



Press release

Paris, December 11 2017 - The RenoWatt project, from Liège, is presented as an example among the effective and innovative solutions in the fight against climate change.

The RenoWatt project, developed by GRE Liège, was presented at an international conference in Paris on December 11, 2017. This conference was part of the One Planet Summit under the aegis of the President of the French Republic, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the World Bank Group. Two years after the Paris Agreement, stock was taken of the practical actions carried out for our planet. The RenoWatt project was mentioned as an example among the effective solutions that regions can implement in the fight against climate change.

In the current economic and environmental landscape and in line with the increasingly demanding European energy objectives (an obligation to cut energy consumption by up to 80% is expected by 2050), energy efficiency is one of the most profitable ways to reach the objectives of the Paris Agreement while ensuring more energy independence for the regions (93% of the energy in Wallonia is imported).

GRE-Liège, incubator of innovative economic projects providing the jobs of the future in the Liège province, created RenoWatt in November 2014. It is a one-stop-shop assisting public entities in the implementation of Energy Performance Contracts (EPC) that guarantee calculated and measured energy savings; RenoWatt guarantees the technical, legal and financial aspects of the project.

Today, RenoWatt means:

- 12 local authorities and one hospital involved;
- 5 Energy Performance Contracts amounting to 59 million euros, signed and accompanied by savings guarantees;
- 134 buildings retrofitted;
- 34% cut in energy consumption;
- 322 direct and 780 indirect jobs;
- 16,450 hours of training and/or work with social economy enterprises...
- European Energy Award 2017, awarded by the European Union

The RenoWatt model, presented and praised on several occasions all around Europe, is now presented in Paris as one of the possible solutions to the challenges posed by climate change.

RenoWatt takes part in the European project H2020 CITYinvest as a pilot region. The one-stop-shop developed by GRE served as a model and an example in the implementation of the Rhodoshop, the first one-stop-shop dedicated to energy retrofit in the Balkans. Thanks to the CITYinvest project, the key elements and exemplary solutions of the RenoWatt one-stop-shop are modeled and replicated throughout Europe.

Wallonia has an innovative tool that has proven its worth. A new dedicated structure will enable the development of this energy retrofit momentum all across the Walloon territory. New European and Walloon subsidies will offer Walloon public entities the opportunity to get involved.

It is now up to Wallonia to set a new milestone in its energy transition and to fully commit to the Paris Agreement.

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