

European Energy Award

The European Energy Award (eea) is a quality management and certification system for municipalities and regions. It supports local authorities in establishing interdisciplinary planning approaches and implementing effective energy and climate policy measures. The success of the eea is based on 4 pillars:

Accelerator of national and supranational energy strategies

The eea translates national goals effectively into local policy recommendations. These provide guidance for municipalities in allocating their resources to achieve optimum efficiency in their measures.

For municipalities by municipalities

The eea has been continually developed by municipalities and experts on the local level since 1988. Careful consideration of the regional context forms an integral part of the programme.

Specific activity programmes

eea municipalities implement customised activity programmes with a long-term view. Action plans are evaluated and adjusted every 4 years with the assistance of accredited experts.

International benchmark

Municipalities' efforts are assessed with regard to their individual scope of action. This allows a comparison of different municipalities and the establishment of an international benchmark.

The European Energy Award in figures

- ... 25 years of experience
- ... 1,346 municipalities participating
- ... total population of 40 million involved
- ... largest municipality participating: Cologne (DE, 1.02 m inhabitants)
- ... smallest municipality participating: Chamois (IT, 103 inhabitants)







Morocco, Romania, Ukraine

Certified European Energy Award municipialities

The number of awarded municipalities has been constantly increasing over the past ten years. As per the end of 2014, 720 of a total of 1,346 participating municipalities had been awarded the European Energy Award, 87 of which the European Energy Award Gold.







Why do local authorities choose to participate in the European Energy Award?

An effect oriented management instrument that leads to benefits

The eea comprises an iterative management process that guides municipalities in continuously improving their energy and climate policies. The well structured process allows for energy targets to be met faster.

Quality increase through coaching by external energy experts

Each municipality is assisted by an external energy consultant, which provides technical and organisational support throughout the entire eea process. An accredited eea auditor reviews the municipality's activities and rating to ensure the harmonised application of the certification system.

Access to a collection of national supporting tools

All national eea organisations have developed country-specific tools and checklists to facilitate the implementation of specific measures by municipalities. These national tools form an essential part of the eea process.

Certification on two levels creates visibility

Certification under the European Energy Award provides an incentive for municipalities to strengthen their activities and makes a strong point for location marketing purposes. The European Energy Award Gold further honours municipalities with exemplary energy policies for taking a pioneering role.

Regular exchange of experience and training

Best practice examples are regularly shared in national and in international exchange of experiences. Common identified weaknesses are addressed by the national eea organisations in specific trainings for local authorities.



"The eea is a cornerstone of the climate pact between the state and the municipalities in Luxembourg. It helps local authorities and citizens in their climate protection efforts."

Camille Gira, State Secretary for Sustainable Development and Infrastructure, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg



"I want to congratulate all cities and municipalities that are participating in the eea since they are role models of applied climate protection." Johannes Remmel, North Rhine Westphalian minister of environment, Germany

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