



Project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund



A renewed Community for the renovation of Mediterranean cities

MEDNICE, the horizontal project that animated the EB Community has come to an end; however the Efficient Buildings Community will go on. An important moment in this transition has been MEDNICE's final conference: MED - Mediterranean Energy Debate held on 10th October in Brussels, during the European Week of Regions and Cities. The Community gathered to present and discuss the main outcomes of the last three years of activities.

After the greetings of the Joint Secretariat of Interreg MED Programme, Ramon Pascual (IREC) presented the technical papers: a systematic review of modular projects' products and their harmonization. The rest of the morning, representatives of IMPULSE, PrioritEE, ENERJ, STEPPING took part to a lively debate with EU institutions and National Energy Agencies. At the end of the morning, the representatives of EduFootprint and TEESCHOOLS were interviewed by students of "Zhani Ciko" High School (Albania), who also presented their climate initiative and the related short-film (awarded also at the Climate Europe Festival 2018 in Belgrade).

The afternoon was devoted to energy policy. Andrea Bigano (CMCC) presented the Policy Papers of the Efficient Buildings Community, which illustrate and discuss the main policy lessons and recommendations gathered from the direct experience of the Modular Projects. Miriam Eisermann (Energy Cities) and Cynthia Echave (Representing the Renewable Energy Community) then presented the parallel and complementary Manifestos of the two communities. A panel discussion followed the presentations. The experts brought about interesting proposals on how to give visibility to the requests from the local level.

The event ended on an unexpected and pleasant note: a representative of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy of Albania in the audience took the stage to promise to the Albanian students that the Ministry will disseminate their video among Albanian authorities to raise awareness about the importance of climate action at school level and he also encouraged the students to keep engaging in these crucial matters.



What's next?

From MEDNICE to EFFICIENT BUILDINGS

As the first generation of Horizontal Projects has come to its end, it has been announced by the Joint Secretariat of the Interreg Med Programme that the Steering Committee of this programme approved on October the 22nd, the eight project proposals for the 2nd call for horizontal projects.

Thus, the MEDNICE project becomes the EFFICIENT BUILDINGS project and will continue for three more exciting years!

With a focus on transferring and mainstreaming the results of the EB Community, new activities will be implemented, integrating territories in the South Bank of the Mediterranean.



THE TECHNICAL CAPITALIZATION OF MODULAR PROJECTS RESULTS

One of MEDNICE's main outcomes is the technical capitalization of the Modular Projects' results. IREC implemented this activity with the collaboration of the consortium partners and of the Modular Projects' coordinators.

The Modular Projects developed several results supporting public bodies in the efficiency improvement of their buildings. These results approached the issue from different perspectives and by different means.

MEDNICE systemized, analysed and harmonized the knowledge thus generated in four technical papers in order to find technical answers to common issues:

Financing schemes and barriers

Confronting the financial models for Energy Efficiency analysed and developed by the modular projects

Methodologies, tools and indicators

Focusing on the technical solutions developed by the modular projects and harmonizing their outputs

Training methodologies and capacity gaps

Reviewing all training carried out by the modular projects for transferring activities

Lessons learned

Summarizing the main lessons arising from pilot testing and direct implementation of projects

THE MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE POLICY PAPERS

The Modular Projects produced a set of tools and guidelines for local public authorities to cope with the issues arising from the energy policy landscape. Based on these direct experiences, CMCC developed some policy recommendations about effectively promoting energy efficiency in public buildings in the MED area. Specifically, priority should be given to:

Clearer interaction between national and local levels:

National policies target local authorities as simple beneficiaries rather than policy implementers, leaving a wide margin of discretion.

Better (in)formation:

Capacity-building programme and technical assistance to improve local authorities' technical knowledge and raise the awareness of public buildings' users.

Standardized information:

Systematic enforcement of energy audits for public buildings and standardization of procedures and indicators.

Flexible instruments:

Use of flexible and cost-effective measures that can be adapted to local and climate conditions and that can allocate efficiently the risk among stakeholders (e.g. white certificates).

READ THE 1ST POLICY PAPER ON
FINANCING

READ THE 2ND POLICY PAPER
ON INFORMATION





MANIFESTO FOR A MEDITERRANEAN BUILDING RENOVATION

Buoyed by their on-the-ground experiences, the public and private stakeholders of the Efficient Buildings Community ask EU decision-makers, EU programme managing authorities and national public authorities in Member States to design policies that consider the following six recommendations.

1. Engrave deep renovation of public buildings in National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs)
2. Make sure that 100% of regional and local authorities have a well-working energy management system embedded in their organisational culture
3. Tackle skills gap in public authorities and the construction sector
4. Facilitate access to adequate public funding as well as to alternative finance sources for local and regional public authorities
5. Increase the share of RES production and consumption in public buildings
6. Massively replicate know-how generated in EU funded projects

The Community is not claiming radical changes in legislation, but expect existing work to be deepened, broadened and strengthened. The local level needs a favourable and securing frame to act sustainably. [Click here to read the full Manifesto.](#)

CONTACTS



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