



NEWSLETTER

By the European Renewable Energy Council (EREC)
the umbrella organisation representing the main European industry, trade and research associations

- June 2005 -

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NEWS from EREC

Renewables heating and cooling

The ITRE Committee (Industry, Research and Energy Committee) in the European Parliament has opened the way for yet another initiative report by one of its Members, Mrs Mechtild Rothe, on renewable energy sources. This decision follows the adoption by the Committee of an initiative report by ITRE Member Claude Turmes, Verts/ALE. The report of Turmes "*on the share of renewable energy in the EU and proposal for concrete actions*" to reach the Union targets for renewable energy asks, among other things, for setting mandatory targets for the year 2020 and for promoting technological variety, and calls for creating a level playing field. The report will be in the plenary of the Parliament in September.

The topic of the upcoming initiative report will be renewables heating & cooling. Mechtild Rothe has been chosen as rapporteur and she will most likely present a first draft of her report at the beginning of October 2005. EREC and its members received the news with great joy, having initiated on their part a [Joint Declaration for the promotion of renewables heating and cooling](#) in April 2005.

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EREC at Greenpeace press conference: A vision for Europe's energy future

Greenpeace presented its latest report "Europe needs a target for clean energy" at a press conference in Brussels on 13 June 2005 aboard an almost 100-year-old sailing boat, and invited EREC to present the industries' view on the report and the Greenpeace' vision for Europe's energy future. The press conference was part of the Greenpeace "energy revolution tour" which takes Greenpeace through more than 15 EU Member States. The idea behind this tour is to present their message to as many people as possible. The report calls for setting a renewable energy target of at least 20% by 2020 and to establish the necessary policies to reach this target. EREC more than welcomes the Greenpeace report since it is completely in line with EREC's views. The full Greenpeace report can be downloaded from the [Greenpeace website](#).

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FP7

Europe's renewable energy industry and research community is concerned about the decline in public renewables R&D spending over the last few decades. The Commission proposal for FP7 foresees about ten times less for renewables R&D spending than for nuclear research for example, a fact that was highlighted at an event on 1 March 2005 in the Representation of Baden Württemberg in Brussels during which the sectors' [common priorities](#) for the 7th European Research and Technology Framework Programme (FP7) were presented.

At a recent conference, at the initiative of the Greens at the European Parliament, FP7 was debated, and amendments to the Commission Proposal are going to follow. The conference comes at a time where also the renewable energy industry and research community is once more delivering its consolidated message to the Commission and presents concrete priorities as to what the European Commission proposal must include.

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REN21 – EREC president elected as Vice-Chairman

REN21 is a Global Policy Network on Renewables, which was set up following the renewables2004 in Bonn in June 2004. Its objective is to further support the development and the application of renewables, to raise awareness, to disseminate information, and to provide background papers and documents on the current state and future trends as well as policy information on renewable energy sources. An International Steering Committee has been set up to plan and to guide the actions, as well as a secretariat. The secretariat is charged with coordinating actions that aim at achieving the objectives of the network, such as the organization of conferences, the publishing of brochures, etc. The Steering Committee, which is composed of high-profile actors from the global policy arena as well as high-level representatives from different sectors, has recently elected Professor Arthouros Zervos as one of its five Vice-Chairmen. Mr. Rajendra Pachauri – TERI, The Energy and Resource Institute, India was elected as Chairman. The other four Vice Chairmen are: Mr. Rainer Hinrichs-Rahlwes - Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety – Germany, Mr. David Hales - Worldwatch Institute, Washington DC, USA, Mr. Li Junfeng , - National Development and Reform Commission, Energy Research Institute / Chinese Renewable Energy Industries Association (CREIA) – China, Ms. Jennifer Morgan - WWF Climate Change Programme.

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Global Forum on Sustainable Energy (GFSE)

GFSE is a platform for dialogue on sustainable energy issues. The aim behind the organization of stakeholder dialogues is to encourage and facilitate policy making that takes sustainable energy issues seriously. GFSE held 4 international meetings dedicated to rural energy. The Fifth Meeting of the Global Forum on Sustainable Energy (GFSE-5) was held from 11-13 May 2005, at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, Austria. The meeting's theme was "Enhancing International Cooperation on Biomass", and, as the title suggests, it focused on biomass. In addition, a special emphasis was put on strengthening the institutional capacity to promote South-South cooperation.

GFSE-5 also brought together various energy-related partnerships announced at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in 2002, in order to discuss their progress. GFSE-5 was convened by the Director General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Austria. The co-sponsors included: the Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, City of Vienna, UN Development Programme (UNDP), and UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). An estimated 160 participants representing government agencies, UN bodies, business and industry, non-governmental organizations and academia attended the Forum. Participants at GFSE-5 met in Plenary sessions to hear presentations and engage in discussions on a variety of relevant topics, including a presentation by EREC on "A Biomass Action Plan for the EU". You can download the presentations free of charge from the [GFSE-5 website](#).

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NEWS from EREC's MEMBERS

New EPIA President

Dr. Murray Cameron has taken over as President of the European Photovoltaic Industry Association. The Chief Operating Officer at Phönix SonnenStrom AG succeeded Dr. Winfried Hoffmann, Chairman of the Management Board of RWE Schott Solar, at the Association's Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in Barcelona on 5 June 2005. During his time in office, the new President, who has already served for two years on the Association's Board of Directors, has committed himself to leading the completion of EPIA's three year work plan and initiating the process to define the contents of the strategic plan 2006-9.

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Small Hydropower plant guide published

ESHA, the European Small Hydropower Association, has produced a guide on how to develop a Small Hydropower plant. The guide is available in form of a CD-Rom. The work on the guide has been carried out under the coordination of ESHA with support from the European Commission in the frame of the Fifth Framework Programme (FP5) project "Thematic Network on Small Hydropower" and the Swiss Government. This guide aims at giving potential developers of small hydropower plants comprehensive information and advice on all necessary procedures to develop a SHP site. It includes the key steps to be followed in order to run a plant ranging from hydraulic engineering, evaluation of water supply, design and site evaluation, civil works and hydraulic structures, electromechanical equipment to environmental impact evaluation, investment and financial issues and administrative procedures. This guide is an updated and adapted version of the publication "Layman's Guidebook on how to develop a small hydro site" published in 1998. First versions in German and Swedish are available, English and French Versions will follow soon. If you want to receive a copy and/or more information please contact [Maria Laguna](#) at TEL +32 2 546 1945.

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EUBIA's new website

The European Biomass Industry Association's new website has recently been launched. You can access it at www.eubia.org. It provides you with up-to-date information on biomass, as well as on EU bioenergy related policy. You can also download scientific papers, brochures and leaflets free of charge. You will also find links to EUBIA's members, the projects EUBIA is (has been) involved in, and useful links. For further information on the European Biomass Industry Association contact [Paula Llamas](#) at TEL +32 2 2828420.

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EVENTS organized by EREC or MEMBERS

14th European Biomass Conference and Exhibition

The Conference, which takes place from 17th – 21 October 2005, aims to stress the potential of Biomass to fulfill the energy needs of modern society for both the developed and the developing economies worldwide and is supported by the European Commission, ADEME, UNESCO, WCRE and EUBIA. More information can be found on the [conference website](#).

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European Wind Energy Conference & Exhibition 2006 – call for abstracts closing soon!

The European Wind Energy Conference (EWEC), taking place in Athens, Greece, from 27 February – 2 March 2006, is Europe's premier wind energy event. The European Wind Energy Association, organizer of this event, is currently collecting abstracts. Submitting an abstract gives you the opportunity to share your experience and present your products and services to the international wind community during the many plenary, parallel or poster sessions scheduled for the conference. All abstracts must be submitted [online](#) before 30 June 2005. For further information contact [Cristina Munteanu](#) at TEL +32 2 766 0996.

You can now register for participation as well. Please proceed to the [Online registration and Hotel booking form](#). More information on EWEC can be found on the [European Wind Energy Association's homepage](#).

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20th European PV Solar Energy Conference & Exhibition

The 20th edition of the European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition took place in Barcelona, Spain, from 6 - 10 June 2005. It attracted over 2000 delegates; more than 1000 presentations were held, and 270 exhibitors from Europe and the world took part in the Exhibition. The European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition gave stakeholders of the PV sector the opportunity to gather and discuss the latest trends and developments. During a very busy week, many interesting presentations were held in parallel and plenary sessions. The conference and exhibition lasted 5 days, and focused, among others, on topics such as state-of-the-art and targets for PV. More information can be found on the European Photovoltaic Solar Energy [conference webpage](#).

EPIA, the European Photovoltaic Industry Association, one of EREC's members, is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year. Happy Birthday EPIA! The European Photovoltaic Industry Association, being based in Brussels, aims at maneuvering the solar electricity issue to the top of the energy agenda. For more information please refer to the [EPIA website](#).

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estec2005 – European Solar Thermal Energy Conference

estec2005 has been the main event for the solar thermal sector in 2005. The conference took place from 21 - 22 June – just before Intersolar, Europe's largest solar trade fair, opens its gates. Intersolar focused on photovoltaic, solar thermal technology and solar architecture. Both estec2005 and Intersolar took place in Freiburg, Germany, which is known for its innovative solar architecture.

estec2005 offered a wide variety of topics, ranging from up-to-date market information in several European and overseas solar thermal markets, new developments in solar thermal technologies, as well as valuable information on standards and certification.

Amongst the keynote speakers of the conference was Mechtild Rothe, Member of the European Parliament, who spoke about her recent initiative to promote better policies for renewable heating and cooling in Europe. More information – including the full conference programme – is available at <http://www.estec2005.org/>.

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Conference on Financing Renewable Energy Projects in China

This Conference on Financing Renewable Energy Projects in China focusing on the removal of barriers for EU direct investment into renewable energy projects in China, which took place within the frame of CDM and the new Chinese Renewable Energy Law, was held in Brussels on 19-20 May 2005. It was jointly organised by the following two SYNERGY projects: "EU-China Partnership in CDM Implementation" and "Building-up the Structures for Commercialising Renewable Energy in China".

With the approval of the Chinese Renewable Energy Law by China's Peoples Congress on 28th February 2005 and the envisaged entering into force of the law on 1st January 2006, renewable energy sources (RES) are looking into a bright future in China. Given the vast renewable energy potential of China as well as its need for increased energy supply, this sector is facing increased interest from both private and public stakeholders. In addition to this, the entering into force of the Kyoto Protocol on 16th February 2005 is stimulating the implementation of projects by the *Clean Development Mechanism* (CDM) and therewith the financing options of RES projects.

The EU and China already have tight links on various levels, one of which are two European projects co-financed by the SYNERGY programme, which look into the promotion of RES in China and which presented their findings at the May conference.

However, the existing rules and legislation should also encourage foreign private investment in RES projects. It is necessary to find feasible solutions to remove existing legal barriers and combine income from the new feed-in provisions of the Renewable Energy Law as well as income from sales of emission rights in the framework of the Kyoto Protocol. Special attention has to be given to open up the EU-Emission Trading System for CDM projects in China.

The conference was organised with the financial support of the SYNERGY programme of the European Commission, English and Chinese (Cantonese) were the conference languages. Presentations of the conference can be downloaded from the [EREC website](#).

The conference brought together Chinese and European stakeholders to discuss, among other topics, the following: RES framework in China provided by the new Renewable Energy Law, Conditions for foreign investment into CDM projects in China, Implications of the Chinese Renewable Energy Law on the additionality condition of the CDM, RES opportunities and available technologies, Presentation of RES projects in China, Exchange of experience – lessons learnt, and Financing of RES projects under particular consideration of CDM.

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SHP Round Table in Russia

On 30th May 2005, the Moscow-based Energy Technology Centre organized an International Round Table on small hydropower development in Russia, which aimed at discussing the current situation of the small hydropower sector in Russia and to propose measures to overcome barriers for further development. 58 participants – managers, specialists, project designers, experts, businessmen, representatives of mass media, among them representatives from EREC, the European Renewable Energy Council, and ESHA, the European Small Hydropower Association - took part in the Round Table, which was organised at the Delegation of the European Commission in Moscow. The participants came from countries such as Russia, Great Britain, Belgium, Austria, Germany, Greece, and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The European Commission set up the Energy Technology Centre in the year 2002 in the frame of the EU-Russia Energy Dialogue (please refer to the [EU-Russia Energy Dialogue webpage](#) for further information on the EU-Russia Energy Dialogue). The [Energy Technology Centre](#) serves as a contact point for Russian and European companies active in the field of hydrocarbons, coal and electricity as well as renewable energy and energy efficiency. Its aim is to facilitate co-operation and technology transfer between the European Union and the Russian Federation.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Intelligent Energy Europe Programme

The European Competitiveness Council, chaired by Luxembourg Minister of Economy Jeannot Krecké, gave the go-ahead to the Commission's April 6th proposal for the first research programme, the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP), which aims to give a boost to the Lisbon Strategy, on 10 May. The programme consists of three sub-programmes: the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP), the Information and Communications Technology Support and Development Programme (ICT), and the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme (EIE).

CIP has a total budget of 4.2 billion EUR. The EIE sub-programme will have the smallest budget of the three, some 20% of the total. From 2007 - 2013, its annual funding will treble. The EIP programme has the lion's share of the

funding at over 60%. Both the present EIE Programme and the Executive Agency, which was established to administer it, will continue to operate under the aegis of DG TREN until the end of 2006. From 2007, the new CIP Programme, will be taken over by DG Enterprise.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	TOTAL
EIE	60	70	90	100	137	152	171	780

The EIE sub-programme will include existing measures such as SAVE (Energy Efficiency), ALTENER (RES), and STEER (Transport). It is unlikely that COOPENER, the section of the existing EIE Programme concerned with developing countries, will be included as well.

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Sustainable Energy Europe 2005-2008 Campaign

The Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign, which is a European Commission initiative in the framework of the Intelligent Energy – Europe Programme, is the follow-up to the Campaign for Take-Off (CTO). The CTO, the first European promotion campaign for the development of Renewable Energy Sources in Europe launched in 1999, was concluded in 2003. EREC has assessed the impact of the CTO together with INSULA and EUFORES, and it has produced a publication with the name “Campaign for Take-Off, Sharing Skills and Achievements”. This publication analyses the impact of the Campaign for Take-Off, and gives an overview of the main features and best performances achieved during 1999 and 2003. The main purpose of the publication is to share experience and increase replication potential through the dissemination of the results to key political actors. You can download it on the [EREC homepage](#).

Aimed at raising awareness with the European public, the Sustainable Energy Europe 2005-2008 Campaign also acts as catalyst for the continued development, promotion and market uptake of sustainable energy technologies. Actors such as institutions, companies or organizations, both public and private, implementing or planning to implement sustainable energy actions or programmes are invited to become sustainable energy partners in the campaign. Becoming a partner is essentially a voluntary expression of commitment to the objectives of the Campaign by sustainable energy promoters, which provide them with a number of benefits. For more information please check the [Sustainable Energy Europe campaign website](#).

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Green Paper Energy Efficiency

The new [Green Paper on Energy Efficiency](#) was adopted by the European Commission on Wednesday, 22 June 2005. The paper aims at identifying options to realize cost-effective savings. It is also considered a first step towards realizing an Action Plan in 2006. Green Papers traditionally invite for debate, and the industry, public authorities, consumer groups, consumers etc. are invited to provide their input in the coming months. The consultation process has already begun. To this aim the Commission prepared a catalogue of questions, which it lays out in the Green Paper (see “questions for debate”). Answers to those questions will be gathered. In December 2005, the Commission will lay the ideas coming from the public debate to be launched on this Green Paper on energy efficiency before the Council of Ministers. A Commission report, due to be published after the public debate has ended, will be accompanied by the above-mentioned Action Plan. These procedures give yet more room to the possibility of a follow-up in form of a White Paper, a White Paper being the natural – but not necessary - follow-up to a Green Paper in European Affairs. However the Green Paper might also directly translate into yet another legislative proposal, even without first translating into a White Paper.

The reason behind the Commission’s Green Paper on Energy Efficiency is the growing concern about our energy future and declining EU competitiveness. Identified issues of concern are growing energy needs and declining EU energy production, growing demand from transport, households and electricity generation for fossil fuels, and greater competition in international markets while EU imports rise. By devising energy saving measures the Commission tries to take a proactive stand on issues such as climate change issues and CO2 emissions. In light of the overall target being to return the overall EU energy consumption to 1990 levels, the following table gives a general indication of the potential savings identified in the Green Paper (per sector):

Potential savings in Mtoe	2020 Rigorous implementation of adopted measures	2020+ Implementation of additional measures
Buildings: heating/cooling	41	70
Electric appliances	15	35
Industry	16	30

Transport	45	90
CHP	40	60
Other energy transformations, etc.	33	75
Total energy savings	190	360

The Energy Commissioner Piebalgs has recently in an interview with the International Energy Agency called for the strengthening of energy efficiency efforts and intensified energy relations with major producer and consumer countries. Please take a look at the [European Commission Press Release](#) on the event.

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Emissions Trading

The European Union Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS) is in place since January 1, 2005. The Commission has started its review of the Scheme on 14 June 2005. It is clear already now that no additional sectors or gases will be added to the EU CO2 trading scheme before 2013. In other words this means that transport is going to be left aside at least until 2013, which is a disappointment to environment activists. The review comes in view of the second trading period, 2008 – 2012. The results will be combined in a Commission Report that is due in 2006. Further information on the EU ETS can be found in the [Emissions Daily](#), a daily information service of Platts.

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Biomass Action Plan

The Biomass Action Plan of the European Commission is well on its way. The results of the questionnaires on the 'Possible Actions to Promote Bioenergy Market Development in the European Union' that were handed out at the last Biomass Action Plan Stakeholder meeting on 4 March 2005, are now available online. The 5-page questionnaire included questions and proposed action on biomass cost and availability, market barriers for power, heat and CHP, market barriers for biofuels for transport, and horizontal issues. The participants of the 1st External Stakeholder Group (ESG) Meeting gave the responses to the questionnaire. EREC was among the participants of the ESG meeting. Resulting from the analysis of the questionnaire 'Possible Actions to Promote Bioenergy Market Development in the European Union' 94% of the participants disagree with the statement that no specific action is needed to promote the production of biomass. Strengthening R&D on energy crop production, biomass processing and logistics was rated as priority area. Regarding the market barriers for power, heat and CHP all participants (100%) agreed that specific action is needed. Strengthening cooperation amongst "bioheat" stakeholders (i.e. boiler installers, fuel retailers, farmers, etc.) on the EU level was rated priority issues number one in this field of action. Participants were also asked whether legislation, in the form of an EU Directive on RES Heat was desirable/needed, and replied positively. EREC is at the moment running an initiative on renewables heating and cooling. It published a [Joint Declaration for the Promotion of Heating and Cooling from Renewable Energy Sources](#). The aim of the initiative is to raise awareness of the fact that the RES heating and cooling sector is so far a neglected giant and to push for legislation in the field.

Market barriers for biofuels must be tackled more actively according to the responses, too. And regarding the horizontal issues (with that biomass-to-energy, i.e. public opinion and perception, etc. is meant) the participants would like to see an increased R&D effort. Please go to the [European Commission Biomass Action Plan homepage](#) (EC BAP) for the full text of the questionnaire and the analysis of the questionnaire.

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ENERGY GLOBE COMPETITION 2005

The Energy Globe Competition 2005 provides the opportunity to win the world's most prestigious environmental award! Any project and initiative can participate, which contributes to sustaining the world's resources - earth (general), energy, water and air by employing them efficiently and carefully, thereby helping to keep our ecosystem intact. From small initiatives with great impact to high-tech innovation anything is possible. Private individuals, companies, research institutes, organisations, associations and other institutions can submit their projects. No project is too big - or too small. EREC is part of the international high-level jury.

All nominated projects will be presented at an international awards gala event to be broadcast globally, potentially reaching over 2 billion people. The first prize of the Energy Globe Award in each of the five categories - earth, fire, water, air and youth - is endowed with 10,000 EUR.

If you wish to participate please download the [Application Form](#) (deadline for project submission is 15 July 2005 – initially this was 30 June, but the date has changed due to a large number of enquiries). In order to find out about last year's winners, go to the [Energy Globe Newsletter](#). 'Energy Globe - The world award for sustainability' has its own website, providing you with information on the idea, the categories, the jury, the application procedure, etc. Visit the [Energy Globe website](#) for further information.

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6th Inter-parliamentary Meeting on renewable energy and energy efficiency

The 6th Inter-parliamentary Meeting (6th IPM) is proposed as a high-level dialogue on renewable energy policy of RES between Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and of National and Regional Parliaments across the EU. The meeting will allow the Parliamentarians to debate how to successfully create the best possible policy frameworks to promote renewables & energy efficiency.

The European Forum for Renewable Energy Sources ([EUFORES](#)) has been the lead organiser for each Inter-Parliamentary Meeting. The 6th IPM will build on the high-level of visibility and credibility the meetings have received in the past. EUFORES organises 6th IPM in collaboration with PRASEG - the associate Parliamentary Renewable and Sustainable Energy Group.

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FORRES 2020 presentation

On 2 May, the project results of the 'FORRES 2020: Analysis of the Renewable Energy's Evolution up to 2020' were made public. DG TREN was the organizer of the event, which was attended by representatives of DG TREN, DG ECFIN, DG AGRI, JRC, DG Environment, DG Enterprise, EREC and Eurelectric. The 'FORRES 2020: Analysis of the Renewable Energy's Evolution up to 2020' project, which was made possible by DG TREN, involved the Fraunhofer Institute, the Energy Economics Group, ECOFYS, KEMA, and the Regional Environmental Centre as partners.

The FORRES 2020 project provided an independent analysis of the evolution of RES (electricity, heat and biofuels) in the 25 member states of the EU and Bulgaria and Romania, supporting the EU in formulating RE policies. It also provided input for monitoring the progress on the target set in the White Paper, the Directive on the promotion of electricity from renewables, and the Directive on biofuels. Additionally the aim of the project was to provide a perspective up to 2020, and to give an insight into future developments of a green energy market in the EU and the Candidate Countries. FORRES confirms the [20 % EREC target for 2020](#).

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Last but not least, EREC would like to wish you all the best for the summer break!

Due to the upcoming summer holidays of the European Institutions, our next Newsletter edition will only be published in September 2005. However, the EREC office remains open during the months of July and August and you are free to contact us at any time!

*Please send your comments, an update of your profile or a request to be unsubscribed to:
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