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COOLREGION

Energy Efficient Cooling in Regions of North and Central Europe

EIE/06/026/SI2.439974

Duration: 11/2006 – 04/2009 (30 months)

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Project summary

Data of the cooling market is missing throughout Europe. In a first step each partner (7 countries) generated a survey of a cooling market in a particular region. This survey includes

- the observation of the main consumption figures,
- technologies,
- actors and
- best practice examples.

The information is the basis for

- European and regional expert networks,
- the support of integral planning processes,
- the realisation of pilot projects (for new buildings or refurbishment) and
- dissemination activities as creation of guidebooks and a web-based information platform giving support to decision makers, house owners, architects, engineers and craftsmen for energy efficient cooling solutions in the future.

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Background

- Increasing thermal load, large scale fenestration (glazing) of facades and a higher demand for comfort in buildings lead to a higher demand for cooling in the temperate climate zones of the EU.
- After heating systems, cooling systems in buildings are the installations with the highest share of energy use.
- In the case of cooling systems, pilot projects to reduce the energy consumption are missing.
- Building owners and architects are not well informed about the possibilities concerning passive and active cooling.

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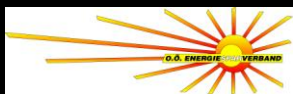
Current results

- Data on energy consumption for cooling is extremely scarce. This applies for national as well as for regional figures. A significant effort has to be made to identify data sources and to estimate cooled surface areas, cooling loads and energy consumption for cooling.
- The cooling market increases rapidly because of climate changes and higher comfort levels. Actions have to be taken as new buildings and major refurbishments also have to comply with higher standards regarding energy performance (EPBD). However, cooling energy demand is not yet considered enough in design teams and in traditional building processes.
- Cooling experts don't disseminate their know-how widely. In general, the topic is not fancy because they don't succeed in making the cooling issue attractive. However, there is a great demand of networking, sharing know-how for specific target groups and adequate dissemination material.

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Partners and Contact

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Partners, countries and regions in brackets:

- O.Ö. Energiesparverband, Austria (Upper Austria)
- Sofia Energy Centre, Bulgaria (Sofia Capital City)
- BEAR Architecten B.V., The Netherlands (whole country)
- DWA Installatie- en Energieadvies; The Netherlands (whole country)
- Gradbeni institute ZRMK d.o.o., Slovenia (whole country)
- Rhônealpeénergie-Environnement, France (Région Rhône-Alpes)
- Fundacja na rzecz Efektywnego Wykorzystania Energii, Poland (Silesian Voivodeship)
- GERTEC GmbH, Germany (city Münster and district of Steinfurt)

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