



SESAC - 1st Market Interaction Roundtable 'Access to Capital – Financing sustainable energy solutions'

On 29 April 2009, the 1st SESAC Market Interaction Roundtable on the topic 'Access to Capital - Financing sustainable energy solutions' took place in Freiburg (Germany) as side event of the Local Renewables Freiburg Conference 2009 (www.iclei-europe.org/freiburg2009).

Aim of the Market Interaction

The overall aim of the Market Interaction as such is to determine how local / regional / European Market Interaction, relevant to innovative building solutions can be improved to support extensive roll-out of sustainable energy solutions in communities, through improved co-operation between LGs and the business sector, and an informed public. Focus will be put on:

- Provision of sustainable energy: electricity, heating/cooling (building integrated and district concepts)
Sustainable building materials to reduce energy demand
Sustainable energy measures and technologies to improve energy efficiency
- Energy linked to building infrastructure: water and waste management (e.g. capturing: air, water, waste for energy)

Aim of the 1st Market Interaction Roundtable

The aim of the 1st SESAC Market Interaction Roundtable was to discuss how to move forward in easing access to financing solutions for local governments to improve the tempo of implementing sustainable energy in communities, and to explore co-operation (barriers and potential) with the business sector in providing sustainable energy products and services.

Context - Current financial crisis

The 1st Market Interaction Roundtable took place in the context of the current financial crisis, which can either be seen as an opportunity to increase the tempo for rolling out sustainable energy concepts, integrating these into medium to long-term city strategies, and improving ethical financing concepts for sustainable energy projects, or be regarded as a situation that blocks the transition towards a low carbon economy.

The tendency to the latter has potential damaging consequences for global climate protection, and exploring how to counter this is an underlying objective of this roundtable.

Expected results

The expected results of this 1st Market Interaction Roundtable are:

- Input for discussions in the SESAC project and CONCERTO initiative aimed at identifying barriers and opportunities that impact on European communities when switching to sustainable energy solutions;
- The Local Government Positioning, sharing relevant perspectives for local governments and financing of climate protection actions; and
- Identifying issues for national-local climate /energy dialogues to improve framework conditions, as part of the European LG Climate Roadmap process.

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