

Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region, DE - Promotion of the Covenant of Mayors

Time period: 2010 - ongoing

Theme of collaboration: Implementing modelling/monitoring/planning tools, Engaging stakeholders in energy plans

Application: Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy/GHG reduction/Sustainable transport and mobility

Topic: CoM-related technical support/ Awareness raising initiative

Description

Heidelberg and 11 other municipalities of the Rhine-Neckar metropolitan region signed the Covenant in 2010, making Rhine-Neckar the most represented German metropolitan region within the Covenant.

Since 2010, Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region, having become an official 'Supporting Structure' of the Covenant of Mayors, is supporting its municipalities with their adhesion to the Covenant of Mayors and in technical activities to comply with its commitments,

This support takes the form of: organising events on the topic of energy transition, setting-up of a working group composed of local climate protection managers.

Each municipality prepares periodic reports on its progress. An important step of which was the transparent citizen participation procedure in designing the SEAP.

Context / Background

Initiated by Eckart Würzner, Mayor of Heidelberg and President of Energy Cities, and the Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region, several meetings took place to prepare the signing of the Covenant adhesion forms. The support to CoM signatories is grounded in several other activities carried out by the Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region on climate and energy policies, such as the development of a regional SEAP in close collaboration with local authorities and other relevant stakeholders.

Budget range

< € 100,000
€ 100,000 – € 1,000,000
€ 1,000,000 – € 10,000,000
€ 10,000,000 – € 100,000,000
> € 100,000,000
N/A

Key results

- Participating communities developed a SEAP
- Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region became a Supporting Structure of the Covenant



Financing & costs

There was no budget in place for the organisation of meetings and events. Costs of events were covered by the participating parties.

Partners involved - Governance

- **Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region (MRN)**
- **Municipalities (Heidelberg, Mannheim, Viernheim, Heppenheim, Worms, Frankenthal, Wiesloch, Eppelheim, Rimbach, Böhl-Ingelheim, Landau, Limburgerhof, Sankt Leon-Rot, Ludwigshafen, Walldorf)**

The above listed municipalities signed the Covenant between 2010 and 2014.

Results achieved

The Mayor of Heidelberg and President of Energy Cities, Eckart Würzner, was pleased to announce in 2010: *"The goals of the Covenant are ambitious. Today, the Metropolitan Region has taken a great step towards greater climate protection"*. The adhesion to the Covenant framework and access to its support network and tools will impulse the development of a new regional energy concept, the extension of renewable energy sources in the region, as well as the development of CO₂ balancing models.

Lessons learned & Success factors

The participating municipalities and the metropolitan region have realised that by joining the Covenant of Mayors they can foster greater climate protection in their territory. Competing measures for local climate change protection however pose a challenge.

Similar Initiatives – Transferability

- Best Practice: "CoM Territorial Coordinator", Andalusia Region (Spain)
- Best Practice: "Support to Municipality SEAPs", Province of Granada and Granada Energy Agency (Spain)
- Best Practice: "Local sustainable energy policies", Province of Barcelona (Spain)
- Best Practice: "CoM activities", Province of Genova (Italy)



On 16th April 2010, 11 Mayors of the Region signing-up to the Covenant of Mayors

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Links to further
information:
www.eumayors.eu/news_de.html?id_news=120