


Sustainable Energy Action Plan - Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal	
Keywords	Participative Approach, Local Energy Forum and Action Plan, Stakeholder Involvement
Pictures	
Description	<p>The municipality of Vila Nova de Gaia has been engaged in the set-up of a Local Energy Forum aiming at the definition and adoption of an Action Plan for the Municipality's Sustainable Energy Development.</p> <p>The objectives of the Forum are defined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase the use of renewable energy sources - Reduce the energy consumption of the Municipal and private buildings, through the use of energy certification - Reduce by 30% the public lighting consumption - Reduce by 20% the greenhouse gas emissions - Have the entire municipal fleet running on biofuels by 2009 <p>The Forum is based on seminars and workshops, around the following six thematic areas: energy efficiency, mobility, education for sustainability, renewable energies, demand side management and efficiency in public and private buildings.</p> <p>The main objective of the series of seminars is to disseminate the gathered information to the public, with the aim of promoting a shift in the attitudes towards the rational use of energy. In contrast, the workshops gather local actors who are direct decision makers on the discussed subjects. The objective of this series of workshops is to define an Action Plan adapted to the region, composed of actions which are technically and financially viable.</p>
Results / Achievements	<p>Installation of solar thermal panels: Already more than 110 panels have been installed, with an expected reduction of energy consumption between 30 and 60% in these buildings.</p> <p>Awareness rising and information: The disclosure of the municipal energy audit is intended to increase citizens' awareness about energy and environmental issues, through the dissemination of data related to the subject. Therefore, more than 5,000 brochures on energy consumption in the municipality of Gaia, energy saving measures and renewable energy have been distributed.</p> <p>Social housing: design of a policy document concerning rational consumption to be used during the project/conception stage of social housing schemes, identifying the best practices and technologies to be used for reducing house consumption.</p> <p>Eco-Industry Parks: A practical guide was designed which can be used in the project/conception stage of industrial parks (best practices and technologies to reduce energy consumption, potential synergies regarding raw materials needed and wastes that are potential raw materials for other industries)</p> <p>Efficient public lightning: pilot project estimating possible reduction of the energy consumption related to the public lighting (30% reduction achieved)</p>
Online information	<p>http://www.energie-cites.eu/db/vila_nova_de_gaia_573_en.pdf</p> <p>http://www.energie-cites.eu/db/vila_nova_de_gaia_573_pt.pdf</p>
Contact	<p>ENERGAIA - Energy Management Agency of Vila Nova de Gaia Rua Cândido dos Reis, 137, PT-4400-037 Vila Nova de Gaia Tel: +351 22 374 72 50 / Fax: +351 22 374 72 59 E-mail: energaia@energaia.pt / Website: www.energaia.pt/belief/belief.php</p>