

Project no: IEE/10/224/SI2.593412

Rural Web Energy Network for Action

eReNet



**“D3.2: Implementation of the Training
Workshop”**

EAO

October 2011



Project no: *IEE/10/224/SI2.593412*

Rural Web Energy Network for Action (eReNet)

Start date of project: 21/06/2011

Duration: 30 months

Deliverable:

"D3.2: Implementation of the Training Workshop"

Lead Contractor for this Deliverable:

EAO

This deliverable has been developed by REGEA project team, under the guidance of the Lead Contractor EAO, within the framework of the 1st training workshop "The Network of Energy Sustainable Local Communities" in Cavtat, Croatia. The authors wish to thank all the eReNet partners, who have provided feedback and helped to elaborate the final version of this document.

October 2011

Disclaimer: The sole responsibility for the content of this report lies with the authors. It does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Communities. The European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

Preface

This report is prepared within the framework of the eReNet – Rural Web Energy Learning Network for Action (IEE/10/224/SI2.593412), supported by Intelligent Energy Europe. eReNet aims to add value to local actions in rural communities, creating an intelligent and integrated “Rural Web Energy Learning Network for Action”. eReNet will foster rural communities in the development, implementation and monitoring of their Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs), capacity building of the related actors through knowledge transfer from experienced communities.

Project Partners

Nº	Participant name	Short Name	Country
CO 1	National Technical University of Athens	NTUA	Greece
CB 2	Energy Agency Upper Styria	EAO	Austria
CB 3	North - West Croatia Regional Energy Agency	REGEA	Croatia
CB 4	Black Sea Energy Research Centre	BSERC	Bulgaria
CB 5	IrRADIARE, Ltd	IrRADIARE	Portugal
CB 6	Municipality of Amyntaio	AMYNTAIO	Greece
CB 7	Town of Neumarkt (in the Upper Palatinate)	NEUMARKT	Germany
CB 8	Asenovgrad Municipality	ASENOVGRAD	Bulgaria
CB 9	Municipality of Judenburg	JUDENBURG	Austria
CB 10	Sertã City Council	CM SERTÃ	Portugal



Table of Contents

1. Introduction	5
2. Day 1: 17th of October 2011	7
3. Day 2: 18th of October 2011	8
4. Day 3: 19th of October 2011	11
5. Synergies Created	12
Annexes	13
Annex I Agenda	14
Annex II List of Participants	18
Annex III Presentation in the Sustainable Energy Finance and Investment Summit Croatia 2011" conference	19

1. Introduction

The 1st eReNet training workshop, entitled “The Network of Energy Sustainable Local Communities” was organized by REGEA on the 17th - 19th of October 2011, in Cavtat Croatia. The training workshop was implemented as a back-to-back event of the “Sustainable Energy Finance and Investment Summit Croatia 2011” conference (19th to 22nd of October 2011), thus assuring the wider impact and the mobilization of local key actors in Croatia.



Figure 1. Location of the 1st eReNet Training Workshop

Main objective of the 1st training workshop was to adequately support rural communities in their sustainable development efforts by offering facilitation means towards encountering various obstacles, such as lack of technical capacity, limited resources, lower development rates and unawareness regarding the state-of-the-art technologies, as well as by assisting them in the development, implementation and monitoring of their Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs). Moreover, the 1st training workshop's aim was to explore national and European Union (EU) funds for financing existing and new Renewable Energy Sources (RES) and Rational Use of Energy (RUE) projects in the involved rural municipalities.

A triangle of academia-regional energy agencies-local authorities' interactions were involved in obtaining the aims and supporting the vision of sustainable energy and knowledge-based rural communities, as the training workshop attracted 24 participants from all partner countries, of which 13 (including the representatives of Dugo Selo and Sveta Nedelja) were local stakeholders and municipalities' representatives (Annex I).



Figure 2. 1st eReNet Training Workshop, Cavtat, Croatia

The workshop's program included a number of significant issues such as the importance of using RES in rural communities, ways to plan sustainable energy development in rural municipalities and means to provide adequate support to local areas in this process. Special emphasis was laid on the potential of clean energy projects despite the deep economic crisis.

The three day training workshop was divided into the following six parts. The event's agenda can be found in Annex II.

- Session I: Sustainable Energy Development of Rural Communities and eReNet project;
- Session II: Successful Energy Efficiency Projects;
- Municipalities' Panel: How to plan energy sustainable development of municipalities?;
- Expert Excursion.
- Session III: Supporting local authorities in the Process of SEAP preparation, implementation and monitoring;
- Session IV: The keys to be sure your project will be financeable;

2. Day 1: 17th of October 2011

The first day of the eReNet Training Workshop was initiated with the welcoming speeches of:

- Dr. Alexandra Papadopoulou, NTUA;
- Dr. Julije Domac, REGEA;

The session that followed was dedicated to eReNet and the Covenant of Mayors. The Croatian municipalities shared their experiences and assisted in knowledge transfer regarding the Covenant of Mayors initiative. In addition, the general framework and the relevant guidelines to develop a SEAP were presented. Collaborative and constructive discussion from all the involved participants, followed.



Figure 4. 1st day of the Training Workshop

3. Day 2: 18th of October 2011

The second day of the eReNet training workshop was initiated with a session devoted to successful energy efficiency projects. Within this session, representatives from the Municipality of Neumarkt, the City of Ivanić-grad and the City of Rijeka presented best practice cases in their areas and disseminated the importance and direct positive results to the areas' efficiency and sustainability.

Nevertheless, important prerequisite for the successful implementation of energy projects, that may result in significant financial savings and improve the living conditions by reducing pollution at the local level, is the clear political vision. The example of the existing energy-efficient lighting system in Dugo Selo was pointed out, which involved the replacement of 1,257 lamps with new aluminum ones. Some of the derived positive effects were the reduction of maintenance costs, increased average illumination, increased transport safety and light pollution elimination.

One of the highlights of the eReNet workshop was the panel discussion that followed, regarding the means towards energy sustainable development planning of the municipalities. 8 representatives from the Croatian Municipalities participated in the panel discussion, disseminating the municipalities' experience, highlighting their efforts to become sustainable regions, by utilizing the available natural resources, contributing to the knowledge transfer, as well as providing information regarding barriers that are probable to come up.



Figure 5. Panel Discussion: How to Plan Energy Sustainable Development of Municipalities?

According to the panel discussion one of the biggest obstacles to the implementation of energy projects at the local and national level is the long lasting procedures in obtaining legal documentation. The example of the Municipality of Dubrovacko primorje was pointed out, where seven years were not enough in order to collect the permits needed

for the development of a wind farm. All the Croatian municipalities' representatives strongly pointed out that even though Croatia does not lack in quality projects and investment ideas, the existing legal framework and procedures are a serious obstacle towards the essential shift in the unutilized RES.



Figure 6. Representatives of Croatian Municipalities

All the panelists pointed out the fact that Croatia's RES, solar thermal energy in particular, remain unexploited mostly due to the lack of awareness among citizens and lack of education regarding the benefits deriving from its use. After the securing of co-finance of the solar collectors' installation in households, the Municipality of Konavle is planning a strong promotional campaign to encounter this issue.

According to the panelists, the Energy Efficiency and Environmental Protection Fund provides active financial support to municipalities in implementing RES and RUE projects. There are various advantages in using such sources of funding as for example the simplicity of applicant's documentation. Furthermore, commercial banks are increasingly reaching out to the public sector by offering the so called "Green Loans". On the other hand, even though financing projects through the European funds and Programs is more complicated, as demanding and extensive documentation is necessary, municipalities should make an effort towards using these sources of funding more often. The state and local communities should collaborate towards promoting RES and RUE, while fostering local and regional cooperation through mutual exchange of knowledge and experience.

Moreover, at the end of the second day of the eReNet training workshop, all experts participated in the field visits where they enjoyed the opportunity of visiting clean energy projects in the area, such as the Kindergarten Grude. The field visits allowed the participants and stakeholders to get information but also interact with each other, further contributing to the knowledge transfer and experience exchange.



Figure 7. 1st eReNet Training Workshop Site Visit

4. Day 3: 19th of October 2011

The last day of the eReNet training workshop initiated with a session regarding the local authorities support in the process of SEAP preparation, implementation and monitoring. Within this session various representatives, not only from Croatia but from SE England as well, shared their area's experiences and lessons learnt as regards the SEAP's development and implementation, contributing to the awareness increase of locally applicable good practice cases.

Special emphasis was laid on the final session, related to ways to assure that RES and RUE projects are financeable. In this context, 6 key speakers and 4 moderators actively participated and depicted financing instruments and mechanisms for RES and RUE projects' implementation in the rural communities.



Figure 8. Selected Photos from the Speakers and the Discussion on the 3rd day

5. Synergies Created

Within the framework of increasing synergies among eReNet and the local stakeholders, the eReNet coordinator, Prof. John Psarras, participated in the “Sustainable Energy Finance and Investment Summit Croatia 2011” conference (19th to 22nd of October 2011, with a presentation entitled “Financial Mechanisms and Experiences at the Local Level”.



Figure 9. Presentation of Financial Mechanisms at the Local Level

ANNEXES



Rural Web Energy Learning Network for Action

Workshop

The Network of Energy Sustainable Local Communities

17 – 19 October 2011

Hotel Croatia

Cavtat, Croatia

Under the auspices of:



**KONAVLE
MUNICIPALITY**

Organization:



About project

The new European Union 2020 sustainable development vision provides an opportunity to tackle the current financial and economic crises through maintaining local jobs and wealth. The regional authorities demonstrate their willingness to implement sound local sustainable energy policies especially through their participation in the EU Covenant of Mayors initiative. They are committing themselves to address the problem and become a driving force and frontrunner in the fight against climate change. It is very important for them to be adequately supported in this respect.

This is particularly true for the rural communities. Indeed, the lack of technical capacity and the limited resources are the most important barriers for these areas, which are characterized by low development rates and are especially afflicted by the continuing crisis that strangles the development efforts.

ERENET project aims to add value to local actions in rural communities, creating an intelligent and integrated "Rural Web Energy Learning Network for Action". ERNET will foster rural communities in the development, implementation and monitoring of their Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) through capacity building of the related actors through knowledge transfer from experienced communities and identification of bankable projects, matured enough to be included under national or different EU funds.

The triangle of academia-regional energy agencies-local authorities' interactions will be involved in obtaining the aims, supporting the vision of sustainable energy, knowledge-based, rural communities.

Programme

Monday, 17. October 2011- Šipun Hall, Hotel Croatia

14.30- 15:00- Registration of participants and welcome coffee

15.00- 15:30- Opening and welcome speech

- Luka Korda, mayor, Konavle municipality
- Dr. sc. Alexandra Papadopoulou, project manager, National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)
- Dr. Julije Domac, managing director, North-west Croatia Regional Energy Agency (REGEA)

15.30- 17:30- Session I- Sustainable Energy Development of Rural Communities and eReNet project

- *Introduction of eReNet project*- Dr. sc. Alexandra Papadopoulou, project manager, NTUA
- *EC initiative Covenant of Mayors* - MSc Vesna Kolega, REGEA
- *Croatian municipalities in Covenant of Mayors* - Sanda Djukić, REGEA
- *Methodology of Sustainable Energy Action Plan* - Ivana Horvat, REGEA

17:30-18:00- Discussion

Tuesday, 18 October 2011 – Šipun Hall, Hotel Croatia

9:30-11:00- Session II- Successful Energy Efficiency Projects

- *An overview of climate protection structures and projects in the City of Neumarkt, Ra Mützel,*
- *Successful Energy Efficiency Projects in the City of Ivanić-grad, MSc Vlatka Berlan Vlahek*

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30-13:00- Panel: How to plan energy sustainable development of municipalities?

- Anđela Cirkveni, mayor, Pušća municipality
- Ivo Gavranić, mayor, Blato municipality
- Nikola Knežić, mayor, Dubrovačko primorje municipality
- Božo Lasić, Konavle municipality
- Ivo Milatić, mayor, Jelsa municipality
- Božidar Škrinjarić, mayor, Pokupsko municipality

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:15- 17:00- Expert Excursion

- Kindergarten Grude
- The production of olive oil/ energy use of olive waste in Konavle field;
- Visit to the winery/wine tasting

Wednesday, 19 October 2011 – Šipun Hall, Hotel Croatia

10:00-13:00 Session III- Supporting local authorities in the Process of SEAP preparation implementation and monitoring

- *GIZ project: Capital Cities Initiative - MSc Vesna Kolega, REGEA*
- *Supporting local communities in developing renewable energy in SE England - Keith Richard: TV Energy*
- *Successful Energy Efficiency Projects in the City of Rijeka - MSc Duško Radulović, Energo*
- *Supporting local communities in sustainable energy projects implementation in NW Croatia Sanda Djukić, REGEA*
- *Supporting local community in realisation of energy efficiency projects - Ivan Šimić, Region: Energy Agency North*
- *Supporting local community in realisation of energy efficiency projects- Darko Jarda: Regional Energy Agency Kvarner*

13:00–14:30- Lunch Break

14.30–16.00- Session IV: The keys to be sure your project will be financeable – Part 1

Moderators: Moran Marangunić (PBZ), Hrvoje Maras (REGEA)

Key speakers:

Marija Šćulac, Environment Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund (EPEEF)
Dubravka Bošnjak, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit – Open Regional Fund (GIZ ORF)
Zlatko Zmijarević, Croatian Energy Regulatory Agency (HERA)

16:00-16:30- Coffee break

16:30-18:00 - Session IV: The keys to be sure your project will be financeable – Part 2

Moderators: Dr Alexandra Papadopoulou (NTUA), Ira Saul Rubenstein (Traficon s.r.o.)

Key speakers:

Robert Ghelasi (Capital Partners),
Natalia Meylunas (EBRD TAM BAS),
Lloyd Stevens (Green for Growth Fund SEE)

18:00-18:30: Final discussion and workshop closing

Contacts data:

North-west Croatia Regional Energy Agency
Andrije Žaje 10 , 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia

Ivana Horvat

Phone: +385 1 7775 496/ +385 91 3885 310

E-mail: ihorvat@regea.org

Sanda Djukić

Phone: +385 1 7775 494/ +385 91 3885 306

E-mail: sdjukic@regea.org

Vesna Kolega

Phone: +385 1 7775 499/ +385 91 3885 307

E-mail: vkolega@regea.org

ANNEX II

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS



RURAL WEB ENERGY LEARNING
NETWORK FOR ACTION



1ST TRAINING WORKSHOP
CAVTAT, CROATIA, OCTOBER 17-19, 2011

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

No.	Participant	Contact
1.	Miljana Ilic	miljana.ilic@gmail.com
2.	Renata Rozek	renata@grad-svetanedelja.hr
3.	Ivan Gereci	ivan.gereci@dugoselo.hr
4.	Vlatka Berlan Vlahek	vlatka.berlan@ivanic-grad.hr
5.	Stefica Lustek	stefica.lustek@samobor.hr
6.	Marija Galic	marija.galic@samobor.hr
7.	Radosav Babic	radosav.babic@ee-me.org
8.	Ivan Simic	ivan.simic@rea-sjever.hr
9.	Zdenko Krincic	zdenko.krincic@ponikve.hr
10.	Cedomir Miler	cedomir.miler@grad-krk.hr
11.	Duško Radulovic	dusko.radulovic@energo.hr
12.	Vesna Kolega	vkolega@regea.org
13.	Nikola Knezic	opcina@dubrovackoprimorje.hr
14.	Keith Richards	keith.richards@tvenergy.org
15.	Paulo Santos	mariano@em-serta.pt
16.	Ines Silva	ines.silva@irradiare.com
17.	Ralf Mützel	ralf.muetzel@neumarkt.de
18.	Cvetoslava Coneva	cvetoslava@bsrec.bg
19.	Anastasia Allilomi	allilomian@amyntaio.gr
20.	Alexandra Papadopoulou	alexpapa@epu.ntua.gr
21.	Franz Bachmann	bachmann@ainet.at
22.	Bozo Lasic	bozo.lasic@du.t-com.hr
23.	Sanda Djukic	sdjukic@regea.org
24.	Ivana Horvat	ihorvat@regea.org

**ANNEX III PRESENTATION IN THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FINANCE AND
INVESTMENT SUMMIT CROATIA 2011" CONFERENCE**