

ADEME & VOUS

International newsletter

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Editorial

DOMINIQUE CAMPANA,

Director of International Affairs at ADEME

The mobilisation of French eco-companies

The 4th national forum of French eco-companies*

adopted the dual stance of industrial growth and environmental protection. In a difficult economic climate, employment in this sector in France has nevertheless increased by 4.5% since 2009. Delphine Batho, the French Minister for Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, has announced the upcoming launch of initiatives to monitor the development of the "green" sector more closely, which could even lead to the creation of a "Green Economy CAC 40" stock market index. A "white book" has been proposed by the 40 networks of eco-companies that make up the PEXE association, including seven proposals aimed especially at strengthening technology transfers in SMEs and organising coordination between eco-companies so that products and services can be grouped together, and tailored to the requirements of each interested country.

Club ADEME International, comprising 130 small, medium and intermediate-sized businesses, is also helping integrate France's offer. For example, these eco-companies participate actively in the "Investments for the Future" programme designed to support projects that foster innovation. Over one hundred projects have already been supported, many of which are certain to find applications internationally. /

*This forum was organised on 4 April 2013 by PEXE (an association of 40 networks of eco-companies in France) with the support of ADEME.



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ADEME takes over presidency of the **EⁿR Club**

The Agency has taken over the presidency of the EⁿR Club in 2013, a year that will mark a turning point in energy challenges in Europe. ADEME's aims are to progress energy management and, through its actions, to strengthen the association's influence.

Budget discussions for the 2014-2020 programmes, adoption of the post-2020 renewable energies strategy, the new Energy Efficiency Directive, rollout of smart grid action plans to finalize the energy market in 2014, etc. "In taking over the presidency of the EⁿR Club in 2013, ADEME aims for the association to exert influence over European policies, strengthen its visibility among international bodies and improve the exchange of information between its members", explained Nicolas Dyèvre, in charge of cooperation with European countries at ADEME's International Affairs Division and the Club's new secretary. The EⁿR Club is an association of national agencies in Europe responsible for implementing energy efficiency policies and developing renewable energies in their respective countries. It has 25 partners from 24 countries, 19 of which in the European Union. The remaining five represent Norway, Switzerland, Croatia, Turkey and Russia. Providing a forum for discussion and involved in numerous cooperation assignments, the EⁿR Club also strives to ensure international decision-making bodies, especially the European

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>>> Commission, are aware of energy management challenges and solutions. Taking over from CRES, its Greek counterpart at the head of the EⁿR Club in 2012, ADEME has confirmed its commitment to leveraging the network to progress energy management in Europe. The Agency, together with all the other members will steer several actions in order to boost the Club's visibility and influence among European bodies and institutions. In the area of energy efficiency, it will hold a workshop on the performance of public finance at the European Parliament in April 2013. This debate comes at a particularly important moment given that the 2013 fiscal year will see the finalisation of budget negotiations for the entire 2014-2020 period. ADEME will use the comparative study it is performing to inform the discussions about the measures implemented by the building industry.

PROMOTE ENERGY MANAGEMENT IN EUROPE

The Agency will coordinate the European campaign on energy performance contracts within the context of the new Directive by identifying exemplary operations, contacting national and regional decision makers and organising the agencies' participation in various national events held by the Commission. *"The aim of this campaign is in particular to encourage project financing without having to resort to public funding"*, said Nicolas Dyèvre. ADEME will also strengthen its ties with the Directorate-General for Research&Innovation to ensure it takes into account the energy sector's new organisational structure promoted by the Commission as part of its 2014-2020 strategy. Another initiative aimed at promoting the network's role as an expertise consultant involves the publication of "Club opinions", for example on the Label and Eco-design directives due to be revised and on certain key points of the new Energy Efficiency Directive. To establish the Club's visibility and influence, ADEME will step up or instigate cooperation with international networks, such as MEDENER (Mediterranean Association of National Agencies for Energy Conservation), Union for the Mediterranean, EDSO smartgrids (association of distribution network operators), IRENA (International Renewable Energy Agency), IPEEC (International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation), etc.

At a time when projections reveal that some of the energy efficiency targets of the EU Energy and Climate Package risk not being reached by 2020, *"ADEME and its partners are more than ever determined to do what is necessary to promote energy management in Europe"*, summed up Nicolas Dyèvre.

 nicolas.dyevre@ademe.fr

↑ **FEEDBACK /**

The EⁿR Club is implementing several major projects in various areas of energy management

One example is the ODYSSEE-MURE project that has led to the rollout of reference tools for compiling and assessing energy efficiency policies in Europe. The databases containing 1400 measures and 200 indicators are now used to assess policies in 18 countries. The EⁿR Club has also created the Topten guide for household appliances. This website, which attracts three million visitors a year, provides users with details about the comparative consumption of household appliances. Finally, the EⁿR Club has launched the Ecowill website to promote eco-driving practices among drivers.

 www.odyssee-indicators.org
www.guide-topten.com
www.ecodrive.org/en/home/ecowill_the_project

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Construction
Stakeholder

ADEME is coordinating the French response to the European "Build Up Skills" initiative that aims to improve building industry craftsmen's and on-site construction workers' energy efficiency skills.

The European Union has set ambitious energy efficiency policy targets. By 2020, the EU aims to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 20%, improve energy efficiency by 20% and increase the share of renewable energy in its total energy consumption to 20%. To achieve these targets, the European Commission is relying on the IEE (Intelligent Energy Europe) programme aimed at promoting various initiatives. One such initiative started in 2012 is Build Up Skills designed to improve building craftsmen's and on-site construction workers' energy efficiency skills. Its main target is to establish a roadmap of the various actions needed to improve the qualifications and skills of building sector workers in these areas. This roadmap, approved by further education sector decision



There are major challenges involved in terms of professional practice, precision and compliance with the steps involved in a renovation project to improve the energy efficiency of buildings.

Stakeholders ready for 2020

makers, will address all aspects of skills acquisition from content to funding. It will be presented in November 2013 to the European Commission. In France, where buildings account for 18% of greenhouse gas emissions, the challenge of thermal renovation and the development of renewable energies imply the need for a massive training programme involving several hundreds of thousands of worksite operators. Initiatives have already been undertaken by numerous stakeholders in the field. Professional associations have a significant role to play here. "There are major challenges involved in terms of professional practice, precision and compliance with the steps involved on a renovation project to make sure a building is energy efficient", explained Christina Nirup, Manager External Training at ADEME. "Workers must understand why they are doing what they are asked to do and the processes involved. And there needs to be a better dialogue between worksite designers and those who actually work on them." The consortium combining AVE (Urban Employment Alliance), AFPA (France's adult vocational training association), CSTB (France's scientific and technical centre for the construction Industry) and ADEME is coordinating the deployment of the first phase of Build Up Skills called "Pillar 1". The consortium's expertise in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable

energies and training means it is ideally placed to provide the link between the sector's various stakeholders.

IMPROVED COMMUNICATION

"ADEME has the advantage of being a neutral party in the building sector", emphasised Christina Nirup. "We can just as easily talk with professional associations as with unions, government ministries and training organisations. We can improve communication between the various stakeholders." These 70 stakeholders often meet together at the national qualification platform to analyse the situation and develop recommendations for

the roadmap. They work in plenary sessions, theme-based working groups and interregional meetings, where the proposed recommendations are compared against what's actually happening in the field. The roadmap's implementation will form "Pillar 2" of the Build Up Skills initiative. The European Commission will co-fund for three years the organisation of training systems for building industry professionals that are designed to help meet the 2020 objectives.



christina.nirup@ademe.fr

Go further

EIGHTEEN MONTH SCHEDULE

Build Up Skills runs from June 2012 to November 2013. The first stage involves establishing the situation and presenting it to the members of the national qualifications platform. Concurrently, six theme-based groups representing the building industry stakeholders started to meet to sketch out the roadmap that is compared at interregional meetings with what is actually happening in the field. Once this roadmap has been discussed by the national qualifications platform and approved by the steering committee, it will be presented to the European Commission which will launch phase 2 of Build Up Skills in September which will involve funding actions designed to improve the qualifications of building industry workers.



For more information about the European project to improve the skills of construction industry workers: <http://uk.buildupskills.eu/>



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Asia Low carbon programme

From 2010 to 2013, ten Asian cities took part in the Asian Institute of Technology's Low Carbon Programme. Supported by ADEME, they were provided with assistance to implement concrete actions.

Asia's citizens account for half the world's population. Asian countries' economic activity now represents 27% of the world's gross domestic product (GDP), and that figure is set to reach 50% by 2050. Asia, driven by massive economic growth, is also having to confront the challenges of climate change. It now generates one third of the planet's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The cities, where the most polluting activities are concentrated, have a role to play in reducing GHG emissions. With ADEME's support, the Low Carbon Programme implemented by the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Bangkok helped cities with a population of under half a million to acquire the technical means and human resources to respond to the challenges of climate change. Between 2010 and 2013, 10 cities in Laos, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam were provided with support to implement local solutions. "Their aim was to reduce their consumption of natural resources, including energy, and to develop new approaches to consumption and travel", explains Aurélie Bernard, responsible for Asia at ADEME's International Affairs Division. Several tools developed by ADEME in France, such as the Bilan Carbone® and the PCET (Local Climate-Energy Plan), were used by these Asian cities involved in the Low Carbon Programme to determine the sources of their GHG emissions and develop their own action plans.

Some cities, like Chau Doc, Da Nang and Hue in Vietnam, and Kandy and Kurunegala in Sri Lanka, developed climate and energy plans based on national GHG emission reduction targets. These initiatives generated awareness among numerous local stakeholders (elected officials, municipal technical staff, economic agents and citizens), of the challenges of climate change and encouraged the adoption of best environmental practice. Several of them received training in how to use the Bilan Carbone® and the PCET. "There was an exchange of experience with French cities, such as Grenoble, Mulhouse and Nantes, which explained to their Asian counterparts what actions they had implemented as a result of using these methods. ADEME brought on board engineering firms and municipalities to provide their expertise to the Asian stakeholders concerned", added Aurélie Bernard. On completion of the programme, several of the cities involved had set GHG emission reduction targets: Kandy and Chau Doc, for example, aim to reduce their emissions by 16% by 2025. Other cities, like Luang Prabang in Laos, have developed pilot waste management actions. Some cities may even apply in partnership with European cities for the 6th call for proposals of the European SWITCH-Asia 2014 programme designed to promote the consumption and production of durables in Asia. Between now and then, the remarkable results achieved under the Low Carbon Programme will be honoured at the World Eco-City Summit in Nantes in September 2013.

@ aurelie.bernard@ademe.fr

+ http://lcc.ait.asia

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BP 90406 - 49004 Angers Cedex 01 - www.ademe.fr

Publication manager: Valérie Martin

Editor-in-chief: Catherine Séguin-Jacques

Co-editor-in-chief: Denis Tappero

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NEWS/

BRUNO LECHEVIN APPOINTED ADEME CHAIRMAN

On 13 March, the French Council of Ministers approved the appointment of Bruno Lechevin as Chairman of ADEME's Board of Directors. His varied and atypical career marked by outstanding commitment to promoting the common good, typifies his regard to social issues and his desire to maintain a constant link with the day-to-day. "The [French] government has stated strong ecological and energy transition goals. ADEME will be the driving force as it conveys the idea that here is a way of pulling us out of the economic crisis. To promote a society that is economic in its use of resources is to encourage creativity, competitiveness, activity and employment", he said.

www.ademe.fr/presse

CIT'ERGIE LABEL CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

Created in 2003, the European Energy Award (EEA) honours local communities engaged in a process to minimise their energy consumption. In France, this label is presented under the Cit'ergie name promoted by ADEME. To date, ten French municipalities have been awarded the Cit'ergie label, and approval is pending for a further dozen or so. ADEME is also working with Morocco to introduce a similar label there.

www.citergie.ademe.fr

TO ATTEND/

13 to 18 May 2013 EUROPEAN SOLAR DAY NATIONWIDE

This 6th ESD in France will contribute to a better understanding of solar technology and its potential.

www.ademe.fr/manifestations

3 to 6 December 2013 POLLUTEC HORIZONS PARIS-NORD-VILLEPINTE

The eco-technology, energy and sustainable development exhibition.

www.pollutec.com

4 to 6 December 2013 ENERGAÏA MONTPELLIER

Annual meeting of renewable energy professionals from France, Europe and the Mediterranean countries.

www.energaia-expo.com