



CASE
STUDY

Case Study



Clean Energy

Nantes, France - Climate Plan

Nantes is situated on the Atlantic seaboard, and benefits from an oceanic climate characterized by plenty of sunshine and gentle temperatures. Heating degree days are approximately 2000 and cooling need is low. After four decades of strong economic growth, the Nantes agglomeration it has now reached 580 000 inhabitants. Nantes enjoys high levels of industrial and tertiary activity (service industry). For Nantes, the central emphasis is to reduce GHG emissions on its territory by 50% by 2025. An ambitious target considering the 24 district authorities only directly control 6% of emissions. The cooperation of all the parties involved – private individuals, public and private companies – is thus essential. Nantes City is in the position to draw up a coherent and flexible energy policy. It applies to three areas:

- Coordination of energy use policy;
- Development of renewable energy; and
- Energy distribution.

The challenge for Nantes metropolis is to set objectives in line with the national targets and the international commitments, observing the regional climate energy plan, the main planning tool since 2006 in France. Climate plans are required by the government, and the local community has to define quantitative realistic goals in relation with national goals (Kyoto, Factor 4). The first step of Nantes district (not yet Nantes metropolis) was centered on 'Agenda 21' which was designed for sustainable development in general. The built up of competences resulted in a multi-year energy action plan (PPAE) in 2006 including the increase of renewable and heating networks. The next step was the climate plan in 2007 which led to considerations of climate and energy issues for the whole territory, including mobility, urban planning and housing. For this purpose, Nantes conducted a greenhouse gases emissions assessment and has the recourse of several tools made available mainly by the national Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maitrise de l'Energie (ADEME) to support the set-up of this local and global policy. Then arouse the need to translate the theoretical planning into concrete actions for local government in charge of them.

Nevertheless, the Nantes metropolis and its communities do not have all levers to act on major sources of CO₂-emissions. Neither does Nantes have all the necessary competencies to regulate energy in all its aspects. Thus, the local government created an energy and climate regulation and actions according to its competencies, including a massive deployment of solar panels on public buildings. Nantes was forced to leave energy reform actions to the discretion of users. Thus, the city's role is that of a motivator, an organizer of the climate actors. Importantly, in Nantes such approach has come a long way due to the existence of committed elected representatives.

Nantes, France Solar: Panels on public Buildings



Source: <http://www.nantesmetropole.fr/la-communaute-urbaine/institution/le-plan-climat-energie-territorial-de-nantes-metropole-50904.kjsp>

References

IEA Annex 51 Subtask C DRAFT Version 2.0 , op cit
<http://www.annex51.org/media/content/files/casestudies/subtaskC/Annex-51-ST-C-v2.pdf>

Credentials

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