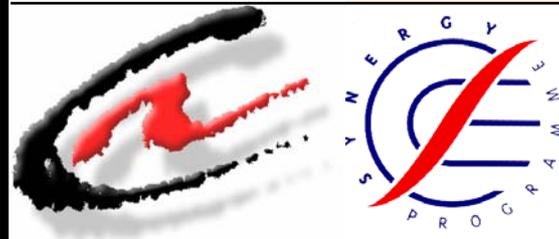


THE ENERGY IN ALBANIA



THE ENERGY IN ALBANIA (NEWSLETTER)

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NEWSLETTER

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REVIEW OF THE CURRENT ENERGY -RELATED LAWS AND REGULATIONS WITH AN IMPACT ON THE

(.....Continued from previous issue.....)

2. Mandatory Installation of Heating Systems in Buildings: Solar thermal obligations (STOs - sometimes also called as solar thermal ordinances or solar / renewable energy building codes) are typically a part of national or regional energy laws or bylaws and/or implemented through local building codes at the municipal level. The Law No.8937, date 12.09.2002 "On heat conservation in buildings" and the Government Decree No.584, dated 2.11.2000 "On energy saving and conservation in buildings" require that central heating systems be installed in all public and private buildings. The goal of these pieces of legislation is to establish the necessary legal basis for setting up the rules and making mandatory actions for conservation of heat in buildings of whatever purpose they are built.

In case a mandatory installation of SWH system in buildings (starting with the public buildings) is going to be proposed, the law may be modified including specific provisions which would require the installation of SWH system in buildings. Another alternative would be the inclusion of such an obligation in the section of the new RES Law. Possible coordination of such action with the Energy Efficiency Law and Energetic Building Code may provide good results.

3. Fiscal Facilities for Renewable Energy Sources: Introduction of fiscal facilities has been

one of the most worldwide applicable measures for promotion of RES that has been experienced in Albania as well. Law No. 8987, dated 24.12.2002 "On establishment of facilitation conditions for power producers" and the Law on "On production, transportation and trade of biofuels and other renewable transport fuels" contain provisions exempting subjects producing electricity from RES and using biofuels for transport from custom duties, VAT or excise tax.

At this initial stage of the development of SWH market, implementation of a similar measure for the production or installation of SWH systems would be an action to the right direction. The exemption of SWH from custom duties and VAT may affect positively the reduction of costs for consumers.

4. New Draft Law on RES: As mentioned above, the Albanian Ministry of Economy, Trade and Energy is under process of developing a new comprehensive draft law on renewable, which is expected to comply with the new EU Directive 2009/28/EC. Although the draft law is mostly focused on the generation of electricity from renewable, it already contains a section on promotion of SWH consisting in exemption of SWH and raw materials used for production of SWH from custom duties.

Using this opportunity, this law may be the right piece of legislation for including other specific provisions for promotion of SWH systems especially regarding the following issues:

- Establishment of mandatory installation of SWH systems in buildings starting with public buildings that will serve as a good example for other types of buildings from other sectors.
- Designation of an institution responsible for RES in general and SWH in particular including the management of any possible financial fund or credit lines established for this purpose.
- Establishment of a technical certification system for SWH panels that will be subject of any supporting measures or actions and for SWH installers.

However, it does worthwhile underlining that the above described legal measures represent only one of the directions where to work for promotion and development of SWH market in Albania. Other measures or actions such as the establishment and development of financial incentive programs by the Government or local authorities, the establishment and facilitation of credit lines for financing the subjects to install SWH in the buildings, organization of awareness raising campaigns supported by public authorities and focused to relevant target groups, training of architects, SWH producers and suppliers, etc., would affect very positively the development of SWH market.



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M 2 RES PROJECT FROM MARGINAL TO RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES SITES

Recovering Marginal Territories, making them regain their Lost Value by pursuing Sustainable Development Programs

1. Project Description

M2RES, a project co-financed by the EU through the South East Europe Programme 2007-2013, aims at re-qualifying marginal areas as landfills, mines, former military sites/supply-storages and contaminated areas, through investments programmes that focus on the installation of Renewable Energy Sources (PV, Wind, Biomass, Geothermal, Biogas, etc) that will contribute to a significant amount of renewable energy utilization. It involves partners from the EU as well as EU Neighbour countries, representing a broad network of public stakeholders, with relevant competences and complementary interests: National Energy Agencies are the main bodies in charge of implementing national energy policies and strategies, RES Research Centres have high level in-house expertise on RES technologies and matching these with marginal terrains, Chamber of Commerce system and Associations of RES industries assure focus on market development and green job-creation and Banks assures a potential sponsor for pilot projects and the point of view of a financial institution for activities. M2RES can boost EU's sustainable development, giving back social and economic value to areas that have irreparably lost it, transforming them in RES platforms. Its approach is to operate through public territorial partnerships to draft 40 M2RES exemplary investment proposals. Among those 10 municipalities/stakeholders will be assisted on the issuing of public bids/private notices and on evaluating the related offers. At least 2 of these 10 pilot M2RES implementations are expected to be promoted in the project as exemplary public investments for others to emulate.

2. Project Objectives

M2RES aims at improving the territorial, social and economic integration of the SEE area for cohesion/competitiveness through joint actions on a strategic issue: Renewable Energy Sources development linked to marginal areas management. M2RES will maximize the use of territorial resources in SEE Regions through remediation of marginal terrains through Renewable Energy plants implementation. The main objectives are:

- SEE public administration empowerment (improving governance capacity by giving tools and solutions for a truly eco-sustainable territorial planning).
- Tackling development challenges by improving transnational strategies for management of M2RES development in the SEE area.
- Spreading awareness/knowledge through a wide sensitization programme on how to optimize the use of local RES energy and territorial resources.
- Fostering social acceptability of RES, involving directly citizens and stakeholders in planning their territory's development.
- Providing market growth and job creation, boosting the energy markets through the development of the RES supply-chain.

Deviating the patterns of development of RES towards unexploited resources (marginal areas) will protect landscape and environment from RES speculation (occurred in countries where the RES market is mature (Austria, Italy and Spain) and provide new alternative energy sources where landscape and environment have been heavily compromised by consuming speculation. M2RES will contribute to the SEE economic development through environmental sustainable actions, policies and plans, based on an increased ability/capacity to identify, promote and make M2RES investments, which recapture new value in territories previously depleted.

3. Project Beneficiaries

The direct target groups of M2RES are:

- Local Public Administration: giving them consultancy, training, assistance for drawing up energy management plans, landscape and urban planning tools.
- Policy Makers and Public National, Regional Authorities: providing them data resulting from the survey identifying existing marginal areas for the energy management plans.

This will influence directly the decision making process, directing the development of the green economy in the SEE area towards a truly eco-sustainable growth. They will benefit from the income generated by M2RES exemplary pilot implementations, and from the increase in value of the terrains themselves and the consequent upgrading of surrounding landscape and environment. Indirect beneficiaries of the project are:

- a) Citizens and Civil Society: citizens will be actively involved in local landscape planning and in the start-off of M2RES pilot projects, and local communities will benefit from the re-qualification and upgrading of marginal areas and the increase in richness and work-places coming from the income and market development generated through RES investments.
- b) Energy Providers and Utilities: they will be involved in the planning process, in the realization of the M2RES exemplary pilot implementations, in the benefits of the RES market growth and of diversification of energy supply.
- c) Associations: Chambers of Commerce, SMEs Association, Energy Agencies and Associations of local authorities will benefit from the development of local RES supply-chain and investments.
- d) Investors: Financial institutions, Banks, Fund agencies, private investors will benefit from the economic returns of the pilot RES investments and of the new investments started-off through the leverage effect of the Project activities.
- e) Industry: SMEs, Craftsmen, Installers, the workforce, will benefit from the growth of the RES market and the creation of new green work places.

4. Project Activities and Results

In order to achieve the overall objectives starting from a coordinated transnational approach for real improvement of resources efficiency, M2RES carries out the following actions:

1. Starting from a recognition at regional and national level of the marginal terrains suitable for M2RES implementations (e.g. landfills, quarries, military areas) and of the best practices concerning M2RES technological solutions/management models, an operational guide called "Developing Renewable Energy Sources on marginal terrains" will be drafted. This document will be the means for spreading M2RES know-how to local,

regional and national authorities from the most experienced regions to less experienced ones of the SEE Area.

2. A wide awareness programme (local, regional, national and international seminars/ workshops and trainings to key staff in local public bodies) will be the way to diffuse knowledge and competences in the field of M2RES regarding the advantages of developing RES applications on marginal areas.

3. In order to support decision making process of public administrations, assistance activities will be carried out by energy agencies in order to introduce special measures and/or intervention lines for mainstreaming the M2RES approach in regional energy plans, and for developing 12 demonstrative preliminary M2RES Master Plans that will be guidance documents showing concrete measures and actions for M2RES development.

4. After creating the best legislative conditions, 40 M2RES exemplary investment proposals will be drafted on the base of a working guideline document for partners on how to carry out a preliminary pre-feasibility study for local public administrations in the SEE area. Among those, 10 municipalities/stakeholders will be assisted on the issuing of public bids/private notices and on evaluating the related offers. At least 2 of these 10 pilot M2RES implementations are expected to be promoted in the project as exemplary public investments for others to emulate. The assistance experience gained will be collected in a final project document Transforming Marginalities into RES Opportunities: Experiences and Lesson learnt through the M2RES project.

5. Project Partnership

EU Partners:

1. ENEA - Italian National Agency for New technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (Italy);
2. UCV - Union of Veneto Chambers of Commerce (Italy);
3. MOV - Municipality of Velenje (Slovenia);
4. CRES - Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving (Greece);
5. ENERO - Promotion of Clean and Efficient Energy in Romania (Romania);
6. ANRE - Romanian Energy Regulatory Authority;
7. CL SENES BAS - Central Laboratory of Solar Energy and New Energy Sources - Bulgarian Academy of Science (Bulgaria);
8. ENEREA - Regional Energy Agency - non profit making organisation (Hungary);
9. EEE - European Center for Renewable Energy Gussing Ltd Regional (Austria).

IPA Partners:

1. OU - Municipality of Ulcinj (Montenegro);
2. MESP - Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (Serbia);
3. EEC - Albania-EU Energy Efficiency Centre (Albania).

Observer:

1. UniCredit Leasing S.p.A (Italy).

Flavia DI NOTO
Union of Veneto Chambers of Commerce
(ITALY)

Dr. Eng. Edmond M. HIDO
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IMPLEMENTATION OF EE MEASURES FOR THE BUILDING OF "ELDERLY AND HANDICAP PEOPLE HOUSE" IN KORÇA

1. Background

The improvement of thermal insulation for the existing buildings and construction of new public buildings based on the new Albanian Energy Building Code will make possible the reduction of energy used for space heating and cooling in buildings. On one side, this will also help to smooth electricity supply difficulties, and on the other side, energy sa-vings will make possible to use less energy commodities in order to fulfil the heating and cooling needs and, consequently less polluters will be thrown on the environment. The existing buildings do not fulfil the Energy Building Code conditions, they have walls with a high coefficient of thermal losses and bad insulated windows & doors, and consequently they result in great heat losses.

In order to quantify the energy saving potential and to demonstrate the Energy Survey and Audit Process, two Pilot Energy Survey and Audits have been carried out in two selected buildings in Korça. This process has entailed identification of the actual energy conservation potential, the optional cost-effective energy conservation measures and has proposed an action plan for implementation of selected measures. The aim of the project is to reduce energy costs, improve indoor environment, ensure more efficient operation and maintenance of the building and technical installations, etc. In this framework, the Albania-EU Energy Efficiency Centre (EEC) in collaboration with Municipality of Korça and financially supported by a grant of USAID Local Governance Program in Albania (LGPA), has provided its technical support, assistance and supervision services for the implementation of Energy Efficiency (EE) Measures identified for the buildings of "Elderly and Handicap People House" in Korça.

2. Project Activities

1. Selection of a Company to Implement the Project: The EEC has provided its technical support and has organized the procedure for selecting a company (based in Korça) to implement the project. Following the EEC procedures, Company "XHENGO" has been selected.

2. Technical Support and Management for Implementation of EE Measures: The EE Measures and interventions to be implemented in this building have included:

- Thermal insulation of external walls,
- New double glazed windows / balcony doors,
- Energy efficient lamps,
- Thermal insulation of pitched roof.

During the implementation of EE Measures, the EEC has provided the required technical support and supervision of company's works. The following photos, illustrate all the implemented EE Measures and Interventions.

3. Project Implementation

After the contract between the EEC and the Company "XHENGO" has been signed, the work for implementing the above listed EE Measures has started. The work has started with thermal insulation of the pitched roof of the Main and Sec-



Photo 1. View of Thermal Insulation Works of the Roof - During EE Interventions



Photo 2. View of Thermal Insulated Roof - After EE Interventions



Photo 3. View of Corridor's Single Glazed Windows - Before EE Interventions



Photo 4. View of Corridor's Double Glazed Windows - After EE Interventions



Photo 5. View of Thermal Insulated Northern Façade of both Buildings



Photo 6. View of Thermal Insulated Northern Façade of both Buildings

ond Building as well as thermal insulation of the pitched roof of the Connecting Corridor and Laundry. After that, the work for thermal insulation of the Connecting Corridor as well as the Northern Façade of both Building has started. The work has continued with changing of the windows and/or balcony door of the Main and Second Building as well as with the windows of the Connecting Corridor. At the end, the incandescent bulbs has been changed with the energy efficient bulbs.

4. Final Remarks

In accordance with the self-governance law for municipalities, and related obligations, the implemented EE Measures can help Korça Municipality to reduce the expenses for space heating and cooling in this municipality building, and to allocate the money saved for other necessities. Also it could become a way how to cope with energy poverty and to improve the social welfare on both this building and municipal level. The EEC will promote and advocate the efficient management of energy resources and the energy conservation in buildings through all the country.



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