Cities consume the major part of energy production worldwide and account for a roughly equal share of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. To mitigate climate change and energy shortages, a drastic reduction of both energy and GHG emissions is essential for the large-scale development of more sustainable cities and communities.

The outcomes from previously completed projects on energy optimization at a community scale showed that the transformation of approaches suitable for buildings to communities needs more than simply an up-scaling of individual building solutions. This project therefore focused on development of standards for implementation of optimized energy strategies at the scale of communities.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

1. develop recommendations for effective translation of a city’s energy and GHG reduction goals to the community scale,
2. develop recommendations for optimization of policy instruments for the integration of energy and GHG reduction goals into common urban planning processes,
3. develop recommendations for stakeholder cooperation along with holistic business models, and
4. involvement of cities and urban planners to integrate energy planning in urban planning procedures.

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

The project outcomes provide guidance for cities in setting their priorities for further actions, which are described in reports on the strategic measures, with additional support given for stakeholders. The following reports have been published as the official project deliverables:

- Volume 0: Documentation of workshops and involvement of cities
- Volume 1: Inventory of measures
- Volume 2: Development of strategic measures
- Volume 3: Application of strategic measures
- Volume 4: Stakeholder support materials
- Volume 5: Recommendations

*Urban development in Zurich, Switzerland. Source: SIR*
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY

The International Energy Agency (IEA) was established as an autonomous body within the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 1974, with the purpose of strengthening co-operation in the vital area of energy policy. As one element of this programme, member countries take part in various energy research, development and demonstration activities. The Energy in Buildings and Communities Programme has co-ordinated various research projects associated with energy prediction, monitoring and energy efficiency measures in both new and existing buildings. The results have provided much valuable information about the state of the art of building analysis and have led to further IEA co-ordinated research.

EBC VISION

By 2030, near-zero primary energy use and carbon dioxide emissions solutions have been adopted in new buildings and communities, and a wide range of reliable technical solutions have been made available for the existing building stock.

EBC MISSION

To accelerate the transformation of the built environment towards more energy efficient and sustainable buildings and communities, by the development and dissemination of knowledge and technologies through international collaborative research and innovation.

The new ‘Rieselfeld’ district in Freiburg, Germany. Source: SIR

Project duration
Completed (2013 – 2018)

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