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Promoting Energy efficiency to Local Organisations  
through dissemination Partnerships in Europe  
Best Actions for Collaboration in Countries  
for a High efficient Use of energy in Structural funds

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## e5 Programme for Energy-Conscious Communities - Vorarlberg, Tyrol, Salzburg - Austria

**e5 is an integrated approach to raise energy-efficiency and the use of renewables in municipalities. Within network of communities a continuous process is started. An auditing and labelling scheme offers orientation and reward for success already achieved and identifies further requirements.**

Target Groups	Sector	Field
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local authority</li> <li>- Regional authorities</li> <li>- Decision makers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All sectors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring &amp; Management</li> <li>- Labelling</li> <li>- Education and training</li> </ul>

### ANALYSIS

#### INTRODUCTION

The energy label "e-5 programme for energy-conscious communities" was developed in 1998 and successfully introduced in the Austrian Federal states (Bundesländer) of Vorarlberg, Tirol und Salzburg on the basis of the Swiss programme "Label Energiestadt". Since then about 30 communities joined the programme.

The main features of the programme are

- a catalogue of possible activities
- an auditing and labelling scheme
- structures for professional energy efficiency work
- a network for exchange of experiences and external support

#### CATALOGUE OF POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES

The catalogue consists of more than a hundred possible activities, measures and instruments in the fields of planning & authority, communal buildings, transport, information & motivation, supply, co-operation and organisation. It is a tool for the orientation of measures already implemented as well as a checklist for possible further actions. It is also the basis for the auditing process.

## AUDITING AND LABELLING SCHEME

The communities commit themselves for regular internal and external audits to evaluate the progress in the process. The external audit based on the catalogue of possible activities results in the labelling of a community depending on the ratio of the realised actions to the possible actions. The label itself rewards the community with one to five "e"s. For the first "e" you need to have implemented 25% of the possible measures, for "eeeee" it has to be 75% or more.

In summer 2002 there have been four top-communities with "eeeee", which shows that e5 is a very challenging programme and to reach "eeeee" is a long term process on a broad basis of actions.

## STRUCTURES FOR PROFESSIONAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORK

One of the targets is to set up a structures for continuous and professional energy-efficiency work. This includes clearly defined responsibilities, the appointment of an energy-team (with representatives from politics, administration, commerce, NGOs) , a budget for the implementation of measures and instruments as well as top-level support and commitment for the process.

## NETWORK FOR EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES AND EXTERNAL SUPPORT

The participating communities are integrated in a network with regular meetings for the exchange of experience, training courses, information material and external support from energy agencies funded by the regions.



E5 LOGO



REDUCED TRAFFIC ZONE IN ST. JOHANN IM PONGAU

## COST AND BENEFITS

Currently (summer 2002) 31 communities in three Austrian regions participate in the programme, of which 25 communities share a total number of 47 "e"s with 4 top communities having reached "eeee" and three communities with "eee". According to a calculation "eeee" would correspond with the target of a 50% CO<sub>2</sub>-reduction.

The main benefits of the e5 Programme in compare to other measures are:

- an integrated approach including all energy-related fields of action within a community,
- building up structures and networks for professional energy-efficiency work
- continuous and regularly evaluated energy-efficiency work

The cost of participation in the programme depends on the region but is rather low (not including the cost for the implementation of measures and setting up a local structure).

The three regional networks are supported by 1 1/2 persons each. They are responsible for networking, training, support of the energy-teams and the labelling.

## PARTNERSHIP

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Establishing local and regional partnerships is one of the main characteristics of the programme:

The energy-team is the institutional partnerships of community-internal stakeholders. It is steering and co-ordinating the local process and is responsible for the direction and progress of the activities. It should consist of representatives of politics, administration, commerce, NGOs etc.

The e5-network is the forum for the communication between e5 communities moderated by the supporting energy agencies. Exchange of experiences, training and workshops and support for local energy-efficiency work and public relations are the focus of this network.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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The e5 Programme is a very ambitious approach to increase energy-efficiency and the use of renewable energy at the local level and within the responsibility of communities. It is probably less suitable for the average community or for short term actions. The e5 Programme is also not appropriate for larger cities.

The e5 communities have to give a good example for mass of communities. Therefore communication of success stories is essential for global effects. They can be a flagship for other communities to show what can be achieved and how it can be achieved.

Currently there are efforts to widen the programme to an European level and to make it more suitable for bigger municipalities. The most remarkable effort for this is the Communal Label (<http://www.communal-labels.org/>).

## TO KNOW MORE

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## USEFUL INFORMATION

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List of Internet sites

[Energieinstitut Vorarlberg, Energie Tirol, SIR / http://www.e5-gemeinden.at/](http://www.e5-gemeinden.at/)

[Communal Labels Website / http://www.communal-labels.org/](http://www.communal-labels.org/)

## THIS CASE HAS BEEN REALISED BY

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