

INFORSE

Basic information

INFORSE is an internationally acting network of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which makes an effort for environmental protection, combatting of poverty and sustainable energy solutions. The network was founded in 1992 in order to observe the political decisions which were made during the UN-Conference for Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro. Today INFORSE includes more than 160 NGOs all over the world. INFORSE-Europe is the biggest part of the INFORSE-network with more than 80 member organizations from 35 European countries. The headquarters of the organization is in Denmark at INFORSE-Europe.

Visions and Goals

The general vision of INFORSE is to make the world more just and human. The energy supply should be solved in a sustainable way by using renewable energies, for example sun, wind, biomass, biogas and water power stations.

This includes:

- Environmental protection and combatting climate change
- Abandoning nuclear and fossil energy
- More confidence in local solutions
- Equal access to energy for everyone
- Erection of a better basis for the next generations by solutions with renewable energies, especially for poor people
- Increase of energy efficiency

Retrospective view on the INFORSE-seminar 2011 in Hamburg

The last INFORSE-Europe seminar took place between the 22nd and the 26th of August 2011 at the “Gut Karlshöhe” in Europe’s environmental capital 2011 Hamburg.

The “Gut Karlshöhe”, in former times environmental centre Karlshöhe, has been re-opened with a ceremonial act on the weekend before our seminar started. In connection to the solar estate Karlshöhe which is nearby, the “Gut Karlshöhe” is a perfect venue for our seminar. On the ground of the “Gut Karlshöhe” we had the possibility to discover the exhibition “jahreszeitHAMBURG” as well as we were able to enjoy a guided tour through the solar estate Karlshöhe and explore the glass energy and environment house or the new multi-functional heat storage.



Gut Karlshöhe: Barn with photovoltaic system



Gut Karlshöhe Biorestaurant „Harms“

More than 25 participants from all over Europe came to Hamburg in order to use the seminar as an opportunity to discuss sustainable energy solutions, education projects, energy efficiency and similar topics. Within five days each participant presented at least one of his projects and informed about the experiences, problems and solutions he had during the development of the project.

Subsequent to the presentations we always had a discussion about the advantages and disadvantages and possibilities to improve the project. The presentations of the participants had many different topics for example education projects, how to build an

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energy-efficient house with cheap material as well as themes like the consequences of Tschernobyl or the denuclearization. Besides that we had different guest speakers from Hamburg and surroundings who for example told us more about the development of the solar estate and the multi-functional heat storage.

Furthermore we had the opportunity to get to know more about the current energy and environment policies of the European Union.

Apart from presentations and discussions we also had other activities like excursions in the programme of our seminar. For example we went to the harbour and had an alternative harbour boat trip which had the topic energy in the Hamburg harbour. After that we were able to visit a solar equipment installed by microsol Solarsysteme GmbH in the so called "Hafencity".



Solar thermal collectors in the Hafencity-Hamburg



Participants of the seminar at the „Gut Karlshöhe“

Programme

- **European activities** of the INFORSE-Europe network
- educational projects like for example **SPARE: School Project for Application of Resources and Energy** *SPARE is an educational project with the main emphasis on energy efficiency. They create teaching material for students and teachers, which helps them to do energy saving activities fitting to the environmental conditions of each country (for instance in the Ukraine: installation of window sealings, in Romania: use of low-energy bulbs)*
- Information about **traineeprogrammes** at INFORSE-Europe in Denmark and at the microsol Solarsysteme GmbH in Hamburg *for young people who are interested in sustainability and renewable energies*
- The world shop “Bramfelder Laterne” presents his **info suitcase project** for global learning *There are more than 24 info suitcases about topics like Africa, climate justice or sugar. The suitcases are filled with carefully selected teaching material and can be lend at no charge.*
- The Hegholt school presents their **school clothing from 100% organic cotton** *Impetus for this project was the organic cotton suitcase of the “Bramfelder Laterne”*
- Projects in Belarus concerning the **atomic catastrophe of Tschernobyl** in 1986 *Since 1996 they are building energy efficient straw bale houses in Belarus for children who lost their home owing to the atomic catastrophe. The paediatrician Dr. Dombrowski from Rotenburg tells us about the projects of his charitable organization “Heim statt Tschernobyl e.V.”*
- **Exciting workshops:**
 - o Workshop I : Energy Visions and Scenarios *European scenarios for energy supply with 100% renewable energies*
 - o Workshop II : develop own ideas for new info suitcases
 - o Workshop III : building small solar toys

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Sustainable Energy NGO Seminar

Mo 22. - Fr 26. August 2011

im Gut Karlshöhe, HH-Bramfeld

Impressionen



Ehemaliges Gutshaus • Seminarräume • Verwaltung



Scheune mit Photovoltaikanlage



Gläsernes Heizhaus und Mehrzweckspeicher



Biorestaurant Harms



Ökologische Siedlung Braamwisch



Scheunenkonzert mit den Jazz-O-Phonics

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Schule Hegholt mit Schulkleidung aus Biobaumwolle



Trainee Lisa präsentiert Lernkoffer



Solarbasteln



Große thermische Solaranlagen in der HafenCity



Solarspielzeug im Test



HafenCity Rundgang

Creation of the Climate Schools Project

One of the guest speakers was Hartwig Zillmer, who is a very engaged former teacher from Hamburg. He and his school took part in the project “Climate protection at schools” by the so called “Landesinstitut für Lehrerbildung und Schulentwicklung (LI)”. Hartwig Zillmer managed the participation of his school in the project as the climate protection commissioner.

The participation in the project “Climate protection at schools” is a voluntary decision of each school, which offers them the possibility to professionally put up and extend activities in the field of climate protection. The schools have to develop an own climate protection plan and put it to practice in order to fulfil the criterions of the LI. The schools which accomplish this task will get an honouring and may call themselves “Climate School”. The goal is to motivate as many schools as possible to take part in the project. During the project the schools get support by a counsellor who can help them to set priorities for example in the field of electricity, heating, refuse, procurement, feeding or mobility. Educational goals are in the centre of attention, in addition to that the schools set up technical goals and measures. Owing to the significance for the CO₂ emissions, energy questions (electricity and heating) are the most important topics.

After the presentation by Hartwig Zillmer, which had a very positive resonance, many INFORSE-members were interested in the project and we had the idea to continue it in other European states. During the seminar some of our members already signalled that they would like to help to expand the project.

This is the reason why we decided to organize a workshop where we are going to present the project “Climate Protection at Schools” in detail, show possibilities how to finance it and prepare the participants in order to make them able to translate the information given into practice in their native countries. It is our goal to provide all the information and support needed, so that the participants can organize a climate protection project at schools in their homeland.

Prospect

On a long term basis we want to reach, that the project “Climate Protection at Schools” is successful in as many European countries as possible.

Programme Climate Schools Workshop

Wednesday, 08.02.2012:

Arrival

Thursday, 09.02.2012:

- Basic Information about “Climate-Schools”
- How to develop a Climate-Protection-Plan
- CO₂-Calculation
- “Reward” (win-win-situation) for Climate Protection: fifty/fifty Programme
- Environmental- and Climate-Education in the participating countries

Friday, 10.02.2012:

- Visit at two different Climate-Schools in Hamburg
- Evaluation: How do we achieve our plans and goals in Hamburg/Germany and in other countries?

Saturday, 11.02.2012:

Departure

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