

Chambers Promoting Intelligent Energy for SMEs **CHANGE**

Sept. 2008 – Sept. 2010



CHANGE

SUMMARY

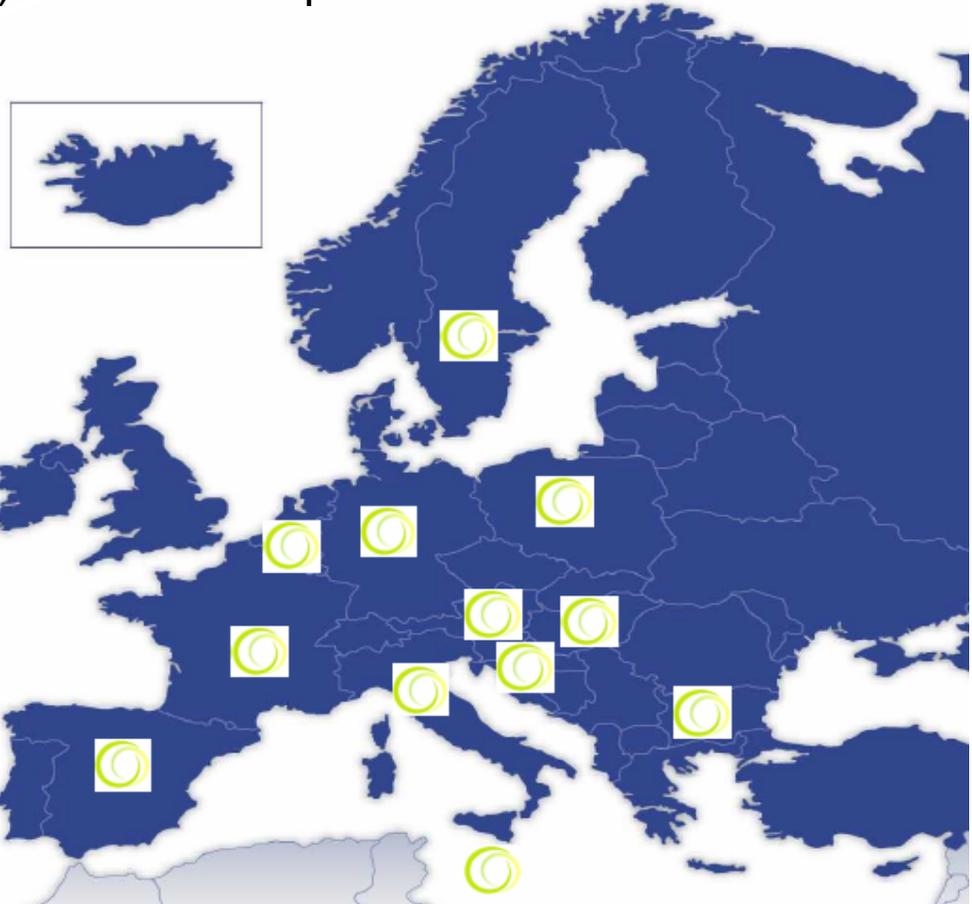
The CHANGE project helps SMEs optimise their energy use by creating “**Intelligent energy contact points**” (advisors) in 61 Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CCIs) from 12 European countries.

§ CCI advisors are provided with **training** on energy efficiency and application of renewable energy.

§ They act as “**first ports of call**” for SMEs in energy matters.

§ They actively **promote intelligent energy** among the business community via websites, newsletter articles and information events.

§ They facilitate **energy pre-checks** and carry out a **survey**.





CHANGE BACKGROUND

§ Energy efficiency is a win-win solution if it can combine cost savings with the protection of the environment. Also some renewable energy solutions can be used cost-effectively in businesses.

§ There is still untapped potential in the business sector: 10-20% energy saving can often be achieved with no-cost or low-cost measures.

§ CCIs can use their close contacts with the business community to raise awareness among SMEs, and bridge the gap between them and the existing information, technology and service providers in the field.

§ Energy will remain an important topic in the future à CCIs should be able to provide their members with basic information and advice on this as on any other topic.

§ Some CCIs in Europe already have considerable experience in the field, while others have none. The exchange between them enables learning from good practices.



CHANGE

OBJECTIVES and MAIN STEPS

- I) To build capacity and create a **European network of CCI advisors on intelligent energy topics**: “first ports of call” for SMEs.
 - CCI advisors gained basic knowledge on intelligent energy topics (energy efficiency, renewable energies, smart buying), in 2 **training** days at EU level (Dec. 9/10, 2008) and 2 days in their respective countries (mainly quarter I, 2009)
 - A meeting to **exchange experience** will take place during the EUSEW2010, on the 23rd and 24th March 2010.
- II) To kick-start/enhance **assistance to SMEs** to optimize their energy use
 - **Access to information**: websites, articles, workshops/seminars targeted to businesses
 - **Energy pre-checks**: a brief diagnosis carried out or facilitated by the CCI, shows businesses potential for improvement and further examination.
 - **Survey**: to find out more about the enablers and barriers for the uptake of energy efficiency/RES solutions in businesses.



CHANGE

EXPECTED RESULTS

- § Training and exchange of experience for 64 Chamber employees
 - à Materials available from <http://www.eurochambres.eu/change>
- § Facilitating access to information for SMEs:
 - Organisation of information events for 11,600 businesses
 - Dissemination of accessible and up-to-date intelligent energy information, notably via CCI websites and newsletters
- § Energy pre-checks for 530 businesses
- § Survey report among SMEs about factors influencing their energy use behaviour (to be presented during the EUSEW2010)
- § Manual with guidelines and best practices for supporting SMEs on Intelligent Energy issues



CHANGE

Chambers promoting intelligent energy for SMEs

<http://www.eurochambres.eu/change>

Co-ordinator:



Ben Butters, butters@eurochambres.eu

Teresa Lenz, lenz@eurochambres.eu

Project partners:

The Austrian Federal Economic Chamber – Austria



The Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Belgium - Belgium



The Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry - Bulgaria



The Mälardalen Chamber of Commerce Service AB



The Croatian Chamber of Economy – Croatia



DIHK, Germany



Service GmbH

The High Council of Official Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Navigation of Spain - Spain



The CCI Marseille-Provence, France



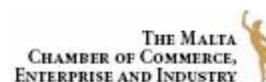
Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HCCI) - Hungary



Unioncamere, the Italian Association of the Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Handcraft and Agriculture - Italy



The Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise & Industry - Malta



The Polish Chamber of Commerce - Poland

