



The INNER ERA-NET

Gillian Glaze

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Background

- Need for new solutions to meet the challenges of our energy economy of the future
- High quality of scientific research at European universities and research institutions
- No co-ordinated effort to bridge the gap between advances in basic applied research and innovations in energy technology
- **Different approaches to stimulate innovative energy research in Europe**



General objectives of INNER

To establish a co-operation between those European research programmes and strategies that aim to identify and stimulate emerging sustainable energy technologies.

Co-operation means:

- Gaining insight into approaches and methodology
- Benchmarking of approaches
- Developing joint strategies combining the best elements
- Proposing a test joint approach
- Transferring knowledge and experience to other countries



Project Partners

- Germany - Forschungszentrum Jülich, PtJ (co-ordinator)
- Netherlands - SenterNovem
- France - ADEME and CNRS
- Norway - Research Council of Norway
- Nordic Energy Research (Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Iceland)
- Slovakia - Slovak Energy Agency
- Portugal - Ineti
- Poland - Ministry of Higher Education and Science and EC BREC/IPiEO
- Spain – Ministry of Education and Science
- Sweden - STEM
- United Kingdom - Natural Environment Research Council



INNER Status July 2007

- Start date: 1st June 2005
- Four year project period
- Internet address: www.inner-era.net
- Summary of innovative Energy R&D Programmes completed
- Summary of programmes in non-INNER countries completed
- SWOT analysis of programmes completed
- Work groups to discuss 4 joint activities have been set up
- One joint call “N-INNER” with 4 INNER partners plus Finland, Iceland, Denmark



Experiences so far (1)

After the SWOT analysis of strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities and workshops on research topics and strategy:

No general conclusion on the right approach to innovative energy research (top-down or bottom-up)

No real consensus on topics



Experiences so far (2)

Very few partners actually manage programmes which are dedicated exclusively to innovative energy research

Strategies to encourage and support new ideas for research do not exist or the processes involved are ad-hoc and are not considered to be “strategies”

Present programmes will not necessarily be continued



**“If you always do what you
always did, you’ll always get
what you always got.”**

EPSRC



Long-Term Global Strategy to Encourage and Support Innovative Research (Idea to Project with Industrial Participation)

1. Ideas seminars on basic science (PhD students)
2. Ideas seminars on energy technologies (experts)
3. Joint access to “human resources”
4. Future joint calls, e.g. for studies on very innovative ideas, or to allow transnational research teams to do innovative research

.....all joint activities will need developing, commitment and funding!



Thank you for your attention!