

Workshop on Local Energy Management *-19th and 20th December 2002 Cáceres (Spain)*

Agencia Extremeña de la Energía (AGENEX), Spain

Summary

Local energy management in the region of Extremadura is an issue which has hardly been targeted before by national, regional or local authorities. This area is characterised by the existence of small and dispersed villages and covers an area of 41,634 km². Mostly agricultural and farming activities with some food processing industry are the main income source in the region. Therefore the municipalities are not usually aware of energy saving possibilities and do not count with the technical know how or experience to undertake local energy saving and diversification policies or mere practical decisions. The seminar held in Cáceres during the 19th and 20th of December 2002 aimed at informing local authorities and interested parties about the easiest and cheapest ways of both saving energy and finding new optimum energy investments.

End-user area	Target Audience	Technical
<input type="checkbox"/> New buildings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Citizens	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy efficiency
<input type="checkbox"/> Refurbishment of buildings	<input type="checkbox"/> Households	<input type="checkbox"/> Heating
<input type="checkbox"/> Transport and mobility	<input type="checkbox"/> Property owners	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooling
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial instruments	<input type="checkbox"/> Schools and universities	<input type="checkbox"/> Appliances
<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision makers	<input type="checkbox"/> Lighting
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legal initiatives (municipal regulations, directives, etc)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local and regional authorities	<input type="checkbox"/> CHP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Transport companies	<input type="checkbox"/> District Heating
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Solar energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> User behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/> ESCOs	<input type="checkbox"/> Biomass
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Architects and engineers	<input type="checkbox"/> Wind
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Financial institutions	<input type="checkbox"/> Geothermal
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Hydro power
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Context

Agenex is a Save Energy Agency that operates in a large region in the Southwest of Spain, called Extremadura. Although it was recently created, its work programme has been successfully started and the intense activity developed during this initial period it is now offering results.

Agenex, with the main aim to promote energy efficiency and use of renewable energy resources in the region, decided to organise a seminar directly focusing in the main problems and current solutions to local energy management, and bringing the best available experts on each subject to explain the new technologies and market advances in this field.

The seminar was targeted to local authorities of more than 80 municipalities in the region of Extremadura, and local development agents, municipal energy experts and officials, etc. The seminar was held in the town of Cáceres, and the visit to a municipal PV installation was carried out in Alcuéscar.

Objectives

The seminar was organised with a view to inform local municipal authorities in the provinces of Badajoz and Cáceres, which form the region of Extremadura in the south of Spain about the recent technological advances concerning local energy management, in order to improve local energy accountancy, planning and optimisation of local resources. As specific objectives, the seminar aimed at:

- ❑ Demonstrate potential uses of renewable energy sources in the region;
- ❑ Providing technical guidance and useful information on energy themes for local administrations;
- ❑ Establish collaboration links in the region among local authorities and regional government through the action of the agency in these issues;
- ❑ Promote the use of RES at local level, through direct public investment or energy planning activities;
- ❑ Promote the activities carried out by the Agency.

Process

The workshop was organised in a two day event, held in the Complejo Cultural San Francisco, Cáceres and counting with the participation of the partner Save agencies from Cova da Beira and Weinviertel, and was part of the common activities foreseen in the current Save project.

The subjects included in the workshop were:

- ❑ Regulation, control and energy saving systems on outdoor lighting. Coord. Mr. Antonio Santacan Cristóbal, ORBIS
- ❑ Application of GIS on lighting points management. Preventive maintenance. Coord. Mr. Joaquín Villar Rodríguez, SODEAN
- ❑ Technical characteristics on public lighting bulbs. Coord. Mrs Mar Gandolfo, Philips.
- ❑ Energy efficiency in public buildings. Coord. Mr. Joaquín Villar Rodríguez, SODEAN.
- ❑ Renewable energy local situation. Coord. Mr. Francisco Blázquez, Eng School, University of Extremadura
- ❑ Management software for outdoor lighting. Coord. Mr. Antonio Santacana Crstóbal, ORBIS
- ❑ Municipal energy accounting. Coord. Mr. Ernst Pawlik, Energy Agency of Weinviertel, Austria
- ❑ Electric power pricing as demand system management. Coord. Mr. Francisco Javier Sesma Solís, IBERINCO
- ❑ Debate on local RES management. Coord. Mr. Fernando López Rodríguez. Extremenian Energy Agency, AGENEX.

The handed out material included demonstrative leaflets on the working of the lighting consumption devices, solar panel maintenance instructions and local regulation models for RES investments promotion.

The workshop included also a visit to a public lighting installation using photovoltaic energy in a isolated leisure resource un Alcuéscar, small villages in the Cáceres province.

A publication in Spanish was distributed among the participants in the event, and can be downloaded in the AGENEX web page, as well as a summary in English.

Financial resources and partners

The lead organization is Extremenian Energy Agency (AGENEX) that is working in partnership with Diputación Provincial of Badajoz and Diputación Provincial of Cáceres as associates of the Save Project. All the participants provided their time and materials.

- ❑ Extremenian Energy Agency (AGENEX)
- ❑ Diputación Provincial of Badajoz.
- ❑ Diputación Provincial of Cáceres.
- ❑ Enerarea –Energy agency of Cova da Beira in Portugal
- ❑ Energy Agency of Weinviertel in Austria
- ❑ SODEAN (Energy Agency of Andalucía in Spain)
- ❑ University of Extremadura
- ❑ Iberinco
- ❑ Orbis
- ❑ Philips

Results

The participation level was very high, as out of 95 municipalities invited, more than 80 were represented.

The level of discussion and the creation of a new forum of communication between local authorities, energy experts, energy companies, technological advisers and the agency staff was very important, and has been the basis for new projects and joint ventures.

- ❑ 95 municipalities invited
- ❑ 82 municipalities represented.
- ❑ 76 local authorities attending (87% mayors)
- ❑ 14 further contacts on the subject
- ❑ 3 new RES projects at local level

Lessons learned and repeatability

This kind of event should be carried out as often as possible, as the level of response has been higher than expected, and the workshop gave room to new subjects for further discussion. The workshops should be followed by constant contact and communication between the agency staff and the target group. The feedback from the attendants was good and they prized the specificity of the themes discussed.

Contact for more information:

Organisation / Agency: Agencia Extremeña de la Energía
Main contact: Martin Cobos
Address: Avda. Antonio Masa Campos nº 28
Tel: +34 924 262 161
Fax: +34 924 258 421
E-mail: agenex@dip-caceres.es
Web Site: <http://www.dip-badajoz.es/organismos/eae/index.html>