

ADEME & VOUS

International newsletter

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Editorial

2015 Paris Climate Conference

The 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) on climate change is scheduled to take place in Paris in December 2015 and will be attended by nearly 50,000 international delegates and stakeholders. The event is a key milestone, since 2015 is the year in which commitments to combat climate change are due to be adopted for implementation as of 2020. The Paris conference will provide a forum for talks between 194 countries. It will also be an outstanding opportunity to highlight a whole array of solutions and initiatives for energy, mobility and buildings implemented in France and around the world by companies, institutions and local authorities, along with a number of bodies and centres for research and innovation. With this in mind, the French sustainable development committee (Comité 21) teamed up with Club France Développement Durable—a group comprising over 60 French networks—to launch Solutions COP 21 (www.solutionscop21.org) on 9 July this year, providing a showcase for low-carbon solutions designed to generate growth and create jobs.

ADEME is partnering the initiative. A series of events are scheduled in the run-up to COP21 over the next 18 months. /



Walter Bibikow/age fotostock

MEDENER

Promoting the energy transition in the Mediterranean

A number of Euro-Mediterranean stakeholders from the public and private sectors gathered in Marseille, France, on 24 April for the second international conference on energy transition in the Mediterranean, organised by the Mediterranean Association of National Agencies for Energy Conservation (MEDENER).
Overview and outlook.

By 2030, the Mediterranean basin will need to overcome an array of major economic, energy and social challenges," says Christelle Bedes, Mediterranean Project Manager at ADEME's International Affairs Department. "In fact, energy demand is expected to grow threefold, driven by strong population growth of around 45%, and urbanisation, with nearly 30 cities now home to more than one million people." To rise to these challenges, MEDENER organised its second international energy transition conference on 24 April, focusing on cooperation between the various stakeholders to improve project synergy. "The conference provided an opportunity to demonstrate the need for a joint approach to >>>

>>> accelerate the energy transition through short- and medium-term goals, taking into account the real cost of energy and the importance of technological and organisational innovation while highlighting Euro-Mediterranean partnerships."

ADAPTING TO THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY

MEDENER has been instrumental in launching a number of flagship projects. "The association is working on a range of initiatives in the building industry," explains Ms Bedes. "It has helped to establish a system of energy labelling, developed standard labels to promote solar water heaters, encouraged new projects and initiated energy-consumption regulations for buildings." MEDENER has also developed joint resources, including the MED-IEE energy observatory project (see inset), enabling each country in the region to analyse its energy use and resources to optimise implementation of relevant policies. MEDENER has also set up training programmes tailored to the individual needs of each country to help introduce relevant regulations and raise people's awareness of best practices to adopt on a daily basis.

FACILITATING RELATIONS BETWEEN STAKEHOLDERS IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS

MEDENER encourages partnerships between the many different public- and private-sector stakeholders concerned by these issues: "To that end, it organises annual meetings to gauge progress made in implementing energy transition initiatives," says Ms Bedes. The network also supports local authorities in developing resources to plan policy in different regions: "For instance, the Tunisian agency has actively helped the city of Sfax to roll out a regional climate & energy plan."

TARGETING 2030-2050

ADEME also handed over the MEDENER presidency to its Tunisian counterpart (ANME) on 24 April. Among other projects, ANME is seeking to develop scenarios for 2030-2050. Christelle Bedes: "This forward-looking approach draws on the work done by ADEME in France, which has provided an accurate, coherent view of France's energy future." These forecasts will likely provide material for talks on the Mediterranean region at the 21st Climate Conference (COP21) in France from 30 November to 11 December 2015.

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↑ **FEEDBACK /**

An observatory to optimise energy management

To identify regional sources of energy efficiency, MEDENER set up an energy management observatory (MED-IEE) in 2012, which has been tested in Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia. Following the initial two-year pilot phase, the observatory will be extended to other countries covered by the MEDENER network. It will be used to closely monitor energy consumption by households, industry and transport in each country, along with energy resources. Once these indicators are available, tailored national energy efficiency action plans can be drawn up to reduce the energy dependence of each country in the region.

+ www.medener-indicateurs.net

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Local authorities ta Staying al

Alongside strategies designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, local authorities need to anticipate climate change and put in place relevant measures to adapt accordingly.

The French Economic Council for Sustainable Development defines this process of adaptation as a series of organisational, localised, technical changes that societies will need to introduce to offset the negative impact of climate change and make the most of any beneficial effects. "These adaptation policies must be incorporated into current mitigation strategies, since some initiatives will apply to both," says Éric Vésine, Deputy Manager at the Climate Department, in charge of overseeing issues related to climate change adaptation at ADEME. "That is why it is important that we ensure the consistency of this two-pronged approach and promote synergy to pursue an integrated climate policy."



Tackle climate change head of the curve

The campaign to adapt to climate change is based on the findings included in the assessment report drawn up by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). In addition to natural systems, a whole raft of sectors—including agriculture, forestry, tourism, fishing, regional development, buildings and infrastructure, and people—will be affected by these unavoidable changes, irrespective of any efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In France, the changes are already palpable. Over the second half of the 20th century, summers have become drier, Alpine glaciers have shrunk, fruit trees have begun to flower earlier, and grapevines have been shown to ripen faster.

ACCELERATED CHANGES

Forecasts for the coming decades tally on the prospect of a significant acceleration in these phenomena. Climate change is expected to increase environmental instability. There is therefore a need to prepare for these changes and find new approaches to offset this vulnerability.

"France adopted PNACC, a national climate change adaptation plan, in 2011 in a bid to better understand the issue, reduce its vulnerability to climate change and prevent damage to the environment, to assets, to finances and to people,"

explains Mr Vésine. The initiative followed the creation of ONERC, the national observatory on the effects of global warming, in 2001 and the adoption of the national climate change adaptation strategy in 2009, which marked the start of government action to tackle the problem. Based on the national adaptation strategy, 20 themes were chosen (each with its own action plan) as the core of the PNACC, targeting four key objectives: protecting people and assets, preventing excessive exposure to risks, limiting costs and drawing on benefits, and protecting the country's national heritage. The PNACC also aims to imple-

ment measures that include combating flooding, adapting coastal areas and making necessary economic changes.

A MANDATORY FOCUS ON ADAPTATION

There is already tangible impetus among local authorities since the plan requires mandatory measures to adapt to climate change in regional climate, air and energy initiatives as well as regional climate & energy plans.

"ADEME works to help local authorities better understand the importance of adaptation by issuing more targeted messages that focus on specific issues," explains Mr Vésine. *"The overall goal is to demonstrate that the ability to anticipate future impacts makes regions more robust and helps to promote their long-term development."*

ADEME regional departments have been at the forefront of this campaign, since the stakes are extremely high in some regions, such as Languedoc-Roussillon. *"We have been focusing on raising awareness among stakeholders with regard to the changes that have occurred over the past few years, using concrete data such as temperature changes and rainfall recorded over long periods. The second goal is to improve information by providing access to as many publications as possible covering local issues while rallying people to the cause by identifying potential stakeholders to launch local initiatives,"* explains Pierre Vignaud, ADEME Climate & Waste Manager for the Languedoc-Roussillon ADEME regional department. In addition to local initiatives, ADEME has been pursuing a nationwide campaign since 2009 to ensure that measures to adapt to climate change are seen as positive environmental initiatives. *"More specifically, this has led to a growing awareness of the issue, with one of the main stumbling blocks for stakeholders being the lack of information and methodology,"* explains Céline Phillips, Climate Change Adaptation Manager at the ADEME Climate Department. /



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Go further

DECISION-MAKING TOOLS

Local authorities are in the process of assessing and exploring the consequences of climate change, which vary from one region to the next. Along with the campaign to raise awareness and provide information, ADEME is developing new tools to define priority action plans. Examples include Impact'Climat, which identifies key challenges facing regions, and Objectif'Climat, which is used to structure adaptation initiatives and ensure monitoring.



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The Mediterranean Promoting sustainable tourism

Launched in January 2012, the European ShMILE 2 project aimed to help the tourism industry professionals in six Mediterranean countries open up to sustainable tourism and raise awareness of the European Ecolabel. The project recently ended, with very encouraging results.

ShMILE 2 unfolded amid a significant degree of tension around the globe, compounded by events such as the Arab Spring, the economic crisis and the civil war in Syria. "Nonetheless, the six countries involved in the campaign—Italy, France, Greece, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan—did their utmost to support the project," says Cécile Martin-Phipps, project manager at ADEME's International Affairs Department. "The project was designed to make the tourist industry (and especially accommodation providers) more aware of sustainable tourism and increase the long-term viability of the sector, which is very important in many countries in the region." The Mediterranean draws 28% of international tourism, which represents 280 million tourists a year (Plan Bleu, 2014), as well as 11% of GDP and nearly 20 million jobs (META, 2012). The scale of the challenge required an equally wide-ranging approach. Cécile Martin-Phipps: "Tangible initiatives were launched. Three studies were carried out to determine progress in distributing Ecolabels in the Mediterranean region, to gauge the position of the tourist industry in terms of sustainable development and to assess demand for Ecolabelled accommodation services. The partners also organised three seminars to share feedback and to raise awareness among those in the tourist industry with regard to distribution of the European Ecolabel."

INFORMING AND TRAINING TOURISM PROFESSIONALS

12 regional workshops were also organised to raise awareness among tourism professionals regarding the purpose and benefits of the European Ecolabel. The skills of 700 tourism professionals and 120 young graduates were enhanced through the creation of a university course and work experience opportunities with ShMILE 2 partners. These professionals were then able to assist tourist accommodation providers in auditing their establishments using the Ecolabel Toolbox self-assessment system developed by ADEME, which



helped 188 tourist accommodation providers to determine their compliance with the label's 90 criteria. 106 tourist accommodation services were given assistance in obtaining the Ecolabel, with 22 certified by the end of the project. The awareness-raising campaign was also extended to include the general public, with close to 10,700 people given information on the advantages of the Ecolabel through regional and international conferences. Cécile Martin-Phipps: "Although the project is now over, the training programme is ongoing and the partners can continue to use the resources developed during the project, especially the Ecolabel Toolbox." /

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PUBLICATIONS /

ADEME ENERGY TRANSITION SCENARIOS: 2030-2050



ADEME pooled its technical and economic resources to draw up energy transition scenarios for 2030-2050, providing in-depth information detailing all hypothetical scenarios, along with a summary including initial content from the macro-economic evaluation.
Ref. 7846 (French) and 7942 (English)
Free to download:
www.ademe.fr/publications

HOW CAN FRENCH AGRICULTURE CONTRIBUTE TO REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS?



ADEME and the French Ministries of Agriculture and Ecology commissioned the French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA) to conduct a survey of French agriculture. The aim was to identify and analyse ten measures relating to agricultural practices that could potentially help reduce GHG emissions and/or increase carbon storage in soil and biomass. The survey is also available in French.
Free to download:
www.ademe.fr/publications

TO ATTEND /

16-22 September EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK

The latest edition of European Mobility Week will focus on quality of life in the city, under the slogan "Our streets, our choice."
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