



[Issue No. 3, December 2010]

Foreword

Dear partners and friends,

at the very beginning of 2011, and I am happy to address you with this third edition of the PEA newsletter. Looking back, 2010 was a successful year for PEA: We have concluded the first two project phases and could achieve some considerable outcomes. All partners used the time to get to know their respective tasks but also each other. We defined the different project steps and created the starting point for a successful project work.

There are also some quite tangible outputs: We finalized the baseline studies, started developing an expert network and working on the regional energy strategies. I hope that 2011 will be an equally successful year and that together we can reach all the goals we have set us. I am looking forward to continue our productive and exciting cooperation and wish you all a very prosperous and happy new year.



*Mayor Wittenberge
Dr. Oliver Hermann*

Meeting in Lathi [Finland]

LUAS and EMU

23.-24.09.2010

In late September, the staff of Estonian University of Life Sciences and Tartu Regional Energy Agency visited Lahti, Finland. Aim of the meeting was to discuss the implementation of work package 4 and training needs of the regions. During the meeting a guided tour to the renewable energy research center, Energon, was organised. The tour was hosted by Operations Manager Mr. Veijo Sääksjärvi from Lahti Science and Business Park. The visitors also participated in Innovation Centre open house and seminar where Mr. Timo Ahonen presented LUAS's R&D&I activities and Mrs. Johanna Kilpi-Koski presented Finnish Cleantech Cluster Activities.

All academic partners have collected and reported the existing data available locally: ongoing and implemented projects and education and knowledge concerning WP4 issues in their own regions. The collected data – self profiling - is relevant for planning the theoretic base on the training modules.

All academic partners participating in WP4 have collected information on locally important issues concerning energy saving and energy efficiency. The collection of information consisted of negotiations with stakeholders according to the developed questionnaire. Those negotiations were needed to define target groups and content of training modules. There are many different target groups that will need training on energy efficiency and energy saving. Examples for possible target groups:

- People working in construction and renovation
- Energy management staff
- Teachers
- Real estate owners
- Decision makers



Operations Manager Mr Veijo Sääksjärvi (on the left) from Lahti Science and Business Park presents Energon's R&D&I activities to the staff of Estonian University of Life Sciences Tartu Regional Energy Agency and Lahti University of Applied Sciences.

Within the lifetime of PEA, three training modules will be produced. Partners have started to prepare first drafts of the content of such training modules. Module 1 will be a short term vocational training course and it will be targeted to a wider audience. Module 2 will be wider than module 1 and it will be targeted to energy professionals only. (This idea has been presented to German media and the testing of the module will start at the 1st of October 2011. For further information, please contact Maria Ludwig). Modules 1 and 2 will be piloted during the PEA - Project. Module 3 will be targeted to a very small group of high level energy experts.

Other Issues:

The first draft of the Quality and sustainability criteria for the training modules has been prepared by Riga Technical University.

Solar Roofs in Dzierzgon [Poland]

Everybody knows how important energy is for any human being. Consciousness of decreasing amount of fossil fuels, necessity of environment protection, as well as economic aspects stimulate our interest in renewable energy sources. Kazimierz Szewczun, the Mayor of Dzierzgon municipality, is convinced that environmental protection activities pay off. He applied to Norwegian Financing System for a subsidy for solar energy development. More than 1400 people got hot water from their own solar heating units. The attractiveness of the region increased - it is now seen as a clean, ecological place for recreation.

Solarthermal collectors give comfort and savings for users. Environmental effects are reductions in emission of greenhouse gases, dust and toxic substances released usually during the combustion process' said Maciej Kostrzewski, a contractor in this project. Solar thermal system covers 60% needs for hot water in the households.

In 2009, Dzierzgon municipality has finished the installation of solar collectors in 294 houses with a total surface of 1420 m². The project was financed from Norwegian Funds (462.000 €). Homeowners, as well as the municipality contributed 15% of installation cost each. The project which promotes practical usage of solar energy is considered a big success. Every year the municipality produces 2942 J of heat energy from sun radiation. Two years before there has been a project for thermo-renovation of public buildings such as schools, gyms and mayor office. This project also received subsidies from Norwegian Funds. Now, the municipality is preparing a project for hybrid street lights. These 111 lamps will use solar and wind energy to light rural areas of Dzierzgon. Savings which were made in 2009 allow extending the project for another 33 houses.



Solar roofs in Dzierzgon; Pogodna street.

Local authorities are encouraged by the fact of the high extend of approval within the public. The project was approved by the Energy Globe Award Foundation, which awards municipalities for their activities in the field of rational use and saving of energy. The project was officially presented during the ceremony on 3rd June 2010 in Kigali capital of Rwanda. Every year the Energy Globe Foundation awards candidates in five categories:

Earth, Fire, Water, Air and Youth. The Dzierzgon Initiative has been chosen from more than 800 candidates.

Michał Górski, Jolanta Szewczun

Cluster Seminar and Study Tour [12.-18.11.2010]

Tartu – Ignalina – Krakow - Güssing

One planned activity of Work package 3 of the BSR Programme Funded project Public Energy Alternatives (PEA) is to extend cooperation with existing Energy Regions in Europe. This cooperation aims at learning from their experiences and mistakes (to avoid our own), bringing useful and tested know-how into the project, and transferring the experiences of a more advanced region into the economic environment of the involved project partners. Developing strategies for sustainable energy consumption and energy production from renewable sources will help the regions to improve their overall development options - regional development mainly depends on the capacity of innovation and on the readiness to improve and change a given situation - this will be reached by raising awareness for energy problems, by working on new financial and management models and by concrete implementation (preparation) measures.

Drawing on the above the leader of WP3 leader – South-Estonian Centre for Renewable Energy (LETEK) initiated a cluster seminar on the development problems of the energy sector in the Baltic region viewed in comparison with the Republic of Austria and more specifically – in comparison with the Güssing region in the South-Eastern part of Austria.

The aim of the planned event was to visit the partner countries involved in the project and located along the route, i.e. Latvia, Lithuania and Poland, to communicate actively on the spot, to use the travel time efficiently for road seminars, and to collect comprehensive information and knowledge in the Güssing region known and recognised as a success story of efficient implementation of a variety of RES and RUE actions.



The aim of the study trip to Güssing was to demonstrate a successful energy region, starting with an historical overview - from where it all started, how choices and decisions were made. Furthermore the actual situation was explained in order to encourage the participants to follow the example, avoid mistakes and become successful energy regions themselves by the end of the day.

The first road seminar on educational modules (WP 4) started on 12 November on the way from Estonia to Lithuania led by the Finnish partner and supported by the Estonian University of Life Sciences team.



Part-financed by the European Union
(European Regional Development Fund)



Seminar in Igalina

12.11.2010

For the seminar in Igalina Nuclear Power Plant Regional Development Agency offered an introduction to the region, gave a historical background of regional development, problems and challenges and sustainability of fuel and energy production. The participants were privileged to have a welcome address from the District Mayor.

The main host of the event and the project partner Dmitrij Sosunov showed us around to Igalina biomass fuelled boiler house, new Igalina sports centre and the surrounding neighbourhood.

Seminar in Krakow

13.11.2010

The next morning we continued towards Krakow. The first road seminar offered a video session and discussion of the Lithuanian case. Excellent video materials allowed getting more information about the Igalina region. The Lithuanian partner gave an overview of the preparation process of their regional baseline paper and the outcome of their hard work which stands out for its quality and profoundness. Everyone benefitted from the comments made by the audience and the WP leader as well as the explanations given by the presenter.

During the second road seminar attention was paid to first a video on successful RES and RUE projects implemented in different parts of the country was demonstrated. Then baseline papers for Rõuge and Mustvee were discussed, which however was complicated due to different level of maturity of the projects but otherwise worked out as a useful exercise for all participants. At the end of the seminar point on the agenda concerned Latvia and the baseline paper for Kraslava region. Another baseline paper presented and discussed during the seminar was from Ylivieskä region.

Project team in Igalina



Güssing

15.11.2010

November 15 started with a project briefing given by the coordinator Ulrich Müller which created a friendly but dedicated atmosphere for the next two days. We were lucky to have the best possible person from the Renewable Energy Centre to talk to us – Reinhard Koch is one of the initiators and the main promoter of all those projects and activities which have made Güssing the region as we can see it today.

The presentation gave an overview of the regional development and economic calculations behind the success, funding sources used to implement different RES and RUE projects and investments. The idea was to encourage the audience to follow the example, to show them, that such projects are possible and economically feasible and what is most important – they are crucial for regional development. Most of the participating regions in the PEA project have problems, smaller or bigger, including a decreasing economy, especially agricultural use, brain-drain, an aging population, unused natural resources etc. Wider use of renewable energy sources, RES fuel production, local resources based energy supply, decreasing dependency on imported fuels especially fossil fuels – all that can contribute to economic growth, revival of local agriculture (cultivation of energy crops) etc.

Cooperation with top class researchers is becoming more and more important to remain competitive and to develop further. New technologies and solutions are becoming too high-tech and complicated and require very high qualification from those installing them and working with them. Close cooperation with Vienna Technical University and other research centres has been going on successfully for years; nevertheless, the newest building in Güssing is their own research and development centre.



Reinhard Koch and his team think and plan long-term they have overcome hard times of the past and they have a clear vision of the future. The general name for all these achievements is Model Güssing.



R. Koch from Austria and U. Müller from Germany

Two Day Conference in Kraslava

Best practice in energy efficiency and use of renewable energy source 22.-23.11.2010

In the framework of PEA (Public Energy Alternatives) project Kraslava municipality and Riga Technical University (RTU) organised a two day workshop in Kraslava. Objective of the first day event was to invite representatives of insulation companies to discuss the development of insulation materials. One of the main issues discussed was the insulation of the building with hemp material. During discussion the main pros and cons were examined and the participants tried to find technical solutions for the pilot project in the Kraslava municipality.

The workshop on Day 2 was dedicated to issues regarding best practice in energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources. At the start of the workshop PEA project manager of Kraslava municipality Mrs. Laila Vilmane gave a general presentation on the PEA project. It was followed by a presentation about Baseline results for Kraslava region. A presentation was then given by Ms. Liga Upeniece from Kraslava municipality and included information gathered for WP3 deliverable. Prof. Dagnija Blumberga from RTU gave an overall presentation on the use of renewable energy in Europe and Latvia. During the presentation she indicated main drivers, advantages and disadvantages for the use of RES. After assist. Prof. Marika Rosa presented a pilot project implemented by RTU.



Marika Rosa showed preliminary results of the first demonstration project implemented in multi-family building with solar combisystem. System consists of solar panels, pellet boiler, accumulation tank and the system elements that are fixed in a container outside the building.

In the workshop there was also a presentation of representative of Daugavpils housing company Mrs. Vera Ragele. She presented example of energy efficiency measures implemented in buildings in Daugavpils.



Another presentation was dedicated to energy production in Kraslava city and future plans. It was presented by managing director of Kraslavas nami Mr.Valerijs Maslovs. Discussions after this presentation showed the weak points for implementation of energy efficiency measures in Kraslava region.

In the afternoon Mr.Ilmars Kass from Latgran, Ltd. presented a project on pellet production that has been initiated in Kraslava. Production capacity of the plant will be 150 thousand tons a year. The last section of the workshop was left for presentations of insulation companies (Paroc, Isover and Ritols, Ltd.) about their production for insulation of the multi-family and other buildings. There were 15 participants visiting round table discussions and 25 participants taking part in the workshop.



Part-financed by the European Union
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[News]

PEA Project Meeting - 02. - 05.02.2011

The next PEA Meeting will take place in Krakow and Niepolomice (Poland).

The meetings will now take place on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th of February. Wednesday 2nd and Saturday 5th are for travelling.



www.atenekom.eu

The Aims of PEA: Sustainable Development and Energy Efficiency of Public Households



- Commune of Niepolomice, PL
- The Szewalski Institute of Fluid-Flow Machinery Polish Academy of Sciences, PL
- Ylivieska Subregion, FI
- Lahti University of Applied Sciences, FI

www.eu.baltic.net

Sustainable Energy Strategies as a Chance for Regional Development

Partners

- City of Wittenberge, DE
- Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus, DE
- Technical University of Applied Sciences Wildau, DE
- German Association for Housing, Urban and Spatial Development, DE
- South-Estonian Centre of Renewable Energy, EE
- Estonian University of Life Sciences, EE
- Rõuge Municipality Government, EE
- Mustvee Municipality, EE
- Voru County Government, EE
- Zarasai District Municipality Administration, LT
- Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant Regional Development Agency, LT
- Ignalina District Municipality Administration, LT
- Visaginas Municipality Administration, LT
- Lithuanian Energy Institute, LT
- Kraslava Municipality Council, LV
- Riga Technical University, LV
- AGH – University of Science and Technology, PL



www.peaproject.eu