



RURAL WEB ENERGY LEARNING NETWORK FOR ACTION



SUBJECT

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ERENET AWARDED WITH THE NATIONAL ENERGY GLOBE AWARD GREECE

eReNet has been honored with the National Energy Globe Award Greece, as one of the best projects on sustainability!!!

The National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), as coordinator, will receive the award certificate in the realm of a ceremony to be held on the 29th of May. The official presentation will take place during a special ceremony on the 5th of June, the UN's World Environment Day to a global public. More information will be available here.

Of course, the recognition of our efforts gives us the motivation to keep on trying....



ENERGY SITUATION OF ERENET RURAL COMMUNITIES

Municipality of Judenburg, Austria

Judenburg has been a member of the Climate Alliance since 1992 and is holding the European Energy Award in Silver. A reduction of **28%** for the CO₂ emissions is the main goal for the Austrian Municipality and they are quite **confident** about it, due to their general plan which includes the expansion of RES, the provision of grants for RES measures and changes on public buildings and raising the public awareness, especially on students, since they are going to be the **next generation** of the community.

Municipality of Amyntaio, Greece

The **thermal power stations** in the region have been for many decades the driving force contributing to the territory's regional development and economic prosperity. The sustainable energy related projects in Amyntaio were almost nonexistent in 2009. However, Amyntaio has committed to implement a series of appropriate RES and RUE activities in its territory till 2020, laying balanced emphasis on the **local energy and heat production**, and the promotion and implementation of measures on energy savings. Indeed, a significant part of the CO₂ emissions' reduction is expected to come from the installation of **biomass district heating systems in local communities**.



Municipality of Sertã, Portugal

The Municipality of Sertã began its **ambitious plan** for a sustainable community back in 2000 by constructing a **wind farm of 26 turbines** and which is still to be expanded. A biomass plant and solar panels at several public buildings could not be missing from their general Energy Plan. In addition to all the above, the municipality works with **local schools** in order to accomplish sustainable energy actions, **raising awareness** in the younger and trying to reach all the community. In this context, the measures included in SEAP fall consistently on a strategy of continuous energy sustainability improvement of the municipality.

Municipality of Asenovgrad, Bulgaria

The municipality of Asenovgrad has been awarded as “**The Greenest Municipality in Bulgaria in its category**”. The way to that level is not easy but after taking advantage of the solar, the thermal and the geothermal energy, as well as the biomass, they satisfied Bulgaria’s priorities in the field of RES. The **embodiment of RES into the public buildings** all around the region is a quite encouraging sample of their potential. Some of its main priorities are also to collaborate with citizens, schools and kindergarten to secure the best results in the sustainable actions it intends to implement.

Municipalities of Dugo Selo & Sveta Nedelja, Croatia

Both of the municipalities have the **same goals and standards** since they are in the same country with main concern the safety of energy supply **depending on the imports**. Some of the **on-going RES/RUE projects** are the implementation of the project Systematic Energy Management in municipalities and counties in the Republic of Croatia (SGE), the energy efficient modernization of public lighting and the low-energy reconstruction of school buildings. Moreover, **energy days** and other activities are expected to raise the **public awareness** and introduce people to the green energy.

MORE INFORMATION ON THE COMMUNITIES’ BRIEFS REGARDING THEIR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY MARKET CONTEXT CAN BE FOUND IN [ENG](#), [GR](#), [DE](#), AND [PT](#).

ASENOVGRAD’S MAYOR: “WE ARE ON THE WAY TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE...”



The mayor of Asenovgrad, Mr. Emil Karaivanov, recently opened his cards and talked to us about the plan of his municipality and the ways they are going to achieve their goals.

Mr. Karaivanov explained the way both he and his team try to approach all the citizens in the region and make them aware of the benefits of the **RES projects**. “We thought of organizing **public events and meetings**, where people can exchange opinions and ideas so that the citizens would feel like an active part of the community and simultaneously they would truly contribute to the implementation of the projects” and continues, “**The response of the community was moving**. A lot of the people living here have actually understood the importance of this attempt and they join us in our vision for a better living”, he says with satisfaction.

“**By the end of 2020** we need to reduce the energy consumption by 37.200 MWh and the **CO₂ emissions by almost 42.510 tons**, which is about 28% of the community’s emissions, but in parallel we are also going to increase the energy efficiency in municipal buildings and domestic industry, while the introduction of **energy management** within the municipality could not be left out of the whole plan”, he states with confidence.

“An advice I could offer to other municipalities is to **study thoroughly their existing infrastructure** and develop a comprehensive system of measures with which the reduction of energy consumption and the promotion of RES are going to be feasible. Of course, there are always obstacles on the way but as long as you are dedicated to your goal and have the support of your people, you can always succeed.”

And he concludes by stating, “We are strongly confident that with the support of eReNet and the citizens, we are going to create a fully green community in a few years, which is going to be in the spotlight, not only in Bulgaria, but EU as well. That’s why we **recognize the benefits and the significance of our participation in eReNet** and thank all the partners for the support and the experiences they have provided us with.”

MR. EMIL KARAIVANOV, MAYOR OF ASENOVGRAD

Information days on financing - Amyntaio, Greece and Judenburg, Austria

In February, 22nd and 23rd, Amyntaio municipality, within the framework of eReNet, co-organized along with the Friedrich Ebert Institute, the Network of Energy Producing Municipalities and the Greek-German municipalities assembly, a two-day information day on "Biomass District heating and targeted financing tools for RES and RUE projects in municipalities". You can download the [agenda](#) and the [presentations](#) of the event. Additionally, event videos are available in the [eReNet Dailymotion account](#).

On the 27th and 28th of February, Judenburg Municipality, within the framework of eReNet, co-organized with Climate Alliance Austria, an info day on "Experiences in Europe on the Covenant of Mayors, with special sessions dedicated to financing. You can download the [agenda](#) and [presentations](#) of the event. Moreover, event photos are available [here](#).

Moreover, an information day on energy saving and financing issues was organized on the 8th of April, in Judenburg Municipality, for raising public awareness purposes.



WE GLADLY INVITE YOU TO...

Our Information Days

- ✓ A Training Workshop will be organized on the 19th of April 2013 in the Municipality of Sertã. The training workshop is specially targeted at municipalities and stakeholders, in order to allow sharing knowledge in SEAP's development. Additionally, it will be an opportunity to present eReNet's web tool. Download the [agenda](#).
- ✓ An information day on project financing will be held on the 23rd of April 2013 during the Local Energy Days organized in the Municipality of Asenovgrad. Representatives of funds and programs for financial grants and low interest of credit lines will present different ways for improving the energy efficiency and producing energy from renewables. Download the [agenda](#).
- ✓ On the 24th of April 2013, the Municipality of Asenovgrad organizes a Training Seminar for presenting a web tool for energy planning, elaborated in the framework of eReNet project. The neighboring municipalities are invited to take part in this event, as well as all stakeholders, who take active part in Sustainable Energy Action Plans' preparation. The seminar was held at the Municipal administration building premises. You can download the [agenda](#) and the [invitation](#) for the event.
- ✓ Amyntaio municipality and NTUA are organizing on the 22nd of May, a Training Seminar on the development of SEAPs, and will present the methodology and available tools supporting the SEAP elaboration procedure. This training seminar addresses mainly regional authorities, as well as interested energy experts and consultants. More information on the premises and the agenda will be provided soon.

Other Events

- ✓ On the 29th of May, eReNet will be officially awarded with the National Energy Globe Award Greece, in a ceremony that is going to take place in Athens.
- ✓ On the 27th and 28th of May the Second Progress Meeting will take place in the Municipality of Judenburg, in order to discuss the initiative's progress.
- ✓ eReNet will participate in the Joint Contractors' Meeting to be held on the 15th - 16th of May 2013, in Brussels where the Intelligent Energy Europe and European Territorial Cooperation (INTERREG) projects are going to be presented.

[Stay tuned](#) with the eReNet activities and events

WHO WE ARE

Greece

National Technical University of Athens, NTUA
Municipality of Amyntaio

Austria

Energy Agency Upper Styria - EAO
Municipality of JUDENBURG

Croatia

North West Croatia Regional Energy Agency - REGEA



Bulgaria

Black Sea Energy Research Center - BSERC
ASENOVGRAD Municipality

Portugal

IrRADIARE, Ltd
SERTÃ City Council

Germany

Town of NEUMARKT (in the upper Palatine)

CONTACT DETAILS

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