

## Innovation for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency solutions in Mediterranean regions and cities. An overview of achieved results and future perspectives.

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Espai Catalunya Europa - Rue de la Loi 227 – Brussels



### Main Conclusions



#MED\_EUSEW15

In the framework of the recent edition of the European Sustainable Energy Week 2015, the MED Programme organized the side-event: ***Innovation for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency solutions in Mediterranean regions and cities*** (Brussels 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015).

The main objective of the workshop was to discuss on achieved results delivered by fourteen transnational projects addressing the promotion and use of renewable energy and energy efficiency in the Mediterranean. These fourteen projects were co-financed by the MED Programme and have supposed an investment of about 30M€.

In addition, the workshop allowed deep reflections about capitalisation alternatives of presented results as well as key considerations on how to increase their impact in coming years. The discussion took place in a crucial moment characterized by the following aspects:

- Participant projects are in final stage of activities, therefore delivering key and conclusive results expected to be continued, adapted and/or improved in the short term.
- The MED Programme is currently closing the period 2007-2013 and preparing the new programming cycle 2014-2020. Thus, achieved results of first period are considered as valid inputs to motivate new project proposals within a capitalisation approach.
- The fact of organizing the workshop in the framework of EUSEW2015 meant additional visibility of MED Programme as well as its projects, related results and new funding possibilities for the coming years.

The conclusions of the event are summarized around two strands as follows:

## **1. Results of MED Programme projects in Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, the current picture.**

In general, presented results were achieved from common concerns analyzed by partners and projects in their specific fields of intervention. These results were obtained under a multidisciplinary framework approach engaging partners and stakeholders of several backgrounds (e.g. universities, public authorities, energy agencies, economic operators, etc).

Participant projects and partners have identified specific target groups to whom activities were addressed. Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and public authorities were notably those who were more benefited with projects' interventions.

As MED Programme is not an infrastructure-oriented programme, it is accurate to remark that soft-actions and related results were notably present in the working plans of projects. These soft-actions were concretized for example through:

- Common methodologies, diagnostic analysis and studies around common challenges (e.g. increasing renewable energy contribution and improving energy efficiency).
- Benchmarking reports on energy management in Mediterranean territories with specific added value of transnationality.
- Pilot actions implemented to test innovative measures and new technologies (e.g. solar energy, materials).
- Political agreements engaging stakeholders and policy makers leading to motivate higher commitment towards the increase of sustainable energy.
- Awareness raising campaigns and training activities addressed to key public targets (e.g. enterprises).
- Capitalisation activities aiming at replicating, adapting and improving already achieved results.

Furthermore, presented results demonstrated to be the consequence of good transnational cooperation atmosphere evidenced by partnerships through the projects' duration (three years on average). This transnational approach has also allowed a good level of coherence with European initiatives of reference such as Covenant of Mayors, projects of Intelligent Energy and FP7 programmes, European Agency for Small and Medium Enterprises (EASME) and funding opportunities of European Investment Bank.

***For more information about specific results of projects, please see annex 1 at the end of this document.***

## **2. Heading to the period 2014-2020, the future challenges.**

In the period 2007-2013, the MED Programme co-financed twenty-eight projects addressing renewable energy and energy efficiency in the Mediterranean area. These projects, experiences, activities and results represent a clear capitalisation bridge with the new programming period 2014-2020. Conclusions of this workshop are extracted from a sample of fourteen projects which suppose half of programme contribution.

Aiming at optimizing the impact of existent and future results, the new Interreg MED Programme approach integrates structural changes linked to projects' architecture and more work on "community". Thematic concentration, specific objectives and results indicators are also part of Interreg MED programme strategy. (See call for projects of new Interreg MED Programme [here](#)). Future project proposals shall adapt also their strategies according to these programme drivers.

Ms. Anna Repullo from DG REGIO highlights the work and commitment of MED Programme for the coming years while indicates that INTERREG Programmes family is extensive enough to put in practice the capitalisation of already achieved results all over Europe. Taking as reference the Mediterranean basin, in the period 2014-2020 there will be fifteen different INTERREG Programmes in interregional, transnational and crossborder strands.

Stronger strategies of visibility, communication and capitalisation are suggested to future projects. Better use of virtual channels and social media would substantially help to achieve higher quotas of targeted audiences. As example, the Committee of the Regions is currently organizing the first Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) on regional policy. Mr. Wolfgang Petzold believes that these kind of actions respond to the rapid evolution of information management and communication. (More info on MOOC course [here](#)).

In addition, Ms. Alexandra Sombsthay of DG ENERGY indicates that European territorial cooperation (ETC) projects have a great capacity to work at local level and better connect European Union policies with a diversified typology of audiences. An immediate possibility of contributions from projects to EU policies can take place through participation in (and dissemination of) public consultations organized by DG ENERGY. Currently, there is an ongoing public consultation in Evaluation of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive. (More info [here](#)).

Talking about specific action on renewable energy and energy efficiency, Ms. Maud Skäringer of DG REGIO indicates that European Cohesion Policy will double the low carbon economy investments. European Regional Development Fund and Cohesion Fund will together allocate €38 billion in the period 2014-2020 in low carbon actions. European territorial cooperation programmes and projects will play an important role for exchange of knowledge of renewable energy and energy efficiency. (More info in the ppt presentation of reference)

Aiming at facilitating funding complementarities with MED Programme, Mr. Antonio Almagro of European Investment Bank (EIB) positively perceives the presented results and considers that they would be adapted towards project preparation and technical assistance requirements needed to obtain EIB funding in areas of renewable energy and energy efficiency. (More info in the ppt presentation of reference)

On behalf of the EASME, Ms. Agata Kotkowska highlights the cooperation already established between MED Programme and EASME, particularly in the area of energy efficiency in buildings. Future synergies could be applied by considering existent results obtained in the framework of Intelligent Energy Programme (<http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/projects/>) as well as current initiatives managed by the agency (e.g. European portal for energy efficiency in buildings, urban mobility observatory and Managenergy). Ms. Kotkowska also sees the horizontal projects approach of the new Interreg MED Programme as a clear possibility of cooperation with EASME. (More info in the ppt presentation of reference).

Mr. Miguel Morcillo, representative of Covenant of Mayors initiative indicates that 76% of CoM signatories (about 4888 municipalities) are located in the MED Programme area meaning that there is already substantial activity in political commitment and energy planning. The challenge is to improve the implementation capacity of sustainable energy action plans. Mr Morcillo suggests also that multi-level governance approach is giving positive results and MED programme would offer possibilities for testing them. (More info in the ppt presentation of reference).



## Annex 1. Main outcomes of fourteen MED Programme projects addressing renewable energy and energy efficiency in the Mediterranean.

Project	outcomes	Project	outcomes	Project	outcomes
<a href="#">EMILIE</a>  <a href="http://www.emilieproject.eu">www.emilieproject.eu</a>	<p>Mapping of research and innovation services facilities</p> <p>Technology assessment roadmaps.</p> <p>Pilot plants in renewable energy and energy efficiency (solar cooling, climatisation)</p>	<a href="#">GRASP</a>  <a href="http://www.grasp-med.eu">www.grasp-med.eu</a>	<p>Knowledge database for SMEs offering EE/RES solutions</p> <p>e-procurement toolkit integrating: tender definition, environmental labels, LCC evaluation</p> <p>e-Procurement Joint Pilot actions</p>	<a href="#">MARIE</a>  <a href="http://www.marie-medstrategic.eu">www.marie-medstrategic.eu</a>	<p>Policy, buildings energy renovation, tools, energy efficiency technologies.</p> <p>Liubiana's declaration on energy efficiency measures</p> <p>MEDBEE Strategy (Mediterranean Building Energy Efficiency Strategy)</p>
<a href="#">REPUBLICMED</a>  <a href="http://www.republic-med.eu">www.republic-med.eu</a>	<p>Holistic impact assessment methodology to measure energy performance in buildings.</p> <p>Pilot actions in public buildings</p> <p>Design of key performance indicators for open public spaces renovation</p>	<a href="#">GREENBERTH</a>  <a href="http://www.greenberth.eu">www.greenberth.eu</a>	<p>Energy plans for Mediterranean ports</p> <p>Technology assessment methodologies</p> <p>Pilot actions on energy management, renewable energy implementation, LNG feasibility in ports</p>	<a href="#">PVNET</a>  <a href="http://www.pvnetmetering.eu">www.pvnetmetering.eu</a>	<p>Assessment of the effectiveness of current RES support measures in triggering Photovoltaics</p> <p>Pilot schemes to demonstrate viability of net metering for cost-efficient grid integration of Renewable energy</p> <p>Implementation of remote data access systems.</p> <p>Development of optimized PV metering scenarios for both prosumers (producers-consumers)</p> <p>Policy recommendations on optimal net metering implementation.</p>



<p><a href="http://www.med-encerticus.eu">ENCERTICUS</a> <a href="http://www.med-encerticus.eu">www.med-encerticus.eu</a></p>	<p>energy performance campaigns in more than 217 social housing dwellings</p> <p>comparative analysis of the application of energy certification to existing housing stock of the MED region</p> <p>Pilot activities in buildings to test energy efficiency performance.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.e2stormed.eu">E2STORMED</a> <a href="http://www.e2stormed.eu">www.e2stormed.eu</a></p>	<p>Decision support tool on storm water management</p> <p>Green roof monitoring</p> <p>Transition manual to better management of water storm.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.smartinmed.eu">SMARTINMED</a> <a href="http://www.smartinmed.eu">www.smartinmed.eu</a></p>	<p>Common methodology on RES and EE funding scheme.</p> <p>Innovative green business models.</p> <p>report on regional and Mediterranean Markets.</p>
<p><a href="http://www.med-main.eu">MAIN</a> <a href="http://www.med-main.eu">www.med-main.eu</a></p>	<p>Public database on qualified materials and qualified business proposals.</p> <p>Management plans for the selection of Intelligent Material according to the specific whether.</p> <p>Pilot actions in different neighborhood and buildings, street.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.coefficient-project.eu">COEFFICIENT</a> <a href="http://www.coefficient-project.eu">www.coefficient-project.eu</a></p>	<p>online tool for self-diagnosis of energy efficiency.</p> <p>living labs engaging SMEs, Research, Association, Clusters and Stakeholders</p> <p>portal and knowledge database providing funding sources for energy saving and certification</p>	<p><a href="http://www.medmaritimeprojects.eu/section/enercoast">ENERCOAST</a> <a href="http://www.medmaritimeprojects.eu/section/enercoast">www.medmaritimeprojects.eu/section/enercoast</a></p>	<p>Study on existing Renewable energy installations in the Adriatic – Ionian area</p> <p>Assessment of Energy resources availability and potentiality</p> <p>Case studies on suitable and non-suitable systems to exploit renewable energy in the Adriatic-Ionian basin</p>
		<p><a href="http://www.sinergia-med.eu">SINERGIA</a> <a href="http://www.sinergia-med.eu">www.sinergia-med.eu</a></p>	<p>Food energy technology database for SMEs of the agrifood sector in Mediterranean.</p> <p>Energy self-assessment tool</p> <p>Mediterranean helpdesks to SMEs</p>	<p><a href="http://www.greenpartnerships.eu">GREENPARTNERSHIP</a> <a href="http://www.greenpartnerships.eu">www.greenpartnerships.eu</a></p>	<p>Local action plans and green strategies</p> <p>Pilot actions for effective implementation of green plans.</p> <p>Promotion and exchange of good practices between partnerships of eleven Mediterranean territories.</p>