



## AGIR (Action Globale Innovante pour la Région – Innovative Global Action for the Region)

Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur Region [France]

### Context

To respond to the challenge of climate change, local authorities have a key role to play in defining and implementing actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve energy efficiency, the development of renewable energies and the adaptation of the territory to the effects of climate change. Concerned for its future, the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region and its partners, ADEME (French Environment and Energy Management Agency) and DREAL (Regional Directorate for the Environment), took a strong and long term commitment towards better managing its energy consumption and promoting renewable energies. In the Region of PACA, the objectives of the Regional Plan Climate-Air-Energy for 2020 are 20% renewable in final energy consumption (67% in 2050), and -20% of energy consumption and greenhouse gases.

### Description and Main Objectives

The programme provides technical and/or financial assistance to exemplary and innovative actions towards energy savings and renewable energy sources. It uses annual and permanent calls for projects, some of which are permanent and others sectorial. The idea is to support a large variety of initiatives stemming from many different stakeholders (public bodies, local authorities and professionals representing enterprises) by using a participatory approach. The organization of this approach at the regional level makes it possible to obtain a global vision of local initiatives, to pool projects and thus gain more in terms of impact than the sum of individual projects. The programme was initiated to compensate for the development of the ITER nuclear energy project, with the following policy: for each euro invested in ITER, 1€ will be invested for energy efficiency and renewable energy. The second period of the programme (from 2011 onwards) was financed from the region and not from ITER but it still helped implementing and developing energy efficiency and renewable energy.

The programme is structured in 5 axes:

- Territories, as dynamic places of energy transition;
- Renovation for very low-consumption buildings;
- The sectors, as a tool for economic structuring, particularly renewable energies, new energies, recycling;
- The exemplary nature of eco-responsible approaches;
- The general public, to create conditions for the involvement of all citizens.



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## Implementation Strategy

A participatory approach was used: the regional council assessed, coordinated and funded the energy actions, in collaboration with ADEME (French Environment and Energy Management Agency) and the DREAL (Regional Directorate for the Environment) by co-financing projects. Local authorities then implemented and monitored the actions.

The environmental benefits (energy consumption avoided and production of renewable energy) and economic benefits (financial saving of energy bill, sale of clean electricity, creation of jobs) induced by the projects supported under AGIR progressed year by year. Thanks to the projects supported, the Region experienced the following outcomes:

- Average 34 million kWh energy saved annually;
- 22 million kWh electricity produced by new renewable energy systems;
- More than 100 jobs (direct and indirect) have been created;
- 1000 projects created;
- 1 euro in subvention created 3 Euros of activities ;
- Saved 41 kWh million and 1500 Million kg of CO<sub>2</sub>;
- Creation of a floating wind port, also creating a prototype in the sea, in the Fos-sur-Mer Gulf near Marseille.



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## Budget

The project cost is € 1.8 billion with a return on investment (RoI) of 7-8 years. The budget set by the region for this programme was € 70 M for the 2007-2010 period (AGIR) and € 60 M for the 2011-2014 period (AGIR +).

## Time Frame

Start date: 2006 - End date: 2015

## Contacts & Links

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