

MONTAIONE (FI) A SHORT INTRODUCTION



Montaione lies on the top of a hill in the heart of the Tuscany countryside, within the Province of Florence, at 373 mt on the sea level, surrounded by the typical landscape of Elsa Valley, characterised by Chianti vineyards, olive trees, rows of cypresses and extended woods, which occupy great part of the common territory for an extension of 10490 hectares.

Montaione, whose ancient origins come from the Etruscan-Romans settlements, is today a town with 3.700 inhabitants.

Its economy is mainly related to green tourism, agriculture and to a lesser extent the craft and industry.

The care for the environment and the sustainable energies exploitation are among the priorities of the City.

Land conservation and the landscape are peculiar elements to be exploited for a proper socio-economic development of the Community.

Policies and guidelines of the European Union on energy and environment and national and regional energy policies, represent a framework where to put actions and development plans consistent with the peculiarities of the territory of Montaione, with a focus particular to safeguard the resources of the municipal territory and the enhancement of the landscape.

To consolidate and further develop the policies decided by the City Council, the objectives of energy planning to be prosecuted in the short and medium term in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy, could be summarised in the following points:

- Pursue a considerable reduction in energy consumption in order to achieve the target of 20% in 2020;
- Promote the application of renewable energy in buildings within the competence of the City to reach the level of 20% in 2020;
- Disseminate sustainable energy policies, through information campaigns, awareness growth and the identification of appropriate tools to the specific territorial characteristics.



In this framework, Montaione obtained the European Energy Award at the beginning of the 2008, thanks to the efforts listed below in the field of RES and RUE:

Development and regional planning

- Environmental and energy policy and strategy
- Action plan in energy efficiency and RES
- Traffic plan.

Internal organisation

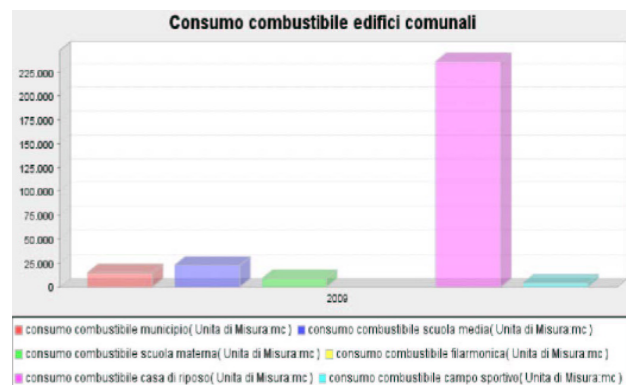
- Plan-do-check-act
- GPP

Buildings and facilities

- Energy management
- Solar thermal and PV in schools and in the sport centre
- Programme for efficiency in street Lighting
- biomass district heating for public buildings

Mobility

- Pedestrian area in the city centre
- Foot paths and mountain bike network
- Free City buses for pupils and seniors



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Supply and disposal

- Purchasing 100 % green electricity
- Annual Budget for sustainable programs (3 % of Municipality Balance),
- RES programme
- 40 % waste selection

Communication

- Eco Campaign in schools
- Energy helpdesk
- Decisional process involving the population in

Castelfalfi area project refurbishment (buildings:100.000 m2) www.db-castelfalfi.it

- Newsletter and Dissemination brochures



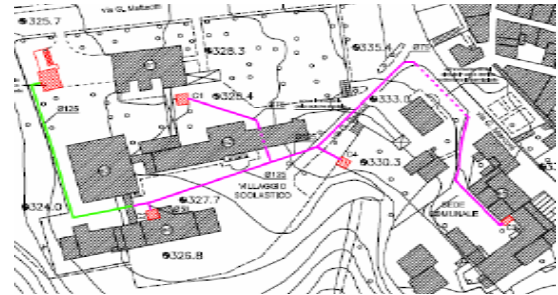
The next steps focus on:

MONITORING: during 2011 the municipality has been certified ISO 14001 and ISO 50001. These methodologies are very important to establish a quality management system in the environmental and energy related activities with the continuous improvement objective

RES EXPLOITATION: the municipality has obtained a Regional financial contribution for a wooden biomass district heating system with a local supply chain which is going to provide heat to the most of the public real estate (several schools and the municipal building for a total of 25.000 mc) and also to users nearby who are going to make it run also in summer to produce cold.

Other projects has been developed for biomass and PV exploitation in public buildings.

In the local cemetery the lamps has been changed to led ones and a PV system has been installed.



PRIVATE SECTOR: the municipality wants to promote the RES among its citizens facilitating the procedures, providing good examples and technical consultancy

CASTELFALFI REFURBISHMENT: the popular decisional approach has given the chance to boost the owners intents of enhancing sustainability in this particular historical refurbishment. An agreement with the Administrations sets that the area energy supply will be covered by the 64% of RES (CHP biomasses and PV), the new buildings energy demand will be lower than 30kWh/m2y while the older ones will have less than 70 kWh/m2y. Also the water and the waste management is going to be at very low impact.

NETWORKING and COMMUNICATION: Montaione is involved in the Cam2Com IEE project to become part and disseminate the Covenant of Mayors and its best practices. Since 2007 the town has joined the European Energy Award network (www.cittadellenergia.ch) aimed at collecting virtuous towns around Europe to motivate the improvement and the exchange in the sustainability issues.