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Best practices of the implementation of renewables policies at local level Wolfram Sparber, Eurac Research - Italy

Twinning Project Renewables Development in Ukraine













T Federal Ministry Republic of Austria Sustainability and Tourism

Eurac Research - Institute for Renewable Energy



Energy – what do we need it for?



Energy – how (in)efficient is our system?



Credits: LLNL, Dep of Energy

Nations Unies Conférence sur les Changements Climatiques

COP21/CMP11



INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE

GLOBAL WARMING OF 1.5 °C

an IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty

Summary for Policymakers

This Summary for Policymakers was formally approved at the First Joint Session of Working Groups I, II and III of the IPCC and accepted by the 48th Session of the IPCC, Incheon, Republic of Korea, 6 October 2018.

SUBJECT TO COPY EDIT



United Nations, COP 21 conference on climate change, Paris 2015 | Photo: A. Bouissou, Slide M. Zebisch

Decarbonisation – financial opportunities



Results of overall energy system modelling, considering electricity, heating and transport sector hour by hour for the hole year. Executing over 10.000 simulations looking for the most cost effective measures to lower CO2 emissions by the energy sector.

Credits: Eurac Research, overall energy system modelling



District heating system in norther Italy | Credits: Alperia

Energy efficiency in buildings

Visible applied energy certificates at building entrances, a mixture of incentives and obligations, training of architects and craftsman, plus controls on the construction site leads to a **drastic enhancement of living comfort and reduction of energy consumption** in buildings



(Fiscal) incentives for energy efficiency measures

(Fiscal) incentives for energy efficiency measures for existing buildings (such as thermal insulation, exchange of windows or old heating systems) can be an efficient tool to **enhance investments, create local jobs, enhance comfort and reduce consumption**



Refurbishment with prefabricated façade elements in Germany| Credits: EU project iNSPiRE

Local benefit: Changing the impression of buildings and districts





Credits: IDM, Michelangelo

Credits: Studio Mellano

Before refurbishment

After refurbishment

Example of social dwellings in Bolzano refurbished within the EU smart city project Sinfonia. The shown figures include energy consumption for heating, domestic hot water and lightning and consider renewable energy production onsite after refurbishment

Passeggiata dei Castani building after refurbishment, Comune di Bolzano. Credits: Eurac Research

Tools and funds for refurbishment of buildings

Software tools and databases can help to keep overview and invest in the most needed buildings. Funds like the European Energy Efficiency Fund eeef can support financially large scale refurbishment projects



Renewable heating: wood biomass applications

Wood from local forests can directly substitute oil or gas in house holds and district heating systems. **Creating jobs on site, enhancing local economic value chains, reducing the need for energy imports**

Renewable heating: solar heat

In some EU countries (especially Denmark) large scale solar thermal plants are becoming more and more common practice. **Supportive framework conditions**, **local interest and acceptance and local permits** are key factors

Waste-to-energy: efficiency for heating, electricity and waste management

Waste to energy plants^{*} can directly substitute oil, gas or coal plants in district heating systems of urban areas. Allowing an **efficient waste management, creation of a local value chain and reducing energy imports**

eurac research * In combination with recycling of paper, glass, metal, plastics, ... and utilization of bio-waste in bio-reactors 15

Electricity sector

Hydropower plant near Bolzano – Italy | Credits: Alperia

Renewable electricity: implementation of large project

For the implementation of large scale projects, the **national framework conditions must be favorable** (incentives / taxation / grid access ...). But the **local conditions**, permits, fast or slow baurocracy **can be THE game changer**

Wind farm Höflein, Lower Austria | Source: Peter Haas, www. commons.wikimedia.org

Renewable electricity: implementation of small installations

Small RES applications at the consumer (especially on roof PV) via *feed in tariffs* allow **direct benefits for a large population share** (especially from rural areas) and a reduction of grid electricity consumption on-site

Transport sector ...

Hydropower plant near Bolzano – Italy | Credits: Alperia

Local transport and mobility ...

Transport is not the focus of this session but of majour importance for the overall energy picture.

Local entities are directly responsible for local transport

- Safe and comfortable walking ways, bicycle lines and bicycle infrastructure can strongly enhance the number of pedestrians and cyclists
- This reduces traffic jams, urban emissions and enhancing health of population
- **Public transport** is a strong **energy efficiency measure**. Reducing energy and fuel consumption and local emissions
- New forms of mobility a arising (sharing, pooling, ...) and can allow to further reduce the need to travel by the own car

Alternative fuels infrastructure ...

It is very unlikely that a relevant share of customers changes to alternative fuel vehicles if there is no or limited infrastructure available. **The infrastructure set up on local level has to anticipate the fleet expansion...**

Overall reflections ...

Hydropower plant lago di Neve - Italy | Credits: Alperia

Covenant of Mayors / Regional Energy & Climate Plans

Local and regional planning allows the setting a clear targets and tracking the progress ...

Who invests in local energy projects?

Investors can be large **international cooperation's**, **national** companies, **regional** companies & utilities, **local** companies, cooperatives, private persons

Large scale renewable power plants (wind and PV parks, hydro)

Local actions – example Italy

>> Distribuzione dei comuni 100% rinnovabili in Italia

I provvedimenti a supporto delle auto elettriche in Italia: una visione d'assieme

Sources: GSE - DistrictHeating Italy 2019, Legambiente - Renewable Comunities Italy 2019, Energy&Strategy Group Emobility 2019 RESCoop.eu

Local actions – examples in Europe

There are many examples, in the following just a few

- Oslo -> electrification of transport
- Copenhagen -> district heating system
- Alkmaar -> bicycle infrastructure
- Munich -> geothermal + district heating
- Freiburg im Breisgau -> overall sustainable development
- Oberöstrerreichischer Enersgiesparverband -> as very active local association
- Lower Austria -> for the regional support of local comunities in energy efficiency data of public buildings

Can local actors make a difference?

Local actors can

- Inform companies and population and support public awareness
- Support practical knowledge for professionals and craftsman
- Put incentives, limitations and obligations
- Lower bureaucracy and speed up processes
- **Permit, allow, support, attract investments** in renewables and energy efficiency

Local actors can **strongly support or hinder** the energy transition on their territory with all respective consequences ...

Added value – example Lower Austria

and fuel for transport. Subdivision of investments in the region and import of technology and raw materials

Added value – example lower Austria

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Thank your for your attention ... www.e-twinning.at wolfram.sparber@eurac.edu, www.eurac.edu

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