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CONFERENCE
ESPON Contact Point Luxembourg

Making Space for Renewable Energy: From Territorial Strategies to Local Action

Faire place aux énergies renouvelables : des stratégies territoriales à l'action locale

Raum schaffen für erneuerbare Energien: Von räumlichen Strategien zur lokalen Umsetzung

29 October 2026
09h00 – 14h00

Ministry of Housing and Spatial Planning
Department of Spatial Planning
4 Place de l'Europe, Luxembourg
Vianden room (22nd floor)



Conference languages: *French – Luxembourgish – English*
Simultaneous translation: *into English from French and Luxembourgish*

Inscription : [ESPON Conference]

// Introduction

The ESPON Annual Conference 2026 in Luxembourg takes place in a context marked by growing climate challenges and the need to reduce emissions while strengthening energy security and resilience.

Recent geopolitical developments have once again highlighted Europe's vulnerability due to its dependence on international energy supplies and underscore the importance of further accelerating the development of renewable energy sources produced within the European territory.

European renewable energy strategy

Europe's transition towards climate neutrality and energy resilience is reshaping territorial development across all Member States. Renewable energy is no longer merely a technical or economic challenge; it is increasingly becoming a spatial one. It requires space within our neighbourhoods, landscapes, and regulatory frameworks.

At the EU level, the Renewable Energy Directive sets a binding target of at least 42.5% renewable energy in the energy mix by 2030, with the ambition of reaching 45%.

A faster, territorially balanced, and socially acceptable transition to renewable energy requires addressing land-use conflicts, administrative and permitting barriers, as well as issues related to public acceptance.

Specific challenges for Luxembourg

Luxembourg imports a large share of its energy from neighbouring countries. Its capacity to achieve full self-sufficiency through renewables is limited.

Nevertheless, there are opportunities to enhance energy resilience by generating and deploying renewable energy at the local level, while international and cross-border cooperation remains essential.

Objective of the conference

The conference examines the role of Luxembourgish municipalities and the means at their disposal to accelerate the development of renewable energy. It explores European and national strategies supporting the energy transition, as well as the tools and competencies available at the local level to help achieve national renewable energy targets.

The conference aims to foster a constructive dialogue among policymakers, researchers, public authorities, and practitioners on how to further accelerate the transition to renewable energy in Luxembourg, with a particular focus on the local level.

// Programme

8h30	**Registration & Networking**
9h00	**Welcome** *Claude MEISCH, Minister for Housing and Spatial Planning*
9h15	**The role of spatial planning in supporting renewable energy deployment** **A. European Approaches to Translating Renewable Energy Targets into Territorial Strategies** **ESPON-Study: [MAK-RES] - Making space for the Renewable Energy Transition** *Gaëlle VIALAY – IDEA Consult Brussels* ***B.* Renewable Energy in Luxembourg – Translating national targets into local action** *Georges REDING – Ministry of Economy, Energy Department* **C. Guidance and Implementation Support for the Energy Transition in Luxembourgish Municipalities - focus on energy sharing** *Gilbert THEATO – Klima-Agence*
10h40	**Coffee break**
11h00	**Integration of Renewable Energies in urban planning – good practices from Luxembourg** ***D. Energy Transition Policy of the Municipality of Niederanven*** *Kevin BECKER – Municipality of Niederanven* **E. Deploying Renewable Energy in Public Buildings: The Strategy of the Municipality of Schuttrange** *Daniel FLIES – Municipality of Schuttrange* **F. The Energy Concept of a Sustainable Urban Development Project: Rout Lëns, Esch-sur-Alzette** *Aline PICARD - IKO Real Estate*
12h00	**Round table** From targets to territories: how can spatial planning support the deployment of renewable energy at the local level while avoiding additional net land take?
12h45	**Closure** *Wiktor Szydarowski, Director of ESPON EGTC* *Nicole Skirde-Vural, ESPON Contact Point Luxembourg*
13h00	**Networking lunch**

// How to get there

Location: 22nd floor Room Vianden,

Ministry of Housing and Spatial Planning,
4 Place de l'Europe, 1499 Luxembourg

Access by train, get off at the "Pfaffenthal" stop or from the central train station, access by tram, towards Kirchberg, get off at the "Philharmonie/Mudam" stop
Access by bus, get off at "Pont Rouge" / "BEI" stop
Access by car, take John F. Kennedy Avenue

Available car parks:

- Place de l'Europe,
- Trois Glands,
- Glacis,
- Théâtre

