

Local Renewables 2007

Freiburg 13 - 15 June 2007



Draft Version

Press release

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Symposium for municipal climate protection

International experts discuss paths to a sustainable energy economy in cities and municipalities in Freiburg.

Freiburg, 01.06.2007 – Municipal decision-makers and international experts will pursue the question of how to effectively contribute to climate protection at the local level at the international symposium “Local Renewables 2007” from June 13th to 15th in Freiburg. Besides offering a comprehensive overview of the technological possibilities offered by renewable energy, the conference emphasizes the implementation and financing of such projects and measures, complementing theoretical knowledge with site visits to several examples in Freiburg.

The conference “Local Renewables 2007” takes place within the framework of the German EU-Parliamentary Presidency and is under the patronage of the German Minister for the Environment, Sigmar Gabriel. The multifaceted program, presented by respected experts, takes place in the Solar Info Center Freiburg and is organised by the international network of municipalities ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability. The conference is a part of ICLEI’s international “Cities for Climate Protection” campaign. The event is hosted by the city of Freiburg, which provides the ideal surroundings as home of multiple world-renowned pilot projects for renewable energy usage. Participants at the conference include decision-makers and experts from state and local administrations, members of the energy economy (**energy suppliers?** “Energiewirtschaft”) and industry.

Themes of “Local Renewables 2007” are:

- Solutions for a sustainable and climate-friendly energy supply and energy economy in cities;

- Strengthening regional economic structures through renewable energy and decentralised supply concepts;
- Integration of renewable energy concepts in modern city planning;
- Partnership between municipal public authorities, private industry, research and development, and the public.

As a basis and indispensable prerequisite to implementation of such concepts, the symposium will also focus on the creation of compatible framework conditions and the identification of relevant finance reforms.

Experts will give an overview of the state of technology in the field of renewable energy as an introduction to this particularly current (**hochaktuelle**) topic. Abstract concepts such as goals for CO₂ reduction will be translated into solid concepts for energy supply and the municipal energy economy by means of presentations and workshops, with particular focus on renewable energy independent of increasingly scarce fossil fuels. Site visits of reference projects, institutions and companies in the solar sector exemplify the implementation of the theoretical knowledge gained at the symposium.

Freiburg's Lord Mayor and member of ICLEI's international Executive Committee, Dr. Dieter Salomon, will give an account of the extensive experience of the City of Freiburg in the use of renewable energy as part of the symposium "Local Renewables 2007." This includes examples from the entire spectrum, from wind- and waterpower, solar energy production, through geothermal climatisation.

Journalists and media representatives may take part in the entire symposium upon presentation of their credentials at the press office listed below. A press conference will take place on the third day of the conference: **Friday, June 15th, at 10:30.**

Characters (including spaces):

At a glance

Local Renewables 2007

Date: June 13th – 14th, 2007

Location: Freiburg im Breisgau
Solar Info Center

Target group: - Elected officers and decision makers
from cities, districts, and municipalities

- Heads and members of energy, building, planning, and economic development departments, including partners and private providers in these areas
- Politicians and councillors from all levels of governments
- Energy providers
- Business representatives
- Experts in the areas of sustainable development and politics

- Conference languages:** English
German (Simultaneous translation)
French, Italian, Portuguese
(selected translation)
- Host:** City of Freiburg
- Supported by:** EU Program “Intelligent Energy Europe”

Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, and Reactor Safety (BMU)
- Programme:** ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
European Secretariat
Leopoldring 3
79098 Freiburg
Tel.: +49-761 / 368 92-20
Fax: +49-761 / 368 92-79
- Conference fees:** € 380 regular fee
€ 320 reduced fee
- More information and registration** www.local-renewables2007.org

About ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

ICLEI—Local Governments for Sustainability is an international association of more than 500 cities, districts, municipalities, and local organisations with the common goal of tangible improvement in the areas of environment and sustainability on the global level. As an international association of local governments, ICLEI has observer status in the Climate Protection Program UNFCCC of the United Nations. ICLEI was founded in 1990 with headquarters in Toronto, Canada. The European Secretariat is located in Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany.

About ICLEI's campaign Cities for Climate Protection (CCP)

The CCP Campaign was initiated in 1993 as an international campaign to bring cities and municipalities active in reducing greenhouse gas emissions together. Currently, over 1,000 local governments world-wide take part in this campaign, including approximately 160 in Europe. These cities are responsible for approximately 5% of global CO₂ emissions.

Media requests and accreditation:

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