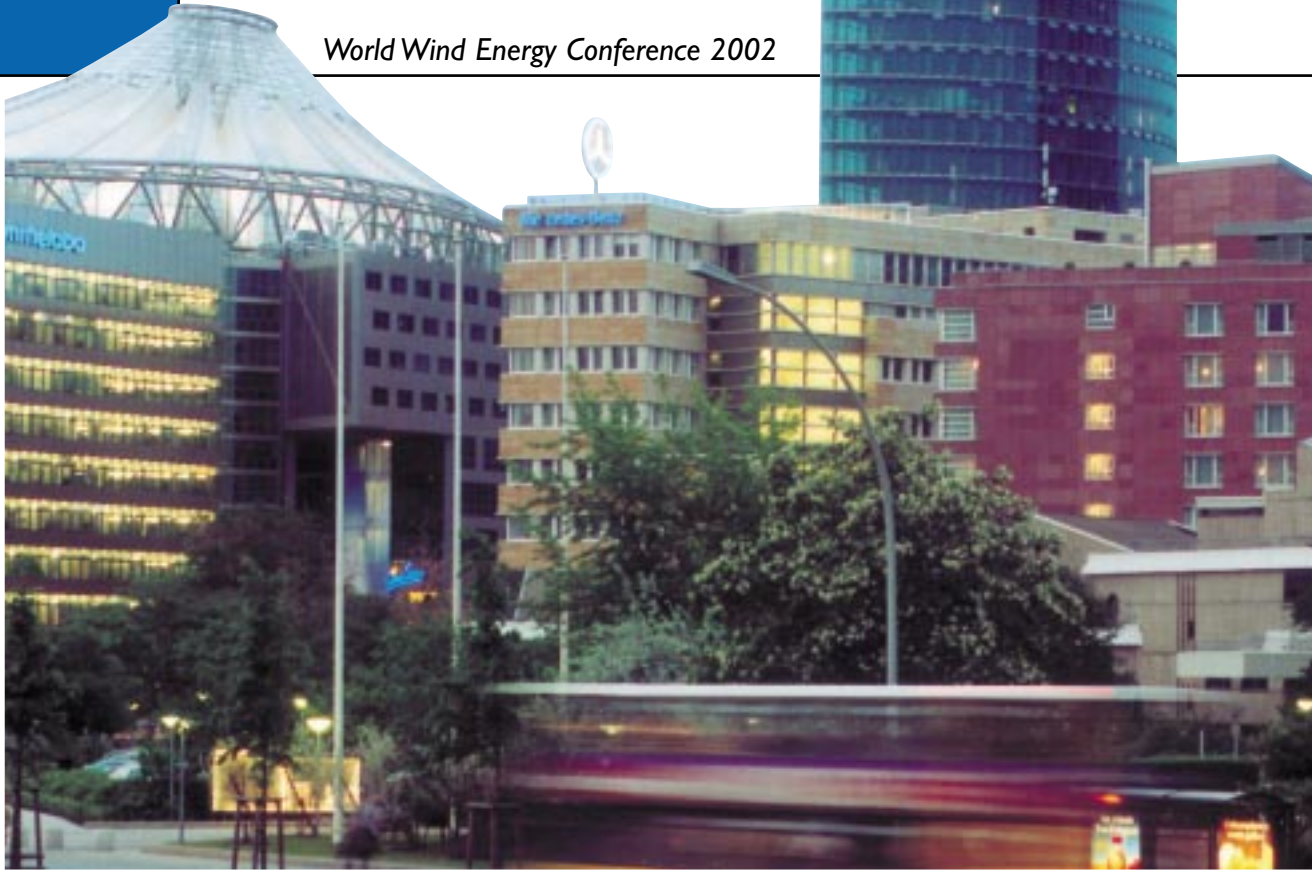




World Wind
Energy
Conference
and Exhibition
2 - 6 July 2002
Berlin

In the heart of Ber-
lin: Business centre
at Potsdamer Platz



ICC opens its doors to the wind power world

German environment and development ministers to address World Wind Energy Conference

As the World Wind Energy Conference draws nearer, plans are becoming increasingly concrete. The venue for the five-day-long conference and parallel exhibition has now been chosen. The premises of the International Congress Centre (ICC) will accommodate international visitors, underscoring the high level of this event. The location can seat well over 1,000 visitors, which will be necessary judging by the current number of pre-registrations and 50 international wind power organisations who have committed their support.

The complete conference and exhibition programme was completed and printed at the beginning of April. The organisers were able to compile a very attractive agenda from the many abstracts submitted. More than 100 presentations will address various issues related to international wind energy use.

The organisers have also attracted several prominent speakers. The event is taking place under the aus-

pices of EU environment commissioner, Margot Wallström. On 2 July German Environment Minister, Jürgen Trittin, will open the event on behalf of the German government. Germany's environment ministry has also promised to support the conference, enabling the organisers to keep registration fees down to a



*Margot Wallström,
EU environment commissioner.*

reasonable rate. Opening session speakers include conference president, Hermann Scheer (Eurosolar), president of the World Wind Energy Association, Preben Maegaard, World Bank energy director Francisco Turrelles, Thomas Johansson of the UNDP, Peter Ahmels, president of the German Wind Energy Association (BWE) and further representatives of international organisations.

In terms of content the first day of the conference will primarily deal with the various political conditions and frameworks at national and international levels. Representatives from all around the globe will present wind power's future market prospects. In-depth analyses of the success factors in the world's present leading wind power countries will also play a central role, enabling the development of successful introduction programmes for other countries – for example in South Africa, where wind turbines will soon be joining the grid for the first

Photo: European Commission Audiovisual Library



Photo: Kruppa

and environmental issues. Another focus will be funding, both in industrialised nations as well as in developing and emerging countries. Specifically, international financing instruments will be described and examined, with particular attention being paid to the question of whether these programmes are sensibly designed and to what degree.

Many guests are anticipated from developing and emerging countries, as a special focus of the event will be on development co-operation. So the organisers were all the more pleased to learn that Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul, Germany's minister for economic co-operation and development will also be attending and speaking on the global significance of wind power. This accentuates how important renewable energy sources have become in Germany's development co-operation policies.

time (see box pages 46). The current alarming developments in Denmark, which for many years had been a leading country in the wind power sector, will also require the close attention of the conference participants. The new Danish government decided to slash renewable energy subsidies (NEW ENERGY 1/2002). Resistance to the cuts has taken on enormous proportions. On 20 March more than 20,000 people gathered in Copenhagen to protest against the new budget policy (see page 9).

The second day of the World Wind Energy Conference will be devoted mainly to economic, social

Leading global wind power experts have come together to form the conference committees. President of the conference is Alternative Nobel Prize winner and president of Eurosolar, Hermann Scheer. He is backed by an international conference committee. Other conference chairmen include Everaldo Feitosa (Brazil), Sarvesh Kumar (Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers' Association) and Galal Osman (Egyptian/African Wind Energy Association). Responsible for the actual programme are Professor Jürgen Schmid of the Institut für Solare Energieversorgungstechnik (Iset) in Kassel, Ger-



Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul, Germany's minister for economic co-operation and development.

many, Japanese wind energy expert Yukimaru Shimizu and American scientist James Manwell. Paul Gipe, internationally renowned author of countless publications on wind energy, along with wind power pioneer Preben Maegaard – who is both president of the World Wind Energy Association WWEA and director of the Danish Folkecenter – are jointly responsible for the topics "Strategy and Policy."

Closer to home, Claus Möller, finance and energy minister of Germany's leading wind power state, Schleswig-Holstein, will also be attending. His state intends to use the World Wind Energy Conference as a platform to present itself to an international audience as a trailblazer for onshore and offshore development.

Preparations for the world conference are also in full swing at the German Wind Energy Association. At its latest session the legal committee resolved to offer a two-

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part workshop. The first part will serve to inform primarily international visitors about the legal procedures and developments in the wind power sector in Germany. The second part will be dedicated to issues of international law, such as the legal problems impacting off-shore installations in international waters.

Other workshops and seminars are also being prepared on topics such as international project financing, further education and training as well as development co-operation. For instance, Iset and the Carl-Duisberg-Gesellschaft (CDG), a German non-profit organisation dedicated to international advanced training and human resource development, will provide an overview of key advanced training programmes available around the world. International organisations have been invited to act as partners, such as the US National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). Among the participants invited by the CDG are the most successful graduates of the basic course on wind energy offered as part of the three-year CDG advanced training programme "Wind energy use in Brazil and Argentina."

Another seminar entitled "Furthering wind energy use through German development co-operation" is also being planned. It will be organised by the GTZ, a German government-owned corporation for international co-operation, the German Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ), Germany's leading promotional bank, the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), the German Investment and Development Company (DEG) and the CDG. In addition,

On the move in South Africa



The importance of suitable political framework conditions for wind power development is evident in countries like Germany and Spain. A promising piece of news recently reached the international wind community from South Africa, where the follow-up conference to Rio will take place in September. The national electricity regula-

tory authority has granted a power production licence for the planned Darling national demonstration wind farm. The project is being financed by a variety of international programmes. Chances are good that South Africa's first wind farm can go on stream by September.

Hermann Oelsner (pictured), chairman of the South African Wind Energy Association, views this as a big step for wind energy use in the country. "It looks as if 2002 will usher in the long-awaited breakthrough for grid-connected wind energy use." The approval is part of a comprehensive strategy which could help renewable energy to penetrate the South African market. The government there is preparing a White Paper on renewable energy which foresees an increase in the share of regenerative power from a current zero to five per cent. In addition, the South African parliament recently ratified the Kyoto Protocol.



Photo: Eilers

the German Energy Agency and the BWE planning advisory board will stage a workshop devoted to the concrete experiences made with the various subsidy mechanisms and political frameworks in European countries.

An attractive side programme also awaits the 1,000 conference delegates. There are numerous wind energy projects in the area surrounding Berlin. Conference participants will be able to choose be-

tween excursions to production facilities and to large wind farms that are now a standard feature of Germany's landscape. There will also be tours, for example to the international windmill museum in Gifhorn, Lower Saxony, with its large display of historical wind and watermills from different eras and countries. A sightseeing tour will also include visits to historical windmills. ■

By Stefan Gsänger,
Osnabrück (Germany)

Wind energy in Europe

Comparison of systems

	Country	Installed capacity end of 2001* [MW]	Added only in 2001* [MW]	Installed capacity per capita* [W/capita]	Installed capacity per area* [kW/km ²]
Countries with feed-in tariffs	Germany	8,754	2,569	106.62	24.52
	Spain	3,337	802	84.67	6.61
Countries with elements of green certification	Denmark**	2,534	117	475.69	58.79
	The Netherlands	483	40	30.56	11.63
Countries with tender systems	United Kingdom	474	65	7.97	1.95
	Ireland	125	6	33.32	1.78

* preliminary figures (no guarantee)

** old installations in Denmark are based on feed-in tariffs

More information about the World Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition is available at www.world-wind-conference.org

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The German Federal Ministry for Economy and Technology ▪ The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development ▪ The German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety ▪ The German Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs – The German Foreign Office

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