

## **Building Blocks for European Leadership in Renewables**

### **The importance of the local level**

**22 June from 18:00-19:00**

**Mansholt Room, Charlemagne Building, European Commission, Brussels**

#### **Concept:**

- To a large extent the energy transition takes place at a local level: buildings need to become energy efficient and start using producing renewable electricity and heat; citizens need to accept RES installations in their environment; and citizens need to invest in RES production.
- With the Clean Energy Package the European Commission proposes a legal framework that puts consumers in the centre to enable the uptake of renewable energy technology
- This session brings together relevant local actors (municipalities and consumers) to discuss how the uptake of RES at a local level can be accelerated and which barriers need to be overcome.

#### **Planned audience:**

- The session addresses consumer associations, RES technology providers that are active on a local level (PV installers, heat pump installers) and municipalities

## **DRAFT AGENDA**

#### **Introduction and moderation – 5 min**

- *Baiba Miltoviča*, Rapporteur Heating and Cooling Strategy, European Economic and Social Committee

#### **Panel – 55 min**

The panel brings together relevant actors to provide insight of the challenges of mainstreaming renewables into heating and cooling, and how these challenges are and can be addressed and the role of local actors and consumers as the engines of the transformation. Each panellist will be asked to make a 5-minute introductory statement. This will be followed by a moderated discussion with the panellists and the audience.

- Tobias Fleiter, Coordinator of Business Unit Demand Analyses and Projections, Fraunhofer ISI: Where we are today in renewable heating and cooling and what the challenges are?

The intervention will be a scene setting presentation of the current situation (energy demand, fuel composition, barriers to renewable heating/cooling and current trends) and the barriers to renewable heating and cooling. Fraunhofer was the lead contractor in the ENER commissioned data mapping study for heating & cooling, which has

put together a comprehensive data set for this sector for 2012. Fraunhofer has updated the data set for 2015 in the framework of the H2020 Heat Roadmap Europe project.

- Pedro Dias, Secretary General, European Solar Thermal Industry Federation: Barriers and enabling tools for renewable heating and cooling - How do we enable local authorities and consumers? (Presentation of the FRONt Project)

Presentation of the results of the H2020 FRONt Project's on capacity building, consumer decision making factors and consumer tools, including price discovery tools.

- Giorgia Caroli, Test-Achat Belgium: Consumer expectations and choices

The intervention will address what consumers expect, what are their views on renewables are and what make them choose (or not to choose) renewable heating and cooling. Investing in new heating and cooling equipment is generally an important decision for most consumers with potential long-time impact on their budget, life style and quality. There are potential risks and benefits to put in balance and trust in the reliability, quality and long-term benefits are some of the key factors that determine whether consumers will adopt renewable solutions or continue on the well-trodden path of mainstream fossil technologies.

- Cyril Roger-Lacan, CEO, Tilia: Developing smart renewable district heating and cooling for low-energy buildings: How we do it in Paris-Saclay?

The Paris-Saclay Development Agency is working on behalf of 11 municipalities to develop one of the most innovative DHC grids in Europe, combining renewables (geothermal and heat pumps), low temperature exchange networks, demand management, heat storage, articulation with electrical and natural gas grids, in a district which is France's largest technology and science cluster, exclusively composed of low energy consumption buildings. The project demonstrates what could be the future of heating and cooling networks and present the solutions and practices that made it possible.

- Orsolya Fülöp, Policy Director, ENERGIACLUB: Multi-apartment condominium 'Village House' in Budapest: Why did we do it and why do we like it?

What did it take for some 3000 co-owners and tenants to renovate their pre-fabricated panel building from 70s into an efficient and renewable based building? The intervention will present the decision making process and the benefits. The renovation benefited from EU Funds.

- Simon Wyke, Greater London Authority – Making a business case for sustainable and renewable heating and cooling in a large, dynamic and historic city

London has an ambitious energy strategy with sustainable, renewable based heating and cooling and the development of heat networks in the centre of it. This is a new direction for London, with little experience from the past. The struggle to make this plan a reality is multipronged and involves persuading local districts (boroughs), project developers, building owners and consumers to make these choices and align their actions. They will do it, if there is a convincing business case and the benefits are clear for everyone.