



June eNewsletter

Training Platform now provides guidance on 2nd generation SEAPs and offers country versions

A free online Training Platform for local political representatives and municipal staff has been developed by the Covenant CapaCITY project. The platform provides local governments with short and easy-to-understand training modules focusing on eight key issues relevant to local energy action planning. Developed by experts in the fields of energy, local government, and adult education, the platform is now available in 12 country specific versions ([Bulgaria](#), [Croatia](#), [Estonia](#), [Finland](#), [France](#), [Greece](#), [Italy](#), [Poland](#), [Romania](#), [Slovenia](#), [Sweden](#) and [United Kingdom](#)), as well as a general [European version](#).



It is aimed at municipalities and local governments planning a 2nd generation Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP), as well as those cities and towns just starting to explore local climate and sustainable energy actions.

The modules offer guidance, ideas, tips and tools on how to deal with stakeholders, structures, and processes. By completing the training programme, local leaders and municipal staff will gain the knowledge necessary to develop a SEAP. To enter, please [register](#) and select the topics you wish to explore. For more information, click [here](#).

New journey planner outlines quickest and safest cycling routes in southern Sweden

On 31 May 2013 the cycle journey planner “Cycling in Skåne” was released. The planner, which is designed to be simple and easy to use, outlines the quickest and safest bike routes in the region of Skåne (South Sweden).

All cyclists have different preferences or goals when travelling - some want to reach their destination as quickly as possible, while others prefer to take quieter and safer roads away from car traffic.

“Cycling in Skåne” reflects this, offering different routes based on the user’s preferences. To ensure a high level of reliability, the cycle networks in the planner are based on the data supplied by municipalities to the Transport Administration.

The Bicycle Trip Planner is a collaborative project between Skåne Regional Council, the Swedish Transport Administration and the three municipalities of Malmö, Lund and Helsingborg.

For more information, click [here](#).



This project is co-funded by the *Intelligent Energy Europe* programme, and supports the *Covenant of Mayors initiative*.



Co-funded by the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme of the European Union





NEWSLETTER

Energy efficiency championed at EcoEnergy Annual conference

To fight steadily increasing energy prices, Bulgaria looked at changing energy generation, transmission and distribution, but found a comprehensive solution elusive. Now the country is taking a different tact to keeping its energy bills low – energy efficiency. The EcoEnergy Annual conference pushed forward



energy efficiency as the only sustainable solution to energy issues, and cited the need for new political and financial tools to support local governments to implement specific efficiency projects.

The two-day conference also found the building of administrative and technical capacity vital to the market viability of energy efficiency, and the building of public awareness crucial to attracting investment. The first day of the conference was dedicated to energy efficiency in economic and political life.

The opportunities offered by energy efficiency in existing buildings were discussed, as was the role of local authorities in driving innovative sustainable energy development projects. On the second day training sessions were held on reaching "Nearly zero energy buildings" and on the "greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory". These topics are discussed in more depth in the [Covenant CapaCITY training platform](#).

For more information, click [here](#), or contact knakova@eneffect.bg

Children educated on energy efficiency in Kuopio

A new campaign in Kuopio (Finland) makes children aware of their energy consumption and helps them to reduce it. The principles of sustainable development form a major part of children's education in Kuopio (Finland), a city of about 100,000 inhabitants, and the new campaign is run primarily through kindergartens. A number of stakeholders are involved in the campaign, with the energy supply company Kuopion Energia distributing folders with material on how to save energy. The folders contain creative exercises for children and include detailed instructions for adults.



Wishing to extend the message, a kindergarten manager got in contact with a nearby housing cooperative and convinced them to join the campaign. Occupants of the cooperative were encouraged to reduce their hot water consumption. The kindergarten children visited the housing cooperative monthly to check the reading of the water consumption meter. In total, energy consumption was reduced by 11 percent.

Water consumption was also measured in the kindergarten. Water from the sink was routed to a bucket, allowing the children to measure the water used when washing their hands. As a result, the children are more aware, and consumption has reduced dramatically.

For more information, contact Milla-Kaisa.Toivonen@fcg.fi



NEWSLETTER

Solar maps

Stockholm, Gothenburg and Lund (Sweden) recently developed interactive online solar maps, illustrating the potential to install photovoltaics and solar thermal energy on rooftops across the cities. Inhabitants can find their own roof and, with the help of the website, assess if it is suitable for solar energy installations.

“One common misconception is that we don’t have much sunny weather in Sweden, but in fact the [rate of] solar installations on a yearly basis is the same as in central Europe”, says Mika Hakosalo at Energicentrum in Stockholm.

For more information, contact linda.scott.jacobsson@lund.se

2 | UPCOMING EVENTS

"Local leadership in sustainable energy" at EUSEW 2013

The workshop "Local leadership in sustainable energy", which takes place on 27 June 2013 during the [EU Sustainable Energy Week \(EUSEW\)](#) in Brussels (Belgium), will facilitate the exchange of experience between local and regional governments in developing and implementing sustainable energy action plans (SEAPs). The event will also bring to light the various support mechanisms available to cities to aid with their SEAP implementation and monitoring, and look at ways to overcome barriers.

Five projects ([CONURBANT](#), [leap](#), [CASCADE](#), [eReNet](#) and [Covenant capaCITY](#)), financed under the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme, will present good practices and practical guidance on designing and executing sustainable energy action plans (SEAPs), including tools such as the [Covenant capaCITY Online Training Platform](#). New opportunities for funding will also be examined.

This free event will also bring to light the various support mechanisms available to cities to aid with their SEAP implementation and monitoring, and look at ways to overcome barriers. It is hoped that the workshop will increase the number of signatories to the Covenant of Mayors, helping cities to reach the proposed EU 2020 goals.

For more information click [here](#), or contact covenant-capacity@iclei.org

Workshop aims to build capacity of Sicilian Local Governments

A capaCITY workshop will be held from 11 – 12 July on Baseline Inventories and building refurbishment, specifically addressing Sicilian Local Governments. The event will be held in the municipality of Castelbuono, not far from Palermo.



For more information, contact zuinm@comune.padova.it

For more upcoming Covenant CapaCITY events visit our [event calendar](#)

