

Open forum...

Alain MASSON

Chairman of FLAME, 1st vice-chairman of Brest Métropole and Chairman of Ener'gence, the ALEC of Pays de Brest



« We can congratulate ourselves on the fact that energy transition is now everyone's business, at all levels, and at the same time we can clearly see the need to adopt more targeted approaches to satisfy the specific needs of each "territory" »

The energy transition of our regions is an in-depth process started several years ago now.

Right from the 1990's, Europe has been a driving force in promoting the taking into account of the Energy-Climate policies in the regions through multi-player mobilization. The energy agencies were conceived from the outset as a tool for the shared governance of energy.

Out of nearly 450 energy agencies in Europe today, the French local authorities have opportunely appropriated this dynamic with 35 operational agencies to date and several projects for agency creation in the pipeline.

In France, the Energy Transition for green growth Act came on to the scene to set ambitious national objectives and new opportunities for the regions. Alongside the prescriptive and incentive approaches, the Act provides for local governance arrangements, such as the ALEC associations recognized as grass-roots leadership bodies supported by the local authorities.

We can congratulate ourselves on the fact that energy transition is now everyone's business, at all levels, and at the same time we can clearly see **the need to adopt more targeted approaches to satisfy the specific needs of each "territory"**. What is in fact the link-up of the packages of measures between urban and rural issues, between isolated and interconnected territories, with unequal financial resources and sometimes highly heterogeneous energy challenges?

As specialized engineering agencies, the ALEC associations have an essential role to play here to bring their expertise to the local public decision-makers for the coordination and implementation of their own Energy-Climate policies. This is the case for example in the field of local observation which will be facilitated by the supply of gradually finer data or support for the creation of planning tools to make better allowance for the energy issues, or again in the rollout of a public service of high energy efficiency adapted to the local housing typology.

The ability of the agencies to network all the public and private partners in the territory so that they can work in synergy should also enable them to be taken **to new innovative fields as the transition is given concrete form.**

The European dimension taken on by the annual Energy Conference, attendance at which is a « must », does not therefore distance us from our local issues. Quite on the contrary, the examples drawn from other European countries can give us food for thought and broaden our horizons **giving impetus to new local and innovative solutions adapted to the specifics of our regions.**

For further information: <http://www.federation-flame.org/>

[Back to the European Energy Transition Conference website](#)