

Energy as Key Element for the Sustainable Development of Megacities (EnerKey), Gauteng, South Africa

Megacities present opportunities for boosting energy efficiency and mitigating climate change: Cities occupy two per cent of the global land area, but use three quarters of the world's energy. EnerKey supports sustainable energy projects in Greater Johannesburg (Gauteng) that combine technical, economic, environmental and social issues.

The energy situation in the South African province of Gauteng, including the national capital Johannesburg, is an obstacle to economic development. At the same time, the concentration of people and material flows holds the potential to conserve resources. Modern planning and service concepts make it possible to serve more people with the same provision of transport, energy and space. EnerKey is developing appropriate tools to enable the sustainable transformation of the urban areas of Gauteng.

Outcomes and results:

- Rational use of energy, measures to promote energy efficiency and energy saving;
- Use of renewable forms of energy, emission control methods, action to combat climate change, and emissions trading options;
- Strengthening and development of governance and social structures, for example through the participation of the public in the political decision-making process, creation of access to information and capacity building;
- Mainstreaming and implementation of the results in municipal policy and transfer of good practice to other regions, in particular the integrated approach comprising technical, economic, environmental and socio-economic aspects;
- Joint development of new and sustainable approaches, methods and projects.

Duration: 2005-2013

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