

Newsletter No. 6

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ENES-CE

is addressing the issue of energy efficiency in Central Europe

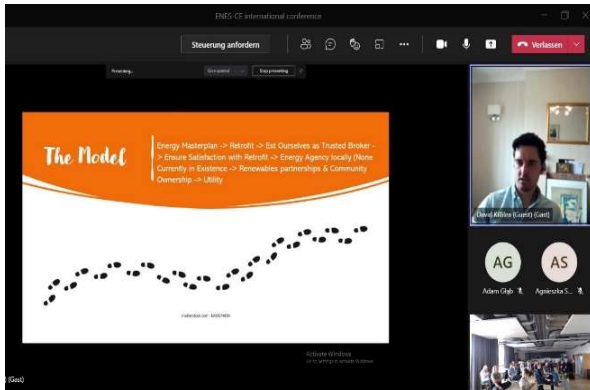
International conference in Pfaffenhofen

The second international ENES CE conference, held on 27 July 2021, was held in the city of Pfaffenhofen. The city mayor, Thomas Herker kicked things off by introducing the conference to all participants, those on site and online.

After his introduction, the partners delved deeper into the topic. Dr. Peter Stapel (Head of Climate Protection and Sustainability at the city of Pfaffenhofen) explained the holistic approach that the city is pursuing. Andreas Herschmann (chairman of the BEG) and Dr. Sebastian Brandmayr (technical manager of the SWP) then introduced the participants to the success factors of a citizen-led energy transition and explained in detail the resources used to realise projects in the region. David Killilea then explained the cooperation between Pfaffenhofen and Galway and how the two cities are trying to strengthen energy cooperatives together. At the end of the conference, Dr Helmut Muthig (member of the supervisory board of the BEG) gave the big picture of climate change and its manifestation in a climate clock in Pfaffenhofen.

Throughout the conference, there was lively interest in the topics, so that many questions were still asked after the conclusion. The conference, like the two previous





events, was thus an important building block to further strengthening international communication and cooperation.

Photos: Sabine Seidl, Sebastian Wittmann

Best practice study tour in Pfaffenhofen

On Monday, 26th July, the partners of the ENES-CE project gathered in Pfaffenhofen to join one comprehensive day of best practice examples.

The day started at a pig farm, which emphasizes on circular economy. Therefore, they do not only have higher standards in animal keeping, but also produce power and heat via biogas and photovoltaic. After a tour through the farm, the next stop was at wind turbine in the so-called area "Lustholz". This was projected by the energy cooperative. The basis for the construction of the wind turbine was a positive referendum by the citizens and the constructive support of the stakeholders in the region. The citizens were also able to participate in the financing of the wind turbine. This and much more was reported by the two board members of the energy cooperative during the tour.

The lunch break was then spent in the monastery, where also the beer is brewed with photovoltaic plants.

Freshly fortified the group drove to the biomass heating plant in Pfaffenhofen. At the heating plant an extensive guided tour was carried out. Covered topics have been the sourcing of wood, the operation scheme as well as the meaning for the region.



The last three stops then covered many different topics. On the one hand the sewage treatment plant with its planned power-2-gas project was visited and explained. On the other hand, a district heating plant and a photovoltaic carport have been shown.

With these numerous impressions, everyone was a little bit tired but inspired and motivated at the end of the tour and the fruitful discussions continued during dinner.



Photos: Sabine Seidl



Climate protection and sustainability day in Pfaffenhofen - a success story

Despite Covid-19 constraints, the Climate Protection and Sustainability Day finally took place again in Pfaffenhofen on 25th July 2021. Over 1,000 citizens from Pfaffenhofen followed the claim of this year's Climate Protection and Sustainability Day and came to the Bürgerpark on Sunday afternoon. At times, the entrances to the park even had to be closed, as the number of visitors on the grounds was limited due to Corona regulations. Additionally, the project partners from ENES-CE joined in to get impressions of the approach in Pfaffenhofen.





More than 20 actors have illustrated their knowledge and actions and presented themselves in the Bürgerpark on an area of about 1.5 hectares.

During the afternoon, the energy cooperative in Pfaffenhofen opened their climate clock, which is one of the pilot projects of ENES-CE.

In the evening the climate protection prize of the city of Pfaffenhofen was awarded. Several organisations were honoured for the outstanding projects.

Photos: Sabine Seidl, Holger Klos



Project ENES-CE presented at FEDARENE General Assembly in Maribor

European Federation of Agencies and Regions for Energy and Environment (FEDARENE) organised a three-day event from 14th to 16th September in Maribor, Slovenia. Apart from the General Assembly, in a part of the second day of the event, project ENES-CE has been presented to gathered members.



FEDARENE itself has over 80 members across 23 countries in the European Union and Medjimurje Energy Agency Ltd. is one of them. Project ENES-CE was presented by Alen Višnjić, director and Maja Bratko, senior project manager in MENE. Topics presented were very interesting to all of the participants and question related to project activities were raised.



Adaptation to climate change in Forlì

The Municipality of Forlì will be the recipient of a Ministerial funding included in the Experimental programme of interventions for the adaptation to climate changes in the urban context.

In compliance with the EU strategy for the adaptation to climate changes, the Ministry of the Ecological Transition is fostering the initiatives of the Municipalities with more than 100.000 inhabitants towards new ideas and applications for the resilience of the territories.

Thanks to such a measure, Forlì will be able to fulfil actions up to 676.508,00 € in the field of the adaptation to climate changes in its urban area. Which means that several scheduled adaptation solutions, included in the SECAP, will receive a helpful support.



Emergence of the new Solar Co-op in Sv. Anton, Slovenia

At the beginning of September, a workshop on establishing the solar cooperative in Sv. Anton brought together 27 residents. 17 of them expressed interest in joining the upcoming local solar cooperative. A workshop followed on 30th of September with citizens who had expressed interest in joining the cooperative. A cooperative model was discussed in details and a plan on the design of the community Co-op took place. In parallel with residents, arrangements are also underway with the Primary school Sv. Anton, which may also join the cooperative.





The second workshop of the ENES-CE project in 2021 took place - for residents and other stakeholders in the Niemce Commune with aim to create a civic energy group.

On September 9, 2021, the ENES-CE project workshop was held in the commune of Niemce, entitled:

"Presentation and discussion on draft documents, incl. on the establishment of the Energy Cluster in the Niemce Commune of the Lubelskie Voivodeship, as part of the ENES-CE project activities and further cooperation of the Energy Cluster", in which participated, i. a., residents and stakeholders from the Commune of Niemce, as well as representatives of the Commune Office and the Marshal's Office of the Lubelskie Voivodeship.

The meeting was led by an external expert involved in the ENES-CE project, who presented and discussed with the participants draft documents on the creation of an energy cluster in the Niemce Commune.





During the meeting, the participants discussed with an expert the activities and development

of the cluster in the future. The talks also concerned priority investments in the Commune, especially

photovoltaic panels, in the expansion of the gas and heating network, and the possibility of replacing coal with gas.

An interesting point on the agenda was also the report of an external expert on a study visit to a civic energy group operating in the town of Pfaffenhofen (Germany).

As the expert emphasized, the creation of a civic energy group in Germany took several years. Today, however, the group can boast of large investment projects that bring many benefits to the local community. These are, among others: biogas plants, wastewater treatment plants with a system for producing electricity from biogas and energy storage, photovoltaic installations, central heating and electricity generation systems powered by gas fuel, and wind turbines. All these activities would not be possible if they had not been preceded by many years of education of the local community,

as well as extensive consultations in order to gain acceptance and approval for the undertaken plans. As a result, a thriving environment was created, which today successfully implements new solutions in green energy.

As the expert emphasized, some of the presented good practices from Pfaffenhofen can also be transferred to the Niemce Commune after careful consideration of financing and technical possibilities.

Establishing a civic energy group in the form of an energy cluster in the Niemce Commune will enable planning energy investments with the involvement of the local community. Thanks to the vision of collaboration to reduce CO2 emissions, low emissions in the commune, enhance promotion and education, it will be easier to implement investment activities in renewable energy, aimed

at improving energy efficiency, as well as reducing emissions of pollutants into the air.



