



Fighting energy poverty through a network of committed actors

Les Mureaux, France

IN A NUTSHELL

The municipality of Les Mureaux relies on the association Énergies Solidaires to support households affected by energy poverty through two initiatives: an information point, and a SLIMEE (Local Intervention Scheme for Energy and Water Management).

Background

The municipality of Les Mureaux is part of the Yvelines department, west of Paris. As a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors since 2010, it is strongly committed to sustainable development with an Agenda 21 launched in 2004, a territorial social contract and an eco-mobility award.

Founded in 1998, Énergies Solidaires is an association fighting climate change and energy poverty. Given the socio-economic situation and the low level of energy efficiency of its buildings, Les Mureaux counts a high number of households in a situation of energy poverty. The municipality of Les Mureaux works hand in hand with Énergies Solidaires to support them.

A PIONEERING TERRITORY

- ▶ 14 April 2014: 1st ANRU (National Agency for Urban Retrofitting) eco-district
- ▶ June 2016: 'Water in City' NOVATEC trophy
- ▶ December 2017: Stage 4 of the eco-district label granted by the Ministry for an Ecological and Inclusive Transition

The info point

The French Environment and Energy Management Agency (ADEME) set up, in partnership with local and regional authorities, a network of energy info points ('Espace Info-énergie', EIE), which give free and independent information and advice to individuals on energy management and access to renewable energies.

In 2002, Énergies Solidaires integrated the info point network for the Nord-Yvelines region and developed several awareness-raising tools (workshops, conferences, site visits, etc.). They provide technical expertise to households on eco-construction and energy consulting to local communities of over 10,000 inhabitants.

From 2010, as part of the energy info point, Les Mureaux put at the disposal of Énergies Solidaires some premises to organise workshops for inhabitants. In 2012, the association proposed that the city become the referent expert on energy poverty and set up awareness-raising and information tools. A programme to fight energy poverty has been developed by the city and the association, followed in 2013 by an energy poverty diagnosis, giving rise to a mapping of the most impacted neighbourhoods.

The city also set up a network of 220 'watchdogs', including building guards, members of associations, mediators, auxiliaries and social agents.



The Mayor of Les Mureaux inaugurates the experimental building which Seineergy Lab put at the disposal of the energy info point.

LES MUREAUX



Population:
32,614

Area:
11.99 km²

Signatory
to the Covenant
of Mayors since:
2010

CO₂ emission
reduction target:
-20% by 2020
compared to 2009

The SLIMEE

In 2014, the association proposed setting up a Local Intervention Scheme for Energy and Water Management (SLIMEE) to Les Mureaux. It is a one-stop shop that supports households affected by energy poverty. The city has responded to a SLIMEE call for proposals coordinated at the national level by CLER (an energy transition network).

Énergies Solidaires is responsible for co-facilitating the SLIMEE as an expert, and the association 'Réciprocité Seine et Aval' sends staff to conduct home visits to households. These 'ambassadors' carry out a sociotechnical diagnosis and guide individuals towards the most appropriate energy choices and relevant structures.

In 2015, 92 home visits were made. As most of the households visited are tenants (80%) who are unable to undertake renovations, systematic campaigns to install energy-saving appliances are carried out in collective and individual housing identified as being at risk, and energy saving kits are offered (multi-socket, low-energy bulb, etc.).

Outcomes of the SLIMEE

The political support for the project was a key success factor. The technical and financial editing was carried out thanks to an important coordination of the various partners involved. Since 2015, the energy and management competence of the SLIMEE has been transferred to the Urban Community of Greater Paris Seine & Oise, but the project's operating mode remains unchanged.

Implementation of the SLIMEE is facilitated by the pre-existence of a programme to fight against energy poverty in Les Mureaux. For example, households in difficulty are reported by the network of watchdogs. Ambassadors sometimes face reluctance from households to let them enter their homes.

A satisfaction questionnaire sent to households after the home visits showed that 98% of respondents (50% response rate) are satisfied with the initiative, 98% of households changed their consumption behaviour following the visit, 96% are satisfied with the equipment offered and 12% saw a decrease in their electricity bills.

Financing of the projects

Implementation costs for SLIMEE were €117,971 over two years. This includes salary for Énergies Solidaires employees, water and energy ambassadors, RSA (Réciprocité Seine Aval) association running costs, building costs (rent, maintenance, etc.) and communications costs.

Nord Yvelines info point activities are financed by ADEME and local authorities.



92 visits carried out in one year (2015)
Annual objective of 200 visits
98% of households (which responded to the questionnaire) changed their consumption behaviour following the home visit

- SLIMEE:
 - 1/2 full-time equivalent coordinator
 - 2 full-time equivalent socio-technical visitors
- Info point:
 - 1 full-time advisor at the info point



FINANCING THE PROJECT

- + **Financing source(s):**
Les Mureaux municipality's own funds
- + **Total amount:**
€117,971 for 2015-2016

USEFUL LINKS

- ▶ Covenant of Mayors profile of Les Mureaux: <http://bit.ly/2BUKKim>
- ▶ Les Mureaux municipality: <http://www.lesmureaux.fr/>
- ▶ Énergies solidaires: <http://energies-solidaires.org/>



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