



PRESS RELEASE

Renewable Energy – Now more than ever!

Eupen, 17 January 2017 - Renewable energy has indeed never been more important to a world in transition: it is clean and produced at lower cost than fossil or nuclear energy. Technological development allows us to imagine a world where all our energy needs are generated by renewable energy sources. Various studies have revealed that this scenario is feasible by 2050. The increasing share of renewables and the further decentralisation of renewables and the energy market also allows local actors such as citizens, cooperatives or municipalities to get engaged.

In an attempt to endorse the further engagement of local actors, the European federation of renewable energy cooperatives (REScoop.eu) organised an interregional conference on 17 January 2017. Over 230 representatives of municipalities, public administrations, cooperatives, citizens and environmental organisations joined us in Eupen (Belgium) at the border of 5 European regions - Eurregio Meuse-Rhin.

Inspiring presentations by Gérard Magnin (founder of Energy Cities, former board member of EDF and president of a brand new REScoop JURASCIC), Henrik Lund (Aalborg University), Peter Heck (IFAS), Thierry Hance (UCL), Craig Morris (Co-auteur of the book "Energy Democracy") and Dörthe Fouquet (EREF) clearly revealed the potential for local actors to get actively involved in the energy transition. Somehow they all believe that local actors – such as citizens and municipalities - should be put at the heart of the energy transition.

REScoop.eu explicitly wants to thank the EU Commission and the local cooperative Courant d'Air for co-organising this conference. Furthermore we want to thank the speakers and the attendees for making this conference such a great success.

The presentations will soon be available on our website – www.rescoop.eu

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