



act2 is a project of the CONCERTO Initiative co-funded by the European Commission within the Sixth Framework Programme

## Editorial (#5)

Dear Reader,

Jointly with the EC, Concerto-act2 partners agreed on the extension of the project for another year. More than a requirement to drive an extended monitoring, this was put forward as an opportunity to maximise the impact of the project at the local stage and the exchange of experiences between partner cities.

In this respect, as you will read in this fifth edition of our newsletter, some joint initiatives gathering act2 and Concerto cities - either as lead partners or as observers - are emerging, new demonstration projects are completed and cities locally fosters the upgrade of skills through training.

I am also pleased that you are more and more numerous to visit our website. The act2 team is currently improving its ergonomics and enriching its content (find out first feedbacks and results in the new "[fact sheets](#)" section), so keep coming and visiting [www.concerto-act2.eu](http://www.concerto-act2.eu) !

Yours,

Astrid Hoffmann-Kallen, Project coordinator

If you have any questions or suggestions concerning this newsletter please send an email to the editorial team ([vincent.hure@nantesmetropole.fr](mailto:vincent.hure@nantesmetropole.fr) or [ute.heda@hannover-stadt.de](mailto:ute.heda@hannover-stadt.de)).



## Concerto Plus - Regional Site Visit in Salzburg

From 25th -26th of May 2009 project officers from Hannover took part in the Regional Site Visit to Salzburg.

Besides the exchange with colleagues from other German-speaking projects about energy standards in Germany and Austria, the modernising experience of self-contained houses and multiple family dwellings were shown by the Austrian hosts through an interesting bicycling tour of the Concerto Projects.

The programme included a passive house and energy efficient new buildings for public authority housing and also for a business premise and a library.



## Nantes - Seminar organised by the City of Nantes

The City of Nantes organised and hosted on 27, 28 and 29 April a training seminar dedicated to the design and implementation of low energy-consuming buildings.

About 130 participants from the City of Nantes and Nantes Métropole technical services attended this 3-day session co-funded by the European Commission. This event takes place in a national context which has significantly evolved via the "Grenelle de l'Environnement" process. Actually, from 2010 on, new public buildings will be assigned to consume less than 50kWhPE/m<sup>2</sup>.yr.



## Nantes - First kilowatthours delivered by the 180 kWp Beaulieu PV power plant

A 1.450 m<sup>2</sup> installation was implemented by Nantes Métropole on the top of the car park of the Beaulieu shopping centre. It is now completed and has been operating since the end of April. Standing for one of the largest power plants integrated downtown in France, this project fits in Nantes Métropole policy towards climate protection and energy, which combines energy conservation with development of renewables. Taking advantage on its implantation in a place where 120.000 people go every week, it is also considered as a highlight to raise public awareness on this issue.

More information available [here](#) , on the Concerto-act2 website

Watch the [video](#) realised at the end of the works (in French)



## Associate Cities - act2 presentation at the Swedish Energy Council

The act2 project was presented at the national Swedish Energy Council held in Stockholm from the 11th to the 12th of March. The Energy Council is national conference attracting some 2000 delegates from the public sector as well as national and local governments. Around 70 workshops covered aspects related to transport, future energy systems, energy consumption of industry and private consumers, problems and solutions of current and new technologies and of course climate related energy issues.

One workshop was dedicated to the concerto projects in Sweden. Falkenberg (Energy in minds!), Växjö (SESAC), Helsingborg (ECO-City) and Malmö (act2) explained how their projects made an impact on the local planning system and, more than anything, highlighted the potential and possibilities for large scale implementation of renewable energies in their cities. The session was attended by other municipal representatives and private sector stakeholders and resulted in a relevant discussion on how to duplicate the efforts in other cities.



## Nantes - Scientific partnership running between CETE de l'Ouest and Nantes Métropole

Nantes Métropole and CETE de l'Ouest (the regional centre for technical studies of the French Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Territorial Planning) have been collaborating on the evaluation of energy efficient constructions and refurbishments.

This evaluation concerns the projects which benefited from act2 co-funding and the Nantes Métropole Fund to promote energy performance in social housing. Based on a cross-analysis of the technical monitoring and modelled performances, this study pursues several goals, such as the highlight of energy-efficient measures in construction and refurbishment projects, the improvement of regulatory modelling tools and the optimisation of public co-funding schemes.

CETE de l'Ouest is thus identified as the privileged partner for monitoring activities in Nantes led in the frame of the Concerto Initiative.

More information on CETE de l'Ouest available [here](#) (in French)



## act2 project - Covenant of Mayors

More than 350 cities (including 4 collaborating within act2) commit to go beyond the 20 percent EU's energy objectives

In a solemn ceremony that has taken place at Tuesday, 10 February 2009, in the European Parliament in Brussels, more than 350 cities across Europe have committed, by signing the Covenant of Mayors, to go beyond the EU's energy objective of reducing 20 percent CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2020. The act2 cities Malmö, Nantes Métropole, Newcastle and Hannover are part of this initiative of the European Commission in partnership with the Committee of Regions.



"Most of the energy produced in Europe is consumed in urban areas. The battle against climate change will have to be fought and won in the cities. This is why, the commitment shown by mayors across Europe by signing the Covenant of Mayors send us a strong message of hope, particularly in the difficult times that we are facing", said Commissioner Andris Piebalgs, who is responsible for energy.

More than 100 mayors across Europe participated in launching ceremony which was chaired by the President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, EU Commissioner for Energy, Andris Piebalgs, the President of the Committee of the Regions, Luc Van den Brande, the Vice-President of the European Parliament, Alejo Vidal Quadras, and the Mayors of Budapest, Gábor Demszky, Hamburg, Ole von Beust and Madrid Alberto Ruiz Gallardón, of Riga, Jānis Birks, and Växjö (Sweden), Bo Frank.

To coincide with the ceremony, the new Covenant of Mayors website has been launched to act as a network portal and support structure for participating cities and citizens alike: <http://www.eumayors.eu/>.

- article adapted from Climate Alliance [website](#) -



## Associate Cities - Training sessions organised in Koszalin

In addition to the optimisation of the district heating network, the City of Koszalin and the Koszalin District Heating company (Miejska Energetyka Ciepłn) work in close partnership with the Koszalin Polytechnic to develop local training strategies. They focus on developing skills primarily in the local construction and energy sectors, within public sector agencies and buildings managers and users.

In this respect various conferences, workshops (see photo) and seminars have been held since 2006.

Details on each of them are available [here](#)

## Agenda and Upcoming Events (#5)

### Summer 2009

[www.concerto-act2.eu](http://www.concerto-act2.eu) is evolving !

Come and visit the new sections with more information and results available.

### 23-25 September 2009 Newcastle, United Kingdom

6<sup>th</sup> act2 Steering Committee gathering representatives from the 5 act2 communities.  
Meetings, workshops and site visit planned.

### 22-23 October 2009 - Vienna, Austria

Concerto Plus monitoring workshop

"Monitoring energy use in cities: From community energy management to sustainable local energy policies".

### 28-29 October 2009 - Hannover, Germany

The City of Hannover hosts a study tour organised by the Grenoble energy agency, a Concerto - Sesac partner.

[www.concerto-act2.eu](http://www.concerto-act2.eu)

© Nantes Métropole - 2006 - If you do not wish to receive this newsletter anymore click here.