



eClimail

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	page
Climate Alliance news	
Covenant of Mayors	
Benchmarking Local Climate Policies	
International Climate Alliance Conference 2009	
Climate Star 2009	
European Solar Days 2009	3 and 4
Rainforest news	
Brazil: Supreme Court affirms indigenous land rights	
Peru: No oil drilling in the Amazon area?	
Hackers support wood mafia in Brazil	5
News from Europe	
Climate Change 2050 – the future begins today	
EC confirms plans for Post-Kyoto Protocol	
EC fights illegal logging and deforestation	6
Information	
Towards "Class A" Award 2009	
IRENA is reality	
Do the oceans absorb less CO ₂ ?	7
Events	
International Conference on Sustainable Lifestyle	
Extreme Weather Congress	
World Sustainable Energy Days 2009	
Climate Change: Global Risks, Challenges and Decisions	
Integrated Urban Mobility	
International Passive House Conference	8

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Climate Alliance news

Covenant of Mayors

In the framework of the European Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW) the First Ceremony of the Covenant of Mayors takes place at 10 February. The President of the European Commission José-Manuel Barroso welcomes the signatories of the Covenant of Mayors. In the meantime already 346 cities and municipalities have signed the Covenant. The event is hosted by the European Parliament and more than 1,200 persons have registered.

http://www.climatealliance.org/uploads/media/com-Programme_Convention_EN.pdf

Benchmarking Local Climate Policies

With this Climate Alliance event, also within the European Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW), "Benchmarking Local Climate Policies" will be presented as a tool for cities to implement their commitment in the framework of the Covenant of Mayors. Currently Climate Alliance and the Ifeu Institute are developing the benchmarking on behalf of the German Federal Environmental Agency and in autumn 2009 it will be available as an internet tool for all German local authorities.

http://85.255.198.139/eusew/page.cfm?page=event_content&sby=1&sval=39853&sd=39853&id=173

International Climate Alliance Conference 2009

22 – 24 April 2009 in Brussels

You can immediately register online for the conference that we perform together with Energie-Cités and Brussels Capital-Region in this year.

The motto "3x20:Play the game" stands for the energy and climate objectives of the EU in the year 2020. The initiative of the EU Commission "Covenant of Mayors" should assist to reach these and is strongly supported by Climate Alliance and Energie-Cités. Be part of the game and learn its rules at the joint Annual Rendezvous in 2009. Meet other committed players in a mixture of speeches, round tables, exhibitions and one-to-one meetings.

<http://www.climatealliance.org/climate-alliance-events.html?&L=0>

Climate Alliance news

Climate Star 2009

Under the motto "The short track to climate protection" the Climate Alliance invites all European cities and municipalities to present their climate protection activities and apply for a Climate Star.

The "short track to climate protection" means above all energy saving and the efficient use of local available energy sources. Insulation, electricity of renewables and the local use of in the process emerging heat do not only protect the climate but produce work and hold the money for energy costs in the municipality or region. The "short track to climate protection" includes also urban planning respectively reshaping of the urban area, which brings together habitation, working, shopping and leisure activities and therefore lets become bicycle, feet and bus the predestinated means of transport. As well the motto refers to goods which are generated and brought to market in the region and to the short ways between the municipality and the citizens, when they jointly develop and implement sustainable solutions.

Shortly you will get the significant simplified application form. Closing date is 15th June 2009.

<http://www.climate-star.net>

European Solar Days 2009 – Europe in the sign of the sun!

15 – 22 May 2009 in many European countries

<http://www.solardays.eu>

Rainforest news

Brazil: Supreme Court affirms indigenous land rights

Indigenous peoples across Brazil are celebrating as the majority of judges in the Supreme Court ruled to uphold indigenous land rights in a key case. Indigenous representatives have called the decision a 'great victory'.

The five tribes of Raposa-Serra do Sol had struggled for thirty years to reclaim their ancestral land. The group of farmers refused to leave the area when it was demarcated as an indigenous territory, and since the demarcation they have been waging a campaign of violence against the indigenous dwellers in order to resist being removed from the land.

<http://www.survival-international.org/news/4021>

Peru: No oil drilling in the Amazon area?

An Anglo-French oil company hoping to drill for oil on uncontacted tribes' land in the Peruvian Amazon may be forced to abandon the project after the government threatened to withdraw investment in it. The project depends on the construction of a billion dollar pipeline to transport the oil from the remote Amazon to the Peruvian coast. Perupetro, the state oil company, is currently 'reevaluating' investing in the project after the recent fall in global oil prices.

<http://www.survival-international.org/news/4125>

Hackers support wood mafia in Brazil

High-tech smuggling operations may not be what you'd normally associate with the ongoing clearance of the Amazon rainforest, but logging companies intent on plundering it for timber have been using hackers to break into the Brazilian government's sophisticated tracking system and fiddle the records.

<http://sonnenseite.kjm4.de/ref.php?id=3de082e5140ms136>

News from Europe

Climate Change 2050 – the future begins today

The European Parliament is concerned that “climate change is both more rapid and more serious in terms of its adverse effects than was previously thought”. Therefore the Commission should monitor, “whether the EU 2°C target would still achieve the aim of avoiding dangerous climate change”. Furthermore, the EU and the other industrialised countries should set as a group, a medium-term target of a 25-40 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020, as well as a long-term reduction target of at least 80 percent by 2050, compared to 1990.

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/064-48340-033-02-06-911-20090204IPR48324-02-02-2009-2009-false/default_en.htm

EC confirms plans for Post-Kyoto Protocol

In January 2009 Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas confirmed the goal for the Post-Kyoto Protocol to lower the emissions in the EU until 2020 about 30 percent compared to 1990 if other industrialised countries bind themselves to similar reductions. At present, the union has put down measures for a reduction about 20 percent until 2020. The financial requirements, which will emerge in more than the half in developing countries until 2020, should be covered by national funds, international CO₂ credits and new “innovative sources for international funding”.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/141&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

EC fights illegal logging and deforestation

The European Commission unveiled two initiatives to protect forests globally. The package comprises a legislative proposal to reduce the risk of illegal timber and timber products entering the EU market and a Communication setting out the Commission's proposals for tackling tropical deforestation. In the context of the international negotiations on the post-2012 climate change agreement, the Commission proposes to pursue the objective of halting global forest cover loss by 2030 at the latest and reducing gross tropical deforestation by at least 50 percent by 2020.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/08/1543&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Information

Towards "Class A" Award 2009

Each year, the Towards "Class A" Award is given to the municipality with the most interesting and active communication concept on the energy performance of its buildings. The novelty in this year is that it is open to all municipalities and local authorities throughout Europe no matter whether they are members of the Display® Campaign or not.

The closing date for applications is the 6th March 2009. The award ceremony will be at 23rd April in Brussels in the framework of the jointly Annual Conference of Energie-Cités and Climate Alliance.

<http://www.display-campaign.org/rubrique212.html>

IRENA is reality

IRENA, the International Renewable Energy Agency, came into being in the end of January 2009 in Bonn. More than 120 delegations from 75 states, from developing countries as well as from industrialised countries, participated at the foundation conference and signed the statute of IRENA.

<http://www.irena.org>

Do the oceans absorb less CO₂?

Scientists have discovered a sudden and dramatic collapse in the amount of carbon emissions absorbed by the Sea of Japan. The shift has alarmed experts. The world's oceans soak up about a quarter of all man-made CO₂ emissions, and even a slight weakening of this natural process would leave significantly more CO₂ in the atmosphere.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/jan/12/sea-co2-climate-japan-environment>

Events

International Conference on Sustainable Production, Trade, Consumption and Lifestyle

17 – 18 February 2009 in Nuremberg, Germany

<http://www.sustainability-conference.de>

Extreme Weather Congress

19 – 21 February 2009 in Bremerhaven, Germany

<http://www.extremwetterkongress.de/en/index.html>

World Sustainable Energy Days 2009

25 – 27 February 2009 in Wels, Austria

<http://www.wsed.at/wsed/index.php?id=217&L=1>

Climate Change: Global Risks, Challenges and Decisions

10 – 12 March in Copenhagen, Denmark

<http://climatecongress.ku.dk/>

Integrated Urban Mobility SRL Public Transport Conference 2009 – MeetBike Conference

12 – 13 March 2009 in Dresden, Germany

http://tu-dresden.de/die_tu_dresden/fakultaeten/vkw/ivs/vip/index_html/document_view?cl=en

International Passive House Conference

17 – 18 April 2009 in Frankfurt am Main, Germany

http://www.passivhaustagung.de/dreizehnte/english/index_eng.html