Securing our Energy Future through Ambitious Renovation of Buildings

Thon EU Hotel, Brussels
5th November 2014

Speakers Biographies

Opening Addresses:

Gaetano FASANO, Italian National Agency for New Technologies (ENEA), representing the Italian Presidency

Gaetano Fasano is currently working for the Italian National Agency for New Technologies and represents the Italian Presidency at the REDay2014. He is an expert of technologies and techniques related to the civil sector, with a specialization on sustainable and innovative technology systems for energy efficiency in buildings.

Agostino RENNA, President & CEO of GE Lighting EMEA

Agostino Renna is currently President & CEO of GE Lighting for Europe, the Middle East and Africa where he has full operating responsibility for the lighting business in the EMEA region. He joined GE as Vice President, Growth & Market Strategy in July 2011 where he had responsibility for the long term growth and market positioning of GE’s businesses in Canada. Previous to joining GE, he spent 14 years at Johnson Controls Inc., where he worked in Canada, the US and Europe. He held leadership roles in sales, marketing, strategy and general management. Just prior to joining GE, Agostino led Johnson Controls’ Energy Solutions division for Europe, the Middle East and Africa based in Brussels, Belgium. Agostino was born in Montreal, Quebec and holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering from McGill University. He speaks 4 languages fluently. He is a regular speaker at conferences and roundtables that focus on addressing global energy challenges and is known for bringing a passionate and pragmatic business perspective to the issues that impede investment and action in energy efficiency. While in Belgium, Agostino was an Executive in Residence at the Vlerick Leuven Gent Management School, where, in his lectures, he brought a strong practitioner’s perspective to the topics of sales, marketing, strategy, general management and leadership.
Adrian JOYCE, Renovate Europe Campaign Director

Adrian Joyce is Secretary General of EuroACE and Campaign Director of the Renovate Europe Campaign, which has been initiated by EuroACE to achieve an 80% reduction in the energy demand of the EU building stock by 2050. Adrian Joyce is a professionally qualified architect who, having graduated from University College Dublin (IE) in 1984, spent 17 years in private practice (working in the UK, France, and Belgium and in his native country, Ireland) before getting involved full-time in architectural policy. He was, for 18 months commencing in January 2002, the Practice Director of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI) before moving to Brussels to join the staff at the Secretariat of the Architects’ Council of Europe (ACE) where he became Director before leaving in July 2011. He holds a part-time post teaching Construction Technology at the Catholic University of Louvain-la-Neuve, Faculty of Architecture, Architectural Engineering and Urbanism – LOCI. He is also a Board Member of eceee (the European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy) and a Member of the Steering Committee of the European Coalition for Energy Savings.

Moderator:

Arthur NESLEN, The Guardian

Arthur Neslen is the Europe environment correspondent at the Guardian. He has previously worked for the BBC, the Economist, Al Jazeera, and EurActiv, where his journalism won environmental awards. He has written two books about Israeli and Palestinian identity.

Special Presentations:


Nina Campbell is an Energy Policy Analyst with the Energy Efficiency and Environment Division of the International Energy Agency, based in Paris. Originally from New Zealand, Nina began her career as an environmental lawyer, and has been working with the IEA for the last six years on various climate change and energy efficiency related policy issues. Most recently, Nina was the project manager of the IEA’s study on the broader benefits of energy efficiency policy for the economy and society – “the multiple benefits of energy efficiency” – and lead author on the recently released publication Capturing the Multiple Benefits of Energy Efficiency. This involved a two-year research programme engaging more the 300 experts in various disciplines in which the impacts of energy efficiency have been witnessed. The study takes a broad view of the potential of energy efficiency to support the achievement of a range of policy objectives, with a deep dive on five key benefit areas.

Yamina SAHEB, Joint Research Centre (JRC), EU Commission

Dr. Yamina Saheb has 14 years of experience in buildings and appliances energy efficiency. She joined the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission (EC) in October 2013. This role includes providing analysis on energy efficiency policies. Previously, she worked at the International Energy Agency (IEA) as a senior buildings expert in the Energy Efficiency and Environment Division, where she established and headed the Sustainable Buildings Centre. This role included conducting research and analysis on the use of policy instruments to reduce energy consumption in the buildings sector. Prior to joining the IEA, she worked as an energy efficiency analyst for IFRI (Institut Francais des Relations
Internationales). Previously, she worked as the Technical Director for CLASP (Collaborative Appliances Standard and Labeling program) and as the Head of the Technical Department for Eurovent (HVAC manufacturers’ organisation in the EU). She regularly presents papers and analysis results at international conferences and has contributed to a book on sustainable cities. Yamina holds a Ph.D in Energy Engineering, Master’s degree on Environmental Policies and Development Economics and an Engineering degree in Buildings’ engineering.

Session I: Living up to the Pledge: Taking responsibility of future energy efficiency policies

Dominique RISTORI, Director General, DG Energy, EU Commission

Dominique Ristori has been working in the European Commission since 1978 where he has held several positions. Prior to his current position, he was Director- General of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) (2010-2013). Between 2006 and 2010 Dominique Ristori was Deputy Director General of the Directorate General for Energy. Whilst Director in charge of General Affairs and Resources at Directorate-General for Energy and Transport, he was responsible for interinstitutional relations; enlargement and international relations; coordination of energy and transport research; internal market, state aids, infringements and public service obligations; passengers’ and users’ rights; central management of human and budgetary resources (2000 - 2006). Between 1996 and 1999, he was Director in charge of European Energy Policy at Directorate-General for Energy. Dominique Ristori played an important role in the preparation and adoption process of the 2 first Directives on the Internal Market for gas and electricity. He launched also successfully the Firenze and Madrid Forum for electricity and gas at the origin of the Regulation process in the Energy Sector. In the period of 1990 – 1996 Dominique Ristori was in charge of transnational cooperation between SMEs at the Directorate-General for Enterprise policy. Dominique Ristori graduated from the Institute of Political Studies of Paris (1975).

Jan OLBRYCHT, Polish MEP, President of Urban Intergroup, Signatory of REC Manifesto

PhD in Sociology. Lecturer, expert, politician and social activist. Former mayor and president of one of the Polish regions, active in many European local and regional government organisations. Regional policy and urban development expert. Speaker at international conferences on urban related issues. Member of the European Parliament since 2004, Vice-Chairman of its Committee on Regional Development in the years 2004-2009, Vice-Chairman of its Special Committee on Policy Challenges and Budgetary Resources for a Sustainable European Union after 2013 in the years 2010-2011. Vice-president of the European Peoples Party Group at the European Parliament responsible for intercultural and interreligious dialogue in the years 2011-2014. Currently Chairman of the Polish delegation in the EPP Group at the European Parliament. Member of the Parliamentary Committees on Budgets and substitute member of the Regional Development Committee. In the years 2009-2014 Chair of the European Parliament's URBAN Intergroup - a cross-parties and cross-committees grouping with a horizontal approach to discuss urban related issues.

Oliver RAPF, Executive Director, Buildings Performance Institute Europe

Since 2011, Oliver Rapf is Executive Director of BPIE, the Buildings Performance Institute Europe, a Brussels based think-do-tank with a focus on energy and the built environment. In this role, he represents BPIE in the Executive Committee of the Global Buildings Performance Network (GBPN). Before joining BPIE, Oliver Rapf worked for the global conservation organization WWF in various roles, including as Head of the Climate Business Engagement unit of WWF International, managing strategy and partnership development with the private sector. Leading an international team, he advised multinational companies on climate change
and energy issues. Oliver’s experience in buildings efficiency goes back to the late 1990’s when he was a project leader for several deep renovation projects on behalf of WWF in cooperation with housing companies across Germany. Earlier, Oliver participated in UNFCCC negotiation process, and was the leader of the German NGO coalition at international conferences. Oliver has been active as a jury member of environmental and sustainability awards, and serves on various advisory boards. In his early career, he worked on regional sustainability strategies and spatial planning.

Adrian BALACI, Director, Global Environmental Social Business

Adrian Balaci has been working as a director at GESB for the past decade, being responsible for development and the work done with the academia, environmental agencies and NGOs. He has been working as a trainer in countries such as Kazakhstan and Turkey and developing investment projects in countries such as Serbia, Hungary and the UK among others. He has been also campaigning for a greater share of EE and RES investments within the EU and national budgets urging decision makers to keep up their promises and lead Europe towards energy independency and security. He is also one of the creators of the retrofit revolving loan guarantee fund financing model that was designed to enhance investment from the banking sector in to the refurbishment of the building sector.

Catrin MABY, Chief Executive, Severne Wye Energy Agency

Catrin has worked in sustainable energy since 1984, when she set up an energy advice service for London social housing tenants, and co-authored the Heating Advice Handbook, Draughproofing Handbook and Recycler's Guide to Greater London. She assisted several UK local authorities in developing home energy conservation and affordable warmth strategies, and trained more than 1,000 people in energy awareness and the delivery of energy advice. Catrin also worked with Age Concern England to establish an energy advice programme run by local volunteers, before joining Severn Wye Energy Agency in 1999, overseeing its development, with a wide portfolio of sustainable energy projects and services in Wales and South West England, and participating in more than 30 EU partnership projects. With a lifelong interest in buildings, Catrin has led development of Severn Wye's work on energy advice to households and energy improvements to homes. This has featured the Warm and Well programme which has made improvements to 43,0000 local homes, and working with local authority partners, led by Stroud District Council, to develop the approach to achieving deep energy and carbon savings in existing homes. This included running one of the 5 UK 'Pay As You Save' pilots for long term loans in 2009-11,for the Department of Energy and Climate Change. Catrin was one of a group of four consultants selected by the European Commission to research the work of European energy agencies in 2004, and has led Intelligent Energy Europe projects dealing with energy advice (SErENADE) and retrofit of social housing (SHARE). Catrin has a BA in Engineering Science from the University of Oxford, a Master of Science degree in Energy Resources Management from the London Polytechnic of the South Bank, and has recently embarked on post graduate research with the Welsh School of Architecture at Cardiff University. Catrin is a vice-president of FEDARENE, Federation of European Agencies and Regions for Energy and the Environment, a Member of the UK Energy Institute, and Fellow of the Centre of Refurbishment Excellence. She received an OBE for her work in the UK New Year Honours 2012.
Session II: Leading by example: Successful approaches to significant energy performance improvements

Bo FRANK, Vice-President of Energy Cities, Major of Växjö, Sweden

Vice-President of Energy Cities since 2013, Vice Chairman of the Regional Council of Southern Småland since 2007 and Mayor or Vice Mayor in the City of Växjö since 1992, Bo Frank is often invited as speaker at international conferences and workshops regarding environmental issues such as sustainable development and fossil fuel free. Graduate from studies in political science, social science, ecology, economics and administration at the University of Lund/Växjö, he has been Member of Health and Environment Board from 1974 until 1979, Member of the Swedish Parliament in 1991, Member of the City Council since 1976 and full time politician with various municipal assignments as chairman since 1982, besides various assignments as member of boards, for example the board of Euregion Baltic, Småland Airport and Regional Board for Conservatives, Sydsam, and Almi and the Steering Group of the EIP on Water.

Ron VAN ERCK, Manager European Market, Platform 31, The Netherlands

Ron is responsible for scaling the Energiesprong approach in Europe with France and the UK as first focus markets. Energiesprong created the market conditions for brokering a deal to refurbish 111,000 houses in the Netherlands to Net Zero Energy levels. Ron has also worked for Betterplace, the U$800 million electric vehicle service provider start-up that aimed to bring a revolutionary solution for using electric cars to the market. Previously he worked on renewable energy at the European Commission and the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs. He also co-founded and managed a software training company. Ron has an engineering background and is an avid mountainbiker.

Pierfrancesco MARAN, Mobility and Energy Counsellor, Milan, Italy

Pierfrancesco Maran, born in 1980 in Milan, has a degree in Political Science and has worked as a consultant. He was Councillor in Consiglio di Zona 3 for two terms, dealing with issues related to mobility, transports and parking areas. In 2006 he became City Councillor of Milan. During his mandate he was part of the Mobility and Environment Commission and his activity was focused on the efficiency of public transport. In 2009 he was the speaker for the opposition at the extraordinary Council on the traffic. His proposal for a network of night bus was approved during the last administration. During the last election, in 2011, he was the second most voted of the Partito Democratico and he is the youngest member of the Council of the Mayor Giuliano Pisapia. He is national Delegate ANCI, the National Association of Italian Municipalities, for Public Transport and Mobility; President of ICS (Car Sharing Initiative) and member of the Board of Directors of the Coordination of Agenda 21.