

## SIENA PROVINCE Liveable Communities Awards - Whole City Awards - Category D 2012 International Awards for Liveable Communities

The territory managed by Siena Province is situated in central Italy, Tuscany Region. It extends along 3.821 kms, including 36 Municipalities and 270.000 inhabitants.



Landscape and Art gave to Siena province an important resource for its cultural and economic development. The productivity of the population joints to them: agricolture is the main activity that comes from a territory with a strong rural character, followed by the touristic and bank services and manufacturing and pharmaceutical sectors.

Siena Province works to protect, safeguard and improve its artistic, naturalistic heritage and its economy trying to fall criticalities and reach to go on zero CO2 emissions in 2015: the big challenge.

**Natural reserves** and fauna resources are protected by a particular planning and involving citizens, associations and institutions to safeguard the wood, that has a big capacity to reabsorbe CO2 emissions too. In natural reserves there are environmental educational centers.

To enhance all artistic works found in the territory and attestations of its rural civilization Siena Province institued a capillary **museum system** (43 museum) with didactic laboratories in the whole territory. Siena Province enjoys of the big flow of tourists on its territory, for visiting museum and artistic sites, to inform about best practices to reduce CO2, by brochures and audiovideo. Best practices would be replicable in the territories of the tourists.

Siena Province actived many actions to reset CO2 emissions and to improve the Environment than the quality of life. To achieve this important aim is absolutely necessary involving the whole community. Siena Province promoted monitoring campaigns to know the quantitative situation of CO2 emissions, to sensitize, to incentive and Protocols of Agreements.

The main project on the Environment are: creation of the Provincial Agency for Energy, the Environment and Sustainable Development, Certification ISO 14001, ISO 14064, ISO 50001 and EMAS Registration, Green House Gases Balance, thermal plants controls, cycle lanes, incentives for photovoltaic plants installation, incentives for Municipalities for energy efficiency, energy front offices, energy diagnosis in buildings of Municipalities, survey of Municipalities sites for energy requalification, adhesion to the Covenant of Mayors, improvement of differentiated harvesting of waste and energy from waste, protection of the rivers. Siena Province heavily promotes Environmental education giving guide lines for projects to incentive, by educational centers, the High Technical Energy and Environment Institute, publications as well as Green House Gases Balance, Report on the Environment Status, Waste Report.

Siena Province believes that the **involvement of the community is fundamental**. The most important event of involvement are **Energy Week**: to communicate how every citizen can actively participate to achieve the provincial goals that have to be felt as owns, in this event Siena Province presented the *Report on the perception of the citizens about the environmental status in Siena province* and best practices to reduce CO2 with attestations of companies and local authorities that already practice them; the **conference Yards of Biodiversity** to inform about last studies on flora and fauna, on planning about natural reserve and naturalistic heritage, inviting the community to respect the nature and to active right behaviours to protect the sienese ecosystem. The initiative *Read is fly* is for reading education. It means a permanent exhibition of sienese press books and for children with conferences and readings texts with writers in the schools and in the libraries in the whole territory too.

To involve to reduce CO2 emissions Siena Province promotes the **Best practices award for reducing CO2** for public institutions, companies, students, citizens and volunteers associations and the **Brand** *Lands of Siena Carbon Free 2015 (Terre di Siena carbon free 2015)* addressed to public and private authorities and companies for best practices and improvement planning to reduce energy consumptions, use energy from renewable sources and actions to reset CO2. The aim is giving a sense of belonging to the actors of the territory that commit with the Province for the big goal: zero CO2 in 2015. Actors of the renewable energies can be involved in the **Scientific and technologic pole of renewable energies** for activities of research and to locate productive activities defined renewable industry.

Environmental projects contributes strongly to the safety and to **the health** of the community and allow a **good lifestyle**.

The **strategic planning** is very important to guarantee a liveable community, Siena elaborates plans on different ways: environmental, economic, rural, energy. Every plan is discussed with interested subjects of the territory. Plans are reviewed periodically, objectives are habitually reached. Siena Province believes to reach the goal of reset CO2 emissions in its territory, landscape and environment protection, artistic and traditional culture conservation in collaboration with the whole community: institutions, stakeholders, university, students, citizens.



Siena (2011)

Sienese landscape (2011) Photovoltaic (2011) Energy Week (2011)