

...OPEN FORUM...

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About « Solidarity, complementarity and sharing in energy transition? – the example of Greater Geneva »



« It is now up to the regions, conurbations and local areas to commit themselves massively and with conviction to creating the conditions for local action and implement or provide support for the programmes of measures. »

“Time is needed! Firstly to admit the reality of climate change. Next, to enable everyone to come to terms with the fact that it is mainly due to our consumption patterns. Lastly, to understand, on a large scale, that these climatic and environmental changes affect our health and our quality of life. In these fields there are more and more studies being conducted and their results regularly disseminated. There is still time to give the alert, not a very pleasant experience but eminently necessary. “

How much more time do we need now to develop a real culture of action?

At the international level, the year that has passed since the Paris Agreement has seen the Nations commit themselves. The number of 55 States representing over half of the CO₂ emissions of the planet has therefore been passed in under twelve months, thanks to the determination of some and the obvious need for a massive commitment.

It is now up to the regions, conurbations and local areas to commit themselves **massively** and with conviction in order to create the conditions for local action and implement or provide support for the programmes of measures.

Some have already succeeded in doing this in terms of technological or social innovation or governance. Their successes are an invitation to continue.

At the Greater Geneva level, pioneers have opened up the way with for example the use of the energy reserves of Lake Geneva (GéniLac), the development of the first 100% electric bus without an overhead contact line (TOSA) which is recharged at bus stops in a record time of 15 seconds, the Equilibre project, the first ecodistricts... In terms of governance, citizen projects are being set in place and from the institutional standpoint, a cross-border energy community saw the light of day in 2014 in order to put the energy issue at the heart of the development projects and eliminate the national borders effect.

Several decades have passed since the first scientific findings of rapid climate change under the effects of human activities ...This is a long time.

This time is not a problem for our planet, but it is for us. Everyone in their way is prepared to give time but nobody – and this is quite natural – wants to lose any. Time is therefore our prime resource and we understand the importance of not wasting it. So, let us use it to good effect. Let us act!”

[See you at the 2017 European Energy Transition Conference in Bordeaux, on 25 January next at 10 a.m.,](#) to attend the plenary session « **Greater Geneva: the necessity to cooperate to share resources** », chaired by **Luc BARTHASSAT**.

For more information about Greater Geneva: <http://www.grand-geneve.org/>

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