



NIMSEC

Novel and Integrated Model of Sustainable Energy Communities

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Local Energy Agency
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Universidad de
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Municipality of Karlovo



Regional Energy Agency
of Pazardjik



Smart House Martjanci



Association of
municipalities and
towns of Slovenia



Regional development
Agency of the county
Medimurje



Končar - Kućanski aparati d.o.o.

Končar-Household
appliances LTD

Project Meeting 2 in Cadiz, Spain

Project partners defined further steps of NIMSEC project implementation on their 2nd meeting. Aim of the meeting was to overview the progress on the local project activities, pending tasks and to make a benchmarking for activities in the future. Basis of all work has been already implemented, and this is a detailed and all-encompassing energy audit of the 4 involved territories, i.e. study of current rate of consumption and production of energy in different sectors of activity. Partners will continue with a technical part of energy outlook analysis, and with formulation of energy strategies to overcome detected gaps and barriers. On basis of these studies partners will launch a general model of Sustainable Energy Communities, which can be easily adopted to any local community for different fields of activities.



The very first tangible activity which partners will implement in the next project period is setting up of energy corners in the 4 model sustainable energy communities. These will be launched as exhibitions of RES and RUE, followed by strong information campaigns to raise target group's awareness.

Within the meeting, the partners were invited for official reception at the Cadiz Provincial Government Palace. The representatives of the Provincial Government warmly welcomed partners to Cadiz. Also local media captured the welcoming and NIMSEC project presentation.

Project NIMSEC presented at Open Days 2008 in Brussels

NIMSEC Project was presented by REDEA at the workshop named "GREENERGY – Sustainable energy management" held on 8th October 2008 in the House of multiregional cooperation in Brussels as a part of "Sustainable development: Regional responses to

climate change” panel.

The panel was one of the events in the scope of “OPEN DAYS 2008 – European Week of Regions and Cities”.

Besides Međimurje, Austrian region Styria and Hungarian regions West Panonia and South Transdanubia presented their experiences in energy management. REDEA’s managing director Matija Derk presented the initial steps towards sustainable energy management as a foundation for achieving sustainable development in Međimurje County. In order to be sustainable the County must create the necessary structure through which the energy related measures will be implemented. One of the important elements of this structure is a newly established Međimurje Energy Agency - MENEJA.

The Agency, the County, REDEA and other parts of the structure can make informed decisions only if relevant energy related data are available.

The presentation briefly described the process of establishing this structure and gathering of necessary data for improvement of energy related decision making.

NIMSEC project was presented as a good example of how to achieve theoretical and practical advance in creating preconditions for achievement of sustainable energy communities.

Since NIMSEC integrates political, financial and educational measures in order to increase the energy efficiency and use of RES, it is an excellent way of integrating the elements of the structure that is currently being established. The project also gives the guidelines for their future operation. Besides that, all project participants have the opportunity to gain practical experience in implementing international energy related projects.

The discussion that followed the presentations once again showed the importance of creating the strong foundations for implementing energy related policies. The best example of the benefits of that approach is Styria which started building its energy management structure in the 1970’s and now serves as the best practice example in energy management and the use of RES. Regions that aim to be sustainable must create the necessary energy management structures and implement energy related projects in parallel. REDEA presented this process in Međimurje, NIMSEC being an important part of it.



Energy Efficiency corner in Croatia



Picture: Regional centre for vocational education in sustainable building and renewable energy

EE corner with the purpose of presenting energy efficient household appliances and installations was installed by Končar-Household appliances Ltd as a part of Regional centre for vocational education in sustainable building and renewable energy. The Centre operates as a part of The School of Building and Crafts Čakovec. In the exhibition part of the Centre the visitors can get acquainted with the modes of using renewable energy sources, modern construction techniques, and energy efficient household appliances. That way the visitors can get the whole picture of current trends in energy efficiency and renewable energy that are at the core of energy policies of developed countries, especially the EU Member states.

Additional appliances have been installed in the EE corner, and in the next period the info materials will be printed and available to visitors. The first group visits by high schools in the region have also been organized leading to greater dissemination of the information about the corner and NIMSEC. The corner was also visited by the representatives of UNDP project “Promotion of energy efficiency in Croatia” which agreed to promote the Center and EE corner on future project events.

The members of Međimurje County’s energy team that visited the EE corner concluded that it has a high educational and promotional potential. This potential is partly result of the fact that the corner is located in the premises of the high school in which the future construction workers and installers are being educated. That way they get acquainted with the EE appliances and installations that they will soon be installing and/or using in practice. This significantly amplifies the dissemination potential of the EE corner.



Picture:
NIMSEC EE Corner in Čakovec
(Croatia)

In-depth analysis of energy situations conducted in participating regions

The purpose of creating the in-depth analysis of energy situations in the regions participating in the project was to provide detailed data and to conduct the analysis of the current situation in the territories covered. The data on energy production and consumption in different sectors were gathered, which will serve as a foundation for further project activities. This was necessary since project activities are focused on ensuring energy efficiency and overall energy sustainability for the territories involved, and setting a model that could be easily transferred to other local communities.

Field work, existing studies and partners' knowledge have been combined to produce an overall audit reports on energy production and consumption in different target sectors. The analysis was performed in the following regions:

- Province of Cadiz, Spain
- Municipality Karlovo, Bulgaria
- Međimurje County, Croatia
- Municipalities of Pomurje region, Slovenia

Whereas in Cadiz individual energy audits for some municipalities have previously been prepared, the focus of this study is now given to the province as a whole. In contrary, on the basis of the existent energy balance of Pomurje region, partners from Slovenia have focused their analysis on 8 municipalities of the region, which have the least encouraging performance regarding energy production and consumption. With similar situation in Bulgaria, a more detailed local energy audit was performed for the Municipality Karlovo. As no energy plan exists in Međimurje County, Croatia, partners have focused their audit on gathering and analyzing the available data, identifying the barriers to improvement of the energy situation and giving the best practice examples for doing this.

For each of the territories, available energy data were gathered, processed and graphically presented in the study. It should be noted that partners did their best to respect a common outline for the study, so that comparable conclusions could be made. However, due to lack of available data in some cases such conclusions could not be drawn or at least not at the desired level of reliability. The report itself is a summary of analysis for respective regions. Detailed analyses reports are available in national languages.

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