



Bringing people together to find general planning solutions for energy efficiency

The Interregional Seminar which took place in Alba Iulia, Romania, between 09-11 October 2018 was part of the SUPPORT project agenda in order to bring together project stakeholders to carry out regional and interregional (European) experience exchange activities. ALEA, together with IRENA, the lead partner, and the SUPPORT advisory partner CAI succeeded in offering the conditions for stakeholders to connect with others and find out solutions for energy related challenges in their regions. There were 40 guests coming from 10 countries and the main challenges we faced as organising partner were to find suitable venue for the event given that the City of Alba Iulia is relatively small and other Smart City related events were held at the same time.

The activities that took place in this event addressed in particular the access of public authorities to European funding for the implementation of sustainable energy policies at the local level.



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SUPPORT Interreg partners and stakeholders in front of the ancient part of Alba Iulia downtown

A focus on Alba Iulia interregional meeting

The first part of the seminar focused on presenting the process of developing action plans to improve energy efficiency projects as well as presenting examples on how to improve energy efficiency projects by public authorities. This section started with the presentation of the ongoing action plans of the SUPPORT partners (Germany, Sweden and Malta), highlighting the importance of introducing the measures identified in national and international experience...

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The Romanian seminar conclusions

The focus group sessions as well as the discussions that followed each presentation showed that each country has some challenges to overcome in terms of the themes approached, nevertheless the examples presented helped the other stakeholders to adopt approaches proven to be solutions from other countries. In what the Action Plan development is concerned, here are some of the conclusions....

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Speed date: four topics about the future

During the Interregional meeting of Alba Iulia, Metropolitan City of Rome Capital was the moderator of the stakeholder's speed dating exercise.

Stakeholders were invited to discuss about four topics: what have been the criticalities of the current programming period and what is expected from the next one; the role of energy managers; the role of Covenant of Mayors Coordinators; how can the private actors involvement in energy renovation measures be incentivized?

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Study visit, the Smart City concept of Alba Iulia

The study visit was centred on the Smart City concept, an initiative taken on by Alba Iulia in 2016 which aims to intelligently use information, data and technologies capable of responding to the challenges of adaptability, sustainable social and economic development, energy and the environment.

The Smart City project is expected to increase the efficiency of processes, reduce costs, improve quality of life, secure a sustainable future for citizens.

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Staff Exchanges

Germany hosts Greece and Italy

In June project partners from Anatoliki S.A. and Citta metropolitana di Roma Capitale came to visit the EARLP together with their regional stakeholders. The Energy Agency Rhineland-Palatinate invited project partners to have a look on energy efficiency on different



scales. Including the visit of waste water plants of different sizes and talking to climate protection managers of different sized municipalities. To see how climate protection and energy action plans are implemented in urban and rural structured regions and that size does not always matter when it comes to achieving reduction targets. [Read more](#)

Romania visits the Kalmar County

Alba Local Energy Agency - ALEA and Centru Regional Development Agency representatives participated in an experience exchange and study visit in Sweden in as part of the Interreg Europe SUPPORT



project. The study visit took 3 days, in which several objectives of interest were approached: Renewable fuel for Kalmar municipality fleet and 100% renewable public transport made possible in Kalmar county; RES and CO2 targets in Kalmar County. The role of a regional SEAP; monitoring the municipal fleet of Oskarshamn.... [Read more](#)

Transferability of green roof from Edessa to Kalmar County

The green roofs of Edessa and smart energy efficiency refurbishment in Thessaloniki was a very interesting showcase for the Swedish delegation in the Support Staff Exchange.

In this video, the point of view of Mr Cortes, architect in Kalmar



NOTE: Please activate the English subtitles if you haven't already done it

Good practices from Europe

Germany, the small local heating network in Birkenfeld

Often historical buildings have low potential for energetic retrofitting or it is very expensive (inside isolation due to preservation orders). To increase efficiency in the heat supply a decentralized local heating network with regional RES and highly efficient CHP was established. One reason for a local heating system with a central heating plant was that it is more expansive to convert the heating from oil to RES in every single building. A more efficient filter system was used, which wouldn't have been used due to the high costs for individual installations....

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Spain, Sustainable Construction Promotion Programme (PICS)

The Sustainable Construction Promotion Program in Andalusia (PICS) gave a boost to sustainable construction and rehabilitation, being an extraordinary and urgent measure to reduce the unemployment rate and the energy bill of households and companies, thanks to investments through incentives in measures of energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies. This measure follows the objectives of the European Union, who shows the need to reduce the energy consumption on buildings, responsible of the 40% of the energy consumption of the EU.

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Sweden, energy efficient health care centre of Stensö

The county healthcare center in Stensö needed to be rebuilt and expanded with a new building in order for the premises to be appropriate. The county council then decided to demand high energy efficiency when the construction was to be procured. The project meant that the existing building would be rebuilt, and a new supplementary building would be built. In total, the old and new buildings comprise 1500 m², of which 650 m² are in the new building.

What was done during the project was to...

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Eco-Gozo, the regional development strategy of Malta

The Eco-Gozo policy promotes, mainly, the installation and the use of renewable energy sources such as PV panels, solar water heaters and micro-wind turbines.

Biomass energy is also promoted due to the high concentration of animals' farms in the region, for the generation of energy from animal and agricultural waste. Part of the Eco-Gozo policy is also the promotion of eco-friendly transport using bio-fuels and of reserved parking areas for hybrid and electric vehicles....

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