

*Targeted call on
Innovation for renewable energy
and energy efficiency solutions in
Mediterranean regions and cities*

Terms of Reference

Priority Axis 1: Strengthening
innovation capacities

Priority Axis 2: Protection of the
environment and promotion of a
sustainable territorial development

1. Introduction for MED targeted projects

As it is stated in the operational programme, the general objective of the MED programme is *“to make the whole Med space a territory able to match international concurrence in order to ensure growth and employment for the next generations. Support territorial cohesion and actively intervene in favour of environmental protection in a logic of sustainable development.”*

These various issues cannot be tackled efficiently, neither at the regional nor at national scale: they require a significant effort in terms of transnational coordination and consultation.

For the programming period 2007-2013, specific themes are identified by the Monitoring Committee as being particularly important for all European regions of the Med space.

Corresponding to these topics, the Monitoring committee launches targeted calls for proposals.

The projects should pay particular attention to the following issues:

Coherence with European, national and regional policies

- Targeted projects must be developed in coherence with EU, national and regional policies and with existing Mediterranean cooperation initiatives. In order to contribute to the implementation of those policies, projects must be elaborated in cooperation with public authorities and institutions concretely involved as partners in their implementation
- Targeted projects must take into account existing initiatives and programmes in the definition of their objectives in order to implement activities or to prepare initiatives, methodologies or processes which could be financed by these programmes in the future (mainstream programmes, European Investment Bank, etc.)¹
- Targeted projects are advised to take into account results achieved and problems encountered by projects implemented during the 2000-2006 programming period, especially Interreg projects. Project partners are also advised to consider innovative projects implemented under Territorial Cooperation Programmes in other cooperation areas (SUDOE, South East Europe, Atlantic, North West Europe, Baltic Sea, ENPI CBC Mediterranean, etc.). Activities can include the capitalisation of experiences and results and the overcoming of weaknesses observed in projects already implemented. For the Med programme (like for the others) the JTS can support the partners by providing them detailed information on projects launched since 2007.

Impact of the project

- It is essential that projects built on the basis of a thorough knowledge of existing state of the art, to take into account former and actual public policies and projects in order to generate significant added value related to existing needs
- The projects should not be limited to producing information and analyses with a theoretical approach. They must capitalise on experiences and experimentation, proposing a transfer of know-how, methods,

¹ Here is mentioned the use of other financing means after the end of the Med project. During its implementation, a project cannot get funds from different EU programmes (double financing is forbidden)

and practices likely to have tangible impact on actors and territories and being transferable in other EU regions

Strong and coherent partnerships

- There must be a strict relation between project objectives and institutional and administrative competences of partners. As such, they require a coordinated and formal commitment of the partners for the achievement of expected results (detailed information on the roles and activities of partners will have to be provided in the application form)
- The partnership must include partners from at least 3 EU countries from the eligible area of the MED programme.
- It is strongly recommended that the partnership includes at least 5 countries within the eligible programme area (including IPA countries participating to the MED programme).

ERDF allocation

The indicative ERDF allocation for this call is **15 million Euros; 8,6M€ for Axis 1 and 6,4M€ for Axis 2.**

The ERDF allocation for each project must be between 1M€ and 3M€.

IPA allocation

The indicative IPA allocation for this call is **3,3 million Euros; 1,6M€ for Axis 1 and 1,7M€ for Axis 2.**

Project duration

Projects cannot exceed 36 months and must finish within June 30th, 2015 at the latest.

2. Administrative framework

For more detailed information, applicants must refer to the "Submission procedure" and to the "Eligibility chart" included in the application pack.

In order to properly elaborate their application, the candidates shall take into account the requirements of these terms of reference. They shall refer as well to the main programming documents which are:

- The Operational MED Programme
- The Implementation guide of the MED programme

Should there be any differing information between the Implementation Guide and the ToR, the latter will prevail.

Application

1. At the moment of the submission of applications through PRESAGE CTE system, all conditions **mentioned in the text** of the "Submission procedure" document, **contained in the application pack** published on the Programme's website, have to be respected. **If one of these conditions is not respected, it might cause the ineligibility of the application form**
2. The application form must contain complementary information outside the PRESAGE system, concerning:

- The governance system of the project (organisation chart)
- Short description on how economic and institutional sustainability will be guaranteed by project actions (once finished)
- Logical framework
- A description of the pilot actions indicating their transnational added value, timing and modalities for their implementation (when the project is proposing pilot actions)

Submission procedure

Please refer to the "Submission procedure" document contained in the official Application pack published on the programme website.

Selection Procedure

Eligibility check by the JTS

Please refer to the "Eligibility chart" contained in the official Application pack published on the Programme website and to the "Submission procedure" document.

If the eligibility criteria included in the "Eligibility chart" and in the "Submission procedure" document included in the "Application pack" are not met, the application will be rejected.

Please refer to the « Submission procedure » document regarding the possibility of correcting some administrative errors (section IV. Flexibility rules).

Evaluation by the Selection Committee

- The Programme Selection Committee is in charge of the selection of the projects assisted by the JTS and eventually, independent thematic expert/s
- Member States, via the Selection Committee, may transmit to the JTS information concerning the national strategic orientations and the relevance of the partnership;
- The JTS proceeds with the final project evaluations on the basis of the documents and rules approved by the MED Monitoring Committee (evaluation grid and PRESAGE CTE).

3. Context

With the publication in June 2010 of the strategy "Europe 2020", the European Commission has launched a series of reflections on the evolution of European policies in a context characterised by economic crisis and the need to promote **innovation, competitiveness and sustainable development policies**.

In line with this strategy, the EU Commission announced that 6,4 billion Euros will be invested in research and innovation, corresponding to the largest investment ever done in Europe in this sector.

The main axes of the strategy are the promotion of low carbon industries, investment in the development of new product, exploiting the opportunities of the digital economy and the modernization of education and training. One objective is to improve the environment of enterprises, **especially SMEs**, and **support industrial activities in front of international competition**.

At EU level, investments in R&D and economic growth are higher in the “pentagon”² area and in countries of the north of Europe, as it can be observed with Germany which is already a leader in the field of solar energy or Scandinavian countries that have extensive experience in the fields of energy efficiency and green building.

With global warming and increasing urban and demographic pressure, Mediterranean regions are confronted to specific challenges which must be better taken into account to promote sectors in which they could become EU and international key players. This goal is reflected in the strategies of “smart specialisation”³ that multiply in Europe and that have significant potentials in sectors related to “green growth” (water management, pollution control, energy, agriculture, transport, construction, etc.).

In addition to **strengthening innovation capacity** as such (support to SMEs, information, training, clustering, support for research and technology transfer...), innovation also depends on the level and nature of demand. This is particularly true in markets that are in a process of change (like the energy sector) in which innovation, in order to spread and become profitable, should be based on a strong and well-structured demand.

This approach refers to the leverage effects of “**green public procurement**” (GPP)⁴, or to the actions of the “Lead Market Initiative (LMI) for Europe”⁵ which aims to promote the transfer of technological and non-technological innovations based on the evolution of regulations, public procurement and standardization.

With collaborative procurement, public bodies can agree on criteria for novel products that they intend to support or purchase in coming years, and invite manufacturers to develop and supply such products. This represents a strong means to foster innovation in SMEs and a way to improve awareness and competences in public administrations. With the promotion of sustainable urban development, the development of eco-quartiers and smart cities initiatives, public authorities can significantly influence the supply side provided that they impose strong cost efficiency requirements and rigorous evaluation criteria.

² The “pentagon” is the area bounded by the following cities: London, Paris, Milan, Munich, Hamburg

³ Smart specialisation strategies are based on regional features, strengths and potentials with the aim to reveal and strengthen what a country or region does best in terms of science, technology or services. The setting up of such strategies is a key issue for the implementation of the strategy EU 2020 and for a better concentration of EU resources on a limited number of well-targeted priorities. For further details, see “Smart Specialisation – the Concept, Dominique Foray, Paul A. David and Bronwyn Hall, Knowledge Economists Policy Brief n°9, June 2009”

⁴ Public Procurement for a better environment, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, COM(2008) 400 final

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/innovation/policy/lead-market-initiative/index_en.htm

4. General and specific objectives of the targeted call

a) Field of intervention

Since 2008, the economic crisis accelerated economic change, and encouraged companies and partners to evolve towards more sustainable development strategies.

This context of change stimulated thoughts on the prospects for "green growth" driven by the requirement to be more careful in the use of resources (energy costs and impact on the environment) and the need for **more investment and innovation in sectors that create wealth and jobs for the future** (energy, construction, transport,...)⁶.

Regarding economic sectors, "eco-industries"⁷ offer significant growth prospects (new technologies, products and services reducing environmental impact, fight against pollution, health risks, etc.).

In the Mediterranean regions, one key issue for the coming years will be the management of scarce resources (energy, water, land...) in an environment characterised by global warming and increasing urban and demographic pressure.

At the EU level, energy related emissions account for almost 80% of the total greenhouse gas emission. Challenges are especially strong in urban areas, which consume up to 80% of the energy and which represent significant innovation capacities to progress towards more sustainable development models.

It is now clear that without a technological shift, the EU will fail on its 2050 ambitions to decarbonise the electricity and transport sectors. New technologies will reach markets more quickly and more economically if they are developed through collaboration at the EU level.

On the demand side, still a lot must be done **to better implement existing solutions**, either through more targeted and professional public procurement or with a stronger involvement of final users in decision making, awareness raising and training activities. As technologies must still be improved, there is major concern about wider and more efficient use of available solutions.

The diversity of Mediterranean contexts and the scattered demand necessitate that public policies play a stronger role in promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency on the one hand (demand side) and encouraging innovation and creativity especially in favour of small and medium energy services companies on the other hand (supply side).

In this regard, non-technological innovation must play a stronger role parallel to technological one, integrating more efficient strategies, knowledge and information management, governance (involving decision makers, stakeholders, ...), etc.

Among the large scale EU initiatives launched by the Commission, the **"smart cities" innovation partnership** will bring together the best from the areas of renewable energies, energy efficiency, smart electricity grids, smart

⁶ Sources: European Commission, DG Enterprise: Study on the competitiveness of the EU eco-industry, Final report, February 2009. European Commission, DG Environment: Eco-industry, its size, employment, perspectives and barriers to growth in an enlarged EU, September 2006

⁷ According to the OECD–Eurostat definition, "eco-industry" or "environmental goods and services sector" (EGSS) "*consists of activities which produce goods and services to measure, prevent, limit, minimise or correct environmental damage to water, air and soil, as well as problems related to waste, noise and eco-systems. This includes cleaner technologies, products and services that reduce environmental risk and minimise pollution and resource use*" (The Environmental goods and services industry, Manual for data collection and analysis, OECD, 1999)

heating and cooling grids, combined with highly innovative intelligence and ICT tools. On these issues, EU Regional Policy can play an important role in unlocking local potentials.⁸

Among tools available, public procurement can constitute a significant leverage effect with around €1,500 billion being spent each year by public authorities (16% of EU GDP). Public procurement rules can promote efficiency conditions to increase energy savings, spread innovative solutions and contribute to the transition towards so called “smart cities”.

Efforts should be concentrated on the whole energy chain, from energy production, via transmission and distribution, to final consumption. Effective compliance monitoring, adequate market surveillance, widespread usage of energy services and audits, as well as material efficiency and recycling are all musts.

Concerning renewable energies, the level of technological development and market penetration differs considerably from one technology to the other. From a cost/efficient point of view, in certain locations and under certain conditions, sources such as wind, hydro, biomass and solar thermal are already economically viable⁹. But others, such as photovoltaic, **will depend on increased demand** to improve economies of scale and lower costs. **Many technological and innovative developments can still be introduced in the sector to improve its competitiveness.**

On this issue, the **energy mix** is considered as a relevant solution to adapt to various consumption needs and territorial context. Small scale solutions are being developed and Mediterranean SMEs could increase their innovation capacities to become key player in this sector (cogeneration, photovoltaic, solar thermal systems, small scale wind energy, etc.).

These potentialities are supported by the rapid developments of information and communication technologies which offer potential for a shift to less resource-intensive products and services and have opened-up the possibility for increasingly **“smart” houses and offices**. Technological change is also happening at the **interface between the renewable energy sector and the eco-construction sector. The integration of renewable energy technologies in building components is a particularly promising area.**

b) General objective of the targeted call

This targeted call is dedicated to the first and second axis of the MED operational programme:

AXIS 1 of the MED programme: “Strengthening innovation capacities”, including the promotion of innovative technologies, know-how (objective 1.1.) as well as the strengthening of strategic cooperation between economic development actors and public authorities (objective 1.2.).

AXIS 2 of the MED programme: “Protection of the environment and promotion of a sustainable territorial development” and especially the Promotion of renewable energies and improvement of energy efficiency (objective 2.2.)

An application shall not address more than one Axis. If partners are interested in both axes, they will have to submit two separate applications.

⁸ Energy 2020. A strategy for competitive, sustainable and secure energy. Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. Brussels, 10.11.2010 COM(2010) 639 final. pp16.

⁹ Solar thermal energy presents important perspectives and its promotion could reduce from 40 to 90% energy demand for domestic hot water.

As compared to strategic projects, the targeted call will support projects closer to territorial and regional contexts, with more flexibility in the partnership building and smaller budgets. It is based on the valorisation of territorial potential, institutional and professional networking with the possibility to implement diverse experiences throughout Mediterranean regions.

The main objective of this targeted call is to better identify and strengthen innovation capacities of Mediterranean SMEs and support the implementation of innovative solutions for renewable energy and energy efficiency in Mediterranean cities.

For the first Axis, the focus will be on the **strengthening of SMEs innovation capacities, knowledge management and networking** with the support of public and intermediary bodies. Projects will have to make proposals to **strengthen the position of SMEs** in the energy sector in Mediterranean regions and **to increase their potential at transnational level**.

For the second Axis, the focus will be on the **promotion of innovative renewable energy or/and energy efficiency solutions for smart Mediterranean cities**, especially by **taking into account the success and failures of on-going initiatives** (écoquartiers, smart cities initiatives...). These *difficulties may relate to poor performance in term of efficiency or economy of energy, lack of skills and knowledge, excessive costs, etc.*) *The objective will be to promote strategies, planning and measures ensuring that innovative solutions are implemented and used in the best cost-efficient way*

c) Specific objectives of the targeted call

For the Axis chosen, the applicants must elaborate their project on the basis of the specific objectives listed below. They can focus on the objective (or the set of objectives) they consider as the most relevant according to their priorities and competences.

AXIS 1: To support SMEs innovation capacities and development potential in the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency

To strengthen public policy and strategy

- To identify and support fields with significant development potential and promote the energy sector in regional innovation strategies
- To launch initiatives or take part to initiatives launched by the Covenant of Mayors or the Living Lab networks to support innovation in Mediterranean regions

To improve knowledge management in SMEs

- To improve knowledge management regarding innovation, markets, products and technologies (users' needs, regulations, technology watch, market opportunities, benchmarking...)
- To share and improve competences concerning the use of new techniques, systems and technologies all along the supply chain (production, installation, final use, services...)

To overcome market failure and increase SMEs' potential

- To identify market failures hampering innovation activities in renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors (misplaced incentives, lack of access to financing, mispricing, lack of information, misinformation or insufficient culture of energy efficiency...)

- To propose operational solutions to unlock markets and help methods and technologies to reach their full potential (awareness raising and competences, involvement of final users, smart public procurement, integrated supply chains...)
- To improve the access of SMEs to public procurements. To promote innovative contracting procedures (smart public procurement, green public procurement)

To support SMEs innovation and development capacities

- To identify clusters of SMEs or potential networks and provide support to improve cooperation, market development, share of knowledge and technologies,...
- To strengthen SMEs networking and their positioning at national and international level. Especially, to improve the connection of Mediterranean SMEs to existing European networks (see part 5 of the call) to improve the share of information, create synergies, capitalise and disseminate experiences and results to and from Mediterranean regions
- To promote cooperation between SMEs, research, innovation centres, intermediary bodies to create synergies and foster innovation
- To develop new business models customised for small and medium enterprises

To develop innovative financing tools involving public institutions and private actors to support SMEs and small renewable energy and energy efficiency investments¹⁰

- Venture capital
- Subsidised loan
- Loan guarantee
- ...

AXIS 2: To promote innovative renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions for smart Mediterranean cities

To strengthen public policy and strategy

- To analyse on-going experiences of “eco-quartiers” and “smart cities” initiatives in Mediterranean regions and highlight in particular organisational and technical difficulties, costs efficiency assessment, capacities to reach energy savings objectives, etc.¹¹
- To identify methods, public policies and exchange experiences on the way to plan and setup “eco-quartier” and “smart cities” initiatives. To find out and overcome obstacles hindering cities to launch such initiatives
- To develop and promote operational recommendations to overcome these difficulties (definition of objectives and quality requirements, energy management schemes, audits, competences all along the supply chains, awareness raising and competences of final users...)

¹⁰ See : Financing Eco-innovation, Final Report, EIM and Oxford Research for the European Commission, DG Environment , January 2011

¹¹ See on this issue the contribution of the Med project CAT MED (<http://catmed.eu/>)

To improve knowledge for better energy management

- To improve access to public data and information related to renewable energy and energy efficiency (for SMEs, citizens, households...)
- To improve knowledge and competences concerning standards, quality requirements, technical aspects and needs in public administrations
- To improve the access for all to information related to energy consumption and energy efficiency in relation with energy production and distribution businesses (smart meters, use of white certificates¹², of Energy performance contracts¹³, ...)

To promote smart management of supply and demand

- To increase skills and competences of public procurement services on the issues of renewable energies and energy efficiency
- To setup networks of public procurers (identification of needs, market and command analysis, definition of standards, common investments...)
- To ensure that public demand includes all cost-optimal energy efficiency measures and promote them in relation with businesses (better knowledge of solutions available, quality requirements, search for innovative solution or services, life cycle analysis, innovative procurement methods...)
- To mobilise, consult, inform final users to better identify needs and ensure an adequate and efficient use of available technologies
- To mobilise intermediary bodies (Chamber of Commerce, Business Centres, innovation agencies...) with public institutions to improve the quality of public demand

To promote initiatives to ensure that existing renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions are implemented and used in the best cost-efficient way (competences, standards, fulfilment of quality requirements, awareness raising...)

Application fields:

- System for cost efficient energy mix
- Smart distribution systems; smart grids
- Energy efficiency for smart buildings and offices; high efficiency cogeneration
- Integration of renewable energy technologies in building components
- Improvement of heat production and distribution efficiency

d) Content of the project

1. On the basis of the general and specific objectives provided, applicants are asked to include the following tasks in their project:

¹² White certificates are documents certifying that a certain reduction of energy consumption has been attained. Under such a system, producers, suppliers or distributors of energy are required to undertake energy efficiency measures for the final user.

¹³ An Energy performance contract is a performance-based procurement method whose objective is to guaranty in the long term the energy efficiency of a building or of a set of buildings. It consists in reducing the energy consumption, and, where appropriate, in modifying the level of services.

To provide a detailed state of the art and identify key initiatives, projects and experiences which could be used for the project development

Axis 1: To provide an analysis of the selected economic sector, of its economic weight, its organisation and structuring; to identify activities showing a specific innovation and growth potential in the Mediterranean context

Axis 2: To provide an analysis of key sustainable urban development initiatives and especially to highlight points which could be improved for a better cost-efficient use of innovative renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions

Projects will have to highlight relevant outputs or methodologies observed in other Med (and non-Med) projects and which could be used for the conception and implementation of the project.

2. For both Axes, to identify and make connections with key players, public and private institutions, intermediary bodies and networks in order to share knowledge and experiences, to coordinate activities and create synergies.

To specify how projects results will be concretely used, by whom, and how they will be disseminated

Especially, to make connections with international networks in order to use existing experiences, methods and participate to on-going activities. Partners must pay particular attention to networks like the **Covenant of Mayors**, the **Enterprise Europe Network** or the **European Network of Living Labs** (see part 5 of the ToR). For this targeted call, the methodology presented by the living Lab network where users and producers co-create innovation is of specific interest.

3. To elaborate **strategies** involving public and private institutions and to launch **pilot activities** aiming:

Axis 1: to strengthen the innovation and development potential of SMEs (to promote a culture of innovation, to promote public procurement as an innovation tools, to improve information and competences, to strengthen SMEs positioning in transnational networks, to transfer knowledge and technologies, to promote innovative technical and financial means, etc.)

Axis 2: to take stock of experiences and propose initiatives to make a more cost-efficient use of existing innovative tools in urban policies (definition of energy goals, smart public procurement, awareness, improvement of competences, improvement of monitoring and assessment of results...)

e) Indicators

In order to properly monitor and evaluate the project, the partnership must provide information concerning the set of output indicators listed below. These indicators must help to specify the initial objectives of the project, the working method, and to assess the results achieved at the end of the project.

The project can add one or two 'personalised' indicators to each topic

Projects are invited to setup a **scientific or technical committee** with the participation of external partners. The role of this committee is to provide technical or scientific input in the conception and implementation of the project and to contribute to its evaluation. The Committee will intervene to provide advices and make suggestions for the implementation of project activities (method, timing, respect of initial objectives, necessary adjustments...). For this purpose, the committee will have to specify the set of indicators that will be used based on the list provided (and adding any relevant one).

AXIS 1: To support SMEs innovation capacities and development potential in the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency

Public policy and strategy

- Number and type of renewable energy and energy efficiency fields of intervention identified with specific potential
- Number of regional innovation strategies updated
- Number and type of public procurement procedure improved to support SMEs innovation

Knowledge management

- Number of SMEs reached by information raising regarding markets, products, technologies (including an explanation of the method used to measure it)
- Number of people informed, trained, etc. (including an explanation of the method used to measure it)

Market failure and potential

- Market failures observed; Number and type of solutions proposed
- Number of SMEs reached by the solutions proposed (including an explanation of the method used to measure it)

SMEs innovation and development capacities

- Number of additional SMEs involved in networks and clusters
- Number and type of institutions (partners and external partners) involved in the project networking initiatives

Innovative financing tools

- Type of financing tools proposed or setup
- Additional financial means available to support innovation in SMEs (technological and non-technological innovation)
- Number of potential beneficiaries (including an explanation of the method used to measure it)

AXIS 2: To promote innovative renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions for smart Mediterranean cities

Public policy and strategy

- Number of key on-going initiatives identified for assessment
- Number of bottlenecks, limits, insufficiency, failures observed
- Number of improved strategies, intervention methods and means
- Number of Energy management schemes implemented

Knowledge management

- Number and type of tools, methods implemented to improve the access to public data and information related to renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Number of administrative actors with increased capacities
- Number of SMEs with increased capacities
- Number of people informed, trained, etc. (including an explanation of the method used to measure it)

Smart management of supply and demand

- Number of public and private institutions involved in cooperative smart public procurement
- Number of White certificates, Energy performance contracts, smart meters (...) implemented
- Increase of energy saving, reduction of heat loss, rise of energy produced from renewable sources, increase of cost effectiveness (...) due to smart public procurement (including an explanation of the method used to measure it)

Cost-efficient implementation of existing solutions

- Number and types of systems, tools, and technologies improved in the implementation phase

Summary table of objectives and indicators

General Objective	To better identify and strengthen innovation capacities of Mediterranean SMEs and support the implementation of innovative solutions for renewable energy and energy efficiency for smart Mediterranean cities						
Specific objectives	To strengthen public policy and strategy	To improve knowledge management	To overcome market failures and increase potential	To promote smart management of supply and demand	To support SMEs innovation and development capacities	To improve cost-efficient implementation of existing solutions	To promote innovative financing tools
Indicators Axis 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number and type of fields identified with specific potential - Number of regional innovation strategies updated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of SMEs reached by information raising regarding markets, products, technologies - Number of people informed, trained, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Market failures observed; Number and type of solutions proposed - Number of SMEs reached by the solutions proposed 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of additional SMEs involved in networks and clusters - Number and type of institutions (partners and external partners) involved in the project networking initiatives 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Type of financing tools proposed or setup - Additional financial means available for innovation - Number of potential beneficiaries - Number of pilot actions implemented
Indicators Axis 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of key on-going initiatives identified for assessment - Number of bottlenecks, limits, insufficiency, failures observed - Number of improved strategies, intervention methods and means - Number of Energy Management schemes implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number and type of tools, methods used to improve the access to public data and information - Number of administrative actors with increased capacities - Number of SMEs with increased capacities - Number of people informed, trained, etc. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of public and private institutions involved in cooperative smart public procurement - Number of White certificates, Energy performance contracts, smart meters implemented - Increase of energy saving, reduction of energy consumption, reduction of heat loss, rise of energy produced from renewable sources, increase of cost effectiveness (...) due to smart public procurement 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number and types of systems, tools, technologies improved in the implementation phase 	

5. Institutions involved and beneficiaries

For this call, the **cooperation between public and private bodies** is a key issue in particular concerning the relationship between public demand and innovation capacity of businesses (supply). Private actors must respect competition rules and comply with de minimis rule¹⁴. Otherwise, they can be involved in projects as external partners¹⁵, contributing to the definition of their objectives, to their implementation and to the dissemination of their results.

Especially, projects can mobilise independent **3rd party organisations** acting as market and project facilitators between customers and suppliers in order to stimulate innovation and improve methods and processes (chambers of commerce, competitiveness and innovation centres...).

Projects must take into consideration the needs of civil society and final users to better identify and implement innovative demand based solutions.

Stakeholders / Beneficiaries

National and international bodies

- Ministries and state services in charge of energy, sustainable development, housing, planning, public procurement, etc.
- International bodies, NGOs, think tanks, associations of professionals, etc. intervening in the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency

Local and regional authorities

- Cities/local councils, especially those member of the Covenant of Mayors
- Associations of local authorities
- Districts
- Metropolises
- Regional authorities

Specialised bodies

- Energy agencies (see the European Energy Agencies Directory provided by the programme *Managenergy*)

Intermediary bodies

- Chamber of Commerce
- Innovation and competitiveness centres

¹⁴ Article 108(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) stipulates that state aid must be notified to the European Commission so that it can assess whether the aid is compatible with the common market. However, according to « de minimis rule », aid of no more than EUR 200 000 granted over a period of three financial years is not regarded as state aid.

¹⁵ Whereas “partners” constitute the core of the partnership with clear dedicated tasks and responsibilities, “external partners” are not bound by the partnership agreement and cannot get ERDF. They can participate to the definition of the project and setup a committee of experts for the project implementation (advisory board, scientific or technical committee).

- Universities and research centers
- Clusters

Private bodies

- Networks and association of SMEs, clusters, association of professionals
- SMEs involved in the energy sector (see the Enterprise Europe Network)
- Small and medium energy services companies (ESCO)¹⁶
- Distribution and supply companies

Other

- Non-governmental organisations

Final users

In the perspective to support “**open innovation**” initiatives, projects must take into account **final users** to better identify needs, expectations, bottlenecks in the implementation and use of energy related systems and technologies. Final users can play an important role in cooperation with businesses to adapt to supply. Final users can be consulted by public bodies during decision making processes related to eco-quartier, housing, public buildings, urban development, etc.

Main categories of final users:

- Association of consumers
- Households
- Public administration
- Businesses

Partners from IPA countries

The participation of Mediterranean candidate or potential candidate countries is possible with IPA funds which can finance up to 85% of the total eligible costs of the action carried out by partners from these countries in joint operations. The responsibility for the management of IPA funds is under the responsibility of the MED Managing Authority (Decision C(2011)1706 of 16th March 2011)

EU Partners outside the MED area

According to Article 21(2) of ERDF regulation, in the context of transnational cooperation and in duly justified cases, the ERDF may finance expenditure incurred by partners located outside the MED area participating in operations and up to 20% of the ERDF total budget requested by the whole of the EU partners of a project. This expenditure must be targeted and must be for the benefit of the regions of the Med area

¹⁶ An energy service company (ESCO) is a commercial business providing a broad range of comprehensive energy solutions including designs and implementation of energy savings projects, energy conservation, energy infrastructure outsourcing, power generation and energy supply, and risk management.

Non EU partners

Non EU partners like partners located in southern Mediterranean countries can participate to projects as “external partners”. They cannot get ERDF but can be invited as observers or as members of technical and scientific committees.

6. European networks

Within the European Union (and in Europe in a larger sense), many cooperation institutions and networks have been setup during the last years or decades to structure professional activities (professional network), to support public policies (institutional networks) or defend public interest in the field of energy.

Some of these networks constitute strong references for local and regional authorities which are willing to develop cooperation activities in this field.

Projects of the targeted call are strongly encouraged to make connections with the relevant networks in order to strengthen the positioning of Mediterranean institutions and SMEs, to identify partners and launch initiatives taking into account actions and innovations which might have already been implemented in other areas.

a) Institutional networks

Indicative (non-exhaustive) list of institutional networks

- **The Covenant of Mayors** (http://www.conventiondesmaires.eu/index_fr.html)

The Covenant of Mayors is the mainstream European movement involving local and regional authorities, voluntarily committing to increasing energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources on their territories.

- **European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL)** (<http://www.openlivinglabs.eu/>)

ENoLL is the international federation of benchmarked Living Labs in Europe and worldwide (Founded in November 2006 under the auspices of the Finnish European Presidency). A Living Lab is a real-life test and experimentation environment where users and producers co-create innovations. Living Labs have been characterised by the European Commission as Public-Private-People Partnerships (PPPP) for user-driven open innovation.

- **Enterprise Europe Network** (<http://www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu>)

The Enterprise Europe Network helps small business to make the most of the European marketplace. Working through local business organisations, it can help:

- to develop business in new markets
- to source or license new technologies
- to access EU finance and EU funding

- **ICLEI – Local Government for Sustainability** (<http://www.iclei.org>)

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability is an association of over 1220 local government Members who are committed to sustainable development. Its Members come from 70 different countries.

- **Energy cities** (<http://www.energy-cities.eu/>)

Energy Cities is the European Association of local authorities inventing their energy future.

Its main objectives are:

- To strengthen the role and skills of its members in the field of sustainable energy.
- To represent their interests and influence the policies and proposals made by European Union institutions in the fields of energy, environmental protection and urban policy.
- To develop and promote their initiatives through exchange of experiences, the transfer of know-how and the implementation of joint projects.

- **Concerto initiative** – Cities Demonstrate Energy & Climate Change Policy Solutions (<http://concertoplus.eu>)

“The CONCERTO initiative, launched by the European Commission, is a Europe wide initiative proactively addressing the challenges of creating a more sustainable future for Europe’s energy needs. Today, there are a total of 58 communities in 22 projects, each working to deliver the highest possible level of self-supply of energy. CONCERTO is part of the framework research programme supervised by the DG Energy and Transport of the European Commission.

- **Build up** - The European portal for Energy efficiency in Buildings (<http://www.buildup.eu/>)

- **Energy agencies in Europe at a glance** (<http://www.managenergy.net/energyagencies.html>)

- **Sustainable energy Europe campaign** (<http://www.sustenergy.org/>)

The Sustainable Energy Europe Campaign showcases activities dedicated to energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions.

b) Professional networks

Indicative (non-exhaustive) list of professional networks

- **CEETB** - European Technical Contractors. Committee for the Construction Industry – (<http://www.ceetb.eu/>)

The CEETB promotes at European level the interests of members in all areas of concern with a particular focus on:

- Guaranteeing a level playing field in the liberalised energy markets.
- Working towards an EU policy framework that supports investments in energy efficiency and renewable sources of energy.
- Promoting highest quality and performance standards for technical installations inside and outside buildings through compulsory minimum qualifications and regular inspection and maintenance schemes.
- Strengthening the role of specialist engineering contractors in the construction supply chain and promoting life cycle costs as award criterion for public and private contracts.

- **Coalition for Energy Savings** (www.energycoalition.eu)

The Coalition for Energy Savings is an unprecedented gathering of 20 businesses, professional and civil society associations. The Coalition's purpose is to make the case for a European energy policy that places a much greater, more meaningful emphasis on energy efficiency and savings. The Coalition believes much greater action is needed at EU level on energy savings as a means of meeting the EU's short- and long-term economic, environmental and social challenges. It is advocating, in particular, for policymakers to make binding commitments to reduce energy use across Europe.

- **Energy Efficiency Watch** (www.energy-efficiency-watch.org)

The Energy Efficiency Watch is an initiative spearheaded by European and national Parliamentarians with the aim of creating a platform to promote energy efficiency, in general, and more and better policy-making in that arena. The first phase of the initiative included an evaluation of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plans required under the EU Energy End-Use Efficiency and Energy Services Directive. EuroACE was a core-group member of the first Energy Efficiency Watch Initiative

- **EREC** - The European Renewable Energy Council (<http://www.erec.org/>)

The European Renewable Energy Council came into existence in the year 2000, as the voice of the European renewable energy industry. As the umbrella organisation of the European renewable energy industry, trade and research associations active in the sectors of photovoltaic, small hydropower, solar thermal, bioenergy, geothermal, ocean, concentrated solar power and wind energy, EREC represents the entire renewable energy sector

- **EuroACE** - The European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (<http://www.euroace.org/>)

The European Alliance of Companies for Energy Efficiency in Buildings was formed in 1998 by twenty of Europe's leading companies involved with the manufacture, distribution and installation of a variety of energy saving goods and services. EuroACE works together with the European Institutions to help Europe move towards a more sustainable pattern of energy use in buildings, thereby contributing to the EU's commitments on carbon emissions reductions, job creation and energy security

- **FEDAREN** – European Federation of Agencies and Regions for Energy and Environment (<http://www.fedarene.org/>)

FEDARENE serves as a springboard for the creation of new agencies and as a crossroads for a wide array of agencies. These ones are not only the driving force behind the development of the network, but also play an essential role in policy making. They act both as producers of ideas on the regional, national, European and international levels, and as implementers of decisions emanating from these levels.

- **ICT for Energy Efficiency Forum** (<http://www.ict4ee.eu/>)

ICT4EE, the ICT for Energy Efficiency Forum, aims at driving common methodologies for measuring and improving the energy and environmental performance of information and communication technologies (ICT) processes, developing partnerships and projects, and sharing best practice to demonstrate how ICT solutions can contribute to the more intelligent and efficient use of energy. A working group is namely looking at how best to use ICT to improve energy efficiency in buildings. EuroACE sits on the Steering Committee.

- **Renovate Europe** (<http://www.renovate-europe.eu/>)
A campaign to triple deep renovation rates for buildings

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: EU initiatives for renewable energy and energy efficiency

The objective of the following list of references is to provide indications on the main programmes dedicated to the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency at EU level. Even not directly connected to Territorial Cooperation Programmes, these programmes provide up-to-date information and are supporting initiatives with significant added value on energy issues. They can be consulted to identify the main issues at stake, to establish connection with other projects and find potential partners.

Intelligent Energy – Europe (IEE) programme (Directorate General Energy)
(<http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/>)

This programme is giving a boost to clean and sustainable solutions. It supports their use and dissemination and the Europe-wide exchange of related knowledge and know-how.

Targeted funding is provided for creative projects putting this idea into practice

The projects help to reach the three main objectives:

- Promoting energy efficiency and encouraging the rational use of energy sources;
- Increasing the use of new and renewable energy sources as well as encouraging energy diversification;
- Stimulating energy efficiency and renewable in the field of transport.

Managenergy (<http://www.managenergy.net/>)

ManagEnergy is a technical support initiative of the Intelligent Energy - Europe (IEE) programme which aims to assist actors from the public sector and their advisers working on energy efficiency and renewable energy at the local and regional level.

ELENA - European Local Energy Assistance

(http://www.eib.org/products/technical_assistance/elena/index.htm)

To facilitate the mobilisation of funds for investments in sustainable energy at local level, the European Commission and the European Investment Bank have established the **ELENA technical assistance facility** (European Local Energy Assistance) financed through the Intelligent Energy-Europe programme. ELENA support covers a share of the cost for technical support that is necessary to prepare, implement and finance the investment programme, such as feasibility and market studies, structuring of programmes, business plans, energy audits, preparation for tendering procedures - in short, everything necessary to make cities' and regions' sustainable energy projects ready for EIB funding.

SET Plan (Directorate General Energy) (http://ec.europa.eu/energy/technology/set_plan/set_plan_en.htm)

At the EU level, the Commission setup the “European Strategic Energy Technology Plan -Towards a low-carbon future” (SET Plan). This plan wishes to accelerate the development and deployment of cost-effective low carbon technologies. It comprises measures relating to planning, implementation, resources and international cooperation in the field of energy technology. The SET Plan is backed by the “The Information System for the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan” (SETIS).

The SET-Plan proposed three main implementation instruments as a basis for an Energy Technology Policy for Europe:

- **Industrial Initiatives** (<http://setis.ec.europa.eu/activities/initiatives>)

In 2008, the Commission proposed to launch six European Industrial Initiatives (EIs): Wind, Solar (both concentrated solar and photovoltaic), Carbon capture and storage, Electricity grids, Bio-energy and nuclear fission.

Additional European Industrial Initiatives shall be launched, including one on **Smart Cities** (Energy saving solutions in cities)

- **EERA** – European Energy Research Alliance (<http://www.eera-set.eu/>)

Ten leading European Research Institutes have taken up the challenge to found a European Energy Research Alliance (EERA). The key objective of the EERA is to accelerate the development of new energy technologies by conceiving and implementing Joint Research Programmes in support of the SET Plan by pooling and integrating activities and resources, combining national and Community sources of funding and maximising complementarities and synergies.

- **ATEST** (Analysing Transition Planning and Systemic Energy Planning Tools for the implementation of the Energy Technology Information System)

The aim of the ATEsT project is to address the methodologies and modelling toolbox required to support the decision-making of the SET-Plan.

Smart Cities and Communities initiative (7th Framework Programme)

In its Communication on "*Investing in the Development of Low Carbon Technologies*", the Commission proposed that a Smart Cities and Communities Initiative would become the most appropriate means to make the production and use of energy in cities more sustainable and efficient.

In its Communication "*Energy 2020 - A strategy for competitive, sustainable and secure energy*", the Commission identified the Smart Cities Initiative as a project of European dimension for energy efficiency and for accelerating the large scale deployment of innovative low carbon technologies. On 4 February 2011, the European Council invited the Commission to launch an Industrial Initiative inter alia on "energy saving solutions in cities".

In line with this guidance, the **Smart Cities and Communities Initiative** will initially rely on the organisational framework of the Strategic Energy Technology (SET)-Plan. In a next step, the Commission plans to create a stakeholder forum gathering the various stakeholders in this area and structuring their dialogue and their contribution to the initiative. At a later stage, the initiative may evolve into a European Innovation Partnership as envisaged by the Commission's Communication on the Innovation Union of 6 October 2010.

ANNEX 2: Projects implemented by EU programmes

TERRITORIAL COOPERATION PROGRAMMES

MED PROGRAMME

Renewable Energy

- PROFORBIOMED (Strategic Project): Promotion of residual forestry biomass in the Mediterranean basin
- ENERMED: Mediterranean Renewable Energies
- WOODE3 : Wood Energy Exploitation for Entrepreneurship
- ZeroCO2 : Zero Emissions Communities
- CAT MED : Change Mediterranean Metropolises around Time

Energy efficiency

- ELIHMED (strategic project) : Energy efficiency in housing for low-income households in the Mediterranean
- MARIE (strategic project) : Mediterranean Building Rethinking for Energy Efficiency Improvement
- CAT MED : Change Mediterranean Metropolises around Time

Innovation and support to SMEs

- CreaMED: Fostering Creativity and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area as key elements for Regional Sustainable Development: CreaMED Alliance
- EMMA : Entrepreneurship Methodology Mediterranean Assistance
- ETHIC : Enterprises and Territories for High Intelligent Competitiveness
- HIDDEN : Hidden Innovation Initiatives for SMEs
- INNOVATE MED : Innovative Actions for Trade and Enterprise in the Mediterranean
- IP-SMEs: Awareness and Enforcement: innovative service for Mediterranean SMEs
- MACC BAM : Measures to Accelerate the Mediterranean Business Angel Market
- MedLab : Mediterranean Living Lab for Territorial Innovation
- MEDOSSIC : Mediterranean organization structure and strengthening of innovation capacities for sustainable development
- MET3 : Mediterranean Transnational Technology Transfer
- SMILIES : Small Mediterranean Insular Light Industries Enhancement and Support
- WIDE groWing of SMEs: organizational Innovation and Development in mEd area

Knowledge economy

- IKTIMED : Increasing Knowledge Transfer and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area

- NowInG : Knowledge Intelligence and Innovation for a sustainable Growth - KnowInG
- KnowInTarget : KNOWledge and INnovation TARGETed Dissemination Framework
- MED-KED : Mediterranean knowledge-based entrepreneurship development

Clustering

- IC-MED : Mediterranean Inter Cluster
- MED TECHNOPOLIS : Project for the implementation of a Mediterranean network of technopolis interface structures
- 2In S Clusters: S.M.E.s Innovation and Internationalization Support Clusters

Financing / partnership

- EASY FINANCE : to strengthen innovative services for business support

ALPINE SPACE PROGRAMME

Renewable energy and energy efficiency

- SHARE : Sustainable Hydropower in Alpine Rivers Ecosystems
- AlpEnergy: Virtual Power Systems as an Instrument to Promote Transnational Cooperation and Sustainable Energy Supply in the Alpine Space

Innovation and clustering

- ALPlastics: A network of private/public actors actively involved in local development policies in 5 Alpine regions, to create proper conditions for STRATEGIC INNOVATION in the ALPINE PLASTICS CLUSTERS and strengthen the related economic sector.
- Alps 4 EU: to overcome clusters initiatives fragmentation and favour the emergence of meta-clusters
- ALPS Bio Cluster: TransAlpine Bio Cluster
- CCAIps: Creative companies in Alpine Space
- COMUNIS: Inter-municipal cooperation for Strategic Steering of SME-oriented Location Development in the Alpine Space
- OPEN ALPS: Open Innovation in Alpine SMEs

SUDOE PROGRAMME

The official languages of the SUDOE programme are French, Spanish and Portuguese. There is no English translation provided

Renewable energy and energy efficiency

- EnerBioAlgae : Utilisation de l'énergie de biomasse dans des ressources d'eau dégradées riches en microalgues

- OPTIMAGRID : Systèmes intelligents pour l'optimisation et l'autogestion des micros-réseaux appliqués aux domaines industriels de la zone SUDOE

Innovation and clustering

- CREA NET 2.0 : Création d'un Réseau de Centres Promoteurs de la Créativité parmi les petites et moyennes entreprises de la Région du SUDOE
- CREA- BUSINESS-IDEA : Cluster Virtuel de la créativité entrepreneuriale
- CREAMED : Réseau de pépinières d'entreprises de l'Eurorégion Pyrénées Méditerranée
- CREATINN : Bases pour la construction d'un système interrégional d'innovation dans le SUDOE, fondé sur la créativité pour l'innovation des entreprises, avec le soutien des universités, des administrations publiques et de l'environnement social des régions participant
- ECO-TECH SUDOE : Réseau international en analyse de cycle de vie et eco-conception pour des écotecnologies innovantes
- e-INCORPORATE : Appui à la compétitivité et à l'innovation des indépendants et des petits entrepreneurs
- EIBT-SUDOE : Coopération transnationale pour la création et le développement des Spin-offs de base technologique (EIBT) et leur intégration dans l'économie du SUDOE
- REDIN : Réseau de transfert intersectoriel
- REDOMIC : Réseau transrégional université - entreprise pour l'organisation du marché de l'innovation et de la connaissance dans le SUDOE
- RIDER : Accessibilité des TPE à l'innovation dans les zones rurales

SOUTH-EAST PROGRAMME

Renewable energy and energy efficiency

- ENER – SUPPLY: ENergy Efficiency and Renewables - SUPporting Policies in Local level for Energy
- SEE HYDROPOWER: targeted to improve water resource management for a growing renewable energy production
- Wide the SEE by Succ Mod: Widening the Thermal Solar Energy Exploitation by the Successful Models
- M2RES FROM MARGINAL TO RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES SITES: Recovering marginal territories, making them regain their lost value by pursuing sustainable development programs
- EFFECT: Upgrading of Energy Efficient Public Procurement for a balanced economic growth of SEE area

Innovation and clustering

- TECH.FOOD: Solutions and interventions for the technological transfer and the innovation of the agro-food sector in South East regions
- I3E: Promoting Innovation in the Industrial Informatics and Embedded Systems Sectors through Networking

- IPRforSEE: Intellectual Property Rights for SEE
- Tex-EASTile: sustainable innovation for textile in South East Europe
- FIDIBE: Development of Innovative Business Parks to Foster Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the SEE Area
- SEE-IFA: Network South-East European Co-operation of Innovation and Finance Agencies
- ISEDE-NET INNOVATIVE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT NETWORK
- AUTOCLUSTERS: The international cooperative network of educational and research institution with subcontractors and other bodies active in Automotive Industry
- FINNO: Mechanism for fostering innovation in South East Europe
- SEE: Science Boosting innovation through capacity building and networking of science centres in the SEE region
- CAPINFOOD: Improving the enabling environment and public awareness for innovation in the South-East-European food sector through transnational collaboration
- Inno- Food SEE: Setting up the innovation support mechanisms and increasing awareness on the potential of Food Innovation and RTD in the South- East Europe area

IPA ADRIATIC CBC PROGRAMME

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

- AlterEnergy – Energy sustainability for Adriatic small communities.
- SEA R: SEA-R identifies three main “sources” from which sustainable energies for Adriatic can derive; SUN; SEA; KNOWLEDGE. The general objective is the promotion of investment-oriented knowledge on sustainable and competitive energy patterns (in terms both of energy saving and renewable sources) in the Adriatic regions
- POWERED: POWERED aims to define a set of strategies and shared methods for the development of the off-shore wind energy in all the Countries overlooking the Adriatic Sea

Innovation and Support to SMEs / Clustering

- Metris Plus – new solutions in the sector of environmental research and the correlated eco-innovations
- ZOONE – strengthening of innovation capacity both at research/technical and institutional level to create a favourable environment and support to zoo technical enterprises
- Cluster Club – Innovation of the territorial and productive systems in the Adriatic area, with focus on the existing clusters in the nautical sector and shipbuilding

IVC PROGRAMME

Renewable energy and energy efficiency

- MORE4NRG: Strengthen the delivery of regional strategies for renewable energy sources and energy efficiency by exchanging best practices on sustainable energy policies and development of an integrated monitoring tool for measuring the effect of regional sustainable energy strategies
- RENREN: Renewable Energies Regions Network (Improve regional policies so that existing regional frameworks are optimized to foster and strengthen renewable energy sources and establish strategic cooperation related to new approaches, projects and solutions, thus ensuring the transfer of the findings into regional renewable energy sources policies)
- RETS: Renewable Energies Transfer System (Improve the knowledge and competencies of local and regional policymakers in renewable energies in order to facilitate the deployment of renewable energy policies, through the creation of simple usable tools for local authorities in order to help them make informed choices for the implementation of the right renewable energy strategy within their territories)
- SEE: Sharing Experience Europe (Exchange information and experiences in order to identify, analyse and disseminate good practices on innovation and design policy and other related areas)
- EnercitEE: European networks experience and recommendations helping cities and citizens to become Energy Efficient

Public procurement

- EUROPROC: to increase the access of SMEs to public procurement markets
EUROPROC aims at consolidating public procurement as a key element of the SMEs business strategy by adapting and improving the services offered to their support. See EUROPROC good practice guide: <http://www.europroc.eu/en/deliverables/guides-on-public-procurement/4/#categoria8>

Innovation practices

- BRAIN FLOW : Brain Flow and Knowledge Transfer fostering Innovation in Border Regions
- IPP: Interregional Partnership Platform. Develop a framework of know-how transfer among the local and regional innovation intermediaries, including coaching strategies and innovation services
- Making Knowledge Work (MKW) - capitalisation project
The objective of MKW is to transfer and mainstream good practices in order to improve the innovation capacity of regions, by bridging gaps within the innovation chain
- ERIK ACTION is a Capitalisation Project born from 4 years of networking experience within the ERIK network. ERIK ACTION's overall objective is to improve the effectiveness of regional development policies in the field of innovation and the knowledge economy and, specifically, in upgrading the innovation capacity of existing enterprises.

OTHER EU PROGRAMMES

INTELLIGENT ENERGY – EUROPE PROGRAMME

Renewable energy and energy efficiency

- ASIEPI project (www.asiepi.eu)
The ASIEPI project, Assessment and Improvement of the EPBD Impact (for new buildings and building renovation), provides technical advice to policy makers on how to improve the quality and impact of legislation governing the energy performance of buildings.
- PATRES project (<http://www.patres.net/>) - The project offers a support to the Public Administrations for the introduction of renewable energy system in private and public buildings and for green public procurement procedures
- The BESS & Expanding BESS projects. Benchmarking and Energy management Schemes in SMEs (<http://www.bess-project.info/>)
- European Smart Metering Alliance (<http://www.esma-home.eu/default.asp>)
- EU Long Term Agreements Uptake (http://www.ltauptake.eu/index.asp?id_content=75)
- PVTRIN: Training Photovoltaic Installers (<http://www.pvtrin.eu/>)
- PV POLICY GROUP: Define common actions for the improvement and alignment of national support systems for PV (<http://www.pvpolicy.org/default.asp>)
- SF Energy Invest (<http://sf-energyinvest.eu/>)

The objective of SF Energy Invest is to stimulate investments in sustainable energy using Structural and Cohesion Funds within the final phase of the programming period 2007-2013

Public procurement

- BUY SMART - Green Procurement for Smart Purchasing (<http://www.buy-smart.info>)
The project will promote, implement and further develop the instrument of green procurement (procurement of energy efficient products) in private and public institutions.
- PRISME (<http://www.prismeprocurement.eu/>)
The aim of PRISME (PRocurement of Innovation from SMEs) is to improve SMEs' access – and more particularly innovative SMEs' access – to public procurement by bridging the gap between them and public buyers.
- PRO-EE - Public Procurement boosts Energy Efficiency (<http://www.pro-ee.eu/>)
The project wants to bring together public authorities in 6 European countries to boost energy efficiency in selected product groups. Large-scale joint procurement is to bundle the purchasing power of public authorities with the aim to accelerate market penetration of products fulfilling ambitious energy efficiency criteria.
- SMART-SPP: Innovation through sustainable procurement (<http://www.smart-spp.eu/>)

SMART-SPP is assessing different approaches to encouraging innovation through the pre-procurement phase - particularly through more effective early dialogue with the market.

LEAD MARKET INITIATIVE FOR EUROPE

Public procurement

- SCI-Network (<http://www.sci-network.eu/>)

Sustainable Construction & Innovation through Procurement will help public authorities exploit and drive sustainable innovations in public construction and regeneration projects across Europe by bringing a large group of public authorities together with other key stakeholders in the construction sector with the aim to help combat the cross-border fragmentation of the sector.

- LCB Healthcare (<http://lowcarbon-healthcare.eu/>)

Low Carbon Building (LCB) - Healthcare network seeks to stimulate innovative low-carbon building solutions for the healthcare sector.

ECO INNOVATION

- The eco-innovation initiative bridges the gap between research and the market. It helps good ideas for innovative products, services and processes that protect the environment become fully-fledged commercial prospects, ready for use by business and industry. One of the priorities of this programme is Sustainable building products (Environmentally-friendly construction materials and innovative manufacturing processes; Construction products and related processes that reduce consumption of resources, embodied carbon and production of by-product wastes) - http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eco-innovation/about/index_en.htm

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