

## A message from the Scientific Committee President



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The second ENERGAÏA edition and its associated conferences cycle will be launched in a couple of months. Strengthened by the success of the first edition, our previous partnerships have been confirmed and enriched and, even if it not possible here to give an exhaustive list, we can clearly say that ENERGAÏA has become a favourite exchanges platform between European "territories" representatives and the building, construction and renewable energies' sectors professionals, without forgetting a confirmed open window on the euro Mediterranean Region. This affirmation reflects the association to this event of numerous international, European and national networks. These networks have decided to share together a discussion on common interest concerns as energy demand management, renewable energies development and even building and planning's challenges in a sustainable territories' prospect without forgetting financing and training concerns.

This second edition's conference theme has been decided with this state of mind:

**2020 objective: territories and regions' stakes and role facing tomorrow's urban challenge. The importance of energy demand management and renewable energies' development**

As an introduction, it is important to remind that ENERGAÏA 2008 will happen within a particularly busy international, European and national agenda as regards climate and energy concerns.

For the record and whatever level is chosen, from now on, the climate issue is at the core of political concerns but, beyond this more or less shared awareness, the question of means to implement for the climate stabilization remains as a whole and is far from being consensual. The point is now to act as quickly as possible and implement means able to limit human activity impacts while ensuring the conditions for our societies' harmonious development and keeping in mind the essential solidarity to establish between industrialised countries, transition economies and developing countries.

At international level, the 14th "Conference of the Parties" (COP 14), on behalf of the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change, will take place almost at the same time as ENERGAÏA at Poznan, in Poland between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December. The "After Kyoto Protocol" will be on the agenda and the different experts' groups will return their work result since the previous Bali Conference. For Annex B countries, subject to greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions reductions targets during the 2008-2012 period, but also for countries non subject to commitments during this period, negotiations on a possible implementation of an international system based on dissociated objectives but shared greenhouse gases reductions on the following period is of the utmost importance with regard to climate stakes.

At European level, commitments taken in the framework of the "Energy-Climate Package" currently under discussion in Brussels will be at their final negotiation phase. As a concrete extension of the European Council commitments dated March 2007, 3 objectives have been retained for Europe by 2020 by the 27 Heads of States: a 20% reduction of greenhouse gases emissions compared to 1990, an energy efficiency improvement of 20%, and a 20% share of renewable energies in consumed energy through national constraining objectives. It is important to underline that, even if, at the moment, all the efforts are concentrated on GHG emissions and on the European Directive on Renewable Energies implementation, these two objectives will not be reachable without a strong European policy

in favour of energy demand management supported by energy efficiency consideration in all economic sectors.

Lastly, for France, this period is of the utmost importance regarding the dynamics produced by the Grenelle de l'Environnement follow-up and its concrete implementation through the forthcoming Grenelle 1 law and associated finances one.

Considering greenhouse gases emissions, France has confirmed its objective of a Factor 4 emissions reduction by 2050 in the perspective of a European shared effort. For renewable energies, the European Directive project is suggesting for France to reach by 2020 a 23% share of renewable energies in the national consumption. In addition to an ambitious policy regarding energy demand management and energy efficiency, this would mean a 20 Mtoe increase of the different concerned sectors' contributions in the national balance. Even if biomass (for heat, electricity or fuel) and wind energy represent the major part of the effort with almost 80% of the objective, all renewable sectors will be concerned. Building, considered as the most energy consuming sector in France, is at the centre of the Grenelle objectives and this, considering new building or the important existing buildings stock. Objectives are clear and ambitious and will need to mobilise all economic actors. For new building, which current average consumption represents 110 kWhpe/m<sup>2</sup>/year, the objective for 2012 is to only build low consumption buildings, meaning consuming only 50 kWhpe/m<sup>2</sup>/year of primary energy and, in 2020, only build positive energy buildings, which means producing more energy than they consume. For existing building, which average consumption reaches 240 kWhpe/m<sup>2</sup>/year with important extremes, the objective is to keep on encouraging the large number of small works while strongly supporting important refurbishment operations. Finally, the Grenelle has underlined the importance of territories mobilisations and this, considering building, urban planning, transports and renewable energies.

Considering this context, for the conferences 2008 edition, we decide to wonder about the role, but also available means of actions as regards challenges to take up by territories. As a matter of fact, no one will contest the essential role of territorial policies as well as the major responsibility of urban regions in energy consumption and greenhouse gases emissions balances. The IPCC experts have underlined that 50% of uncertainties related to temperature increase range are and will be linked to territorial policies implemented. The answer is not so simple when it is the point to define a territorial strategy, implement it and gather all concerned parties. If we consider the European trebled objective approach, we realise that dividing objective in 3 axes diversifies the leverage effect but also goals and competences to mobilise and leads to always different stakeholders acting on sectors and territories having always more specifications but, in all cases, mutually dependent. Considering this, territories appear as a compulsory area for the action to implement and this, whatever the level retained as definition of the territory to consider (urban, peri urban or other).

ENERGAÏA conferences will take place during 3 days, the first two one being dedicated to professionals.

The first day's theme, on Wednesday 10th December, will be: **"Territories and Regions facing climate change challenge: organise and implement locally the European 3 x 20% and turn constraint into opportunity"**.

This first day will be dedicated to an exchange on the possible role of territories in the European objective concrete implementation and, in a more general way, on territories' contribution to the climate issue. After having presented the importance of the implementation of a long term strategic framework, we will present some of existing tools and exemplary federative initiatives. We will go deeper in the compulsory articulation and complementarity between the different intervention levels and in the questions raised by current organisations (Session: **"Which territories for which actions to reach the 3 x 20 % European objectives?"**)

We will then consider the associated stakes to the thermal renewable energies' development (Session: **"Hot and cold in our Regions" or renewable thermal energies' stakes and development perspectives in territories and Regions**) and to local electricity production (**Producing electricity locally or the necessity to organise offer and demand**). We will then focus

on transport means and corresponding organisation in territories as well as means of intervention (Session: **“How to organise transports in Regions: stakes and realities”**).

The second day, on Thursday 11 December, two conferences will be organised in parallel.

A conference dedicated to the necessary scale modification issue to go from sustainable building to district and then to the notion of sustainable city. Its title is: **“From building to city via district: how to answer new stakes to define tomorrow’s urban area in a sustainable development’s approach”**.

Beyond the apparent simplicity of the answer, going from one level to another is not linear and a sustainable district is not the basic addition of energy efficient buildings. The different issues we will deal with are: how to manage organisation with regard to local stakeholders’ skills in a long term perspective? How to increase the action in a federative urban space planning exercise in new projects but also in refurbishment and renovation projects?

Prospective exchange sessions will follow return of experiences’ one in order to understand mechanisms to adapt and duplicate them to other contexts.

The first session will deal with: **“Sustainable districts and cities: myth or reality?”** through the following questions: How to deal with quality of life, nature desire and density increase’s apparent contradictory requirements? How to refresh the ways of perception of the urban concern? How to change people’s opinion? How to decline and implement energy and environmental stakes in urbanism? What is the appropriate scale to build a sustainable city? How to get rid of urban and legal barriers to renewable energies penetration? How to accompany urban renewal? How to deal with social constraints and environmental challenges? This session will be followed by testimonies about « Sustainable cities and districts: how did they manage?»

We will then deal with the scale modification issue in the Session: **“Is the addition of energy efficient buildings enough to create sustainable districts?”** The following points will be discussed: How to organise the change of scale from energy efficient building to sustainable district? How to optimize renewable energies’ use? Positive energy districts, myth or reality? Which stakes, which priorities?

Testimonies will answer the following question: **“Energy efficient buildings, exemplary districts and cities: how did they manage?”**

Finally, we will conclude with the issue of **“Tomorrow’s territory or how to reconcile opposites for a sustainable urban space?”**

As explained previously, ENERGAÏA objective is also to associate to its reflection Euro Mediterranean Regions and Territories. This open window has a particular meaning in this period when the “Barcelona Process – Union for Mediterranean” is at the centre of all attentions. Having in mind this experience’s sharing notion and also partnership strengthening, it has been decided to organise a conference dedicated to the Mediterranean Basin. Taking advantage of the partnership with MEDENER Association, we will present the same topics as for the European area with a particular attention on territories’ urban planning issue in Mediterranean Basin neighbouring countries. This day will be coordinated by the Plan Bleu and the World Bank with the support of the European Investment Bank. The following sessions will be organised: **“Climate, energy and sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region: context and prospects”**, **“Renewable energies and energy efficiency’s national experiences”**, **“Sector-based analysis: water, building, industry, transport, tourism”** and **“Urban transport’s experiences”**.

In the same spirit as the simultaneous conference dedicated to European regions, we will conclude asking the following question: **“Tomorrow’s Euro-Mediterranean territory or how to reconcile opposites for a sustainable urban space?”**

Finally, on Friday 12th December, conferences will be opened to general public.

In addition to the different manifestations and conferences implemented by the organisers to the attention of general public, two half day thematic sessions will be organised in parallel during the morning.

The first session, organised in partnership with the European project FINA-RET will allow an exchange on financing issues: “**Renewable energies and energy efficiency’s financing: a key issue for a significant market development**”. European and French partners will present successful experiences but also the barriers encountered on some markets. The possible roles of the different concerned actors will be developed and discussed.

The second round table will deal with « **Training and associated challenges in Regions** ». The point will be made on new requirements as well as means available and to strengthen regarding these topics at regional level keeping in mind the Grenelle de l’Environnement objectives’ implementation.

Lastly, as mentioned above, events dedicated to the general public have been prepared by the organisers as well as several associated conferences which will be organised during these three days.

To conclude, we really hope that, thanks to this conferences’ programme voluntary transversal, we will contribute to go further in the debates and manage to reinforce or initiate new partnerships able to answer the important challenges we will have to raise together. In this perspective, I will be glad to meet you in Montpellier on the 10, 11 and 12 December.