

Capacity building for regional regulators and framework stakeholders

Subject:	Capacity building for regulators and framework stakeholders in Varna, Bulgaria
Description:	The main objective is to attract attention on SDH technology and its commercial and environmental aspects and benefits through the relevant actors. Using capacity building actions the interested supporters will be trained and prepared with basic knowledge for a future implementation of SDH in the region.
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Summary description of the instrument

Region: Varna, Bulgaria

Partners involved: Institute for Zero Energy Buildings

Short description of the measure: Capacity building for regulators and framework stakeholders in Varna

Initial situation

The population of the Varna region is concentrated in the city of Varna, where the most relevant actors are identified: District Heating operators, Non Governmental Organizations for Renewable Energies and policy makers, urban planners, engineers and other consultants, university scientists and professors.

The local DH company has a team of highly qualified experts, leading strategic development of the company infrastructure.

According to the professional register there are more than 500 registered architects and urban planners and more than 80 registered HVAC engineers.

In the region several active NGO and associations are operating with relevant interest and expertise.

There are two departments inside of the Varna Municipality structure with relevant responsibility: 'Architecture, urban and spatial planning', 'Engineering Infrastructure and Public Works'. These departments are led from directors with status of deputy mayor.

The technical university of Varna has educational program of HVAC, RE and ecology. There is a team of professors and PHD students having research activities in the field.



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Objectives

The main objective is to attract attention on SDH technology and its commercial and environmental aspects and benefits through the relevant actors. Using capacity building actions the interested supporters will be trained and prepared with basic knowledge for a future implementation of SDH in the region. In addition the regional strategic documents and regulation will be studied from prospective of SDH implementation and upgrades will be proposed to the policy makers.

Measures and actions

- Conduct a training seminar in the Technical university of Varna, supported by international SDH experts where the most important actors are invited to participate
- Publishing and presenting to the actors the key study of SDH application in "Kaisieva gradina" district
- Further business to business meetings will be conducted, with much detailed collaboration with the relevant stakeholders
- A study of the regional and national strategic policy and regulations will be presented to the actors and the propositions for updates and improvements are going to be discussed and elaborated

Barriers and opportunities

Barriers:

- Lack of experience among the actors in the field
- Lack of knowledge of the technical aspects for SDH and its potential among engineers and consultants
- Lack of sufficient information about the European achievements and research in the field

Opportunities

- Interested local DH company
- Friendly and supportive municipality
- Active NGO and agencies and professional associations
- Local technical university with education programs in the field



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Results

To the training seminar were invited local municipal authorities, architects, urban planners, environmentalists, HVAC engineers, energy sector investors, district heating companies, energy agencies, professional associations, university professors etc.

It is expected the training to raise the interest of the stakeholders to the SDH technology and its commercial and environmental aspects and benefits.

Furthermore, future implementation of SDH project will be supported through the capacity building of the relevant actors and through the elaboration of changes and improvements in the regional and national strategic policy and regulations

Lessons learned

It was found out that SDH is a hot topic and there is an interest from local DH company, design and architectural companies, HVAC engineers for the seminar and a desire to raise their knowledge in the field.

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