

The “Energiewende” – Germany’s energy transition for beginners

Media workshop for journalists in exile

17 June 2016, Berlin

Energy and climate policy are central themes in German society and in German politics. Many foreign observers find it relevant and interesting that a highly industrialised country like Germany is shifting its energy system from coal and nuclear to renewables. This important project comes at a time when the world is trying to fight climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Against this backdrop, the German "Energiewende" (energy transition) is of interest to many journalists who have recently come to this country.





The one-day media workshop will provide a comprehensive overview of the following issues:

- What are the key facts journalists need to know about the Energiewende? How relevant is it from a global perspective?
- How is reporting on energy and climate topics different to other fields of journalism? What are its practical aspects? And how relevant is energy and climate journalism for journalists reporting in and from Germany?
- Which role does the Energiewende play for normal citizens? How does the regular citizen become involved?
- Wind and solar are becoming increasingly important sources of power generation: What does this mean for the security of electricity supply? And what does the transition from a highly centralised power system with a handful of large power plants to a system with thousands of wind-mills and solar panels mean for grid operators?

With on-site visits to projects and meetings with experts and citizens, participants will get an overview of key themes of the German energy transition.

The programme: Who? What? When?

Friday, 17 June 2016

- 09.00 **Welcome**
Sven Egenter, Editor in Chief and Executive Director Clean Energy Wire CLEW
Location: Clean Energy Wire, Rosenstraße 2, 10178 Berlin
- 09.10 **The bigger picture: An introduction to Germany's Energiewende**
 Background on German energy and climate policy – history and European context by
Christiane Aeverbeck, CEO Climate-Alliance Germany (Klima-Allianz Deutschland)
Location: Clean Energy Wire, Rosenstraße 2, 10178 Berlin
- 10.45 **The energy transition in the media: Covering the story**
 Presentation and discussion with **Kerstine Appunn**, Staff Correspondent Clean Energy Wire
Location: Clean Energy Wire, Rosenstraße 2, 10178 Berlin
- 12.15 Lunch
- 13.00 Transfer to Berlin Adlershof
- 14.00 **Managing the energy transition: The storage challenge**
 Visit to the power storage developer **Yunicos AG**
Location: Am Studio 16, 12489 Berlin
- 16.00 Transfer to Berlin Alt-Treptow
- 17.00 **The energy transition at home: Alternative real estate and renewable energy projects**
 Meeting with Managing Director **Winfried Härtel** (Büro für Projektentwicklung) and visit of a low-energy housing project
Location: Kiefholzstr. 415, 12435 Berlin
- 18.30 **End of the programme**

From A to D: Background info on the programme

A

Christiane Averbeck is the CEO of Klima-Allianz Deutschland (Climate-Alliance Germany). More than 110 organisations are members of Klima-Allianz, not only environmental or development groups, but also churches, trade unions and consumer associations. As a big industrial nation, Germany has emitted an above-average per-capita volume of CO₂, thereby decisively contributing to global warming. Germany must decrease its CO₂ emissions by 40 per cent from 1990 levels by 2020. This is necessary to meet the worldwide minimum target of limiting global warming.

<http://www.climate-alliance-germany.de/>

B

Kerstine Appunn is staff Correspondent for the Clean Energy Wire. She joined after working at the Schleswig-Holsteinischer Zeitungsverlag newspaper groups, where she covered general politics as well as energy and climate policy. She has an MSc in Global Environmental Change from King's College London and a law degree from the University of Kiel. She has also worked as a consultant for the International Institute for Environment and Development in London.

C

Yunicos AG is a Berlin-based company focusing on research and development of intelligent storage and grid solutions. The firm has nearly 100 megawatts of battery storage installed in projects worldwide. Their core competence is the efficient integration of grid infrastructure elements by combining battery technologies with intelligent software.

<http://www.yunicos.com/en/home/>

D

Winfried Härtel is Managing Director of the Büro für Projektentwicklung. The project developer focuses on alternative real estate and renewable energy projects, advising, conceptualizing and developing cooperatives and co-housing in Berlin. The Energiewende is gradually transforming German households, not just towards greater energy efficiency, but also as producers and consumers of energy. A key aspect of the Büro für Projektentwicklung’s work is the use of renewable energy sources.

http://www.winfriedhaertel.de/index_eng.html

Organisational details

Who can take part and how to apply?

The media workshop is open to journalists in exile who have recently settled in Germany. A background in energy and environmental journalism would be an asset, but is not a must.

To apply, please use the template on our website at:

<https://www.cleanenergywire.org/workshops/energiewende-germanys-energy-transition-beginners-media-workshop-cooperation-reporters-without-borders>

Please apply by 7 June 2016 at the latest. We will inform you by 9 June 2016 whether your application has been successful.

What are the costs?

Participation in the media workshop is free of charge. All expenses during the workshop, including food and transport, will be covered by the organisers.

Please note that participants are kindly asked to organise their own travel to and from Berlin and must cover their own travel expenses. In specific cases and upon application, Reporters Without Borders Germany can provide funding support for travel to and from Berlin.

What languages will be spoken?

Presentations during the workshop will be either in English or in German. German-English translations will be provided.

For more information, please contact:

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About the **organisers**

Clean Energy Wire

The Clean Energy Wire provides well-researched, fact-based and unbiased information as well as support for international journalists reporting on the energy transition. We are convinced that quality journalism plays a key role in productive domestic and international debates, which are essential for the successful transition to a low-carbon economy.

The Clean Energy Wire is committed to the highest standards in journalism. Our charter sets out the principles that govern our own work.

As an independent non-profit and non-partisan organisation, the Clean Energy Wire can offer its services free of charge thanks to its funders, Stiftung Mercator (stiftung-mercator.de) and the European Climate Foundation (europeanclimate.org).

www.cleanenergywire.org

Reporters Without Borders Germany

Based in Paris, Reporters Without Borders (RSF) is an independent NGO with consultative status with the United Nations, UNESCO, the Council of Europe and the International Organisation of the Francophonie (OIF).

Its foreign sections, its bureaux in ten cities, including Brussels, Washington, Berlin, Tunis, Rio de Janeiro and Stockholm, and its network of correspondents in 130 countries give RSF the ability to mobilise support, challenge governments and wield influence both on the ground and in the ministries and precincts where media and Internet standards and legislation are drafted.

www.reporter-ohne-grenzen.de