute very little (for instance India, with 15% of global population, should

contribute 0.5%); higher-income developing countries should contribute some (for instance China, with almost 20% of global population, should contribute 5.5%); while developed countries should contribute 77% together, and USA alone, 33%.

When the GDR framework is applied to the current situation with the needs for rapid greenhouse-gas reductions, many industrialised countries would have to contribute more to greenhouse-gas reductions than the sum totals of their emissions. This means that they would have to combine large reductions at home (such as 40% by 2020) with payments for large reductions in developing countries (such as 100 billion \$/year globally as mentioned above).

Read more at <http://gdrights.org/>.



EU Update

Edited by Gunnar Boye Olesen,
INFORSE-Europe



New Energy Efficiency of Buildings to be Adopted '09

The update of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive is on its way with a vote of the EU Parliament in April, calling for strengthening of a number of elements including a requirement that new buildings become net-zero-energy buildings by 2018, stronger requirements for public authorities to lead in energy efficiency, introduction of smart meters, removal of legal and market barriers for energy efficiency, obligation of EU countries to have incentives for energy efficiency in buildings, better information for building users, and others. The hope is that a final compromise among the EU Parliament, Commission and countries can be reached in the second half of 2009.

Read more: www.inforse.org/europe

Revision of Ecodesign and Labelling Directives

The revision of the Ecodesign and labelling (SAVE) directives is progressing with adoption of the EU Parliament's opinion in May. The Parliament introduced a number of amendments, generally strengthening the text, including requirements that labels be of the closed A-G label type and that they be updated every 3 years. Now the EU Commission, Parliament, and countries will have to agree upon a compromise, which hopefully could be ready in the second half of 2009.

Ecodesign - New Standards for Energy Efficiency

In March 2009, the EU countries agreed new requirements for electric motors above 750 Watts and circulator pumps above 1 W (hydraulic). Electric motors and pumps are used widely in industry and account for around 70% of the electricity used by that sector. The new decision will lead to annual electricity savings of about 160 TWh by 2020 in the EU countries, mostly from efficient motors. This is greater than the annual electricity consumption of Sweden. It is also equal to savings of 73 Mt CO₂ per year by 2020. NGOs and some countries find that the measures could have been even more ambitious, as industry has managed to achieve several delays for small motors and other exemptions.

The countries also voted on stronger requirements and labels on fridges and other cooling appliances, on televisions, and on washing machines. These three measures will force manufacturers to produce more energy-efficient appliances that will cut CO₂ emissions by about 20 Million tonnes

New Renewable-Energy Directive - What will it Mean?

The new renewable-energy directive that was agreed in December 2008 has now been adopted legally. It will strengthen policies for renewable energy, but it also has its weaknesses. Some highlights from an analysis of the directive are:

- There is a 20% EU-average renewable-energy target for 2020, but it has some potential loopholes. The main possible loophole is with renewable energy production outside EU, where the renewable energy production outside the EU could be sent to an EU country and non-renewable electricity could be sent in the other direction at other times during a year.
- Electric vehicles are included in the target for renewable energy in transport, but only with the average, national renewable electricity fraction. So in many countries they will not be able to contribute much to that target.
- Sustainability of biofuels is included, but social criteria currently are addressed only subject to reporting. The effects on the ground of the other sustainability criteria for biofuels depend strongly on implementation.
- Heat pumps are included in too favourable a way, as the electricity that they consume is usually much more polluting than the gas that they typically replace.
- Minimum levels of renewables in buildings can push local renewables if they are implemented ambitiously by countries (no EU minimum).
- Efficiency requirements of renewables (85% for domestic biomass boilers) will increase performance of renewable-energy installations.
- Requirements for information and training will push the countries to build capacities to implement renewable energy.

This fall, the EU countries shall begin preparation of national renewable-energy plans to fulfil the directive, to be submitted by the deadline of 30/6 2010. So now is the time to take the renewable-energy discussion to the national level.

Structural Funding Is Too Low for Sustainable Energy

INFORSE-Europe is following the use of structural funds, in particular in the "new" EU countries. There are several good projects with renewable energy and energy efficiency that are supported by structural funds. But the overall funding for sustainable energy is just a tiny fraction of the structural funds, from 1.1% in Hungary to 5.4% in Lithuania with an average of around 2%. For comparison, road projects, which generally increase CO₂ emissions, account for 15% of budgets. So, structural funds are contributing much more to increasing climate change than to reducing it. In specific cases, good projects for sustainable energy are being turned down while several of the countries struggle to use the full amounts of their allotted structural funds.

A rough estimate of the investment needs for Slovakia for sustainable development in energy efficiency and renewable energy would be 800 mill. €/year. If structural funds were to contribute a fair share, 30%, the budget should be about 240 mill. €/year or 32% of structural funds. The actual budget is less than 20 mill. €/year. The decisions behind these inadequate allocations for sustainable energy are primarily opaque national decisions about the distribution of structural funds among the different sectors of the society.

Read more on:

www.inforse.org/europe/EU_StructF.htm
and presentations at

www.inforse.org/europe/seminar09_bxl.htm



INFORSE-Europe & EREF Seminar was attended by more than 50 participants on April 28, 2009.

Panel from left to right: Gunnar Boye Olesen (INFORSE), Claude Turmes (MEP), Peter Vis (EC), Dr. Doerte Fouquet (EREF).



(Mt) per year by 2020. However, consumers would have saved even more on their energy bills if the adopted measures had reached their full potential of 30 Mt of CO₂ savings, but industries managed to introduce weaker requirements and loopholes in the legislation.

A Row over Labels

The labelling part of the new measures on fridges, televisions and washing machines has now been contested by the EU Parliament, which blocked the label for televisions after it was approved by the countries. The Parliament did this for a good reason: the proposed labels were not very good.

The story behind this started more than a year ago when there was a general consensus that the present labelling system need a revision: more and more products reach the A-label class (the best) and the addition of a number of "+" (to make A+, A++ etc.) is not the way forward. Since the A-G label scale is very well known and is easy to understand. The obvious solution is to update the label scale, for instance, every 3-5 years, so an old A-labelled product becomes a B-labelled or C-labelled.

Unfortunately, the association of home equipment makers "CECED" disagrees strongly, because of the hassle of updating labels and the risk of losing profit on a product that is downgraded from "A" to "B" or "C". The industry has managed to get another proposal on the table that does not require an update of the label classes. In this proposal, highly efficient products could get an "A - 20%", an "A-40%", etc. label instead of the "A+", "A++" that is used today. Due to its strong influence on national governments, the industry managed to get the majority of countries to support this unnecessarily elaborate, obscure type of label system, which would displace and prevent the more obvious, clearer update of the label classes.

The EU Parliament, however, was not convinced of this solution. For the first time ever, it used its power to block an Ecodesign decision. Now the EU institutions will have to find a compromise, which hopefully will happen soon after the Parliamentary elections in June, 2009.

More than 116,000 signatures for energy efficiency were given to EU presidency during the penguins demonstration. The signatures were collected by www.avaaz.org/en.



Penguins demonstrating for energy efficiency in Brussels in March 2009 organised by Friends of the Earth and others. See www.coolproducts.eu. Photos by Edouard Toulouse (ECOS).

Regulation of Heating and Cooling is Coming

The EU Commission is organizing two stakeholder consultations in June to discuss Ecodesign and Energy Labelling measures on air-conditioners and boilers. Boilers were already discussed last year, but because of many objections to the proposal, the process has been extended and the methodology revised. Boilers have the largest savings potential among products covered by the Ecodesign directive.

If the proposal is adopted, it will be possible for consumers and their advisers to compare oil- and gas boilers, solar-assisted heating (active solar), heat pumps, and even micro-CHP regarding their efficiency from primary energy, with electricity counted with a factor of 2.5 compared with fossil fuels because of power-plant losses.

NGOs Start "Cool Products" Campaign

INFORSE-Europe and other NGOs have started a campaign for energy-efficient products called "Cool Products for a Cool Planet". We want to highlight the large opportunities in energy-efficiency regulation of products and to make our positions more publicly known to the ongoing Ecodesign regulation process. You can sign up to an email list to follow news from the campaign.

More information on Ecodesign issues:

www.coolproducts.eu
(NGO campaign)

www.env-ngo.eup-network.eu
(information from NGOs)
ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/ecodesign/eco_design_en.htm
(EU Commission Ecodesign site)

www.beyonda.eu
(industry against update of label classes)

Read more on
INFORSE-Europe:
www.inforse.org/europe/eu_ecodesign.htm

ECOS:
www.ecostandard.org



Logos of the NGOs playing a significant role as progressive, independent experts challenging the industry's attempts to weaken the proposals.



Some of the INFORSE-Europe organisations asked the EUP candidates on their opinion on climate and energy. Results from Danmark, Romania and Bulgaria: www.inforse.org/europe/eu-parliament_e.htm

GREEN WEEK
June 22-26, 2009
EU Green Week
Brussels, Belgium
Charlemagne Building

VISIT US !
INFORSE-Europe's exhibition will be on the 2nd floor 36.

INFORSE-EUROPE
International Network for Sustainable Energy

W: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/greenweek>

INFORSE-Europe: Sustainable Energy Seminar & General Meeting November 10-14, 2009 - Artefact, Germany

This year the INFORSE-Europe's Sustainable Energy NGO Seminar will be at the Artefact international centre for sustainable development near Flensburg in Germany.

The present plan is:

November 10: Low-carbon scenarios

November 11-13: Sustainable energy policies, visions, and practice

November 14: General Meeting of INFORSE-Europe.



The unique Artefact centre with its sustainable energy demonstration "Power Park", low-energy clay buildings, and guest house will be the venue for this year's European Sustainable Energy NGO seminar.

Reserve the dates
and register for the
seminar at
www.inforse.org/europe/seminar.



Award to INFORSE member GERES

GERES was rewarded the "National Energy Globe Award" on 13th April 2009 in Prague for its program carried out in Afghanistan since 2002, following the overthrow of the Taliban regime. GERES has been promoting energy-efficient solutions for buildings and income-generating agricultural activities in greenhouses.

In total, 170,000 m² public buildings have been reconstructed, including 250 schools and health centres. Passive-solar extensions were added to 170 dwellings. More than 1,000 people were trained in the construction sector. GERES works with 4 Afghan ministries, and among the financial partners are the EC, French Ministries, and ADAME.



The Afghan
GERES
team



A school and
a clinic in
Afghanistan

Read: *Sustainable Energy News (SEN)*:
www.inforse.org/europe/news-fr.htm
- Afghan project, SEN #38 2002, p.16-17
- Ashden Award SEN # 55, 2006 p.11
GERES web site: www.geres.eu
Energy Globe: www.energyglobe.com.



GERES is a non-profit
organisation set up in 1976,
and it is an INFORSE member.



New European Antinuclear Forum

June 17, 2009, Linz, Austria

By Elvira Pöschko, *Antiatom Szene*.

Since we are extremely concerned about the pro-nuclear bias in the ENEF (European Atomic Forum), we feel that a counter event is important and necessary. The ENEF meeting is largely restricted to the nuclear industry and to officials and governments who are nuclear. With the Anti-Nuclear European Forum, ANEF aims to give a voice to the civil society. The participation of international NGOs is welcome and important.

ANEF is organized by the Anti-nuclear Representative of Upper Austria in cooperation with anti-nuclear and environmental organizations.

W: www.antiatomszene.info
www.anef.info.

WISE

By the WISE Team



WISE celebrated its 30th anniversary this year in Amsterdam on February 3, 2009.

We will do much more this year in the way of actions, debates and publications. We welcome supporters of our activities and subscribers to "Nuclear Monitor".

W: www.antenna.nl/wise
www.smilingsun.org.

Note: The "smiling sun" stickers
are available in several languages
at the WISE shop.

Energy Poverty - A European Issue

In many EU countries, not the least in Central Europe, it is common that poor people pay a large part of their income for household energy costs. It is also common that poor people disconnect from heat and gas supply to save money. They are hit by "energy poverty". In Central Europe the traditional solution was to subsidize energy supply for the entire population, with the well-known results of low energy efficiency and no incentives to develop renewable energy.

As energy poverty is a common problem for many EU countries, eliminating energy poverty should become an EU

priority. The solutions should include increase of energy efficiency as the most sustainable element, but should lead as well to increases in renewable energy and to subsidies for those hardest hit. This should be a priority for EU funding, including structural, social, and cohesion funds.

INFORSE-Europe welcomes the co-operation of all interested stakeholders to place energy poverty on the EU agenda and to include it in relevant EU policies.

Read more at www.inforse.org/europe/EU_energy-poverty.htm.

News from SPARE



By Yngvild Lorentzen,
and Kay Asbjørn Knutsen
Schjørlien, Dag Arne
Høystad, Kjersti Album
from SPARE, FoE Norway's International Department.



SPARE is an international school project on energy, climate and environment with more than 3,000 schools and 150,000 pupils participating from 17 countries.

More information:
www.spareworld.org
www.naturvern.no/engl/
yl@naturvern.no

June 3-4, 2009, Oslo - SPARE Conference on EECCA region

Norges Naturvernforbund/FoE Norway invites its NGO partners and representatives of authorities from the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA-region) to a conference in Oslo, Norway. Based on the SPARE experiences, the participants will discuss how the various low-cost decentralised solutions can be scaled up to contribute to climate mitigation.

SPARE organisations have held activities in the region on education, practical projects and policy development concerning energy and climate issues for several years.

SPARE in Belarus: Project 2009-2011 Launched

On 26 March, 2009, SPARE launched a national project on energy and climate education in Belarus. The partnership is unique, uniting governmental and non-governmental organisations to reinvent environmental education in Belarus.

Joint efforts will boost education on environment, energy and climate, ensuring dissemination on the national level during the project period of 2008-2011. The project will include:

- Adaptation of the SPARE project materials to Belarus conditions and production of a workbook for pupils as well as of a teachers' programme.
- Training for teachers and for schools on practical energy-saving measures.
- Enlargement of a demonstration site on energy efficiency and renewable energy at Volma by International Sakharov Environmental University.
- Dissemination of information to society through the pupils and libraries, along with development of a web site with electronic information resources.



SPARE in Ukraine

On February 26-27, 2009, SPARE-Ukraine

conducted two workshops in cooperation with UNDP-led Municipal Governance and Sustainable Development Programme in its partner municipalities of Novograd-Volynskiy and Dolyna. Over 50 local teachers participated in the workshops and learned how to educate secondary-school students on energy conservation.

The workshops included practical exercises on energy-saving and on alternative sources of energy. The participants learned how to assess heat, energy and water losses in private apartments and discussed innovative practices to prevent them.

In addition, an open debate was held on acid rains, greenhouse effect, climate change and other environmental threats. The participants in the workshops agreed to raise public awareness about energy-saving and they recognised that efficiency awareness would also save energy in schools, which currently are highly inefficient and energy-consuming.

The new course "Energy Saving and Climate Mitigation" was designed in Ukraine by the National coordinator of the SPARE project in Ukraine (Ecological club "Eremurus") and by the UNDP supported project "Energy Efficiency in Education Sector". It is already being taught in many regions of Ukraine.

In Ukraine, one of the key efforts of SPARE is to introduce the educational

programme at the city level. The mayors of the two cities were receptive and are determined to introduce complex energy-saving systems as strategic development goals of the municipalities.



SPARE in Georgia Assists War-torn School

On February 1, 2009, SPARE and local coordinators in Georgia from EcoVision re-opened a rebuilt wing of a school in Gori, Georgia.



All together, 84 new double-glass energy-efficient windows were installed in the renovated wing after all of the original windows were blown out by a nearby bomb blast during the war actions in August. Since the war, 1,500 pupils had been attending regional schools while repairs were being made to their school.

Solar for public bath

After the war in Georgia around 20,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) settled in the region around Gori. The houses built for refugees have no bathrooms. Therefore, the possibility for building public baths that are heated up with solar energy and other renewable energy sources is being evaluated in cooperation with the Georgian department of refugees and rebuilding.

Solar PV in Uganda - Opens the Doors

Cooperating INFORSE Members

By Ruth Kiwanuka, JEEP, Uganda

Access to electricity is a necessity for a certain standard of living – it opens doors that are otherwise locked, thereby creating access to a range of opportunities that bring security, health and wealth. The use of radios, telephones and lights increases communication and improves education possibilities; refrigeration of vaccines helps to combat disease; light and power enable businesses to flourish. The fact that a very large percentage of Uganda's population is living without access to electricity is a major problem that needs to be solved.

The question is: How? The capacity of the national grid is not large enough to supply the entire population and an expansion of any type to encompass all of Uganda is a time-consuming, extremely costly operation. The alternative is local power production, and solar energy has already proven to be an ideal candidate. The energy coming from the sun is abundant and free. It can be collected and transformed into electricity without the need to pay regular bills for fuel. Solar systems can be designed to be small so

JEEP reached out to people who previously had no hope of access to electricity in the foreseeable future.

PV for lantern and phone charging, and PV light at a market.



that they provide light to only one family, or they can be made large enough to service an entire community. The problem remains that people need to be aware of this technology and that it has to become more easily accessible.

Cooperation

JEEP (Joint Energy and Environment Projects), an NGO based in Kampala, is making a solar project in 2007-09 with support from the Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy in Denmark, from the Mali Folkecenter and from Danida (Danish Int'l Development Assistance). Solar installations have been set up in 5 villages, providing public access to power for the local rural communities. All systems have been designed to benefit the community as a whole, e.g., through lighting for schools and market places as well as for refrigera-

Follow up JEEP meeting with the solar committee.



tion facilities in a health centre. Additionally, the selected communities have been equipped with an income-creating solar business, e.g., charging mobile phones or batteries. The profit of this business is managed by a committee with members from the local community and is used to pay for upkeep, including any maintenance or repairs, and eventually for expansions of the installations.

*More: www.jeepfolkecenter.org
www.folkecenter.net/gb/news/fc/jeep_uganda/.*

Solar Collectors & Training in a Rural Roma Community

Ion Zamfir, Earth Friends, INFORSE-Europe board member, Romania

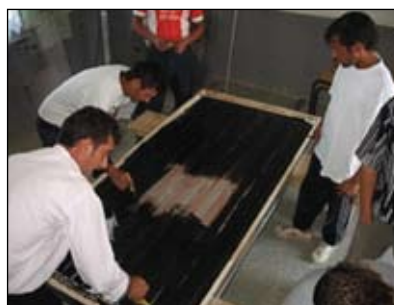
In a small village in Transylvania, Romania, the environmental organisation "Sighisoara Durabila" (Sustainable Sighisoara) decided to use solar energy to offer to the children the possibility of taking showers before being seen by the doctor. The NGO has written a project proposal to be co-funded by UNDP - Small Grants Programme, Romania.

The proposal was accepted with the condition to use 100% solar energy, thus including pumping cold water from a well and circulating the water through a boiler. The solar loop includes 2x2 sqm solar collectors and a heat exchanger in which circulates a liquid antifreeze.

Sighisoara Durabila invited Earth Friends to join the project in order to train two teams of 10 young Roma each to build solar collectors. There were two training sessions on two consecutive days, a training session for each team. In eight hours, the members of each team managed to build a solar collector of 2 sqm.

The training included a short introduction in solar energy, a brief presentation of the work security measures to be respected by the participants, the presentation of the proposed design, and description of materials as well as of tools to be used for the construction of the solar collectors.

Every trainee passed through all the steps of building the collector. Thus, by the end of the training session each participant was able to build an entire solar collector alone. The trainees enjoyed working together. They understood the principles of solar collectors and became confident



in their own abilities to build such equipment. They were pleased to work for the better life of kids.

The technical team in charge of the complete installation and of placing into service the solar water pumping and heating system was very glad to be helped by Microsol, a German solar equipment company that provided the solar pump and solar PV panels at reasonable prices.

The project is an example of Romanian NGOs' partnership that is working to help disadvantaged groups, an example of cooperation with local authorities and with SMEs.

*More: Ion Zamfir, Prietenii Pamantului, (Earth Friends), Galati, Romania.
E: earthfriends@witdata.ro*

Publications



Catalogue of Small Wind Turbines, 2009

Fact sheets for 211 small wind mills (5W to 50kW) from 91 manufacturers from 29 countries.

Listings of the wind mills' physical parameters, prices, manufacturers' contact details, descriptions of how many years are they have been in business, distribution methods, and additional information.

3rd edition, April 2009.

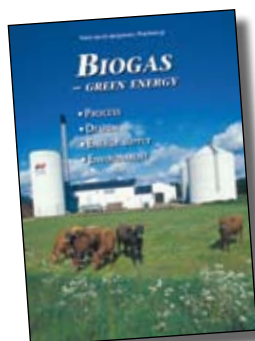
Edited by K. Christensen.

Published by Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy, Denmark.

ISBN 978-87-7778-126-1, 100 pages.

Price: € 47 (incl post), € 37 (pdf file).

Info: www.folkecenter.net/19396.



Biogas – Green Energy

Process, Design, Energy Supply, Environment

The booklet has been prepared as a free teaching aid. It provides a general introduction to the problems associated with biogas. It can be understood by professionals as well as by people who have no prior knowledge of the subject.

2nd edition, 2009. Edited by Peter Jacob Jørgensen, PlanEnergi.

Available in English and Danish.

ISBN 978-87-992243-2-1, 35 pages.

Published by Researcher for a Day, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Info:

E: info@forskerforendag.dk

Download the English version from:

www.lemvigbiogas.com/BiogasPJJuk.pdf



REN 21 Renewables Global Status Report 2009 Update

Energy Transformation Continues Despite Economic Slowdown

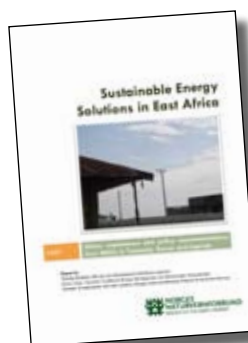
The Report shows that the fundamental transition of the world's energy markets continues.

The report was commissioned by REN21 and was produced in collaboration with the World Watch Institute along with a global network of about 110 research partners and reviewers from more than 20 countries.

Pdf, 880 kB, 32 pages, May 2009.

Download from:

W: www.ren21.net/publications/.



Sustainable Energy Solutions in East Africa

The report focuses on the framework required if small-scale sustainable energy projects are to succeed in

Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania. The report discusses each country's energy situation together with country-specific experiences and recommendations. Afterwards, general experiences and recommendations are summarized.

Efforts of the NGOs involved have been coordinated within the framework of the East African coordination node of INFORSE (CDI, Uganda).

Edited by Timothy Byakola, Climate and Development Initiatives (CDI) & INFORSE East Africa, Uganda; Oscar Lema, Tanzania Traditional Energy Development and Environment Organisation (TaTEDO); and Torhildur Kristjansdottir and John Lineikro, Norges Naturvernforbund (FoE Norway). Pdf, 542 kB, 42 p., January, 2009.

- Download from: www.naturvern.no/cgi-bin/naturvern/imaker?id=127246

- More information:

TaTEDO: www.tatedo.org

INFORSE-Africa: www.inforse.org/africa/

CDI: www.inforse.org/africa/CDI.htm

FoE Norway: www.naturvern.no.

Events

June 3-4, 2009

SPARE Conference on EECCA region, Oslo, Norway

Info: www.spareworld.org

See article on page 9.

June 17, 2009

Anti-Nuclear European Forum, ANEF Linz, Austria

Info: www.antiatomszene.info

www.anef.info

See article on page 8.

June 22-26, 2009

EU Green Week

Charlemagne Building, Brussels, Belgium

INFORSE-Europe's exhibition on the 2nd floor 36.

Info: ec.europa.eu/environment/greenweek

See article on page 7.

November 10-14, 2009

European Sustainable Energy NGO Seminar & INFORSE-Europe General Meeting, Artefact, Germany

Organised by INFORSE-Europe

Info: www.inforse.org/europe/seminar.htm

See article on page 8.

December 7-18, 2009

UNFCCC, COP-15, Copenhagen, Denmark

Info:

- UNFCCC: www.unfccc.int

- COP 15: <http://en.cop15.dk/>

- INFORSE at COP14 in Poznan:

www.inforse.org/europe/conf08_Poznan.htm

See: article on page 4-5.



Economic Crisis, Rescue Packages in EU-27 and Renewable Energy

By Dr. Doerte Fouquet, Heleen Witdouw, E R E F.

Published by European Renewable Energies Federation (EREF).

93 pages, Brussels, February 2009.

Info: www.eref-europe.org

It was presented at the INFORSE-Europe - EREF Seminar on April 28, 2009.

See proceedings at:

W: http://www.inforse.org/europe/seminar09_BXL.htm.

Contents

Editorial p. 2

- Climate Policies for a Global Deal

World: p. 3-5

- Finally, IRENA
- Join! Low-Carbon Societies Network
- INFORSE Visions

Climate COP 14 - 15:

- Long Road to a Global Climate Deal
- 30% of the permitted emissions for 2000-50 have been emitted already
- Global Development Rights Framework

Europe p. 6-9

EU-Update

- New Renewable-Energy Directive - What will it Mean?
- Structural Funding Is Too Low for Sustainable Energy
- Revision of Ecodesign and Labelling Directives
- New Energy Efficiency of Buildings to be Adopted '09
- Ecodesign - New Standards for Energy Efficiency
- Regulation of Heating and Cooling is Coming
- NGOs Start "Cool Products" Campaign
- EU Green Week
- EUP Election survey

INFORSE-Europe Activities p. 8-9:

- INFORSE-Europe: Sustainable Energy Seminar & General Meeting, November 10-14, 2009 at Artefact, Germany
- Award to INFORSE member GERES
- Energy Poverty - A European Issue
- New European Antinuclear Forum
- WISE 30th Anniversary

News from SPARE: p. 9

- Conference in Oslo, June
- Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia

INFORSE-Europe Members

Cooperation projects p. 10:

- Solar PV in Uganda
- Solar Collectors & Training in a Rural Roma Community

Publications & Events p. 11

Back Page p. 12

- Sustainable Energy News
- DIERET CD, South Asia CD
- INFORSE Online Database

1,000 Contacts - Online



INFORSE maintains a database of more than 1,000 NGOs and public officials, including research and educational institutions that are actively working in renewable energy. These contacts include all INFORSE members and span 159 countries. The online database can be searched by membership/contacts, country and name.

Check your organisation ! Corrections are welcome
Global database: www.inforse.org/regions

Support our activities, subscribe to our newsletter !



Sustainable Energy News (SEN):
25 € for 4 issues/year

NEW ! You can pay with VISA Card through PayPal



http://www.inforse.org/order_form.php3

INFORSE South-Asia CD

Manual on Solutions Using Sustainable Energy to Reduce Poverty

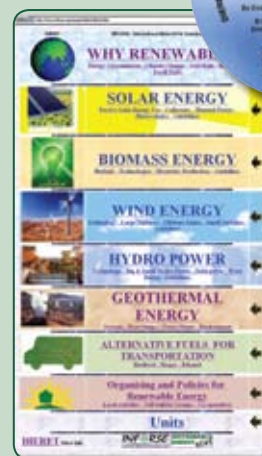
(in English, Hindi, Nepalese, Bangladeshi, and Singhalese) and Financial Manual (in English).

These manuals were produced through an INFORSE South Asia project using input from INSEDA, AIWC, WAFD and SDA from India, Grameen Shakti from Bangladesh, CRT from Nepal and IDEA from Sri Lanka as well as OVE and DIB from Denmark.

Published: January 2008;
Price: 15 € /CD,
1 year SEN + CD costs 35 €.



DIERET - CD Distant Internet Education on Renewable Energy Technologies



Published: 2007-2008;
Price: 15 €
1 year SEN + CD costs 35 €.

