

# SUSTAINABLE ENERGY NEWS

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

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- Cancun Can? - Views After COP16
- Vision 2040 for EU
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Sustainable Energy News

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**INFORSE**

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

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Photos are from demonstrations for sustainable energy: in London and Brussels. Photos by Paul Allen (UK) and Edouard Toulouse, ECOS (Brussels, Belgium).



The Sixteenth Conference of the Parties (COP-16) on climate change is finished. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon announced that COP-16 "has delivered important success for a world much in need of it".

**But has it?**

All that matters in saving the planet from dangerous climate change are the targets and timetables for emission reductions followed by the appropriate national policies and measures. Climate change is caused primarily by burning fossil fuels and the only way to solve the problem is to replace them with the renewables.

We at INFORSE firmly believe that the world could be better off if we start the transformation to a zero-carbon society right now. We have always hoped that the UN climate-change conferences would provide the much needed input to this transition. Finally, the scientists are telling us that the evidence of global warming continues to mount and that "this year could be the warmest year since records were first kept in 1850. It also caps a record-warm decade" (Michael Jarraud, the head of the UN's World Meteorological Organization).

*Did the Cancun Agreement deliver something that could reverse this trend?*

**Not at all.**

The crucial question of how much all nations will cut emissions remains unanswered. The final package known as the Cancun Agreements called for "urgent action" to cap temperature rises at no more than 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and asks for a study on strengthening the commitment to 1,5 °C.

We feel compelled to reiterate that what matters is the legally binding agreement and its implementation to limit global warming to 2°C, not the statement. The sole meaningful, legally binding UN climate-change agreement to date has been the Kyoto Protocol (KP), which expires in 2012.

There is nothing that will be legally binding beyond this year and there is little chance for any continuation of KP. Japan, Canada and Russia have said that they would not extend KP.

# Cancun Can? Not at all !

Instead they demand all major economies, including the US, China and India, to join a new global deal. Japan rejected a second commitment period of the KP in plenary, saying, "Japan will not inscribe its target under the KP on any conditions or under any circumstances".

Finally, there is no consensus over whether developing countries should have binding targets to cut emissions and/or as to whether rich countries have more to do first. So the negotiations are exactly there where they were before the Kyoto COP in 1997. Politicians who call this Cancun Agreement a success should be required to explain their definitions of "success" and "failure".

It is true that the Cancun agreement mentioned the new Green Climate Fund, which in theory is to give 100 billion USD a year in aid to poor nations by 2020, with measures to protect tropical forests and ways to share clean energy technologies. This provision looks like a thin ray of light for the renewable energy industry. During its first three years, the Fund and its Board would be overseen by the World Bank; this arrangement is a point of controversy for many NGOs. But the most important issue left unresolved is the identification of the source(s) of the 100 billion USD annually that the rich nations have promised to provide. At the time of this writing, practically all rich countries have dangerously high financial debts that continue to grow.

For those who believe in carbon markets, the Cancun Agreement sent a mixed message, saying that it would "build upon" such markets. This gives the appearance of some support despite the doubt over the future of the KP, which established these mechanisms.

*Further, there is something really worrying in the Cancun Agreement from the perspective of renewable energy development.*







## COP16 Results

Report from an INFORSE Member from the South

by Pierre Dembele,  
Mali Folkecenter



Practically in the last minute, the text on carbon capture and storage (CCS) was adopted, and it says that CCS is eligible as project activities under the clean development mechanism (CDM).

INFORSE issued several statements on this highly controversial issue of CDM under KP in the past and requested changes of its management. We are really frustrated that this mechanism recently even started to serve the fossil-fuel industry when CDM Executive Board first accepted a coal-fired power project under CDM in December, 2009. This sends a *sharply negative message* about the integrity of the CDM.

On top of that, there are some 20 other coal-based projects, including the 4,000-MW Sasan Ultra Mega Power Project, which is capable of earning almost 4 million carbon credits per year while emitting over 20 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> in the CDM pipeline.

INFORSE members from the South struggling to push small scale renewable energy projects like biogas in India into CDM pipeline are sidelined once again by the big unsustainable projects with whom they are supposed to compete for the funds. In effect, the CDM has been co-opted neatly by the fossil-fuel industry.

*It seems that the world is heading for inevitable, dangerous climate change, with the Cancun agreement allowing the raising of global temperatures by as much as 4 °C over the next half century, twice the stated goal and a level that would set millions of people in the poorest and most vulnerable countries into dangerous conditions.*

*Yes, UN negotiations will continue in the future, but at this rate it will be the shock of the oil peak, not political actions, that will bring about the decline of carbon emissions.*

Emil Bedi  
Co-ordinator  
INFORSE-Europe



The 16th UN climate-change conference (UNFCCC) in Cancun, Mexico ended on 10 December, 2010 with the adoption of a package of decisions welcomed by repeated loud and prolonged applause and acclaim by Parties in the final plenary.

The UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres said, "*Cancun has done its job. The beacon of hope has been reignited and faith in the multilateral climate change process to deliver results has been restored*".

*From the perspective of an INFORSE Member from the South, the results attained fall short of expectations.*

- The biggest loser in Cancun is undeniably the mitigation of greenhouse-gas emissions, notably in developed countries. Major emitters are unwilling to put resources toward lowering their greenhouse-gas emissions despite scientific proof that their inaction will lead to global warming of more than 2 °C and to increasingly adverse impacts of climate change on the poor and vulnerable countries in the South, which have contributed the least to the cause of climate change. Further, and bizarrely, the Kyoto Protocol, which is the single legally binding instrument currently addressing the issue, was threatened in Cancun by Japan, the island nation in which the Protocol was signed.
- The REDD+ mechanism was established with safeguards to take into account environmental and social benefits such as respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, the full and effective participation of the concerned stakeholders, and the conservation of natural forests and biodiversity. These are all good in principle, but the question here again is how to ensure equitable revenue-sharing among the various stakeholders, particularly for the indigenous communities whose livelihoods are based on the forest ecosystems.
- The important roles of the agricultural sector in food security and in adaptation to climate change, recognized one year ago in Copenhagen, was lost in Cancun. Nor was there any work program in Cancun on including the Agriculture sector in emission-mitigation measures, even though thirteen percent of global greenhouse-gas emissions come from agriculture.
- Adaptation to climate change is making headway through the creation of the adaptation committee. The groundwork has been laid but the challenge remains to turn this framework into visible, ambitious actions for those in developing countries who are most in need.
- Regarding financing, in theory, a major breakthrough was made in Cancun with the establishment of the "Green Climate Fund". As in Copenhagen last year, funding promises were made in Cancun by developed countries to mobilize 100 billions dollars per year by 2020. We in the South must press to ensure that the "Green Climate Fund" shall not be an empty shell, as there was no agreement in Cancun on sources of funding, and in particular on innovative financing mechanisms.
- The 30-billion-USD fast-start financing between 2010 and 2012 that was promised in Copenhagen was the source of many debates in Cancun. The developed countries are claiming that the disbursement of this funding has started, but no clear monitoring mechanisms are in effect, and it cannot be discerned whether this money is additional or simply recycled Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding. One other issue is that the bulk of the fast-start funding so far has gone to mitigation activities and, worse, in the form of loans, not grants. This raises the question: *Who should pay the bill for the damage caused by climate change?* Again the Southern countries are pushed into debt to combat climate change that they have not caused. Understandably, this worries citizens of the South.
- One last thing that we also learned from Cancun is that the consensus rule of UNFCCC negotiations does not give the power to veto. Bolivia tried to do this in the last minute, but in spite of Bolivia, the agreement was adopted with support of the 193 other parties.

While recognizing that the Cancun negotiations did renew somewhat the willingness of the parties to engage in the multilateral process, we INFORSE members from the South are still looking for ambitious, binding commitments that will keep global temperature rise well below 2 °C. We hope to see such progress in Durban next year.

## CDM Projects Increase Emissions

Many NGOs have complained about the problems with the "Clean" Development Mechanism (CDM). In July, 2010 the CDM-Watch managed to have one complaint taken up by the CDM Executive Board. The NGO complained about the projects destroying the F-gas (freon) HFC-23, in which more F-gas than necessary is produced just to get credits for destroying it. Almost half of the current CDM credits come from such projects. The Executive Board decided to suspend the further issuing of such CDM credits and started an investigation of the issue. The result of the investigation came in November and it showed that indeed the crediting methodology for HFC-23 projects could lead to over-issuance of CDM credits.

Unfortunately, the CDM Executive Board decided in November to lift the suspension, and the following meeting of the countries in the Kyoto Protocol that met at COP-16 did not change that. The countries, however, made several requests of the Executive Board, including one that "the Executive Board... continue to improve the transparency and consistency of the regulatory framework of the clean development mechanism. . . ."

During the negotiations, China, the location of the majority of the HFC-23 destruction projects, strongly supported the environment-destroying practice of crediting HFC-23 destruction projects that lead to higher emissions.

The EU Commission has taken up the issue and proposes to exclude credits from CDM - HFC-23- destruction projects in the EU emissions-trading scheme (ETS) together with CDM projects for destruction of N<sub>2</sub>O from factories that are producing adipic acid, where there are similar problems. Unfortunately, the proposed ban wouldn't take effect until 1/1/2013. The EU countries are discussing the proposal and will vote on it on 20/1/2011.



"Rich countries pay your climate debt" MS/ActionAid Denmark. Climate Demo in Copenhagen during COP16. Photo from AIDOH.dk.

Launch of "Southern Voices", 2 December 2010 during COP-16 in Cancun, Mexico.  
Photo by Peter With, project coordinator.

## Southern Voices on Climate Change - New Project: 2011-12

INFORSE will take part in a new "Southern Voices Capacity Building Programme" to support climate-related NGO networks including the three regional INFORSE networks in, respectively, West and Central Africa; East and Southern Africa; and South Asia. With the project, these INFORSE regions will increase their strength to support local sustainable energy solutions in climate negotiations and plans. During the project, INFORSE will develop proposals for how to include local solutions that contribute to poverty reduction and reduction of greenhouse-gas emissions in climate mitigation. With these proposals, INFORSE will increase its advocacy for climate funding for the local solutions. This support may come from CDM funding, from new climate mitigation funding, or from existing funding such as the Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

The project started with participation from Africa and South Asia in the climate COP-16, at which the project was launched officially on 2 December 2010. It will proceed with development of national, regional and global analyses and proposals in 2011. A major part of the project will be to present proposals for the climate negotiations nationally and at the COP-17 in December 2011. The project will continue until June 2012.

The NGOs that will coordinate the regional activities are INSEDA (India) for South Asia; Climate Development Initiative (Uganda) for East and Southern Africa; and ENDA (Senegal) along with Mali Folkecenter for West and Central Africa. INFORSE-Europe will have a role as a northern INFORSE partner and the Danish VedvarendeEnergi is responsible for support from the Danish development assistance programme (DANIDA) to INFORSE. The "SouthernVoices" Programme is carried out by a consortium including Climate Action Network, International Institute for Sustainable Development, VedvarendeEnergi, DanchurchAid, IBIS and CARE, where CARE is the consortium leader.

Read more: [www.climatecapacity.org](http://www.climatecapacity.org)  
[www.inforse/africa](http://www.inforse/africa),  
[www.inforse.org/asia](http://www.inforse.org/asia)



## IRENA News

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) has been legally registered as an international organisation for half a year. Its statutes entered into force on July 8 after ratification by 25 countries, and as of this writing, had been ratified by a total of 47 countries. IRENA's first ordinary budget is expected to be about 18 million USD for 2011, of which 38% will come from member contributions and the rest from the three host countries, Abu Dhabi, Germany, and Austria. The budget and work plan were decided at the 4th meeting of the preparatory commission on 24-25 October 2010. The committee also had to deal with a less expected issue: the interim director general of IRENA, Helene Pelosse, is leaving. The committee appointed Mr. Adnan Zahir Amin from Kenya to be IRENA's new leader, at least until the first general assembly. Also directors for policy advice, for knowledge management, and the IRENA Innovation Technology Center in Bonn are now appointed.

IRENA will hold its first general assembly as an international organisation on 4-5 April 2011. At that time, election of the general secretary and other fundamental issues for IRENA will be resolved.

Read more at [www.irena.org](http://www.irena.org).

## International Partnership on Energy Efficiency

This partnership, also known as IPEEC, was started with declarations among G8 countries and EU in 2007-2008. It is now operational with a secretariat at the International Energy Agency (IEA) in Paris. So far its activities are confined to internal cooperation and to one training seminar that it organised in Mexico in September, 2010 about energy-efficiency actions through capacity-building.

See [www.ipeecshare.org](http://www.ipeecshare.org).



# 100%- Renewable Energy in the EU by 2040 A New Vision from INFORSE-Europe

In response to the increasing urgency of the climate problems and to increasing calls for a fast phase-out of fossil fuels, INFORSE-Europe has developed a vision for eliminating fossil fuels by 2040.

The scenario that comes with the vision shows how the EU, given the necessary political will and public support, can change to a 100%-renewable energy supply using its own resources and continuing the welfare systems that it has today.

In the new member countries, demand is expected to increase for housing and transport, while in Western Europe (EU-15) only housing demand is expected to increase. Houses, production, etc., are expected to increase in quality, with higher energy efficiency and generally longer lifetimes.

## Efficiency Increase

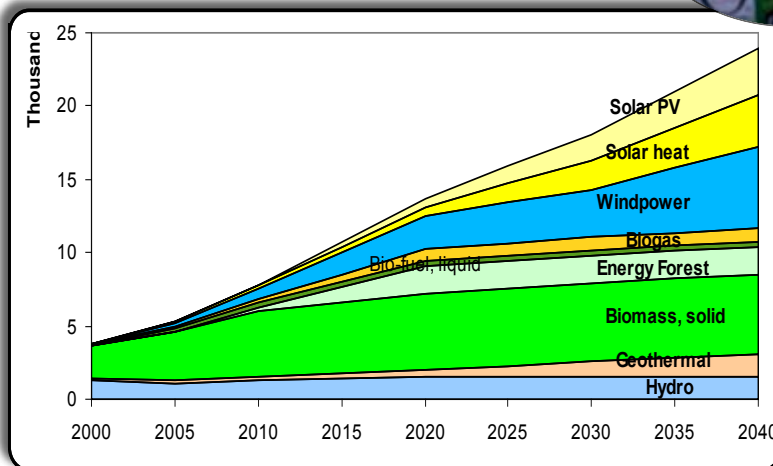
Strong increases in energy efficiency play an important part in the scenario. We cannot realise as much efficiency increase in all sectors by 2040 as we can by 2050 (the previous target year for 100% renewable energy). For space-heating, we have limited our prediction of efficiency increase to 45%. For industry and electricity use, we posit an increase of 60% in efficiency. For personal cars, we expect 75% increase of efficiency, so an average car in 2040 only will use 1/4 of the energy the year 2000 average car used. The strong increase in car efficiency is based on a changeover to electric and hydrogen-fueled cars. For energy supply, we also expect a large increase with the change from thermal power plants (fossil and nuclear) to renewable electricity and high-efficient biomass combined heat and power (CHP) plants.

## Rapid Renewable Development - Sustainable Biomass

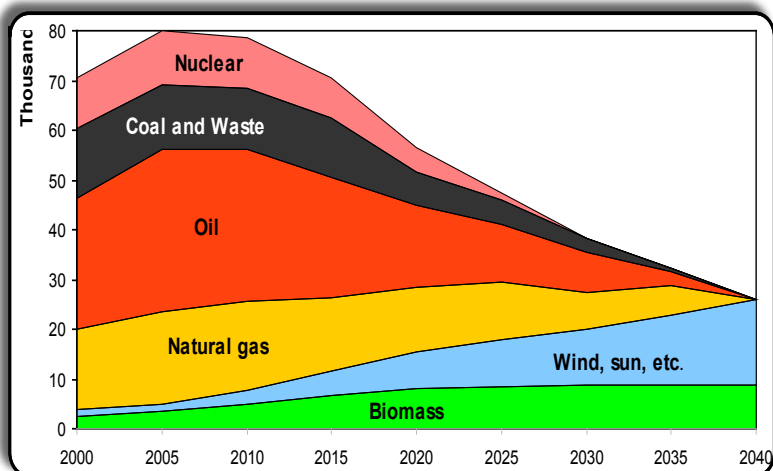
Continued increase in the use of renewable energy is also crucial. An increase to 25% renewables by 2020 for EU can be done according to the national renewable-energy action plans for the implementation of the renewable-energy directive. Development in the EU is well underway to reach 100% renewables by 2040. The largest absolute increase will be in wind-power, but the increases will just be 10-35% higher than the developments in the last few years, so it is mainly a question of keeping the momentum going. The largest relative increase will be in solar energy,

By Gunnar Boye Olesen,  
INFORSE-Europe

"Zero Carbon  
Britain by 2030".  
Climate Demo in  
London during  
COP16.



Graph:  
EU renewable  
energy supply in PJ,  
EU-27 Vision 2040,  
INFORSE-Europe.



Graph:  
EU primary  
energy supply in PJ,  
EU-27 Vision 2040,  
INFORSE-Europe.

where new forecasts show that they can grow rapidly in the coming decade. The fact that solar PV is reaching "grid parity" in costs within an increasing number of EU countries is part of the explanation for the expected boom. By "grid parity", we mean that investments in PV offer power at the normal consumer price for electricity. Biomass use shall increase as well: Both biomass from existing forests and agriculture, and biomass from converting about 7% of agricultural land into energy forests. Most of the biomass will be solid, but there will also be some biogas and liquid biofuels. Given the inefficiencies in production and use of liquid biofuels, this kind of biomass is not expected to increase from today's (2010) level. The total biomass use is limited to 8,500 PJ including use of organic waste streams for biogas. We have identified this as a sustainable level for biomass from sources within the EU. No import of

biomass is expected. Finally, geothermal energy, hydro-power and ocean energy are included in the supply.

## Smart Energy Systems

The energy systems will need to be smarter to balance the variations in wind- and solar power, with key consumption regulated according to production. This consumption might come from heat pumps with heat storage, electric cars, and other technologies. Scenarios for a number of countries show that in countries already well connected with electric transmission lines, smart grids and existing power lines can achieve the necessary energy balance of the grid. Other countries will need either increased transmission lines with neighbouring countries or electricity storage facilities.

Read more at <http://www.inforse.org/europe/VisionEU27.htm>.



# EU Policy Update

Edited by Gunnar Boye Olesen,  
INFORSE-Europe



## EU Energy Summit February 4, 2011

The EU prime ministers will meet for a special summit on energy in February 2011. The EU Commission has given them several proposals with its energy strategy for 2011-2020 and its infrastructure plan (see below). The crucial issue now is whether the prime ministers really will focus on energy efficiency and some of the issues that need to be addressed, such as a revision of the EU emissions-trading scheme (not proposed by the EU Commission) and the priorities in the coming EU budget including structural funds; or, will they give priority to investments in increasing the energy supply that are proposed in the infrastructure plan? In less than two months we will know.



At the previous EU "Energy Summit", the 2007 EU Spring Council, the prime ministers decided upon the 20% renewable energy target, the 20% energy efficiency target, and the 20/30% greenhouse gas reduction target by 2020. During the Summit FoE constructed the above shown giant "EU energy" flag right outside the meeting, demanding that governments stop climate change, cut energy waste and choose renewables. More: [www.foeeurope.org/giant\\_eu\\_energy\\_flag/](http://www.foeeurope.org/giant_eu_energy_flag/)

## Energy Infrastructure Plan

On 17 November 2010, a week after the energy-strategy proposal, the EU Commission released an energy infrastructure plan. The plan calls for subsidised investments in priority infrastructure corridors.

This includes gas pipelines from Central Asia and North-South gas lines in the EU as well as power lines around and in the North Sea for offshore windpower; around the Baltic Sea; linking France to Spain; and between other places. The plan also includes ideas for EU and national funding of energy lines that are of strategic importance, but not commercial. It might even lead to a new kind of ownership of certain infrastructure: EU ownership.

The plan also includes comprehensive descriptions of the need for smart grids for future demand and renewable supply. The proposed new infrastructure funding, however, seems not to be eligible for this.

## INFORSE Opinion on the Plan

The focus on subsidising energy infrastructure raises several questions. Any subsidy of energy infrastructure must be judged against the alternatives that could provide the same services in the form of energy security, flexibility, etc. Thus, local flexibility and smart-grid solutions must also be eligible for the proposed EU infrastructure funding.

A careful evaluation of the benefits and drawbacks of investments relative to other solutions must be the basis for any EU funding and any national subsidy for infrastructure. The proposed infrastructure plan lacks this step, risking the waste of resources on second-best infrastructure. It even risks a lock-in to use large amounts of fossil fuel for several decades to come.

Read more:

INFORSE-Europe's opinion:

[www.inforse.org/europe/eupolicy.htm](http://www.inforse.org/europe/eupolicy.htm)



## Energy Strategy 2011-2020

On 10 November 2010, the EU Commission proposed a new EU energy strategy in the document "Energy2020: A strategy for competitive, sustainable and secure energy".

It contains a timely warning about future energy supply crises and sets energy efficiency as the first priority, including the aim of 20% energy savings by 2020. The energy-efficiency proposals include strengthening ongoing efforts using the existing national energy-efficiency action plans; financial instruments aimed toward the renovation of buildings; a coming white paper on transport; and a new focus on cogeneration of heat and electricity (CHP). It remains to be seen whether the specific proposals will bring a new push for energy efficiency.

The new strategy also emphasizes technology development with the existing Strategic Energy Technology (SET) Plans that prioritize nuclear power and certain renewables, including the questionable ITER nuclear fusion project, and with a € 1-billion initiative to support research for low-carbon energy breakthroughs. In addition it sets four new priorities:

- Preparing grids for new demands (e.g., recharging electric cars) and new, mainly renewable, supply. Actions should support smart-grid solutions as well as large transmission networks;

- Improving electricity storage options, from small-scale storage for cars to large-scale storage for electric grids;
- Large-scale sustainable biofuel production;
- The "Smart City" innovation partnership, combining local solutions for cities.

The strategy also includes priorities for a pan-European integrated energy market with major infrastructure investments as detailed in the "Infrastructure Plan" (see below) as well as for new international cooperation. The international cooperation shall include:

- Integrating energy markets with those of neighbours, in particular within the "Energy Community Treaty", which mainly includes Southeast European countries and the EU;
- Key partnerships with (fossil) energy suppliers and transit countries;
- Cooperation on energy efficiency and low-carbon energy with other energy-consuming/-importing countries;
- A major sustainable energy cooperation initiative with Africa (to be launched);
- An international initiative for nuclear safety and non-proliferation, including reinforced cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The specific proposals to realise the strategy are expected to be released within the coming 18 months. If this schedule holds, we have a busy time ahead of us.





## Energy Roadmap 2050

The EU Commission continues its long-term energy planning with scenarios and strategies for a transition to a low-carbon economy by 2050. INFORSE-Europe and many others gave their opinions in a public consultation that ended on December 8. The roadmap proposals are expected to come in several parts. In February, 2011 a communication is expected on a low-carbon economy roadmap with emission pathways that can keep global warming below 2°C. In June, 2011 an analysis is expected of possible contributions of various sectors for the "Energy Roadmap 2050". Scenarios for the entire EU are then expected in September, 2011.

## Energy-Efficiency Action Plan

It appears that the EU Commission, unfortunately will be unable to complete the planned Energy-Efficiency Action Plan revision in time for the Energy Summit on February 4, 2011.

## Coal Subsidies until 2018

The financial ministers of the EU countries decided on December 10, 2010 that state aid to coal mines may continue until 2018, four years longer than was proposed by the EU Commission.

This is the 7th time since the EU market started in 1958 that the provisions for state aid to coal mines have been extended, but it is very likely to be the last.

From 2011, support can only be given for closing mines, so if a mine receives support and does not close, it will have to pay back the support. Some support for mine safety, clean up, etc. may continue until 2027.



"Stop Coal Subsidies" as part of the FoE's "EU Energy Flag". Action in 2007.



Photo: FoE Flanders and Brussels. [www.motherearth.org](http://www.motherearth.org)



coolproducts  
for a cool planet

## Ecodesign: Delays Costs Billions

The process of regulating EU's energy-consuming products is moving so slowly that INFORSE-Europe and the other NGOs in the "Coolproducts for a Cool Planet" coalition have found that current delays cost up to 44 billion €/year. This was the conclusion of the report "Energy Savings in Practice" released on 1 December 2010 by the Campaign. The most costly delays are in the still-to-come regulation of boilers.

On the day of the release of the study, a group of campaigning penguins from the "Coolproducts for a Cool Planet" coalition, accompanied by MEP Judith Merkies, met in front of the EU Commission's Belaymont building and called on the Commission to end delays to the ecodesign process. The penguins set up a "supermarket" of old-fashioned, inefficient boilers to prove the point.

Even though the pace could be faster, the Ecodesign process is moving forward, as requirements and labels for washing machines and dishwashers were adopted in November 2010. The requirements will be mandatory throughout the EU countries from 1/12/2011 with additional requirements in 2013 and, for dishwashers, also in 2016. The main regulations define maximum energy consumption, but there are also requirements in terms of functionality and instruction books. The new labels with A+++ will be mandatory from 20/12/2011.

Air-conditioner regulations are also in the works, and adoption of those new regulations is expected in February 2011.



Logos of the NGOs (ECOS, EEB, CAN-Europe, Greenpeace, WWF, INFORSE-Europe) play a significant role as progressive, and independent experts challenging the industry's attempts to weaken the proposals.

INFORSE-Europe participates in the Coolproducts Campaign, [www.coolproducts.eu](http://www.coolproducts.eu).



MEP Judith Merkies receives the new study from the penguins of the Coolproducts Campaign in Brussels on December 1, 2010. Photo by Edouard Toulouse, ECOS.



## EU Parliament Calls for Greater Energy Efficiency

On 18 November 2010, the EU Parliament adopted a "Report on Revision of the Energy Efficiency Action Plan". In the report, the Parliament calls for a binding energy-efficiency target of 20% for 2020. Other recommendations include:

- Giving higher priority to energy efficiency than to new energy supplies (in funding),
- Introducing climate-and-energy-saving proofing of all EU funds,
- Directing a larger fraction of EU funds toward energy-saving measures,
- Using the EU Commission's mid-term review of structural funds to allocate up to 15% for energy efficiency, and
- Strengthening of current financing facilities by the Commission for energy efficiency, e.g., ELENA.

# INFORSE-Europe Activities

## Presentation of Visions, EU Parliament, Brussels

On 2 December 2010, INFORSE's new sustainable energy vision for 100% renewable energy by 2040 in the EU was presented in the European Parliament together with the ZeroCarbonBritain proposal from Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) in Wales, UK.

The presentations were made possible by the Welsh member of Parliament, Jill Evans, who hosted the event.

The 20-person-strong audience was generally convinced from the presentation about the opportunities to turn away from fossil fuels in just 20 years (ZeroCarbon-Britain) or 30 years (INFORSE sustainable energy vision for the EU).



*Gunnar Boye Olesen (presenting INFORSE-Europe Vision 2040), Jill Evans (MEP, Greens), and Paul Allen (presenting ZeroCarbonBritain 2030) in Brussels at the EU Parliament.*

*The presentation of the new INFORSE-Europe Vision for the EU is now available online at website [http://www.inforse.org/europe/tour\\_2010.htm](http://www.inforse.org/europe/tour_2010.htm).*



## Seminar: Bulgaria

On 13 December 2010, Za Zemiata and INFORSE-Europe held a European policy seminar, presenting the most important existing and new energy policies as well as prospects of coming EU policies.

A special presentation focussed on the Bulgarian implementation of EU's energy-efficiency policies with special emphasis on the Energy-Service Directive. In spite of the generally weak impact of this Directive, its implementation in Bulgaria seems to have boosted energy-efficiency activities.

There were presentations on strategies, which were discussed afterwards:

- An alternative electricity strategy presented by a researcher from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and
- INFORSE-Europe - Za Zemiata Sustainable Energy Vision for Bulgaria presented by Gunnar Boye Olesen from INFORSE-Europe.



## Seminar: Romania

On 11 December 2010, Earth Friends together with CAN-RO organised a seminar on energy and climate policies. It took place at the new Centre for Traditions and Sustainable Rural Development in Brusturoasa, Romania. Among the 20 participants were mayors, teachers, professors, energy and climate specialists, and the local energy-planning committee members. The participants discussed the main issues related to climate and energy at European and national levels. Guidance on adaptation to climate changes was also discussed. At the end, a visit to the centre was organised for all participants.

## Seminar: France

On 2 December 2010, CLER held a workshop dedicated to the energy efficiency of products and buildings. Representatives of national NGOs (Climate Action Network, WWF), local associations, and consultancies attended as special guests, such as ECOS or UFC Que-Choisir (major consumers' NGO) presented their work. CLER also presented its activities. CLER is following the implementation of the Eco-conception, energy-labelling and building directives in France. CLER is now invited to every official meeting dealing with Ecodesign, energy labelling, and the French building thermal regulation.

## Green Economy - European Choice of Ukraine

Under this title, the INFORSE-Europe member MAMA86 held a conference on 16 December 2010 in Kiev on how Ukraine can give itself a greener economy and the benefits thereof.

The conference featured UNEP activities for a green economy in Ukraine, EU policies and their influence in Ukraine, the current situation in Ukraine, and possible green alternatives to GDP, as well as how to measure a green economy.

From INFORSE-Europe, Gunnar Boye Olesen presented benefits and opportunities of a transition to a low-carbon economy, main EU policies for this transition, and some highlights from the INFORSE sustainable energy visions.



## Seminar: Slovakia

On 15 December 2010, INFORSE-Europe, FAE and Comenius University organised a seminar in Bratislava.

There were two issues presented by Emil Bedi (INFORSE-Europe coordinator): climate change policies and renewable energy technologies and policies.

After the presentation followed discussions and workshops on proposals for future cooperation on the issues. High on the agenda was renewables in Slovakia and adaptation to climate change in Central Europe. About 25 persons - mostly postgraduate students, teachers and NGOs participated.

## Seminar: Denmark

On 9 December 2010, INFORSE-Europe, the Danish Organisation for Sustainable Energy and others held a seminar about the existing and future EU energy policies. Martin Lindgreen, the leader of the office for EU & International Energy Issues, Danish Ministry of Climate and Energy, started with an overview of EU policies. Next, Gunnar Boye Olesen presented INFORSE-Europe proposals concerning the new policies. The Danish MEP, Britta Thomsen, also gave her ideas on EU policies, including highlights of the new report from the Parliament on energy efficiency, which was adopted the following week.

See more on the  
INFORSE-Europe's NGO Policy  
Seminars: [www.inforse.org/europe/  
seminar.htm](http://www.inforse.org/europe/seminar.htm)

**INFORSE-EUROPE**  
International Network for Sustainable Energy - Europe



# SPARE News

by Olga Senova,  
SPARE org-committee

## New material: Me and Energy

SPARE has new education materials entitled, "Me and Energy", that are addressed specifically to primary schools. It was written and produced by the Moldova SPARE NGO in collaboration with specialists from the national education institute and with the SPARE international expert group. In early 2011, this material will be tested by teachers in pilot classes of Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. New practical lessons were designed and published by Kazakhstan SPARE coordinators.



## Competition 2010/11

The VI International SPARE competition 2010/2011 was announced in September, 2010.

The slogan of the competition is the same as last year's: "Save Climate with Simple Energy Solutions".

It runs first on the national level, and then the competition-organising committee of each country nominates its best five projects to participate in the international competition. The **deadline** for nominations to the international competition is the 15th of March, 2011.

## 3rd Energy Saving Day, November 11

The 11th of November, 2010 was the third annual International Energy Saving Day, which was established by the SPARE network. On this day, children's entire classes and schools disseminated information about saving energy and, implemented simple energy-saving measures in schools and in homes. One of the most successful initiatives consisted of schoolchildren's sending SPARE post-cards to authorities with proposals on supporting energy-saving activity in their respective countries or regions.



Solar energy in practice in Moldova.



SPARE, the world's largest school educational project on climate, energy and environment. More than 4,500 schools and 175,000 pupils from 17 countries of Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia participate in SPARE. The project is supported by the Norwegian Society for Conservation of Nature, a member of INFORSE.

Read more: [www.spareworld.org](http://www.spareworld.org);  
INFORSE-Europe's school database,  
[www.inforse.org/europe/schools/SPARE.htm](http://www.inforse.org/europe/schools/SPARE.htm); and  
Sustainable Energy News No. 69, June, 2010,  
[www.inforse.org/europe/pdfs/SEN69.pdf](http://www.inforse.org/europe/pdfs/SEN69.pdf).

## Romania

Sent by Ion Zamfir, Earth Friends

About 500 children were involved in the educational program in Romania. All the newly established 4 Local Energy Planning Committees are working in conformity with the existing program. We now have fully functional projects in Brusturoasa (solar PV, solar heat, and wind power), Pisu (solar thermal and solar PV), Sarulesti (efficient insulation and double glazed windows in a school), and Sovata (public lighting using street LED lamps).

On the SPARE international competition there was a Romanian pupil who received his prize at a special ceremony.



## Portugal:

Sent by Cecile Godinho, Centro Ciência Viva de Tavira (CCVT)

In Tavira, Southern Portugal, four classroom groups from 7th to 11th grades are initiating a year-long project to learn about energy conservation by auditing their schools and homes. They have been challenged to produce suggestions to improve efficiency in various uses of energy.

Teachers are conducting the work in their schools with guidance and training from the local Science Centre (CCVT) and from the Regional Agency for Energy, with the support of the technical services of the Tavira municipality. Ideas and results will be presented by students in educational events.

## Bulgaria

Sent by Denitza Petrova, Za Zemiata

Over 400 projects took part in the educational national competition "Play Energy", made by more than 1000 pupils from 84 schools in the entire country. 20 projects reached the final round of the competition, separated into two age groups, elementary and secondary education. The pupils actively used the materials of the SPARE program during the school year. The environmental club "Ecoenergy" of "Yordan Yovkov" school in Kavarna won second place in the competition with a movie "Tracking the energy - for clean nature and better future". All participants received diplomas, and those ranked in the Top 10 received gifts. Among the gifts were MP4 players and notebooks.

On the international SPARE competition, the Ecoenergy club group won third place in the theme of Theoretical Works with their project "Energy from biomass - clean nature".



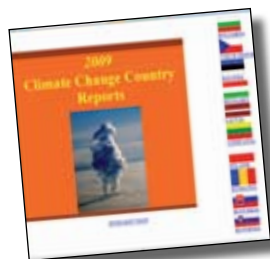
Romanian pupil with his winning "energy house" model (left). Ecoenergy club group (top) and pupils with demonstrational models for clean energy in Bulgaria.



Pupils building solar oven in Portugal.



# Publications



## New Edition: Climate Change NGO Country Reports - 2010

A new update of the Climate Country Reports with NGO views.

The report already covers the new EU countries. A new EU accession country, Macedonia, is included, prepared by Front 21/42.

The Country Reports were written according to the questionnaire provided to the authors, who have the freedom to choose to write the report as plain text (essay) or in question-and-answer format.

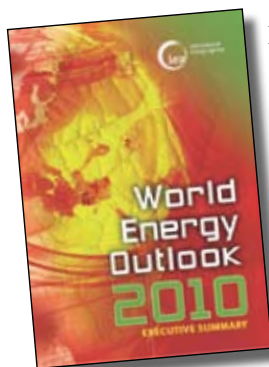
The authors are: Todor Todorov (Za Zemiata, Bulgaria), Jiri Jerabek (Centre for Transport and Energy, Czech republic), Tonu Lausmaa (Renewable Energy Center TAASEN, Estonia), Brigitta Bozso (Energi Klub, Hungary), Alda Ozola (Latvian Green Movement, Latvia), Saulius Piksrys Vytas (Bendrija Atgaja, Community Atgaja, Lithuania), Aleskandra Arcipowska (Polish Ecological Club, Mazovia Branch, Poland), Ioana Ciuta (TERRA Mileniul III, Romania), Emil Bedi (FAE, Slovakia), Barbara Kvac (Focus, Slovenia) and Niki Fowler (text advice).

*Edited by Emil Bedi.*

*Published by INFORSE-Europe,*

*December 2010, CD and web version*

*W: <http://www.inforse.org/europe/fae/CC/Cover.html>.*



## IEA Report "World Energy Outlook 2010"

Updated projections of energy demand, production, trade and investment, fuel-by-fuel and region-by-region.

Projections are up to 2035 and include, for the first time, a new scenario that anticipates future actions by governments to meet the commitments they have made to tackle climate change and growing energy insecurity.

The report projects that the use of renewable energy will triple between 2008 & 2035, an increase driven by the power sector, with renewables' share in electricity supply rising from 19% in 2008 to 32% in 2035.

*Summary:*

- The lack of ambition seen in the Copenhagen conference has increased the cost of achieving the 2°C goal and has made it less likely to happen. Unless commitments are fully implemented by 2020, it will be all but impossible to achieve the goal.
- The age of cheap oil is over, though policy action could bring lower international prices than would otherwise be the case.
- Renewables are entering the mainstream, but long-term support is needed to boost their competitiveness.
- Getting the prices right by phasing-out fossil-fuel subsidies is the single most effective measure to cut energy demand.

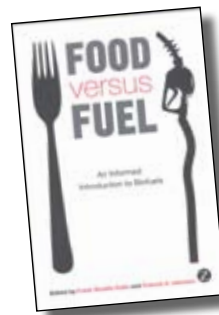
*Published by International Energy Agency (IEA), November, 2010, 736 pages, ISBN 978-92-64-08624-1, Price: Paper 150 Euro, pdf 120 Euro, discounts to non-profit and lower-income countries.*

*Free download:*

*-18-page Executive Summary in 12 languages, key graphs (10 pages), fact sheets (6 pages).*

*- Special 52-page Excerpt, "Energy Poverty: How to make modern energy access universal," published by IEA, UNDP and UNIDO.*

*<http://www.worldenergyoutlook.org/>.*



## Food versus Fuel - An informed introduction to biofuels

The book tries to bring a balanced approach to the current "Food and Fuel" debate with quality

facts and figures for academics and practitioners in development studies, environment studies, and agricultural studies. The views include perspectives from 'pro' and 'anti' biofuels experts and activists, from the North and South.

Among the topics: Why should we use biofuels? The role of biofuels in agriculture, in land use, and in promoting socio-economic rural development. Biofuel usage and climate change: implications for GHG Emissions, biodiversity, impacts and adaptation. Future trends in biomass resources for food and fuel.

*Edited by Frank Rosillo-Calle, Ph.D., Honorary Research Fellow, Department of Environmental Science & Technology (DEST), Imperial College London and by Francis X. Johnson, Ph.D., Senior Research Fellow, in Climate and Energy, Stockholm Environment Institute in Stockholm, Sweden.*

*Published by Zed Books,*

*November 2010, 217 pages,*

*ISBN: 9781848133839 pb,*

*Price: £ 14.99,*

*W: [www.zedbooks.co.uk](http://www.zedbooks.co.uk).*

## Game:



## ENERCITIES

Energities is a fully web-based 3 dimensional game. The goal is to create and expand virtual cities dealing with pollution, energy shortages, renewable energy etc.

*Target Group: 15-20 years*

*Result of a School Project under Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) in 2008-2011.*

*Produced by five European education institutions. Running in English, Greek, Dutch, Spanish, German and Slovenian.*

*<http://www.energycities.com>.*



## EU Structural Fund NGO Guide

The NGO Guide is part of INFORSE-Europe work on evaluating the structural funds used on renewable energy.

INFORSE-Europe is compiling information on renewable-energy projects financed by EU Structural Funds. The collection is sorted by countries and by technologies. Updates are ongoing for sections on Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Bulgaria.

*Edited by Emil Bedi,*

*Published by INFORSE-Europe,*

*December, 2010.*

*<http://www.inforse.org/europe/Structural-funds/>.*



# Events

18 January, 2011, Budapest, Hungary  
**"Earth-Saving" Action – "Defend the Climate" Demonstration on the Chain Bridge across the Danube river.**

The Demonstration is followed by the 3rd Climate "Top" Conference at the Regional Environmental Center on 18th January, 2011. The Conference is registered as an official event of the EU Presidency.

The activities are organised by the Hungarian Climate Club called KlimaKlub and are supported by a website at which people can join personally or as an established smaller group/ "climate club".

Information: [www.klimaklub.hu](http://www.klimaklub.hu)



April 11-15, 2011, Brussels, Belgium  
**and Energy Days in the EU**

## EUSEW-2010

European Union Sustainable Energy Week in Brussels includes several parallel conferences, and workshops in Brussels.

An Energy Day is a non-for-profit event that promotes energy efficiency or renewable energy. It must take place between 11 and 15 April 2011 (weekends before and after accepted).

People can join – from exhibitions, conferences, online events, performances to guided tours, open door days, workshops, media campaigns, concerts. You can register such an event on the web site and it will be part of the program. In 2010, the EUSEW triggered more than 300 events across Europe.

Information: [www.eusew.eu](http://www.eusew.eu)



INFORSE-Europe is Campaign Associate to the Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign and applied to organise two events in Brussels. We will know in

February 2011 whether or not the application was successful.



April 26, 2011  
**Chernobyl 25 Years Ago**

More information:

[www.nirs.org](http://www.nirs.org)

[www.10.antenna.nl/wise/](http://www.10.antenna.nl/wise/)

[www.chernobyl-international.com](http://www.chernobyl-international.com)

[www.facts-on-nuclear-energy.info/index2.php?size=b&l=en](http://www.facts-on-nuclear-energy.info/index2.php?size=b&l=en)

[www.inforse.org/europe/nuclear.htm](http://www.inforse.org/europe/nuclear.htm)



[www.dont-nuke-the-climate.org](http://www.dont-nuke-the-climate.org)



March 13 - 19, 2011,  
 Germany & Denmark  
**Seminar/Fair/Excursion:  
 Small Wind Mills**

The seminar takes place at the Artefact centre for sustainable development in Glücksburg in Northern Germany. Excursions take you to the Nordic Folkecenter for Renewable Energy in

Denmark and the Husum Energy Fair in Germany.

Special focus on developing and transitional countries. The Seminar is supported by WWEA, BWE and Bingo foundation. Artefact and Folkecenter are both members of INFORSE-Europe.

Application deadline: February 10.

Information at: [www.artefact.de](http://www.artefact.de)

## Join us on the Facebook



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**Support: 100% Sustainable Energy World**  
 100 % Renewables and 4-Factor efficiency by 2030/50

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**Sustainable Energy News**



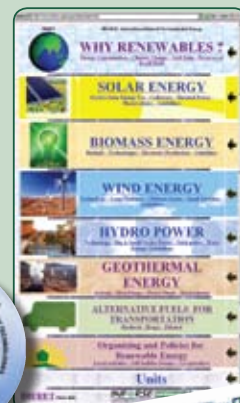
## INFORSE South-Asia CD

**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.

## DIERET

**Distant Internet Education on Renewable Energy Technologies**



**[http://www.inforse.org/order\\_form.php3](http://www.inforse.org/order_form.php3)**

