

# Newsletter

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## An introduction to Saxony

Saxony is one of Germany's 16 states. It has around 4.2 million inhabitants and a surface area of roughly 18,000 square kilometres. Saxony is a very vibrant region and the economy grew by 4.0% in 2006.



*The river 'Elbe' with the skyline of the old part of the city Dresden*

Since 2008, Saxony's climate protection policies have been based on the Action Plan for Climate and Energy. This action plan contains almost 300 measures concerning climate protection, sustainable energy supply and adapting to climate change.

In order to implement these measures, the government of Saxony relies on its cooperation with relevant decision-makers and actors working in the field of economy, politics, administration, science and community. Activities primarily focus on informing and advising various target groups, offering financial incentives in the form of grant programmes, and on assuring quality control.

The INTERREG IVC project 'EnercitEE' contributes significantly to the implementation of measures that are included in the Action Plan for Climate and Energy. EnercitEE seeks to improve energy efficiency by focussing on two central target groups: private households and local authorities. The action plan also points to these key target groups with regards to energy saving. A lot of opportunities still remain in this area, for example in terms of building insulation, using more efficient machines and devices, and adopting a more energy-conscious approach.