

STRATEGIC PROJECT

Contributing to the transfer and implementation of good practices to facilitate the take up of solar technologies



MED-DESIRE

MEDiterranean DEvelopment of Support schemes for solar Initiatives and Renewable Energies



Project
funded by the
EUROPEAN UNION



REGIONE AUTONOMA DE SARDIGNA
REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA

The project in brief

Solar technology markets have experienced a steady growth in the last decade on the northern shore of the Mediterranean basin while the situation is still at a premature stage in Southern Partner Countries. Notwithstanding the shared political commitment and a common recognition of the huge solar potential of the Mediterranean region, some barriers to solar energy deployment and diffusion persist. These include amongst others weak institutional frameworks, lack of competence of energy practitioners, need of dedicated financial instruments, inadequate perception on the benefits of solar energy investments, subsidized prices of electricity produced by fossil fuel plants and technical issues (such as the quality of equipments and installations).

MED-DESIRE main priority is to achieve tangible results on these challenges, removing barriers related to the legal, regulatory, economic and organizational framework of distributed solar energy technologies.

Beneficiary

Puglia Region - Research and Competitiveness Service, Industrial Research and Technological Innovation Office (Italy, Puglia)

Partnership

1. Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea (Italy, Lazio)
2. Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic. Development (Italy, Lazio)
3. Andalusian Energy Agency (Spain, Andalucía)
4. Andalusian Institute of Technology (Spain, Andalucía)
5. CIEMA - Solar Platform of Almeria (Spain, Andalucía)
6. The National Agency for Energy Conservation (Tunisia, Tunis)
7. Lebanese Center for Energy Conservation (Lebanon)
8. New and Renewable Energy Authority (Egypt)

Specific objective

To facilitate the take up of distributed solar energy and energy efficiency in the target regions, by achieving an effective cross-border cooperation and by raising public awareness on the related benefits for the environment and for sustainable local development

Expected results

- Strengthened capacity of public administrations and regional institutions
- Higher and more diffused competences of local technicians and professionals, facilitating the removal of the main technical barriers for distributed solar technology
- Innovative tailored financial mechanisms and market stimulation instruments designed to support the widespread diffusion of solar energy technologies
- Strengthened participatory approaches and increased awareness among public and private local stakeholders
- A wide consensus achieved amongst public and private key stakeholders on the central role of renewable energies for sustainable development and environmental protection
- A cooperation framework established among providers of energy technologies and services in EU Mediterranean Countries and Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPC) to foster the development of a sustainable common energy market

Main activities

- Benchmarking of national/regional policies and programmes focused on solar energy and energy efficiency
- Analysis of current certification procedures for solar energy technologies in MPC and EU regions
- Elaboration of recommendations and action plans for improving legislative and regulatory frameworks
- Capacity building initiatives for solar energy technicians and professionals to ensure the quality of components and installations
- Training sessions for policy-makers in charge of solar energy regulation
- Elaboration of innovative financial and market stimulus instruments

Target groups

- 5 central and 30 local administrations, institutions and agencies dealing with energy and environment
- 2.000 SMEs, energy technicians and professionals
- 10 financial institutions
- At least 10 business support organisations, industrial districts and entrepreneurial associations

Final beneficiaries

- Local communities
- Energy consumers
- Research centres and universities

Duration

36 months (January 2013 - December 2015)

Budget

- Total budget: € 4.655.007
- Programme contribution: € 4.191.306 (90%)
- Project co-financing: € 463.701 (10%)

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