

PROGRAMME

2nd Seminar

27-29/11/2007 - Royal Salt Works of Arc & Senans (FR)



imagine

the Energy Future
of our Cities

*“Changing our mindsets:
Inspiration from sustainable districts”*

With the support of:



1 – Background

This 2nd foresight seminar is part of the “IMAGINE” initiative and echoes the 1st seminar organised in November 2006 (see full presentation “A foresight platform of collaboration and exchange leading to action” http://www.energie-cites.eu/IMG/pdf/imagen_concept_210507_en.pdf). Other seminars are planned, as well as a permanent and collective knowledge-producing activity via a collaborative Website.

The IMAGINE initiative (<http://www.energie-cites.eu/-Imagine->) aims at encouraging the European territories to prepare for their future by making them less vulnerable to energy risks and returning to them the responsibility for their energy consumption and its associated impacts on resources, climate and wastes.

Within the time horizon of one generation, IMAGINE responds to the obvious energy challenges of our civilization. History has shown that energy and the development of civilisation are correlated.

All of society - and each territory – must now envision its "desired future." IMAGINE is based on an integration of two imperatives: first, responding with clarity to our obvious challenges and, second, embracing participative democracy.

Taking into account the dynamic parallels, convergent or contradictory, and the broad range of actors influencing energy consumption and production within the territories, IMAGINE poses the territory as the place where integration can occur.

The 1st Seminar addressed the issue from different angles: technological, philosophical, economic, methodological and governance aspects were discussed in order to **lay the foundations for future work** (see: http://www.energie-cites.eu/article.php3?id_article=159#seminar).

The 2nd seminar will focus **on the processes that make moving towards a more sustainable energy future in our cities possible.**

2 – Proposed subject for discussion

Today, it is an (almost) acknowledged fact that climate change and energy issues are a major source of concern for the future of life on earth itself.¹ However, all energy consumption curves are still trending up.

Even in our own territories, schizophrenic attitudes prevail. We know in a general way what direction we have to take (that is, divide by three our energy use and have renewable energy cover most of our energy needs by 2050), but we do not take action –or only too timidly -, we do not know how to get there or we find it hard to imagine our future differently: **town planning, building and mobility issues** continue to be inspired by the past and present habits rather than the future.

We have, however, no choice but to change.

We have in our hands all we need to achieve the necessary changes: technologies, services, regulations, market and tax instruments, financial resources that we are often unaware of, and of course, the intelligence of men and women.

Some initiatives are showing us the way forward (<http://www.energie-cites.eu/-Expo-IMAGINE->), for example the new districts that have come into being over the last few years in cities like Hanover, Freiburg, Helsinki, Utrecht, London and elsewhere. Others are in the pipeline. All are **laboratories for our future**. They all combine a (very) low energy use with high levels of renewable and decentralised energy supply, and all attach much importance to being pleasant places to live in.

How can we learn from these examples by considering the following issues: **what made the decision and construction of such districts possible? What enabled change?**

¹ Many events are proof of this: the European Union recently made some historic decisions and the G8 has put these issues on its agenda; all governments have adopted policies, with various degrees of ambition; citizens, businesses, community organisations, banks, etc. are taking initiatives; an increasing number of local authorities are committed to taking action.

In our discussions, we will address the following questions within the time horizon of one generation:

Diagnosis

- What do we not want in our cities any more?
- What do we need to change? What is impossible for us not to change?
- What prevents us from doing so?
- What do we like in our city that we wish to keep?

Experiences

- What have those who have succeeded in changing done?
- What resistance have they met?
- What are their recipes? Tips? Keys to convincing people to accept changes?

Partnerships

- How can private businesses, banks, community organisations and citizens help local authorities to change?
- What similar/additional initiatives do these actors have each on their own side?

Transferability of experiences

- How is it possible to learn from these experiences?
- How to act locally?
- How to transfer these experiences to others?

3 – The objectives of the seminar

Within the area covered by the IMAGINE initiative (the energy future of our cities within the time horizon of one generation), the seminar aims at:

- Highlighting- from the participants' personal, professional or elective experience:
 - the obstacles to change,
 - the resources that were found to overcome them and make the governance of territories even more effective,
- Making this information, these investigations and operational proposals available to European local authorities' representatives, in particular in the following areas:
 - town planning / urban and periurban space organisation / urban sprawl,
 - mobility / transport,
 - new / rebuilt / regenerated districts,
 by combining seminar outcomes with permanent collaborative work on the internet,
- Developing and refining the *IMAGINE / Energy and Territories* concept, for example by using *backcasting*, change-management or co-creation methods, and by developing an "*IMAGINE method*" on the basis of existing practices.

The seminar will also aim to:

- Consolidate and enlarge a core group of committed contributors of various backgrounds around the IMAGINE initiative,
- Provide inputs for the future IMAGINE European Campaign,
- Propose ideas for future work / with synergetic initiatives.

4– The participants

This seminar will bring together a limited number of participants (37) from 14 countries, who will be personally invited.

The composition of the group will be in accordance with the IMAGINE spirit, which takes for granted that local authorities have discussions and exchanges about and build their energy future with other society stakeholders.

The group will ideally be composed of:

- A core group of local authorities and related organisations' stakeholders (ca. 15 people),
- Participants with a variety of personal and professional backgrounds from the economic, industrial, financial, voluntary or cultural sectors (ca. 20 people).

The participants asked to introduce a session will also take an active part in the whole of the seminar.

Around fifty persons will also attend the seminar as "spectators" or "witnesses".

5 – The seminar venue

The seminar will take place at the Royal Salt Works of Arc & Senans (FR), (www.salineroyale.com/), a UNESCO World heritage site whose history was closely linked to energy, from its beginnings until its demise².

The Royal Salt Works is a symbolic site and a place of practical utopia. It is therefore a highly suitable venue for our exchanges and an ideal place to inspire new ideas. The participants will stay at the Royal Salt Works for the two days of the seminar and accommodation will be provided on site, as far as possible.

6 – The seminar format and method

The “IMAGINE” reflection includes:

- A shared vision within the time horizon of one generation
- Proactive working methods
- An original way to deal with the issue, for example the *backcasting* method, using sustainability principles (for further information: http://www.energie-cites.eu/IMG/pdf/imaginesession5_waldron_en.pdf) and all the various stimulation and change-management techniques and methods.

The seminar will be organised so as to:

- Facilitate participants’ expression and creativity,
- Allow for more academic inputs concerning the issue at hand and/or to illustrate *backcasting* or change-management methods,
- Produce results that can be disseminated, especially concerning the issues listed in section 2 of this document.

Alternation between:

- Work in very small groups of five, each coordinated by a moderator,
- Presentations to introduce, illustrate or facilitate the discussion.

Small tables will be set out in the room.

All participants will take an active part in the seminar and will undertake to attend all sessions.

A Blog is opened: <http://www.imagineyourenergyfuture.eu/blog/>. Please ask the access conditions to: www.energie-cites.eu/blandine.

7 – The structure of the seminar

Note: see detailed programme in point 10

The seminar will last approx. 48 hours spread out over 3 days, thereby limiting participants’ off time to 3 days, including travelling time.

The seminar will include 7 sessions:

- Each session will gather all the participants, who will be seated around tables of 6 persons max + a moderator, thus allowing for work in small groups.

² The place has been made available to us free of charge by the Conseil Général du Doubs (FR) (Doubs County Council).

Tuesday 27th November: starting at 4 pm (all participants should have arrived at the venue by 4 pm)

Opening session:

- Meeting other participants
- Visiting of the site (source of inspiration)
- Entering into the IMAGINE world with video clips of the 1st seminar and a *keynote* speech (The territory, the corner-stone of our society (including energy) / *Backcasting our energy supply by 2050*)
- Sharing a meal

Wednesday 28th November and Thursday 29th November

Opening session:

- Putting the seminar into the IMAGINE perspective (past, present and future)
- Presenting the issue at hand (see section 2)
- Defining desired results
- Illustrating the issue with practical examples.

Five production sessions:

- Sessions of 90 min each to tackle issues listed under section 2. They will focus on “**What has enabled / enables change**” and will use methods suitable for producing collective knowledge.

They will:

- Be introduced / illustrated by a participant with **experience / skills** in the area under discussion and/or by a short video.
- Be centred on **actual practices** (sustainable districts that will form –as “laboratories”- the foundation of our work) and more **academic inputs** using specific foresight methods (change management, *backcasting*).
- Focus on **three main areas**:
 - o construction / regeneration
 - o mobility / transport
 - o town planning / urban and periurban space development / urban sprawl
- Consider a **time horizon of one** generation.

Each theme session will aim to:

- Investigate the various issues listed in section 2 from a specific angle (technological, social, economic, organisational, cultural, behavioural, partnership, etc.)
- Give participants ideas, arguments and the desire to become IMAGINE “*Campaigners*”
- Produce exploitable results likely to be disseminated to others, as indicated in section 6
- Provide materials that will be used as a basis for IMAGINE’ ongoing future work.

Concluding session:

- Evaluating the seminar on its form, content and method
- Making proposals regarding the continuation of our work and future IMAGINE seminars.

8 – The Imagine team

Energie-Cités

- Gérard Magnin
- Miriam Eisermann
- Kinga Kovacs
- Sylvie Lacassagne
- Hervé Maillot
- Nathalie Moroge
- Blandine Pidoux
- Peter Schilken
- Ian Turner

ADEME

- Paul-Marie Guinchard
- Michel Gioria

Municipality

- Christian Vassie (Councillor, York)

9 – Practical information

- Accommodation will be provided on site
- Energie-Cités, with the support of its partners, will be responsible for participants' accommodation and meals during their stay
- Transport costs are to be met by participants.
- Taxi shuttle services between the site and the nearest railway stations will be provided.
- Simultaneous interpretation into English and French will be provided, except for the working group sessions which will be held either in English or in French, or in English and in French for bilingual groups.

10 – Seminar detailed programme

The seminar will be moderated by:

- Christian Vassie, Deputy Mayor, York City Council (GB)
- Ian Turner, Project Manager, Energie-Cités

The blog will be continuously updated according to:

- The outputs of the seminar
- The wishes of the participants

Tuesday 27/11 from 16.00

17.00 – 18.00

Introduction to this special place as a source of inspiration:

- Visit of the Saline Royale (Royal Salt Works) of Arc et Senans.

18.00 – 19.00

Introduction to IMAGINE through:

An exhibition

- Video clip of the first seminar
- Introduction to the seminar participants

19.00 – 19.45

Introduction to the topic:

- Lecture: *"Territory, foundation stone of society"* by Pierre Calame, *Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer pour le Progrès de l'Homme* - Foundation for Human Progress (<http://www.fph.ch/>)

19.45 – 20.30

- Free time

20.30 – 22.00

Dinner together at the Royal Salt Works

Wednesday 28/11 from 8.15

8.15 Welcome

8.30/9.30: Introductory session

Aims:

- A reminder of IMAGINE's foundations
- Putting the seminar into the IMAGINE perspective (past, present and future)
- Introducing the discussion topic throughout the seminar *"Changing our mindsets: inspiration from sustainable districts"*
- Detailing the desired outcomes of the seminar

Methodology:

- Academic presentation
- Additional contributions from participants

Moderator:

- Gérard Magnin, Executive Director, Energie-Cités

Participation:

- Everyone present

9.30/11.00: Session 1 – What to change and Why change things in my city?Aims:

- Tackling the issue of mechanisms for change / lack of change
- Describing what must change within a generation and what acts as an obstacle / a brake to us carrying it through

Methodology:

- A brainstorming session in groups of 6 people around the following questions: *Within a generation,*
 - *What do I no longer want in my city?*
 - *What do I have to change in my city?*
 - *What prevents change?*
 - *What do I like in my city that I wish to keep?*
- Reporting
- Discussion
- Structuring of ideas

Moderators:

- Christian Vassie
- Ian Turner

Participation:

- Everyone present

11.00/11.45 Coffee break – Blog Spot**11.45/13.15: Session 2 – How to learn from experiences to accelerate change? (part 1)**Aims:

- Presenting practical examples of sustainable neighbourhoods (Hanover, Utrecht, Helsinki, Freiburg, Sutton-BedZed) through the mechanisms of change that have made their existence possible.

Methodology:

- Two municipalities (Hanover-Kronsberg and Utrecht-Leidsche Rijn) present their experiences focusing on the changing process based on questions like:
 - *What have those who have succeeded in changing done? What are they doing?*
 - *Who are they?*
 - *What resistance/obstacles/difficulties have they met? What resources have they used to face their difficulties?*
 - *What are their recipes? Tips? Keys to convincing people to accept changes?*
 - *And what would they do if they had to do it all over again?*
- 3 analysts (Sutton-BedZed, Helsinki-Viikki, Freiburg) react according to their own experiences
- Other participants write down possible questions as inputs for the discussion during Session 3

Moderators:

- Christian Vassie
- Ian Turner

Participation:

- Speakers:
 - Manfred Görg, City of Hannover – Kronsberg
 - Inge Van de Klundert, City of Utrecht
- Analysts:
 - Heikki Rinne, City of Helsinki – Viikki
 - Peter Schilken, Energie-Cités for the City of Freiburg
 - Philip James, London Borough of Sutton- BedZED community

Participation:

- Everyone present

13.15/15.00 Lunch

15.00/16.30 Session 3 – How to learn from experiences to accelerate change? (part 2)Aims:

- From the case studies presented in session 2 and based on the questions prepared by the groups, further discussion of the questions considered the most relevant.
- Structuring the key factors which encourage change in different fields, e.g.: finance, administration, politics, culture, technical progress etc.

Methodology:

- The contributors of session 2 are available to the groups for answering questions
- Forms for structuring the questions and answers will be available to the groups and then collected for a thorough summary

Participation:

- Contributors from the sustainable neighbourhoods panel:
 - Manfred Görg, City of Hannover – Kronsberg
 - Inge Van de Klundert, City of Utrecht
 - Heikki Rinne, City of Helsinki – Eko-Vikki
 - Peter Schilken, Energie-Cités for the City of Freiburg
 - Philip James, London Borough of Sutton- BedZED community
- Everyone present

Summary:

- Cyria Emelianoff, researcher Maine University (FR)

16.30/17.30 Free time**17.30/18.30 Points of view**

- The experience of Frans van der Werf, a Dutch architect, on participative design

From 19.00: Cocktail dinner party**Thursday 29/11 from 8.30**

8.30/8.45 Briefing about the day's programme**8.45/10.15: Session 4 - What can local players do to accelerate change?**Aims:

- Confronting the foresight actions of different players in their respective fields with those of local authorities.
- Exploring the possible synergies / surmountable contradictions between local authorities responsible for the development of local territories over the long-term on the one hand and the various local players on the other: public, private, associative, cultural.
- Identify ways forward enabling players with different motivations to work towards the same objective that is a territory which must integrate, make coherent and benefit from the various driving forces.

Methodology:

- Surprise participative method!

Summary:

- Georg Von Nessler, IP-Building

Participation:

Everyone present:

- Participants working for local authorities
- Participants working in other fields (industry, banks, NGOs, universities, culture, public administration, agencies, citizens etc.)

10.15/11.00 Coffee-break**11.00 /12.30: Session 5 – What can we do in our city to change the situation?**Aims:

- Starting with concrete examples of eco-neighbourhoods or wider territories, define what conditions are needed for a suitable transfer of experience.

Methodology:

- Role play

Moderators:

- Ian Turner

Participation:

- Jean-Luc Kolb and Georges Ohana, Lausanne Municipality
- All other participants

12.30/14.00 Lunch**14.00 – 15.30 - Concluding session - IMAGINE commitments**Aims:

- Bringing together the key points of the five sessions in a structured way
- Proposing means for making our work accessible to the greatest number of people
- Opening up new prospects for the future of IMAGINE future (what is going to be done individually and collectively)

Methodology:

- Participative method
- Proposals on structuring and pursuing this collective creative process via the blog

Moderators:

- Christian Vassie
- Ian Turner

Participation:

- Everyone present

Conclusion:

- Gérard Magnin