

Newsletter

May 2014

The SUSREG project aims at better integration of sustainable energy aspects into spatial planning activities by improving the knowledge, attitudes and skills of professional urban planners.

In the six partner countries of the SUSREG project, the training sessions are progressing well. Around a hundred professionals in this field are taking part in the master classes. In this newsletter the experiences with the trainings are reported for each country. www.susreg.eu



Czech Republic

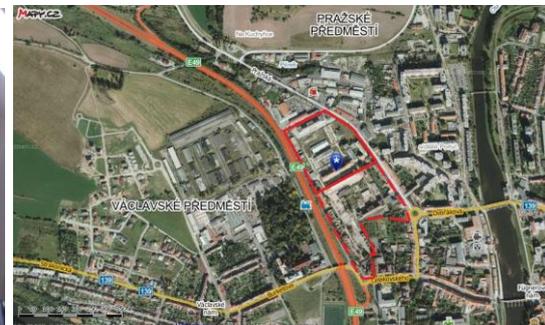
The **first two trainings days** of the **SUSREG Project in Czech Republic** jointly organized by IURS, o.s. and Kraj Vysočina, were celebrated in the city of Jihlava **on the 14th and 28th of November 2013**. The first session intends to expose general principles and present guidelines in relation to sustainable urban planning, including EU and CR climate and energy policy, energy demand in buildings and energy performance evaluation at district level.

The focus of the first part of the second session of trainings is on explaining the concept of sustainable energy and introducing the trainees to sustainable energy technologies. The main characteristics, advantages, disadvantages and applications of different technologies are explained through the courses, as alternatives that can be helpful when integrating sustainable energy aspects in city planning. The focus of the second part of the session is on Financial and economic aspects of urban renewal and renewable energy projects. Almost each explanation of a sustainable energy technology triggered a lively discussion and debate amongst the participants about its potential use and wider application in Vysocina Region.

During the first two sessions, the participants showed an interest in the application of sustainable energy technologies. SUSREG brought the possibility of discussing a variety of energy and environmental issues together with these core issues in the planners agenda.



Discussing, Region Vysocina



Area for case study, Pisek

Spain

The third and fourth training days of the SUSREG project in Spain, jointly organized by Tecnalia, Burgos City Council and the Avila Regional Authority, were celebrated in the city of Avila on the 04th and 5th February 2014. Urban planners, architects and engineers from both authorities participated in the course, plus some invited stakeholders (eg. representatives from the institute of architects).

The training tried to respond to the demand for a more practice-oriented approach to the training by the participants. The third session discussed in detail the planning process in Spain and particularly in Burgos and in the case study area, and barriers and opportunities for the practical case study to influence the planning of the area which remains to be developed were identified.

The fourth session followed a more practical approach where the area was looked at in more detail, and participants distributed in groups to start working on the different tasks needed for proposing planning strategies for the selected area, including passive building strategies, district energy demand analysis, energy technologies potential and financial analysis.



The Netherlands

Environment Agency Middle Holland (ODMH)

In the Netherlands the training for ODMH has been completed. The participants did not only receive information about the technical issues on sustainable energy integration in urban plans. A large part of the training also dealt with subjects like communication, behaviour, finance and business models. For this region maps were made to visualise the potential of the subsoil for the realisation of ground source heat pumps. These maps can be used by the municipalities in this region to see if the type of heating system is an option for a specific urban area.



City Region Arnhem Nijmegen

In the city region Arnhem-Nijmegen the final session is scheduled for May. During the trainings the



complex matter of refurbishing a large district were discussed as well as the efficiency of district heating for a new built area. The participants learned that the type of owner of the buildings has a large influence on the energy reduction that can be realised. New finance and business models were discussed. Furthermore, innovative zero energy concept which are to be produced on industrial level were presented to the participants.



Cyprus

The first lecture was good and there was a lot of discussion. The participants were not familiar with carbon emission calculations and a substantial amount of time was reserved to explain this.

The lecture was quite interesting and there was a lively discussion. The participants knew little about biomass. The main reason is that in Cyprus there is no power plant on biomass.

Another issue that was discussed a lot was the district heating issue. The participants were not familiar with that as well, because in Cyprus there no need for the usage of this kind of technology.

The participants were familiar with thermal solar and photovoltaic systems and wind turbines.



Denmark

The Danish team consists of GATE 21 Byplanlaboriet and European Green Cities.

European Green Cities is the knowledge partner and has the responsibility of arranging the first set of trainings. GATE 21 is the regional partner and has the contact to the target group (the case study). Byplanlaboriet - as the organisation of the planners in Denmark - has the broad dissemination of the training in WP4.

Coordination between the case study, which is a "real life" project running parallel to SUSREG, and the trainings has been a challenge, and due to delay in the strategic energy planning process in the capital region of Copenhagen, we are late with the first set of trainings. But they are all planned and scheduled to be running till mid June 2014.



Short introduction to the case: Strategic Energy Planning process in the Copenhagen region

Stakeholders are 29 municipalities, Regional Authority of Greater Copenhagen, 9 energy supply utilities, 2 national/regional public transport companies, universities and private consulting companies.

Traditionally the municipal energy planning does not ensure a coherent energy planning for major geographic areas. Therefore, there is a risk that municipal energy action plans unwittingly counteract each other or cause sub-optimum solutions.

In the trainings and the case study we focus on developing new practices for cross-municipal and cross-sectoral energy planning by municipalities in the region, creating a long-term, coordinated effort between sectors in the energy supply and transport systems and across public administrations and other public or private stakeholders. In other words: "strategic energy planning".

ET/24/04/14

Agenda

- 14 May 2014: **TII/HU conference on Smart Sustainable Innovation**
Presentation during Session 5: Smart Sustainable Cities - Policy and Regulatory Transition
- 29 May – 2 June: **International workshop on energy efficiency and heritage in Wroclaw**
SUSREG/ISOCARP international workshop for young planning professionals on energy efficiency and heritage in the historical district of Wroclaw (Poland).
The workshop aims to rethink the relationship between energy efficiency and heritage for the historical district of the City of Wroclaw. What methods can we develop to promote energy efficient neighbourhoods while maintaining historic values?
The call is open for young planning professionals (<35yrs old) with a Master's degree and 1 year professional experience, a Bachelor's and 3 year experience or an ongoing PhD in the fields of planning, architecture, geography, social sciences and environmental science.
Isocarp offers accommodation incl meals, free of charge and reimburses travel expenses up to 250 euros. Find our call for candidates here and react!
<http://www.isocarp.org/index.php?id=1751>
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