BEAM 21 – Competences for Local Climate Protection and Intelligent Energy Management

A training offer for municipal staff and decision makers

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What is BEAM 21?
BEAM 21 is developing and implementing capacity-building training programmes for decision makers and administrative staff in European municipalities. Its aims are to encourage them to apply intelligent measures for increasing energy efficiency, reduce CO2 emissions, and install renewable energies in municipalities. Facing the relevance of energy for the economy of the European states and considering the global crises, the question of intelligent energy management is one of the decisive questions to achieve European climate protection targets. Municipalities are among the most important players to reduce GHG emissions and reach the 20–20–20 goals by 2020.

BEAM 21 steps in at this point to support local capacity-building for climate protection and an intelligent use of energy, including local Sustainable Energy Action Plans.

Who can participate?
The training offer addresses municipal staff as well as decision makers and representatives in municipal councils who are interested in shaping a more climate-friendly and energy-efficient future for their city; who would like to reduce local GHG emissions significantly and open up new opportunities for the local economy at the same time. Focus of the training is on municipalities in the range of 10,000 to 100,000 inhabitants.

What does the training course offer?
– Knowledge about municipal fields of action regarding municipal climate protection and a variety of best-practice examples that make decision making and policy framing easier
– Possibility to contribute your longstanding experience
– Exchange of experience with experts from other municipalities
– Common drafting of concrete approaches for your city
– Certificate after successful completion of the course

A European Project
The training has been developed and realised within the project »BEAM 21 – blended capacity building on sustainable energy measures and action plans for European municipalities«, which is funded by the European Union as part of the programme »Intelligent Energy – Europe (IEE)« and coordinated by the Heinrich-Boell-Foundation Brandenburg. Project partners include energy agencies, environment- and energy consultants, environmental organisations, and educational institutions from nine European countries. The training will be available in nine languages. To meet the specific needs of learners and provide application-oriented training, there will be specific modifications of the training content for each country.

Project Partners
Austrian Green Foundation (AT), Public Environmental Centre for Sustainable Development (BG), Hnutí Duha (CZ), Heinrich-Boell-Foundation Brandenburg (project coordinator) (DE), Forum Soziale Technikgestaltung / Talheimer (DE), University of Applied Science Eberswalde (DE), City of Geislingen (DE), Local Energy Agency of the Greater Lyon (FR), Environmental Centre for Administration and Technology (LT), Foundation for Environmental Education (LV), First Warsaw Agenda 21 (PL), Institute for Sustainable Development (PL), Centre for Environment and Development (RO), Focus Eco Centre (RO)

How do the courses work?
The course covers a period of four months. It combines five on-site seminars in your city with four online learning periods via the internet in between. For decision makers, on-site seminars are organised as evening seminars. Staff members attend seminars during working hours. The online component is self-directed, done according to your own scheduling, but is supervised by experienced online tutors.