

# General Introduction

The European programme PREDAC is at a decisive stage in Europe and especially in France within the context of the launch of the renewable energy programmes. The national application of the European Directive of 2001, concerning the access of the Renewable Energies to the electricity market implies that the barriers to the development of national programmes will be raised, but also that the social acceptance of the populations to decentralised production activities will be achieved.

The objectives of the PREDAC programmes respond well to the preoccupations which we have in France and in the other European countries: how can the populations be associated with the development of the projects? How can the spatial and territorial planning of the decentralised activities be organised? How can public and private financing be organised being aware of all the forms of financial institutions and finally, how can it be at the forefront of the minds of the population taking into account their daily environment?

It is essential that the successful experiences are considered as well as the difficult or bad experiences in order to properly address the relevant issues.

In the same way, the mobilization of the traditional financial circles having a poor knowledge of the stakes or the specifics of these renewable energy activities or of the dedicated ethical funds must be addressed in an open way in order to be dealt with promoters of all types, while thinking in particular about the agricultural world, the electrification bodies and individuals. Indeed, the industrial and energy operators have a good mastery of the financial and fiscal institutions linked to wind projects and need very little from public initiatives.

Initiatives such as FIDEME (a public-private energy investment fund) which by their nature reinforce the capital base of the project organisers have been recently put in place on the initiative of ADEME. This initiative answers the specific needs of projects launched in the classical way (project financing) when operators have a problem of capital stock.

The future organization of an European event, during the first semester of 2003, with the objective to gather a large scope of possible partners in order to facilitate the installation of projects and their social acceptance within the framework of PREDAC will enable proceed ahead in the direction of the respect for the European commitments of France.

Philippe Beutin

Head of Renewable Energies Department of ADEME  
(French Agency for Environment and Energy Management)  
Sophia Antipolis, January 10<sup>th</sup> 2003.