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Interreg III B



Aspect: exemplary project for eco-companies

Foreword by Mrs Danuta Hübner - EU Commissioner for Regional Policy.

I am very pleased to address this message for the second Newsletter of the ASPECT project, implemented in the framework of the INTERREG Community transnational programme "Alpine Space".

In my view, the aim of the ASPECT project – promoting eco-companies – can be seen as exemplary since it combines two of the main challenges of cohesion policy: on the one hand stimulating economic growth and employment; and on the other hand preserving the environment.

These principles are also the cornerstone of the Community Strategic Guidelines on Cohesion, which establish the framework for cohesion policy for the period 2007-2013. Future programmes will be designed so to cover the following three overarching priorities, in line with the Lisbon and Gothenburg Agendas:

- make the EU a more attractive place in which to invest and work
- transform the Union into an area of high growth, innovation and competitiveness
- and return Europe to full employment, with more and better jobs.

The ASPECT project complies with these objectives. It aims at stimulating growth via the development of eco-activities capable of measuring, preventing and limiting environmental impacts. It operates in a sensitive area like the Alps, particularly fragile from the environmental and geographical point of view.

The Lisbon agenda aims for sustainable jobs and growth. We are convinced that developing eco-technology and environmental protection strengthens competitiveness in the long-term. It is a condition without which growth cannot happen considering the scarcity of natural resources.



Mrs Danuta Hübner
EU Commissioner for Regional Policy

There is no point in being competitive unless quality of life is enhanced and the planet is preserved for future generations. That is why our policy gives great priority to the environment, linked to the overall EU environmental policy. Future cooperation programmes shall highlight these aspects even more clearly.

I wish you every success for the continuation of the project and for this Newsletter. We are confident that the results and impact of the project will represent a "best practice" to be transferred elsewhere, for the benefit of all European regions.

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Focus on Aspect partners

Eco-industry in Lombardy - Italy (Province of Mantova)



EcoIndustry in the province of Mantova

BAIKUM: international network of eco- companies



Bayern Innovativ, Nuremberg

The Province of Mantova, located in the south-east part of the Italian Region Lombardy, is a local public authority aimed at promoting the general development of the area in accordance with environmental standards and fundamental rights granted by Italian constitution. The Province fosters a balanced development of the area; cares for and valorises the environmental, natural and cultural resources; promotes the implementation of an integrate welfare system and contributes to foster equal opportunities. Some 41,000 companies are registered by the Chamber of Commerce of Mantova: most of them are SMEs (99,24% have less than 40 employees). About one third of them deals with artisan or handicraft activities. About 50 large companies deal with chemical, mechanical and clothing sector, with more than 250 employees each. In addition, the area is enriched by some 12.000 agricultural enterprises.

The province industry mainly consists of 4 sectors, organised into industrial clusters:

- clothing, textile, hosiery
- food industry
- mechanical (with relevant European groups in metallurgical and engineering industries)

Innovation and Technology Transfer in Bavaria (Bayern Innovativ)

Bayern Innovativ Ltd is a publicly held company that was set up by the Bavarian State Government in 1995 in the city of Nuremberg.

It was initiated by politics, science and industry as a cooperation platform to support innovation and technology transfer, thus providing a future oriented contribution to the ongoing development of Bavaria as a high-tech industry and technology location.

Bayern Innovativ fosters business driven cooperation projects across disciplines and branches taking into account the latest results

- wood-working chipboard production, brushes, paint-brushes.

The most important **eco-industries** in the area deal with waste treatment, renewable energy and composting wood-treatment. There are more than 1000 SMEs dealing with recovery/recycling of waste. More than 50% of them work and process wood for production of ecological panels. Some other are specialised in processing and recovery of metals, glass and paper. Some SMEs that process urban waste are specialising in waste recovery. Into details, 5 composting plants have recently been authorised to process 22.000 tons of quality compost to be used as fertilizer for arable lands.

The main developing area is the renewable energy production from agriculture, i.e. biogas production. A considerable number of farm houses have been involved in specific support projects aimed at developing a new business: the "agro-energy farm". From the liquid residues produced by cattle and pig cattle, it is possible to obtain biogas production that, send to a motor or to a boiler, allows to obtain both electric

energy production and heat. In both cases, the farm (cattle or dairy) will be able to satisfy completely or partially the quote of its need and, in the case of electric energy production, the farm will be able to sell it, in accordance with the green certificate system. Farms have also been involved with the **biomass production**, finalised at the alimentation of a power Stirling station characterised by a middle-sized boiler (from 500 up to 1000 kW heat capacity) and of a Stirling boiler (use for converting caloric energy in mechanic energy), all together associated to a current generator with a electric power between 75 and 150 kW. In this way, from the combustion of biomass it is possible to produce both caloric energy and electric in a context created to involve and pay the producer and supplier farm, at local level. Finally, thanks to Energy Intelligent Europe programme in Mantova last year was opened Agire, a new energy agency: an important initiative to coordinate the whole renewable energy sector in the province and foster local action for renewable energy use in both public and private sector.

from the scientific community. It conceives for this reason thematically focused innovation congresses and cooperation forums in Bavaria with international participation. In this way in the last decade it has built up networks of companies and institutes from over 40 countries primarily in Europe, North America and Asia.

One of the networks that were initiated by Bayern Innovativ is BAIKUM - the Bavarian Innovation and Cooperation Initiative for Environmental Technology.

BAIKUM supports small and medium-sized eco-companies in order to strengthen their innovation ability and extend their international competitiveness. BAIKUM also provides potential business partners from abroad with information about technologies and contacts to industry and science in Bavaria. The catalogue of companies and institutes on the website <http://www.baikum.de> gives users a detailed overview of Bavaria's environmental excellence in technology and application.

ASPECT Cooperation database

Improving the relations among companies located in the Alpine Space area is one of the deliverables of the ASPECT project.

To achieve this goal ASPECT has created a [Cooperation Database](#), a tool targeted to registered eco-companies wishing to consult and diffuse cooperation proposals from potential counterparts located in the Alpine Space areas.

The advertising company can choose between a confidential and a non-confidential insertion mode.

Aspect Partners can be a relay for your advertisements.

For more information and assistance, find out the nearest Aspect partner on the last page of this newsletter.



A useful tool to
create
partnerships: the
ASPECT COOPERATION
DATABASE

ADVERTISEMENTS

1) French company specialised in swimming pool water treatment with UVc, water and effluent potabilization, industrial processing for over 15 years looks for distributors in Europe, Africa and the Middle East to market its products. (ref 1084)

2) Energie Solaire SA, Sierre (Valais), a Swiss company of the Granit Group, specialised in the area of thermal solar technology and associated products, is looking for distributors in Germany, Austria and Slovenia.

Contact: alain.jenny@granit.net

For further information: <http://www.aspect-project.eu>

Europe & Environment

Emissions Trading: Commission approves Slovenia's national allocation plan for 2008-2012

The European Commission approved on February 5th Slovenia's national plan for allocating carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission allowances for the 2008-2012 trading period of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS). The Commission accepted the total number of emission allowances proposed by Slovenia – equivalent to 8.3 million tonnes of CO₂ – since it is consistent with Slovenia's commitment under the Kyoto Protocol, its expected emissions and its potential to reduce emissions. It is also lower than the verified emissions of Slovenia in 2005. The approval is conditional on Slovenia making changes to two aspects of its plan. The ETS ensures that greenhouse gas emissions from energy and industry sectors are cut at least cost to the economy, thus helping the EU and its Member States to meet their emission commitments under the Kyoto Protocol.

For further information: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/climat/emission.htm>

Europe &
Environment: new
Slovenia's
national
allocation plan

News from ASPECT Partners

Tools for Sustainable Development

The Canton of Vaud (Switzerland) is making two environmental tools available online: the "Sustainable Development Indicators" which contributes to give citizens a better understanding and awareness of challenges related to sustainable development; and the "Regional Sustainable Development Compass" (boussole vaudoise) which helps to evaluate the assets and weak points of projects in the 3 dimensions of sustainable development.

For further information: www.vd.ch/durable

Raising awareness
on sustainable
development in
Switzerland



Coming up events

GREEN WEEK Brussels (Belgium) 12th-15th June 2007

Linking in with the festivities for the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, Green Week 2007 will look back at 50 years of European environmental policy and we look at the future.

We'll be reviewing past actions and identifying success and failures, and looking at the challenges we will face in the future. What have we achieved? Where could we do better? Which are the drivers for change? Do we need to adapt our lifestyle and how? How can innovation and technology help us? Green Week will provide a unique opportunity for debate, exchange of experience and best practice among non-governmental organisations, businesses, various levels of government and the public.

For further information:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/greenweek/index_en.htm

ENERGYTECH 2007 Lausanne (Switzerland) 1st-3rd November 2007

The second edition of the Swiss Renewable Energies and Environmental Technologies Exhibit will take place from November 1st to 3rd 2007 in Lausanne (Palais de Beaulieu).

Sectors: Bioethanol, Bio-food, Biogas, Eco-products, Eolic, Financements & consultancy, Geothermal, Heat pumps, Hybrid vehicles, Hydraulic, Photovoltaic, R&D, Recycling, Solar, Wood energy.

For further information:

<http://www.energytech.ch>

SESEC VI Lausanne (Switzerland) 30th October—1st November 2007

This year "Swiss Environmental Solutions for Emerging Countries" is under the theme of: "Global Development of the quality of life at the Local Level". During 3 days of symposium, participants will share their experience in solving environmental problems and in creating added value, quality of life and jobs out of it. Mr. Jean-Marc Buchillier, General Manager of ADN (Yverdon-les Bains, Switzerland) will present the ASPECT project during the third day entitled "Local development and green cooperation networks".

Special ASPECT event during SESEC VI: Sesec VI Olympic Museum Lausanne, Switzerland

This year, Swiss environmental Solution for Emerging countries" will focus on "International networking for promoting sustainable development at local and regional level". Aspect alpine network of regions and the international Federation of Green Region will present their achievements and best practices recommendations. For the sixth consecutive year, practical cases of demand of environmental solutions will be matched with **consortia/groups** of suppliers meeting the requirements presented by a local collectivity in order to create projects and markets.

For further information:

SESEC Committee Chairman - Dr Alain Jenny

Tel. +41 21 318 75 22 alain.jenny@sesec.org

<http://www.sesec.org/>

ECOMONDO Rimini (Italy) 7th-10th November 2007

Ecomondo is the only reference trade fair in Italy able to attract the attention of all key players committed to environmental issues. In fact, the 9th edition closed with an extraordinary success: 900 companies from 20 countries, 45,146 specialist trade members, 113 seminars, events and corporate workshops, with approximately 1,090 writers and speakers

For further information: <http://www.ecomondo.com>

POLLUTEC HORIZONS Paris (France) 27th– 30th November 2007

Over the 4 days of Pollutec Horizons in Paris, more than 40,000 decision makers and specifiers from industry and local authorities will come to learn about and exchange information on the environmental and economic challenges of today and tomorrow, to discover innovations for the prevention and treatment of pollution and to implement the solutions for the future being presented by 1,400 Environment and Sustainable Development professionals and experts.

For further information: <http://www.pollutec.com>

www.aspect-project.eu

Lead Partner

CCI de Lyon – France (Marc Magaud, Claire Delsuc)

Tel.: +33 4 72405728 / 5692 magaud@lyon.cci.fr delsuc@lyon.cci.fr <http://www.lyon.cci.fr>

A public organization promoting the excellence of its territory

Association pour le Développement du Nord Vaudois - Switzerland (Jean-Marc Buchillier)

Tel.: +41 24 4255521 contact@adnv.ch <http://www.adnv.ch>

Association for the Development of Yverdon-les-Bains Region, Switzerland

B.A.U.M. Consult GmbH – Germany (Ludwig Karg / Carmen Schnaidt)

Tel.: +49 89 18935198 l.karg@baumgroup.de; c.schnaidt@baumgroup.de <http://www.baumgroup.de>

Consultancy on sustainable development for enterprises, municipalities and regions

Bayern Innovativ - Gesellschaft für Innovation und Wissenstransfer mbH – Germany

(Eva Halsch / Emma Costa)

Tel.: +49 911 20671185 / 158 halsch@bayern-innovativ.de; costa@bayern-innovativ.de;

<http://www.bayern-innovativ.de>

Public held company for the development of cooperation networks across 10 different technologies and branches

Centro Estero Camere Commercio Piemontesi – Italy (Rosanna Viola)

(Foreign Trade Office – Piemonte Chambers of Commerce)

Tel.: +39 011 6700685 rosanna.viola@ceccp.org <http://www.centroestero.org>

Non-profit organization creating international economic relations for the SMEs of Piemonte and Valle d'Aosta regions

Clusterland OÖ GmbH – Austria (Christian Leibetseder / Thomas Parkfrieder)

Tel.: +43 732 798105183 christian.leibetseder@clusterland.at; thomas.parkfrieder@clusterland.at;

<http://www.netzwerk-umwelttechnik.at>

A hub for technology suppliers, know-how bearers and technology users

ÖGUT – Österreichische Gesellschaft für Umwelt und Technik – Austria (Gerhard Bayer)

Tel.: +43 1 315639315 / 16 gerhard-bayer@oegut.at, <http://www.oegut.at>

Austrian Society for Environment and Technology, non-party platform for environment, business and administration

Provincia di Mantova – Italy (Rossella Marocchi)

Tel.: +39 0376 401855 sei2@provincia.mantova.it <http://www.provincia.mantova.it>

Local public authority for the promotion and the development of the area (south-east part of the Lombardy Region)

Regionalna razvojna agencija Gorenjske, BSC Poslovno podporni center d.o.o. Kranj – Slovenia (Bogo Filipič)

Tel.: +386 4 2817230 bogo.filipic@bsc-kranj.si <http://www.bsc-kranj.si>

A support institution for entrepreneurial and socio-economic development of Gorenjska region



Aspect News is issued every six months and features information on eco-industries in the alpine space area

Editorial office: Centro Estero Camere Commercio Piemontesi

Editorial staff: Rosanna Viola, Luciana Dequal, Tiziana Addato

Editorial coordinators: Francesca Corsini, Francesca Tessitore