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MODERATOR'S CONCLUSIONS

Polish-German cooperation for low-emission economy in cities

Consultation meeting # 2

7 – 8 June 2016 – Czestochowa, Poland

The representatives of Polish and German municipalities met again from June 7-8, 2016 to further discuss the low-emission transition. The Consultation Meeting #2 organized by the independent think tank adelphi and Polish Network Energy Cités (PNEC) was hosted by Czestochowa, one of the leaders among Polish cities in the field of energy management. The meeting and associated field trip held on June 9 were dedicated to the efficient use of energy in the city, with special attention to energy monitoring in public facilities, involvement of non-municipal actors city-wide, and innovative financing to deliver energy savings.

After a **keynote welcome by Czestochowa's vice mayor Mr Soborak, Anna Jaskuła, Director of PNEC**, introduced the **main elements of a holistic approach to local energy management**. Mrs Jaskuła presented the major challenges associated with monitoring energy consumption city-wide and provided an overview of pioneer solutions that are already implemented across Europe.

WS 1: Building the base: Energy controlling and monitoring city-wide

The first workshop session featured two case studies that illustrate various approaches to and contexts for energy management: Czestochowa, a large Polish municipality that is advanced with its municipal energy management, and Rosbach vor der Höhe, a small German municipality that is currently building up its climate and energy activities.

Ms Bożena Herbuś, City Engineer of **Czestochowa**, presented over **10 years of experience in the energy monitoring and management implemented in nearly 200 public buildings that brought over PLN 27 M (over EUR 6 M) of financial savings**. Water savings reached 766.660m³, while the estimated energy savings were of 220.519 MWh. This helped avoid the emission of 93.738 t CO₂.

The Mayor of **Rosbach vor der Höhe**, Mr. Thomas Alber, inspired other municipalities by showcasing not only the **LED and photovoltaic projects** implemented in the small municipality, but also an urban planning project under development, the new **mixed-use district "Die Sang"**, through which **Rosbach aims to attract investors and address the negative demographic trends, while enhancing the energy standards**, e.g. through the development of a local district heating network. The session was followed by group discussions: the participants could gain an in-depth understanding of the projects with a focus on practical challenges, success factors and lessons learned shared by the practitioners from Poland and Germany.



Mrs Bożena Herbus, City of Czestochowa © adelphi

WS 2: Promoting energy savings in private households and commercial buildings

How to achieve energy savings beyond the direct scope of action of the municipality? **Participants from Poland and Germany presented project-related experiences with engaging local stakeholders (citizens and businesses) in climate and energy actions during a moderated poster session:**

Bielsko-Biala, Kościerzyna, and the district of Marburg-Biedenkopf developed entertaining participation formats – ranging from street festivals to competitions and cinema trailers – to encourage citizens to reduce their energy consumption; Niepołomice supported its citizens in installing solar panels on their homes; Czestochowa achieved water and energy savings through technical and educational measures implemented via a public-private partnership; Słupsk offered consulting services for energy efficiency and other environmental topics (waste, renewable energies, biodiversity) at its Green Point; while Ritterhude established an energy advisors network together with neighbouring municipalities and with the relevant experts themselves. The network is now self-regulated based on certification provided by the municipality.



Mr Stanislaw Nowacki. City of Niepołomice © adelphi

WS 3: How can municipalities boost energy savings with available assets and resources?

The second day of the workshop was dedicated to **revealing the real potential of municipalities in boosting the low-emission transition with available assets and resources**. An introductory presentation by Joanna Wis-Bielewicz (adelphi) provided an overview of the various capitals available on the local level: from financial and infrastructural to human and social capitals, represented by employees, citizens and their communities as

well as local businesses. All those available resources could multiply the potential of available assets and financial capacity of cities. Another lever for municipalities to promote the low-emission transition is their regulatory power. **Mrs Katarzyna Grecka, Deputy Director of the Baltic Agency for Energy Conservation (BAPE), introduced the concept of Green Public Procurement, which allows for responsible, energy efficient public investment, and presented associated opportunities and regulations.**



Mrs Katarzyna Grecka, BAPE © adelphi

Alicja Lindert-Zyznarska from Climate KIC analysed the challenges and opportunities associated with collaboration with Energy Service Companies (ESCO) in Poland from the perspective of the EU Structural Funds 2014-2020, while the Deputy Mayor of Sosnowiec Mr. Krzysztof Haładus shared hands-on insights into the energy management in public buildings implemented with an ESCO formula. Through the agreement with Siemens, who acted as both the investor and service provider, the city of Sosnowiec established a complex energy monitoring system for 83 public buildings. The project will be paid back over the period of 10 years through energy savings guaranteed by the service provider. **Overall, PLN 17 M (nearly EUR 4 M) will be implemented without up-front municipal investment.** The municipality also benefits from the knowledge transfer and risk sharing between the City Council and Siemens.

Thomas Grothe, CEO of the Street Lighting Hagen Inc., demonstrated in his presentation that Polish and German municipalities share many similarities in the challenges they face. The municipality of Hagen was looking for a solution for a **more efficient management and maintenance of the street lighting.** Climate protection was not the primary concern. The municipal budget was very tight and the city had neither in-house expertise nor personnel resources. The city created a

standalone entity, the Street Lighting Hagen Inc., which was first 100% publicly-owned and is now run with a private contractor, Alliander AG, under a public-private partnership (PPP). **This increased the transparency in the contract management and operation of street lighting, kept the municipal budget separate from the resources dedicated to street lighting, as well as contributed to a new image of the city** with the installation of artistic lights. Thanks to a sponsoring clause, the operating company invests EUR 0,50 per street lamp in additional lighting for each additional contract won in neighbouring municipalities. Ca. 930 CO2t are expected to be avoided from 2005-2017.

Other important examples of investment and risk sharing mechanisms were presented by **Mr. Volker Carle, Mayor of Cölbe**. The municipality owns half of the solar plant "Solaracker Cölbe"; the rest of the shares is held by a local private company and citizens through saving bonds ranging from EUR 1.000 to 10.000. In the district of Schönstadt, the largest **local heat network in Germany has been built, owned and managed by the citizens as a cooperative with a one-off contribution of EUR 5.000 each (= 10 shares)**. There, a **municipal security from EUR 3 M allowed for collecting EUR 1,5 M equity capital from the citizen and realizing**

a total investment of EUR 5 M. The municipality itself owns only one share of the cooperative. Local creation of value is estimated at roughly EUR 390.000 per year. Mr. Carle also presented an **innovative e-car-sharing concept** implemented via a combination of European funds, private sponsors and a credit from the local bank. Involving citizens in these projects brings another benefit: the added value from investments stays in the region.

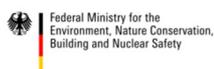
WS 4: Networking & marketplace for ideas: exchange & get inspired!

The final session of the workshop created a space for Polish and German municipalities to exchange ideas for both "soft" and infrastructural projects they are going to implement in the following year. Municipalities explored in small groups and "couples" (where both partner cities were present) how to usefully share the bilateral experience for a successful project implementation. The discussion was inspired by the presentation of Ms Pia Buschmann from the University of Kassel, who demonstrated how important regional cooperation is to further develop, replicate and multiply local climate and energy projects on a larger scale.



Group discussion with municipal representatives and external experts © adelphi

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