



Climate Star 2004

the european award for local climate protection activities



CLIMATE ALLIANCE
KLIMA-BÜNDNIS
ALIANZA DEL CLIMA



Call for applications



Climate change poses one of the biggest global challenges of the twenty-first century and it touches upon the daily life of almost every citizen of the world. Solutions to this challenge require coordinated

national and international action, but they build upon local initiatives.

Local authorities and municipalities provide the structure around which societies can act to improve the quality of the lives of citizens around the globe. These initiatives at local level not only provide a powerful, replicable

model, but also allow the participation of people in implementing potential local solutions to a global problem and thus advance the cause of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. I am very pleased to see that the Climate Star Award 2004, will focus on renewable energy projects. A more sustainable energy system, that focuses on energy efficiency, better technologies to reduce the negative impact of fossil fuels and an increased use of renewable energy sources, is essential for sound economic development now and in the futures and it is key for the success of climate policies. The recent International Conference for Renewable Energy, organised by the

German Government, clearly showed the potential and the promise of renewable energy to satisfy the needs of both the present and the future. Your competition is a logical next step and will show that words and declarations are followed by action. I am confident that the Climate Star Award 2004 will further trigger the creativity and the determination of many participants. I wish the competition every success.

Joke Waller-Hunter, Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



We, as indigenous peoples, have also started using renewable energies: Some Indian communities in Amazonia already communicate via solar-powered radio sets and generate electricity for schools and

community centres from solar energy. In the long run,

such options provide good opportunities for a better future for our peoples. However, we expect the industrialised countries to make the first move and expand the use of renewable energies, thereby reducing their demand for natural oil and gas, since increasing oil production poses one of the biggest threats to the Amazon rainforests and its inhabitants. Therefore we welcome and support the initiatives of

the Climate Alliance to promote renewable energies as a contribution to world-wide solidarity. We wish you all the best for the Climate Star 2004.

Edwin Vásquez, Co-ordinator Environment of COICA, the Co-ordination of Indigenous Organisations of the Amazon Basin



Climate protection is of everybody's concern, because we all have to work on it day after day. Climate protection is safeguarding the future – and even more. An economically and ecologically reasonable

climate protection policy helps creating new jobs in

the region and improving the quality of life. Therefore a lot of cities and municipalities have been working for climate protection for many years and successfully implemented campaigns and projects.

The European Climate Star 2004 Award issued by the Climate Alliance provides an opportunity for local authorities to present their successful projects. I will

be pleased to welcome the winners at the awarding ceremony in February 2005 in beautiful Lower Austria.

Mag. Wolfgang Sobotka, Environmental Minister of Lower Austria

Cities and municipalities for climate protection

The impacts of climate change are already observable. In many cases, local authorities are the first who have to face the disastrous consequences. In the meantime, the emissions of climate endangering greenhouse gases are still increasing. Industrialised countries as the main polluters should make the first move. The Kyoto Protocol which was meant to be the first step forward, however, will not be sufficient to combat climate change. More than ever, cities and municipalities are called upon to play an active role and contribute to

the protection of the global climate. In particular at this level, the positive local and regional side effects of a policy to reduce greenhouse gases become obvious.

Cities and Municipalities have a large number of possibilities to initiate a sustainable and climate-friendly development. Local authorities elaborate comprehensive climate protection programmes and implement policies and measures in the fields of city planning, energy, mobility, public procurement,

agriculture and forestry. They involve local companies and motivate citizens for climate protection through awareness raising measures.

The mission of the Climate Alliance is to assist local authorities in Europe to address these essential fields of action, entering into commitments, and implementing local climate protection action programmes.



The Climate Alliance

is a global partnership embracing more than 1200 European cities and municipalities and the indigenous peoples of the tropical forests. The partners in this global alliance are brought together by their common concern for the world's climate.

The objectives of the Climate Alliance are to abate climate-endangering emissions in the industrialised countries of the North and to conserve rainforests in the South of the planet. To make a contribution to climate protection, we rely upon commitment and diversity on the local level. We view our initiative as a part of efforts towards sustainable development and North-South equity.



Call for participation in the Climate Star 2004 award

For the second time, the Climate Alliance is inviting all European cities and municipalities to present their climate protection activities and apply for a Climate Star. The Climate Star is to award outstanding activities and to document experience and good practice at the local level. With the awarding scheme, the Climate Alliance wants to point out the variety of local climate

protection strategies and measures and motivate more local authorities to get involved. This year's focal theme of the Climate Star are renewable energies: solar power, wind power, biomass, hydro power, and geothermal energy.

Participation conditions and registration deadline

All local authorities, cities, municipalities and districts in Europe that can present local climate protection activities within the context of the areas of action given below are eligible to participate.

To ensure the participation of your city or municipality, please return the registration form overleaf by 31 October 2004, either by post or fax. You will then receive the application documents by email:

– A checklist to help us to evaluate the climate protection programme of your city or community, particularly to which extent you are using local options to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the various fields of action, and which achievements you can present.

– A template to present and explain your most interesting renewable energy project. This can, for

example, be a measure to promote the increase of the share of renewables or a very good pilot project.

For the assessment of your application, it is taken into account how comprehensive your climate protection programme is and how innovative and effective the presented measure or project is.

Expert jury

Representatives of renowned European institutions, non-governmental organisations and research institutes will screen and assess the contributions submitted in order to select the Climate Star winners.

Award

The award ceremony will take place in February 2005 in Baden, upon invitation of the federal state of Lower Austria. Representatives of the awarded municipalities will be lauded at a major public event. This event will also provide a platform for exchanging experience on environmental issues with prominent figures representing the realms of environmental affairs, business, politics, science and culture.

Furthermore, the award-winning cities and municipalities will be presented to an international audience through a documentation and the Climate Alliance web site.



Queries

The European Secretariat of the Climate Alliance will be pleased to answer your queries:

Climate Alliance – Klima-Bündnis – Alianza del Clima e.V.

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Phone: +49-69-717139-0, Fax: +49-69-717139-93

Email: europa@climatealliance.org

Registration

Yes, we wish to participate in the Europe-wide Climate Star 2004 award

City / municipality / district

Department / office

Contact person

Street address

Postal code / place

Telephone

Fax

E-mail (please state!)

Website

Category 1: Up to 10,000 inhabitants

Category 2: Between 10,000 and 100,000 inhabitants

Category 3: More than 100,000 inhabitants

We intend to present the following renewable energy project or activity:

We are a member of the Climate Alliance.

We are interested in joining the Climate Alliance. Please send us further information.

Areas of action in local climate protection

- Energy conservation and efficient energy conversion
- Use of renewable energy sources
- Traffic-preventing and energy-conscious settlement planning
- Promoting public transport as well as walking and cycling
- Climate-friendly procurement, waste prevention and separation
- Sustainable agriculture and forestry
- Awareness-raising, information and advice
- North-South cooperation

The Climate Star award 2004 focuses on renewable energies. As proved by many contributions during the International Conference for Renewable Energies in June 2004 in Bonn, they present – together with improved energy efficiency – a solution for reducing air pollution and climate endangering CO₂-emissions.

Moreover, for developing countries, they are an excellent way to combat energy poverty. About two billion people don't have access to clean and affordable modern energy services. This is not only a question of convenience since many traditional fuels lead to negative health impacts, and without

electricity supply there is a lack of light to read in the evening, of cooling of medicaments, of communication and information possibilities. Renewable energies offer people from developing countries new opportunities. The introduction of renewable energies in these countries will be the easier, the more we in industrialised countries have gained practical experience with their utilisation, and the more we have made them technically mature.

Please send by post, fax or e-mail to:



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