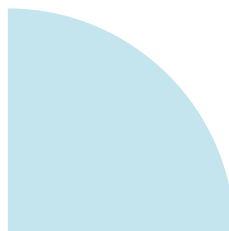
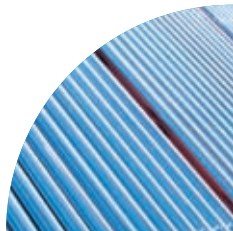





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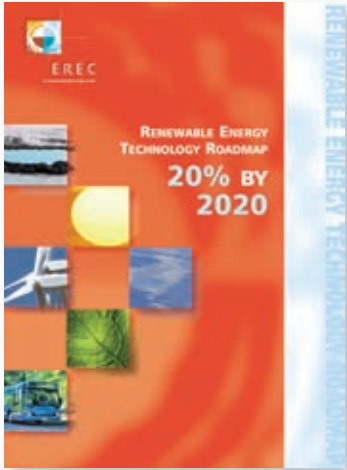
EUROPEAN RENEWABLE
ENERGY COUNCIL



-  BIOENERGY
-  GEOTHERMAL ENERGY
-  OCEAN ENERGY
-  PHOTOVOLTAICS
-  SMALL HYDROPOWER
-  SOLAR THERMAL
-  SOLAR THERMAL ELECTRICITY
-  WIND ENERGY



RENEWABLE ENERGY IN EUROPE



In March 2007, the Heads of States and Governments of the 27 EU Member States adopted a binding target of 20 % renewable energy in final energy consumption by 2020. Combined with the commitment to improve energy efficiency by 20% until 2020 and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20 % (or respectively 30 % in case of a new international climate agreement) against the 1990 level, Europe's political leaders paved the way for a more sustainable energy future for the EU and for next generations.

In January 2008, the European Commission proposed a new Directive on the promotion of the use of Renewable Energy Sources (RES). It sets binding 2020 targets for all 27 Member States along with a clear trajectory to follow in order to enable the EU to reach a share of 20% energy from renewable sources (compared to 8.5 % in 2005) and a 10% share of RES in the transport sector. Moreover, the Directive improves the legislative framework for grid and administrative procedures, creates cooperation mechanisms, requires the use of minimum levels of RES in buildings, sets provisions for the mutual recognition of certification for installers and establishes sustainability criteria for biofuels and other bioliquids.

After reaching a broad agreement on the proposal, the new RES Directive was adopted by the European Parliament in December 2008, by the Council in April 2009, and finally published in the Official Journal of the European Union in June 2009. EREC works closely with the European Institutions, with Member States as well as with national renewable energy associations to facilitate a smooth implementation of the RES Directive.

In order to reach the **binding overall target of at least 20% renewable energy by 2020** as outlined in the RES Directive, the development of all existing renewable energy sources as well as a balanced deployment in the heating and cooling, electricity and transport sectors is needed.

According to estimates of the European renewable energy industry, around 40 % of electricity demand will be generated with renewable energy sources by 2020.

Furthermore, the new Renewable Energy Directive will undoubtedly stimulate the renewable energy heating and cooling market, according to EREC's projections up to 25 % of heating and cooling consumption can come from renewable energy by 2020.

Moreover, the RES Directive provides a strong incentive to significantly reduce oil dependence in the transport sector over the coming years by setting a minimum target of 10% renewable energy in transport.

The RES Directive sets an important framework for the future growth of the renewable energy industry and will pave the way for a stable investment climate, thereby not only increasing the security of Europe's energy supply, contributing to abating climate change but also providing high-quality jobs and sustainable economic recovery. The renewable energy industry, which currently employs more than 550.000 people and generates an annual turnover exceeding 70 billion €, is best placed to be a motor for sustainable growth.

As investments in the energy sector are of a long-term nature, the decisions taken today will have an impact on the forty years to come. It is not a matter of availability of technologies, it is a matter of political will and of setting the course today for a sustainable energy future tomorrow. It is in this context that EREC published its **"RE-thinking 2050 - A 100 % renewable energy vision for the European Union"** report in April 2010. *RE-thinking 2050* outlines a pathway towards a 100% renewable energy supply system by 2050 for electricity, heating and cooling as well as transport for the European Union, examining the effects on Europe's energy supply system, on CO₂ emissions as well as outlining economic and social benefits of such a fundamental change towards a sustainable energy system.



RENEWABLE ENERGY IN THE WORLD



Europe is at the forefront of renewable energy development, however, other parts of the world are quickly moving ahead and developing their renewable energy potential and industry. EREC works with partners all around the globe to facilitate a rapid uptake of renewable energy sources on all continents. The **“Energy [R]evolution report: A Sustainable World Energy Outlook”**, produced by Greenpeace in partnership with EREC, outlines pathways towards a 100% renewable energy supply for the world, at the same time delivering the much needed reduction in global emissions and creating millions of sustainable jobs.

EREC works with a broad range of international organisations such as IEA, IPCC, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFCCC, UNIDO, World Bank, etc. EREC is a member of the Steering Committee of REN21, the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century and collaborates closely with REEEP (Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Partnership), ARE (Alliance for Rural Electrification), GWEC (Global Wind Energy Council), ACORE (American Council on Renewable Energy) & CREIA (Chinese Renewable Energy Association).

EREC welcomes the creation of IRENA (International Renewable Energy Agency) and is committed to closely working with IRENA towards the rapid deployment of renewable energy at a global level. As the first international intergovernmental organisation in the field of renewable energy, IRENA can become the main driving force towards a rapid transformation of the current energy system through the widespread use of renewable energy.

THE RENEWABLE ENERGY HOUSE

Headquarters for renewable energy

EREC, together with most of its members is based in the Renewable Energy House, a showcase on how to integrate energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies into a historical building.

- Central meeting point for renewable energy issues in Europe’s capital Brussels, close to the European Institutions (European Commission, European Parliament, Council)
- Meeting facilities for renewable energy actors
- Information displays of all renewable energy technologies
- Guided tours upon appointment



EREC'S OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES

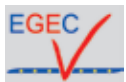
EREC is committed to the following objectives:

- ▶ To act as a forum for exchange of information and for discussion on issues related to renewable energy (electricity, heating & cooling, transport, research, etc.)
- ▶ To launch policy initiatives for the creation of a level-playing field for renewable energy sources
- ▶ To provide information and consultancy on renewable energy technologies for the political decision makers on local, regional, national and international level
- ▶ To promote renewable energy technologies, products and services on global markets

In order to reach these objectives, EREC works on a series of international projects, produces a wide range of publications, position papers and newsletters, gives presentations on renewable energy related topics and organises regular events, e.g. every two years the European Renewable Energy Policy Conference.

An update of EREC's activities can be found on EREC's website :

www.erec.org



WHO IS EREC

EREC, the European Renewable Energy Council, was created in the year 2000 as the united voice of the European renewable energy industry. EREC is the umbrella organization of the leading European renewable energy industry, trade and research associations active in the sectors of photovoltaics, wind, small hydropower, ocean energy, bioenergy, concentrated solar power, solar thermal and geothermal energy, thus representing the entire renewable energy sector which currently has an annual turnover of € 70 billion and employs more than 550.000 people.

EREC shares its offices with most of its member associations in the Renewable Energy House in Brussels, a model showcase for integration of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies in a historic building.

EREC's members:

- AEBIOM (European Biomass Association)
- EGEC (European Geothermal Energy Council)
- EPIA (European Photovoltaic Industry Association)
- EREF (European Renewable Energies Federation)
- ESHA (European Small Hydropower Association)
- ESTELA (European Solar Thermal Electricity Association)
- ESTIF (European Solar Thermal Industry Federation)
- EUBIA (European Biomass Industry Association)
- EU-OEA (European Ocean Energy Association)
- EUREC Agency (European Association of Renewable Energy Research Centres)
- EWEA (European Wind Energy Association)

Contact details of EREC

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