

Province of Limburg, BE - "ESCOLIMBURG2020"

Time period: 2011 - ongoing

Theme of collaboration: Implementing joint financial mechanisms/ Implementing modelling/monitoring/planning tools

Application: Energy efficiency/GHG reduction

Topic: Financial counselling/Financial support programme/Setting up of regional funding entities/Technical support

Description

ESCOLIMBURG2020 is a joint project of the Province of Limburg, the public grid operator Infrax and Dubolimburg - provincial consultancy specialized on sustainable buildings, to accelerate the energy renovation of municipal properties in order to reach faster the Nearly Energy Neutral (*Bijna Energie Neutraal, BEN*) standard in the Province and to contribute to the achievement of the Province and Municipalities' climate objectives.

Through the involvement of Infrax's existing public Energy Service Company (ESCO), a package of energy services to enhance the energy efficiency of buildings is offered to Limburg municipalities, which include free services (telemetry and monitoring, a feasibility study and an energy register for the properties) as well as a series of consulting services (including dynamic simulations and measurement campaigns), and eventually a fully implemented project. The ESCOLIMBURG2020 project aims to support, optimise and expand these ESCO activities. Proposed interventions can regard all aspects of energy consumption: heating, ventilation, air conditioning, lighting, renewable energy, insulation, and they are characterized by high ambitions (savings > 30%, average 40%). The ESCO identifies the most optimal solution for the building, taking into account payback periods, available budgets and the requirements and needs of the administration.

To help local authorities gain an insight into their energy consumption, ESCOLIMBURG2020 provides – via Dubolimburg and during the course of personal discussions with policy makers – a Renewable Energy Action Plan (R & R Plan) for the various municipalities in Limburg. This report contains figures that are suitable for use for the follow-up measurement under the Covenant of Mayors. With the help of this follow-up measurement, the municipality can view, assess and verify CO2 emissions within its territory in relation to the impact of actions based on the municipal climate action plan.

Context / Background

The Province of Limburg aims to be carbon neutral by 2020, and has involved its municipalities in this sustainable energy strategy. The Province has signed as Territorial Coordinator of the Covenant of Mayors and supports and works together with its 44 towns and municipalities, which are all Covenant signatories, towards this sustainable energy vision. Acting on the energy efficiency of provincial and municipal properties is one of the pillar of this energy strategy and ESCOLIMURG2020 is perfectly consistent with this vision.

Key results

- 9 municipal projects realized with an overall investment of more than 2 million €, about 345 MWh of energy saved and 72 tCO2 avoided



Financing & costs

ESCOLIMBURG2020 is supported by the Intelligent Energy Europe programme through the MLEI-PDA assistance (Mobilizing Local Energy Investments). In 3 years the project is expected to mobilize EUR 19.8 million investments in sustainable energy.

Financing of energy renovation measures is a key aspect of the project. Municipalities can choose a pre-financing by the Infrac ESCO, in which the investment is repaid through savings in energy costs, or an own financing or bank loan via Infrac. ESCOLIMBURG2020 can also identify other possible financing options and techniques through a financial study (e.g. leasing, investment support, grants, or also the Limburg Climate Fund, which is supported by citizens and businesses).

Partners involved - Governance

- **Province of Limburg**
- **Infrac**
- **Dubolimborg**

Results achieved

Up to November 2014 ESCOLIMBURG2020 has already enabled 9 municipal projects with an overall investment of more than 2 million €, saving about 345 MWh of energy and avoiding 72 tCO₂.



Contact

Website:
<http://www.escolimburg2020.be/en/>

