

Sustainable Neighborhoods

CESBA MED

Recommendations for Policy Makers

cesba-med.interreg-med.eu



Source: Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Énergie Environnement



Project co-financed by the European
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Sustainability of Neighborhoods

Mainstreaming sustainability in the urban environment is crucial to support the much-needed ecological and low-carbon transition in Europe.

To meet the EU environmental commitments, and achieve the goals set under the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, there is a need to untap the potential of improvement that lies in existing residential buildings.

The implementation of energy and sustainability measures at a broader scale (e.g. district heating, mobility and transport, etc.) are clearly showing that a neighbourhood level approach is more effective to scale up results and secure the fulfilment of European commitments on urban sustainability, energy and climate change.

Responding to these challenges, CESBA MED has created a transnational, harmonized and integrated assessment framework and process for buildings and urban areas (CESBA MED Generic Framework + Sustainable Neighborhood Tool). Further an innovative decision making model and common metrics to allow the comparability of sustainability performance of neighbourhoods in the Mediterranean context have been developed.

CESBA MED has produced a valuable set of tools and a methodology to improve the sustainability performance of neighborhoods.

Conclusions

The CESBA MED methodology and tools have been piloted and implemented in 9 different urban contexts in 7 countries in the Mediterranean region. After reviewing the results of the application, several learnings and conclusions can be drawn:

- Using harmonised assessment systems fosters the reach of greater sustainability standards in the built environment. These systems facilitate the adequate measurement of sustainability performance, allowing regular monitoring and proper comparability of results against other scenarios and/or urban areas.
- Having access to reliable data and information is essential to adequately assess the sustainability performance of the urban environment.
- Consulting, dialoguing and involving citizens in the assessment is key to ensure sustainable solutions.

Main Results of the project CESBA MED

- CESBA MED has brought together information from 14 transnational projects and various public assessment systems.
- Decision-makers and managers of building stocks can implement sustainable retrofitting plans combining the building and the urban scale by using a series of tools developed by CESBA MED (CESBA MED SN Tool).
- Cities can adapt the tools to their specific contexts, needs and priorities by using the CESBA MED open source tools.
- CESBA MED has developed a 'Passport', a transnational document that allows the comparison of results against potential retrofitting scenarios, or against the performance of other neighborhoods.
- CESBA MED has designed a model of decision-making process intended to support public administrations in the definition of the best sustainability retrofit scenarios for their neighborhood.



Source: Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Énergie Environnement



Source: CESBA Neighborhood Award, Sonod in Bellef

Training material and e-courses

Training material for understanding, customising and calculating indicators as well as a toolkit are available online in English, French, Italian, Croatian, Spanish, Greek and Maltese. <https://cesba-med.interreg-med.eu/results/deliverables>

Online courses for policy makers and technicians are available to get familiar with the CESBA MED assessment tools.

Register for free on the e-platform of the University of Malta: <https://cesba-med.research.um.edu.mt>

In 2019, 17 pilot courses took place in the partner countries and a total of 266 policy makers and technicians followed the trainings.

CESBA MED Recommendations

- Ensure the mainstreaming of sustainability in urban planning and management.
- Promote the use of harmonised assessment tools to measure, monitor and compare the sustainability of the urban environment.
- Make environmental data accessible to public.
- Promote the harmonisation of assessment systems, labels or certificates as instruments to reach greater sustainability standards in the built environment.
- Integrate the economic and social dimensions in all urban project interventions.
- Regularly involve citizens and stakeholders on sustainable urban development.
- Organise regular training to better equip professionals and public officers in the field of sustainable urban development.



Source: CESBA Neighborhood Award, Schnifis



Source: CESBA Neighborhood Award, Zac Castellane



Source: CESBA Neighborhood Award El Cabanyal

Our tools have been tested - CESBA Neighborhood Award 2019 (CNA)

The aim of the award was the dissemination and capitalization of the tools and methodologies developed by CESBA-MED partners for rating the sustainability of urban areas.

The CNA is a European section of the Global Urban Challenge 2020 of the Sustainable Built Environment Series and showcased as well as acknowledged best practices of good neighborhood developments.

The CNA has been conducted by the project CESBA MED and fostered a competitive challenge for urban areas in three main categories: New Developments, Areas under a planned or project phase retrofitting and Existing retrofitted areas.

Winner in the category “New Developments”:

- Zac Castellane (City of Sathonay-Camp, FR)

Winners in the Category “Areas under a planned or project phase retrofitting”:

- El Cabanyal (València, ES)
- Centre of Schnifis (Schnifis, AT)

Winner in the category “Existing retrofitted area”:

- Strubergasse (Salzburg, AT)

Results for download: www.cesba.eu/s

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