Working towards sustainable energy communities throughout Europe

sunflower
energy | innovation | development

The Sunflower Project has been set up to encourage renewable energy developments within Europe. Sharing experience and best-practice of real-life examples from eight European areas, the project aims to raise awareness of the different and innovative technologies available, overcome any perceived barriers provide training and help create new enterprises, public/private sector partnerships and stimulate investment. Stakeholder involvement and education initiatives are a key part of the Project.

Further information on the project, advice on renewable energy developments, leaflets, newsletters, presentations, links, and downloadable guides can be found at **www.sunflowerproject.eu**

Partners

Municipality of Moura Portugal

Promoting economic prosperity utilising the area's natural resources, Moura is developing renewable energy production and industry on a large scale, creating a technology park and establishing high level training. A new factory is producing solar panels and a photovoltaic power station is being developed, one of the largest of it's kind generating 93GW of electricity annually, enough to power a town of 30,000 homes. The factory will provide panels for the international market.

IDMEC-IST, Portugal

IDMEC is a non-profit association of science, technology and training set up to co-ordinate research and developments in mechanical engineering including technology transfer, integrated management programmes and evaluation and audit of new entrepreneurial processes. The Research Group on Energy and Sustainable Development works in the development of tools and practices for energy management, rational use of energy, RES technologies and its potential in remote areas.

Municipality of Sliven, Bulgaria

Sliven Municpality has above average levels of sunlight and wind which, combined with high economic growth in recent years has enabled investment in renewable energy technology. The country's first wind generating plants have been installed and permits issued to build 57 others and 10 photovoltaic stations. Major investment by the Mitsubishi Corporation will enable construction of a wind park with a capacity of 100MW.

Healthy Cities of the Czech Republic (HCCZ)

92 municipalities participate in the WHO Healthy Cities Project covering 33% of the Czech population. The Project has stimulated a wealth of activities to encourage active public participation including promotion of Local Agenda 21, application of Health 21 and the development of Local Environmental and Health Action Plans.

EIGSI, France (L'Ecole d'Ingénieurs en Génie des Systémes Industriels)

EIGSI is a multi-disciplinary private school awarding a 5-year masters degree with over 150 students annually qualifying as engineers. Activities include education, research, innovation and professional training along 4 main themes: (a) environmental marine protection and global water management; (b) innovative transport, urban logistics systems' organizations, urban mobility; (c) test and experimentations on components of electrical or hybrid vehicles; (d) renewable and alternative clean energies.

Environment Park, Italy

Successfully combining technological innovation and eco-efficiency the Park produces 80% of its energy requirements on-site using renewable technologies. Its mission is to provide small and medium-sized enterprises with advanced solutions and innovative technologies in the fields of energy and the environment. Research and development includes sustainable building, energy management and renewable energies including hydrogen, hydroelectric, photovoltaic, biomass, solar energy recovery and green roofs.

Bilbao Technology Park, Spain

The Park is a pioneer in Spain promoting diversification in industry and the transfer and dissemination of technology and innovation. Whilst over 210 companies are involved in ICT engineering and biotechnology there is also outstanding representation of renewable energy related research and the Park has been the coordinator of the Ecopadev R&D Project for implementing sustainability in Technology Parks.

North York Moors National Park, UK

The North York Moors was the first National Park Authority to set up a Community Renewable Energy Project. Launched in June 2004 and funded by the National Park Authority and the Regional Development Agency, the Project team is working with 8 local communities. The project has supported the communities in increasing awareness and expertise, assessing and reducing energy demand, developing and taking control of local energy production using renewable technology appropriate to the area and the protected landscape.

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