

BEE & BRE Malta Meeting - 27th of March 2014

CREATE BENEFITS OF A TRANSVERSAL MEDITERRANEAN DIALOGUE TO ACCELERATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES IN THE BUILDING SECTOR OF MED-COUNTRIES

CAPITALISATION CONFERENCE Energy Efficiency in Mediterranean Buildings

Conference

The **objectives** of the conference were:

- 1) Presenting MED strategic projects in the field (MARIE, Elih MED and Proforbiomed) and its common capitalisation process. Ljubiana's Declaration and Policy Paper.
- 2) Presenting the ongoing projects in the southern, eastern part of the Mediterranean (MENA region). Not only ENPI Cross Border Med Basin but also other ENPI South initiatives such as SURE, CES-MED and MED-ENEC. And energy associations in the Arab countries as RECREE
- 3) Possible inclusion of MENA region projects in the capitalisation process of the MEDBEE strategy.

Speakers: The conference had a very complete representation of the Mediterranean institutions and stakeholders in EE and RE in buildings sector.

During the **welcome session**, Oriol Solà Diplomat from the UfM (energy division); Mohamed Sadiki Vicepresident of the Regional Council of Rabat-Salé- Zemmour-Zaer and Khaled Younsi, Secretary General of the Governorate of Monastir , introduced the current situation in the Mediterranean from different perspectives. Mr Solà explained the actions in the framework of the Mediterranean Solar Plan, the Mediterranean Sustainable Urban Strategy and the role of the UfM in the energy sector, being one of its 6 priorities (Oriol Solà). The specific cases of Rabat Region and the city of Rabat (Morocco) and the Governorate of Monastir (Tunisia) towards the policy in EE and RE in buildings in their respective area were also undertaken. Followed by Xavier Marti and Anna Moreno who informed on the 3 MED strategic projects capitalisation process (Marie, Elih Med and Proforbiomed), the Ljubljana's Declaration and the next Policy Paper on EE and RE in Buildings.

To highlight 2 issues:

1. The public support to Ljubljana's Declaration from UfM, the governorate of Monastir and the Region of Rabat-Salé-Zemmour-Zaer and the city of Rabat.
2. The perspective from southern regions and local authorities:
 - RABAT (Mohamed Sadiki): Morocco has the compromise to reduce 12% their low carbon emissions by 2020 and low down their energy consumption to 15% by 2030. For this several actions are taking place, among others: training, awareness to the citizens, financing incentives to those dwellings that save energy. Also important is Morocco new regionalization process. National authority is starting to transfer competences to the other levels of governance, this way national, regional and local authorities are responsible for the energy policy. He expressly underlined the importance of sharing international panel of experts (north and south) on EE and RE in buildings and the need of more EU funds to promote it and to create a mentality within the population.
 - MONASTIR (Khaled Younsi): He mentioned the importance of energy for Tunisia, not only from the environmental point of view but also from the job creation and well being perspective. Tunisia has a recently approved constitution and within this framework he stressed that all together should contribute to the debate of Energy and buildings, emphasizing these: universities, administrations and civil society. Recommendations related to energy in the construction sector for the Mediterranean area: Need of well performing material for construction, to valorise the materials used in the territory for construction, certified techniques and materials, qualified personnel and support the creation of microenterprises.

After, during the **first panel of experts** a variety of EE and RE projects with the involvement of southern and eastern Mediterranean partners and countries were displayed.

- MED-ENEC PROJECT (ENPI SOUTH) - presented by Florentine Visser (MED-ENEC Key Expert): In order to reduce both energy supply requirements and the ever-growing impact on the environment of inefficient buildings and installations, the MED-ENEC Project on Energy Efficiency in the Construction Sector in the Mediterranean is aiming to boost Energy Efficiency measures (EE) and the use of Renewable Energies (RE) in the construction sector.

During the first phase (2006 – 2009), the MED-ENEC project supported 10 low-energy-buildings as pilot projects in all partner countries from which six received the prestigious “National Energy Globe Award”. In addition, two International Symposia, fifteen Regional Workshops, twenty seven National Consultations, five Investors Meetings and three Energy Days realised on fairs served for awareness raising, exchange of good practices and networking.

The second phase of the MED-ENEC project started its activities in January 2010 and is finishing at the end of 2014. It aims at effective and sustainable implementation of EE and RE measures in the building sector of MENA-region, using an integrated, holistic approach. Therefore, the project is working in parallel on the regulatory and policy framework, business development, support to large building programs, capacity building and information dissemination. A clear focus is put on strengthening business services and supporting markets.

Ms Visser presented MED-ENEC initiatives as the first Arab NEEAP (National Energy Efficiency Action Plan) for Lebanon (2011-2015), several Energy Efficiency Building Codes assessments, with raising awareness activities as e.g. workshops, brochures etc. Also implication in the first Arab-energy-Efficiency Index, Energy Audit training and diverse financing studies has been presented.

MED-ENEC double based structure, both political framework and practical technical level, has been outlined by Ms Visser presenting also Technical Assistance to concrete urban projects with ambitious EE-requirements.

MED-ENEC 4. Building Projects

Technical Assistance

- ✓ TA to EE Building Projects:
 - ✓ JOR – Dead Sea Master Plan
 - ✓ MOR - l'Etude d'impact énergétique (decree)
 - ✓ TUN – Taparura
- EGY – NUCA Mostakbal

MED-ENEC 4. Building Projects

Awareness

- ✓ EE Handbook with AFED
- ✓ Guidelines:
 - EE Urban Planning
 - EE Building & Envelope
- Brochure EE Existing Building
- EE Building Projects !!

- RCREEE (ENPI SOUTH) - presented by Florentine Visser (MED-ENEC Key Expert):
The Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE) is an independent not-for-profit regional organization which aims to enable and increase the adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency practices in the Arab region. RCREEE teams with regional governments and global organizations to initiate and lead clean energy policy dialogues, strategies, technologies and capacity development in order to increase Arab states' share of tomorrow's energy.
Ms Visser presented the three main work areas of the entity: Research and Analysis / Capacity Development / Technical Assistance. RCREEE's "Arab Future Energy Index" (AFEX) has been presented as one of the key-achievements to enhance both Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency policies in the MENA countries. Another highlight is the "Regional Information System" portal, with the objective to ensure systematic, consistent, timely, detailed data collection on RE & EE to enable analysis, evaluation, planning and better formulation of RE & EE policies in the Arab region.
Common approaches and threats has been detected between RCREEE and both MARIE and ElihMed strategic MED-projects.

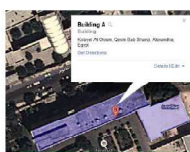
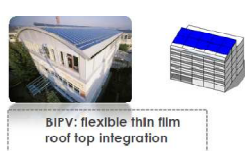


Member states of RCREEE

- DIDSOLIT-PB: DESCENTRALISED SOLAR ENERGY RELATED TECHNOLOGIES FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS(ENPI CBC MED) - presented by Àlex Parella, Didsolit-PB-Project Manager
This project (2013-2015) aims at promoting and implementing innovative technologies and know-how transfer in the field of decentralised, small scale, solar energy, that may be integrated in public buildings/premises. All this has to be achieved through cross-border public-private partnership and cooperation among entities from Spain, Greece, Egypt, and Jordan (with special attention to SMEs).
Àlex Parella, pointed out the main threats for the implementation of the RE-technologies proposed by the project (technological, economical and political-administrative aspects).
Main threats could be defined in the lack of regulation for RE grid connection and the highly subsidized policy for electricity in most of MENA countries, but also the lack of experience in RE installation and maintenance. Mr Parella explained that PV-integrated technology should be the last stage of the Energy Saving strategies, preceded by EE-measures as e.g. passive design components etc.
Mr Parella exposed the different buildings selected for the implementation of PV-integrated technologies. The intention of the project is to experiment different technologies in at least 10 different buildings in 4 countries (Egypt, Jordan, Greece, Spain).

WP6. Implementation of the selected applications

Some pre-selected building and application proposals: Alexandria (AU)



- FOSTER IN MED** - presented by Talal Salem, Expert of the project partner IRI (Industrial Research Institute - Lebanon)

FOSTER in MED project aims to promote the adoption of innovative solar photovoltaic (PV) technologies in the Mediterranean area. The project adopts a multi-layer strategic approach, with the involvement of the local stakeholders, in order to ensure that the results of the project activities will have a multiplicative effect at the Mediterranean Basin level, in terms of outcomes replication, dissemination and transferability of results both beyond the partnership and after the end of the Project.

Mr Salem explained the ongoing activities of the project, mainly the analysis of drivers, barriers and challenges for the diffusion of PV-technologies in the Arab countries. Therefore, the project is planning the conductance of interviews of local stakeholders and the administration of questionnaire to consumers. Technical guidelines are in elaboration to implement and promote a share design methodology for photovoltaic technologies and their architectonic integration. These capacity building strategies are to be complemented by pilot projects, where PV-solutions are going to be tested in public buildings.
- SURE : SUSTAINABLE URBAN ENERGY IN THE ENPI REGION – TOWARDS THE COVENANT OF MAYORS (URB-ACT)** - presented by Mohamed Sadiki, Vice President of the Regional Council of Rabat-Zemmour-Zaer

Most towns in Europe face complex socio-economic challenges. Smaller municipalities therefore are increasingly looking for opportunities to develop their capacity to work more effectively with resident and business communities on the development of integrated and locally sustainable solutions. The SURE network is designed to develop this capacity and to support its partners in the implementation of integrated socio-economic regeneration strategies which build on local strengths and opportunities. This will be achieved by developing an integrated Socio-economic Urban Rehabilitation Model for small and medium sized cities.

Mohamed Sadiki exposed the baselines of the SURE-project with the example of the SEAP of the city of Salé, one of the partners of the project. 49 measures has been detected to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions in this city. First pilot actions are under execution based on this SEAP. Part of the SEPA recommendations has been integrated in the City's Development Plan. As an example, the city's consumption of electricity is supposed to be reduced by 60% by 2020 by the introduction of LED technology and/or other highly-efficient technology in its public space. Salé committed to reduce the CO2 emissions by 20% till 2020. Mayor beneficiaries will be the city council, all municipal buildings and the various local actors present in the city.
- CES MED: CLEANER ENERGY SAVING MEDITERRANEAN CITIES (ENPI SOUTH)** - presented by Naguib Amin, CES-MED Coordinator

The overall objective of the project "Cleaner Energy Saving Mediterranean Cities" is to support the local authorities in the ENPI South Mediterranean Partner Countries to respond more actively to sustainable policy challenges. Mr Amin exposed the main purposes of the project: Apply more sustainable local policies (similar to those applied through the Covenant of Mayors) / Develop Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) / Enable partnership between National Authorities and cities towards sustainable development.

The challenges to develop SEAP's in the MED-region has been underlined: conductance of baseline inventory, identification of funding and implementation agenda. The expected results are an increased partnership between national and local authorities, effective plans to decrease CO2-gas emissions and an increased awareness and involvement of the local population. 21 municipalities from Mashreq and Maghreb have joined the project in 7 countries, and many additional municipalities have requested to join. Mr Amin outlined the challenges due to political changes in the region (Libya - Egypt, Lebanon...). The CoM (Covenant of Mayor) requires a commitment to reduce CO2 emissions by 20% for joining municipalities, which is unlikely to be copy pasted from northern countries.



The SEAP (Sustainable Energy Action Plans)

- A city plan to reach sustainability**

 - Establish vision and assess needs
 - Prepare plan of intervention
 - Identify funding
- A capacity building opportunity**

 - CES-MED training, networking, benchmarking and technical support



To highlight:

- The transfer and adaptation of the EU Energy Efficiency Action Plan to the Arab countries, developing “The Arab electricity plan”.
- The importance of capacity building and training for all Middle East, North African and Northern Mediterranean.
- Data base created by MED-ENEC where you can find financing possibilities for the Mediterranean area in EE and RE for the building sector. (Note: this is good data base to take into account as a base for our present and future projects but needs to be updated).
- The difficulty to put into practice the most new technologies in RE (photovoltaic) from the technical point of view and economic (too costly).
- The difficulty to work with southern and eastern Mediterranean local authorities. The political and governance situation is very diverse and most of the time, regions and local authorities do not have the political competences in energy. Also to mention the European funds administrative burden makes impossible for local authorities to apply for projects.



The active participants of the Malta EE&ER Meeting

The conference finalised with a **round table on the benefits of a coordinated strategy for EE &ER in the Mediterranean. In particular, cooperation through a shared capitalisation process**

Here the participants were Oriol Solà (Union for the Mediterranean), Davide Strangis (Secretary Executive of CIM-CPMR); Florentine Visser (MED ENEC Key Expert), chaired by Mercedes Acitores (LO MED-ENPI CBC MED).

The debate started with 2 questions to the panellist regarding their experience in the field and the status of its organisation, considering the objectives of the round table:

- Definition of challenges in EE and RE in the Mediterranean buildings.
- Possible ways of cooperation between north, southern and eastern Mediterranean countries to invigorate the effectiveness of the initiatives in EE and RE in this region, regarding its climate realities. Support to Ljubljana’s Declaration, as a concrete strategy for Energy Efficiency in Mediterranean Buildings.

The debate was also opened to the public. The floor was taken by Mohamed Sadiki, Khaled Younsi and Alex Parella.

Conclusions of the Round table (to highlight):

Key challenges for the Mediterranean in EE and RE in buildings.

1. Different climate conditions between north & south MED regions, with huge environmental challenges, especially in the south.
2. Not clear lobby for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in the Mediterranean.
3. Changing people’s behaviour. Difficulty to introduce EE+RE measures because of lack of prepared stakeholders.
4. High need of capacity building in the area. In particular MENA region local authorities.
5. Disconnection between administration and population in MENA countries (Difficulties to reach the families, when big part of them living in informal areas) >>> difficulties to understand challenges on the ground

6. Centralisation factor. Need to involve the national authorities, who have the competence in energy with hardly any participation of the regional or local authorities. There are exceptions: Morocco and Tunisia (Decentralisation process and new constitution, respectively)
7. Public-private partnership. Also involvement of the banking sector. This is more problematic in the North part of the Mediterranean than in the MENA countries that are used to work with the private and banking sector in their projects.
8. Subsidies of energy prizes, especially in the MENA regions.
9. Difference of energy poverty concept if we are talking in the North or in the South. (North is a matter of income; in the MENA countries is a matter of supply: blackouts.)
10. Necessity to compromise contractors in the discussions
11. Enhance capitalization potential of ongoing projects >>> need to further cooperation/coordination between the projects
12. Debureaucratize EU-project procedures: Have more time to solve real problems on site

Cooperation in the Mediterranean: Coordinated strategy.

1. There is no a coordinated strategy but yes first steps in the area: Ljubljana's Declaration; Arab Guidelines for EE.
2. A follow up of this kind of meetings is important to design a strategy.
3. A key for cooperation are adaptability and flexibility, based on understanding the reality of the ground. Examples of transferability and cooperation are:
 - The European EE Directive has been a baseline for the Arab Countries with the Arab Guideline for improving electricity efficiency and rationalizing consumption at the end user"(already mentioned).
 - The involvement of the private sector and banks in the EE and RE projects as a good practice to transfer to the north Mediterranean.
 - Covenant of mayor's adapted to the MENA local authorities reality in CES MED project.
4. Importance of a macro regional approach for a coordinated strategy.

Other General Comments

- The objectives of the conference were met.
- Participants to the meeting were around 70 people, most of them from Maltese institutions and project partners of the 3 MED projects. The presence of Mr Solà, Mr Sadiki and Mr Younsi gave an added value to the event. As well as the presentation of other ongoing projects in the MENA area with different kind of financing, which opened the scope of other funds to the participants and confirmed the idea that although there are different realities in the Mediterranean for sure there is a common challenge and complementary ways to face it.
- *Macro region.* The macro region debate came along few times during these days, based on the topic of energy efficiency in the Mediterranean, were all countries European and non European need to face the challenge jointly and in a complementary way. The idea of a step by step process including the non European countries depending on their needs can work depending on the topic we want to address. Energy efficiency – climate change could be one to tackle. Projects including 3rd countries could be addressed in objective 4, with this idea.
- M. Wassouf, coordinator of the Malta-EE&RE Meeting, exposed the World SB14-Barcelona Conference as the next step to continue debating on resolving the challenges pointed in the meeting. The Med-Area of the WSB14-Conference intends to develop the conclusions of the Malta-Meeting and to compromise both public and private entities to cooperate toward coordinated strategies of northern and southern Mediterranean countries to improve EE-RE policies and commitments.

02/04/2014

Mercedes Acitores.

Liaison Office MED-ENPI CBC MED

11/04/2014

Micheel Wassouf

Coordinator of the Malta-EE&RE Meeting