

STEPPING project

Short description and main objective

Are Energy Performance Contract (EPC) always the best solution of energy efficiency plans of public buildings in the MED area? How to increase their diffusion? STEPPING's partners past experience and results of MED projects developed under previous programmes, show that it is necessary to adapt this investment scheme to the conditions of the MED area, which are not comparable to those of northern and central EU countries. To this scope, it is necessary to introduce innovative approaches in the design of investment plans. A transnational collaborative action based on pooling and sharing of experiences can increase successful investment plans in the MED countries, accelerating the accomplishment of EU directives on energy saving in public buildings. STEPPING, grouping partners of 7 MED countries, mutualize EPC good practices among partners, to develop and test new 8 EPC investment plans, with the launch of tenders to prove their effectiveness in the MED context. The lessons learnt will be transferred into the ordinary practice of partner's institutions and widely disseminated MED level, with the realization of "EPC MED Guide line" for energy efficiency in public buildings and a resource centre available in 7 languages.

STEPPING general objective is to increase the adoption of EPC investment schemes in the elaboration of Energy Efficiency plans for public building in the MED area, raising the knowledge of MED institutions in designing, implementation and managing of energy efficiency plans for public buildings.

- ✓ Adaptation the application of EPC investment for public buildings scheme to MED specific context.
- ✓ Testing the implementation of EPC MED schemes inside investment plans and public procurement.
- ✓ Raising the competences on EPC for public building of MED public procurers and market players.

STEPPING activities

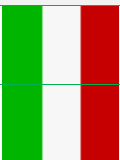

STEPPING brings together 9 partners and 5 associated partners from 7 countries, involving at least 65 municipalities. The guidelines elaborated under the project and the training activities are tools






and models made available by STEPPING for the implementation of long-run investment strategies for energy efficiency in public building, raising knowledge of local institutions and contributing to the development of MED and EU energy efficiency policies and strategies and inside the dissemination activities to involve a large audience of procurers, multiplying the leverage effects of STEPPING pilot activities.

STEPPING work plan is structured along the following actions:

- ✓ The analysis of past and ongoing EPC projects in MED area carried out by partners and other MED institutions, in order to identify barriers and designing specific solutions for their overcoming.
- ✓ The development and test of 8 new EPC investment plans public buildings inside 7 MED countries including island's communities, in which the new EPC designed solutions will be tested. The Investment plans will be tested through the launch of tenders calls aimed at verifying plans' reliability.
- ✓ The results of the plans and tenders will be the ground on which to check and validate the efficacy of identified measures and the design of guidelines for EPC in MED area.
- ✓ The transferring of results into ordinary tender procedures of partners.
- ✓ The engagement of the largest audience with dissemination and training activities.

STEPPING partners

	Country	Project partners (acronym)
LP		Piedmont Region (REG-PIE) - <i>in charge of WP1 Management</i>
1.		Energy and sustainable development agency of Modena (AESS) <i>in charge of WP3 Testing</i>
2.		BSC, Business support centre ltd, Kranj; Regional development agency Gorenjska (BSC) <i>in charge of WP2 Communication</i>
3.		Environment park SPA (ENVIPARK)
4.		Huelva County Council (DPH)
5.		Malta Intelligent Energy Management Agency (MIEMA)
6.		Aegean Energy Agency (AEA) <i>in charge of WP4 Transferring</i>
7.		Regional energy and environment agency in Rhône-Alpes (RAEE)

8.		Regional Energy and Environment Agency from North Alentejo (AREANATEjo)
		Observers
9.		City of Torino
10.		Network of Sustainable Aegean and Ionian Islands
11.		Centre For Studies and Expertise on Risks, Environment, Mobility, and Urban and Country planning
12.		Institute of Systems and Robotics - University of Coimbra
13.		Comunidade Intermunicipal do Alto Alentejo