

Progress in the Path-to-RES project

PATH-TO-RES is an Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) project aiming to develop a 7-step assessment tool which can evaluate and define pathways to sustainable local energy systems in European.

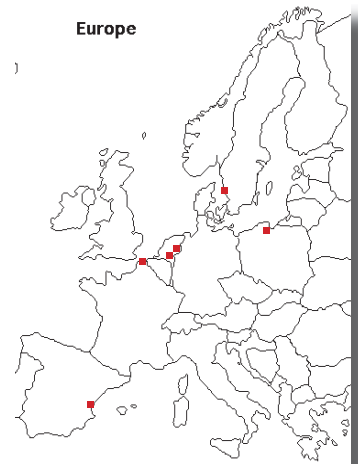
The seven steps are:

1. analyze and formulate initial conditions
2. establish a detailed description of the present system
3. assess local, EU and global goals on sustainable development
4. identify and assess key technologies which can bridge to a future sustainable system
5. identify key actors in the region (to ensure correct decisions and competitive markets)
6. formulate and analyze pathways towards a more sustainable energy system
7. establish pathway (with respect to technologies, markets, institutions)

Case studies

Case studies are used as the main method to develop the 7 steps from which the roadmap for transforming local energy systems to sustainable systems is formulated. The following case studies will be the basis of the analysis with the aim to be generally applicable (i.e. at least to the EU):

1. The natural gas bridge, the Göteborg case (Sweden)
2. The Valencian Region case (Spain)
3. The City of Dunkerque case (France)
4. De Stoere Houtman, the Arnhem case (Netherlands)
5. The case of Cross border community of Lochem (Netherlands)
6. The City of Gdansk case (Poland)



Pathways descriptions

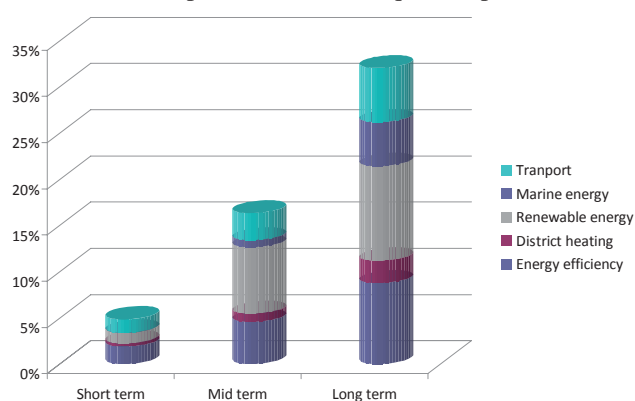
Examples of Pathway descriptions from the case studies, in short:

Dunkerque

The Pathway is based on Grenelle Environment Forum held at the end of 2007 at national level and the development of existing actions at local level. The strategy is threefold:

- Changing the transport strategy with priority on changing from road to rail and waterway transport
- Energy efficiency of buildings with priority on 800,000 social housing units
- Renewable energies with the aim of surpassing the European target of obtaining 20% of energy from renewable sources by 2020 (see figure below).

Furthermore, special emphasis is put on marine energies, taking into account the position of Dunkerque as a port.



Increase of RES-index in Dunkerque, France

Gdansk

The basic strategic goal is to ensure energy for sustainable development of region with reasonable energy prices. Polish CHP units are primarily operated with coal as a fuel. A phase out of these coal-fired CHP units could lead to rapid growth of energy prices.

Valencia

The Valencia Region is committing towards increasing the role of natural gas in the energy system of the Region. This is shown in several actions carried out by key actors such as AVEN, Gas Natural, municipalities, etc. The Pathway presented here aims at transforming the energy system towards a hydrogen based society in a long term future.

Göteborg

For society as a whole a Pathway implies early expansion of renewable electricity production and heating savings in buildings. Where applicable, the use of waste heat instead of primary energy for heating is preferred choice.

