

Tools to prepare the future

As the first town in French-speaking Switzerland to obtain the Cité de l'énergie label in 1995, Neuchâtel has since confirmed its position by gaining the European Energy Award®Gold label in 2010. It continues to progress in its long term vision and has been acquiring the means to do so.

Neuchâtel has taken the long view in committing itself resolutely to the objective of a 2000-Watt Society by 2050, with a number of well-defined intermediate stages along the way. For example, by signing the European Covenant of Mayors, the town has committed to exert every effort to achieve a 20% reduction in the CO₂-emission within its territory by 2020. Neuchâtel is realising savings on heating, electricity and water in its municipal building stock. The results represent an average of 20% to 25% reduction in energy consumption over the last 15 years.

At the same time, installations for the use of renewable energy sources have been implemented on the municipalities territory.

Thanks to the register made available by the municipality on the Internet, the local population can check the solar potential of their roofs, as well as the related figures for investment, electricity production and the reduction of CO₂-emissions.

Neuchâtel is also a test bed for green mobility. The city programme Neuchâtel-roule providing electric vehicles running on solar energy is a success story.

Energy project highlights

- Participation in the EU-funded project «Holistic» project with a view to reducing fossil fuel consumption at the Mail-Maladière-Gare site by 23%;
- Installation of 100 m² of photovoltaic solar cells to the roof of «La Promenade» school. The electricity generated by this facility powers four electric cars used for business travel by municipal staff;
- Operation of a free-cooling grid (natural cooling system using water from the lake). Today, four major water users are connected to this network, which represents an electricity saving of some 3 million kWh per year.

Facts and figures

Municipality: Neuchâtel
Canton: Neuchâtel
Population: 33'390
Area: 19,73 km²
Internet: www.neuchatel-durable.ch

First Cité de l'énergie label: 1995
European Energy Award®Gold label:
..... 2005



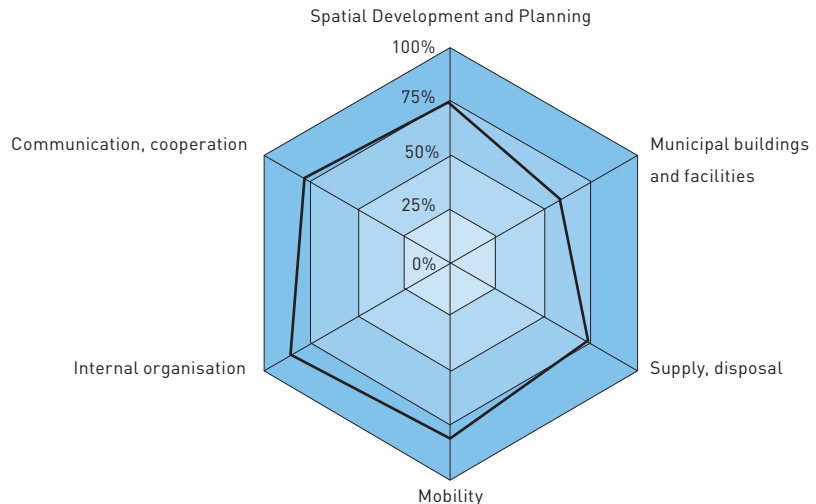


The future is in our hands

«Preserving our environment and its resources for future generations is one of the greatest challenges of our times. It is a challenge that Neuchâtel has already been taking up for years in the field of sustainable development and energy policy. Within the framework of our Cité de l'énergie programme we have managed to achieve 24% energy savings over 15 years on the town's building stock. Another key factor for the success of an ambitious energy policy is the awareness that it is only by all of us acting together that the targets can be attained. Once this has been realised, the barriers come down and it is possible to start working across the board and creating the necessary synergies. The future lies in our hands!»

*Olivier Arni
Municipal Councillor,
Town of Neuchâtel*

Energy policy profile in 2014



The spider chart shows the development already implemented by the municipality in each of the six sectors of the range of measures as a percentage of the total for action. To obtain the Cité de l'énergie label, the local authority must have implemented or planned 50% of its potential. The score needed to obtain the European Energy Award®Gold label is 75%.

The next steps

Neuchâtel has committed itself to various projects to be carried out in the coming years:

- Covering the municipal administration's electricity and public lighting needs from local renewable resources (hydraulic and solar);
- Backing the installation of a photovoltaic façade at CSEM (Swiss Centre for Electronics and Microtechnology) using a new technology called «bifacial heterojunction» which allows remarkable architectural integration;
- Improving the energy efficiency of priority buildings on time and on budget (CHF 40 million for the period 2014-2017).

Cité de l'énergie contact in Neuchâtel

Christian Trachsel, T: 032 717 76 60
christian.trachsel@ne.ch

Cité de l'énergie Advisor

Daniel Philippin, T: 032 721 00 00
philippin@a21.ch

SwissEnergy for Municipalities

c/o Bio-Eco Sàrl, T: 021 861 00 96,
info@bio-eco.ch
www.citedelenergie.ch

Further information

www.citedelenergie.ch/neuchatel



européan energy award

What does the Cité de l'énergie label stand for?

The Cité de l'énergie label is a certificate developed in Switzerland and extended to the European level in the form of the European Energy Award®. The label is awarded to municipalities which have instituted quality management for the implementation of their energy and development policies. The award was conceived within the framework of the SwissEnergy programme for the Confederation. In this way, the Swiss

Federal Office for Energy (SFOE) promotes the implementation of national energy policy in the fields of energy efficiency and renewable energies. Through the sub-programme entitled SwissEnergy for Municipalities, the SFOE systematically supports projects at the municipal level. The owner of the label is the Cité de l'énergie Association.