

## URBAN EMPATHY – Working Package 3

### RESULT INFORMATION FILE – Phase 1

Description of the result to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY

#### 1. Partner's description

*(Summary information of the partner presenting the result to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY)*

Name of the institution presenting the result	AVITEM - Agence des Villes et Territoires Méditerranéens Durables (ex-Institut de la Méditerranée)
Type of institution (city, region, agency, tech institute...)	State Agency
Main contact	Name: Mathilde Dioudonnat Position: Projects Director Telephone: +33 426 84 57 27 Mail: <a href="mailto:m.dioudonnat@avitem.org">m.dioudonnat@avitem.org</a>

#### 2. Project description

*(Summary information of the project corresponding to the result)*

Name of the project	Energy Efficiency in Low-Income Housing in the Mediterranean
Acronym of the project	ELIH-Med
Starting date	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2011
Ending date	31 <sup>st</sup> December 2014
Project status (finished, execution...)	On-going
Project type (standard, targeted, strategic, ...)	Strategic (call for proposals n°3, dated 15 April 2010)
Lead partner of the project	ENEA- Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development
Project website	<a href="http://www.elih-med.eu/">http://www.elih-med.eu/</a>
Programme (MED, Interreg...)	MED
	Axe 2: Protection of the environment and

Programme Priority	promotion of a sustainable territorial development
Programme Objective	Objective 2.2: Promotion and renewable energy and improvement of energy efficiency
EU 2020 Strategy (choose the most suitable one from the following options)	<input type="checkbox"/> Smart growth <input type="checkbox"/> Inclusive growth <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable growth <input type="checkbox"/> Economic governance

Description of the **PROJECT**. Main topic and objectives. (300 words approx.) *(Describe in more detail the project's main thematic and objectives, providing relevant information about the contents addressed in it and where does the result to be capitalized come from)*

ELIH-Med project focuses on energy efficiency in low income housing in the Mediterranean area in the context of EU 2020 objectives. The population targeted by the project, whether tenants, owner occupiers with low income or households suffering energy poverty, live in housing that represents about 40% of the total building stock. This population is considered as "difficult to reach" through traditional public policies and requires innovative technical and financial approaches in order to help them reduce their energy consumption.

The project, then, aims to identify and demonstrate, through large scale pilot actions, the feasibility of cost efficient innovative solutions and financial mechanisms backed with ERDF which could then be extended to all Mediterranean territories.

More specifically, the project aims to:

- Develop multilevel cooperation associating national, regional and local entities to address, in a coordinated manner, the problem of energy efficiency in low income housing and energy poverty in the Mediterranean.
- Develop the processes for large scale experimentation on ten territories of innovative technical solutions adapted to the context of low income housing in the Med area and financial mechanisms backed with ERDF.
- Implement, in a coordinated manner, energy refurbishing pilot projects on 500 households spread amongst six partner countries and ten different locations.
- Develop multi energy smart metering devices adapted to low income households and able to help them reduce their energy bills.
- Develop, as a result of the large scale pilot actions, concepts, approaches and policy options that can be diffused and adapted to the diversity of situations encountered for low income housing in the Mediterranean area.

The result to be capitalized within URBAN EMPATHY comes directly from this will to draw conclusions from the pilot actions at political level: being a joint production from ELIH-MED and MARIE projects, the Policy Paper delivers policy

recommendations in order to allow the European Institutions, Mediterranean countries and their Regions to take benefit of the main experiences, outputs and results of these two projects, as well as of the transnational projects related to energy efficiency in buildings in the Mediterranean area.

### 3. Result description

*(Summary information of the result to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY)*

Name of the result to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY	Policy Paper - Answers to energy efficiency and renewable energies challenges in Mediterranean buildings
Type of result (operational tool, recommendations, good practices, guideline, ...)	Recommendations addressed to European Commission (DG Regio and MED programme, DG Energy), national and regional decision-makers
Current status of the result (under development, completed, not started...)	1 <sup>st</sup> finalized version completed, 2 <sup>nd</sup> version in progress
Type of deliverable (document, website, database, ...)	Document
Specific URL link	<a href="http://www.elih-med.eu/Layout/elih-med/?page=/upload/moduli/pagine/public/operational.html&amp;target=&amp;tit=Main%20Topics&amp;Tit2=Macroeconomical%20strategy%20on%20EE%20in%20LIH">http://www.elih-med.eu/Layout/elih-med/?page=/upload/moduli/pagine/public/operational.html&amp;target=&amp;tit=Main%20Topics&amp;Tit2=Macroeconomical%20strategy%20on%20EE%20in%20LIH</a>
Publication date	1 <sup>st</sup> version published in January 2013 2 <sup>nd</sup> version to come late 2013
Language	English (will be probably translated in the other languages of the project)

Description of the chosen **RESULT** to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY. Result objectives. Utility and purpose. (200 words aprox.) *(Brief description of the result's most relevant characteristics, pointing out the main objectives and purpose.)*

As strategic projects, ELIH-Med and MARIE projects have a key capitalization role to play in order to allow the European community to take benefit of their main experiences, outputs and results. To this end, both projects have worked in close collaboration to develop common policy recommendations coming out from analyses on energy efficiency of buildings in the Mediterranean realized with the projects, the parallel implementation of their pilot actions, and information provided by other territorial cooperation projects.

As the on-going programming period for European territorial cooperation is coming to an end, these policy recommendations, gathered in a 60-pages document called "Policy Paper", aim to propose to the Managing Authority of the MED programme a consensus-based set of recommendations to prepare the elaboration of the MED operational programme and orientate future calls for projects from the MED programme during the period 2014-2020. As the Policy Paper considers both energy

efficiency policies and territorial cooperation, it tries to pave the way for an empowerment of them as central topics of the next programming period operational programs, and more broadly to influence policies to include energy efficiency in buildings as a top priority in political agendas (at EU, national and regional levels).

List of keywords related to the result (10 words max.) *(Please provide a short list of keywords related to the result to be capitalized in Urban Empathy, e.g.: urban planning, sustainable growth, mobility, energy efficiency, renewable energies, governance...)*

Energy efficiency, public policies, multi-level governance, financial engineering, dispersion of funds, market barriers, operational programme, awareness raising, training

Describe the potential benefits or improvements that the result may generate through the capitalisation process (200 words approx.) *(Describe improvements either in your result or those that it may generate due to the capitalisation process)*

URBAN EMPATHY will be a good opportunity to disseminate the contents of the policy paper among other partners and will also provide a good opportunity to involve targeted decision-makers in the framework of the structured dialogue and the high-level seminars.

The structured dialogue engaged within URBAN EMPATHY capitalisation process may contribute to improve the Policy Paper by confronting the recommendations included in it and the needs expressed by decision-makers through the structured dialogue. This structured dialogue will permit to check the correctness and relevance of recommendations, and possibly to amend the Policy Paper.

Also, the Policy Paper will benefit from the mobilisation of decision-makers within the structured dialogue and the high-level seminars, which will be good opportunities to increase their appropriation of key messages and include recommendations in their own policies. The integration of the Policy Paper within a broader environment that is the sustainable urban model promoted by URBAN EMPATHY will also prove its relevance as a component of what shapes our living environment.

#### 4. Result evaluation

According to your own criteria, which are the main strong points of your result? Which are the weak ones? (300 words approx.) *(Describe the strengths and weaknesses of the result to be capitalized in Urban Empathy)*

##### Strong points

- The Policy Paper, coming from an efficient and consensus-based collaboration between two strategic projects (ELIH-Med and MARIE), and supported by a third one (PROFORBIOMED) can claim legitimacy and credibility because it expresses opinion agreed by more than 60 different partners. Messages advocated by the Policy Paper, then, have more force to be heard and taken into account by decision-makers.
- Energy efficiency in buildings and energy renovation are already considered as key topics by policy-makers in general. Therefore, they may pay more attention to listening recommendations to improve policies on this subject.
- ELIH-Med and MARIE projects have established good relationships with key stakeholders who can diffuse and lobby for the Policy Paper: in the European Commission, DG Energy – in charge of sectorial energy policy – and DG Regio (notably through the Joint Technical Secretary of the MED Programme) – in charge of the European regional policy, and then of the transnational cooperation programmes; the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR), ELIH-Med partner, and which has strong influence in European institutions.

##### Weak points

- The Policy Paper is the consolidation of many sources of expertise and experiences provided notably by ELIH-Med, MARIE and PROFORBIOMED, but also by external projects. Then, the result may sometimes appear as too complex, and difficult to read and understand. The second version of the Policy Paper will intend to make it more accessible.
- Above general principles and objectives advocated in the Policy Paper, it is important to provide with concrete requirements that policy-makers are able to put into practice. This aspect may be weak in the first version of the Policy Paper: it will be improved in the 2<sup>nd</sup> version, which will provide practical guidelines to the recommendations.
- ELIH-Med and MARIE partnerships are one component of a very dense network of diverse institutions, associations, businesses dealing with energy efficiency in buildings and interacting with decision-makers. Therefore, this profusion of stakeholders may reduce the weight of messages advocated by the Policy Paper. In order to compensate for this risk of being hidden in a mass of documentation and information provided by other actors, it is important to target and address the right political institutions and interlocutors, at all levels. For example, persons in charge of operational programmes should be addressed in priority within regions.

How do you think your result can affect the main aspects to be considered in a sustainable urban model?

(300 words approx.) (Describe the capacity of the result to fulfil the sustainable urban model main principles)

*Cross - cutting aspects*

- Territorial management and urban design
- Social and Economic cohesion

*Sectorial aspects*

- Sustainable mobility
- Energy efficiency

The Policy Paper totally fits in the sustainable urban model, as it addresses firstly the sectorial aspect of energy efficiency in buildings, by orienting public policies towards more help and funds dedicated to energy efficiency and energy renovation.

Also, it promotes social and economic cohesion, as energy efficiency increase contributes to lower energy bills of inhabitants, businesses or public authorities. In particular, a special attention is given to low-income households (which are the main target of ELIH-Med project), for whom energy efficiency increase and energy consumption decrease reduce energy poverty, and then improve their levels of comfort and purchasing power. Also, the accompaniment of inhabitants (through raising awareness campaigns, support during energy refurbishment, meetings, etc.) contributes to social and economic cohesion.

Territorial management and urban design are also affected, as the construction of new buildings today must take into account energy efficiency requirements. Also, energy renovation may change the face of a building and then of an area.

What influence do you consider that your project result could have on environmental governance and what could be its impact on urban policies? At which level? (Local, regional, national, MED or European level...) (300 words approx.) *(Describe the level of influence of the result and its applicability on EU policies)*

As the result is a Policy paper, governance is its main field of influence, such as the governance of public policies related to energy efficiency, as the Policy Paper advocates for a better coordination between policies and the reduction of the funds dispersion.

The Policy Paper makes the observation that there is poor integration and lack of joined-up governance of European, National, Regional and Local policies on energy efficiency and renewable energy supply. This lack of coordination has strongly contributed to delay the implementation of Energy Performance of Buildings Directive in Mediterranean countries as well as to the high dispersion of public and private funds registered at local level. Following this, the Policy Paper presents several recommendations directly impacting environmental governance and urban policies.

- The lack of articulation of energy efficiency in buildings policies, designed and implemented by different institutions at several levels, contributes to a dispersion of energy efficiency dedicated funds. Then, the Policy Paper advocates for a better articulation of energy efficiency in buildings policies, giving to regional authorities a central role in the coordination at territorial level.

- Policies are not adapted enough to the diversity of building typologies and residents socio-economic and cultural situation. Then, the Policy Paper advocates for the elaboration, coordination and implementation of differentiated policies and plans targeting the various typologies of existing buildings and the different types of occupiers.

- Conventional financial instruments and institutions are not able to make energy efficiency renovations feasible and there is a lack of new/alternative financial models and organizations able to contribute to a significant increase of the energy efficiency renovation rate in a financial crisis context. Then, the Policy Paper advocates for the development of financial engineering capabilities to leverage ERDF and other public funds on private financial resources, and for a better coordination of structural funds.

- There is a lack of knowledge on behaviours and know-how on social acceptance and end-users involvement. Then, the Policy Paper advocates for the development of inclusive policies, participatory methods and community energy renovation projects involving final users.



What is the main target group the result is addressing to? (public administration, public sector, private sector, research groups, ...) How does it enhance public participation? (200 words approx.) *(Describe the target audience that could use the result and if citizen participation processes have been considered)*

The Policy Paper addresses all the decision-making levels dealing with energy efficiency in buildings:

- European institutions, in particular the European Commission, in order to address:
  - sectorial policy of energy through the DG Energy
  - energy and transnational operational programmes within territorial cooperation through DG Regio and MED programme
- national policies through national decision-makers
- operational programmes through regional decision-makers

By mobilising regional and national decision-makers, recommendations advocated by ELIH-Med and MARIE partners can also be conveyed directly to the European Commission.

The final beneficiary of the Policy Paper will be of course inhabitants of dwellings and users of buildings, if recommendations are appropriated and applied by decision-makers.

Above energy efficiency increase and energy renovation of which they will take advantage, citizens' participation in itself is also promoted within the Policy Paper, which recommends the adoption of policies involving citizens and actions towards them to raise awareness on energy efficiency (communication campaigns, accompaniment during energy refurbishment, etc.).

Is the result currently in use in the Europe/MED area? (150 words aprox.) *(Please provide further information on the usability of the result, pointing out if it has already been implemented or in use)*

The Policy Paper is currently in its first version. Action (meetings at national level, workshops with other projects, etc.) has been taken to launch the second version. Therefore, a first work of diffusion and lobbying has been undertaken:

- meeting with the European Commission (DGs Energy and Regio) in March 2013
- presentation of the Policy Paper and ELIH-Med results to the MED Task Force in March 2013
- presentation in other events (INTERACT in Brussels, etc.)

Thus, messages contained in the Policy Paper have already been diffused in key institutions, the strategic one for our purpose being the MED Task Force, which gathers member States of the MED area and works on the preparation of the next programming period (2014-2020). A Declaration, the “Declaration of Ljubljana”, coming out from the Policy Paper, will be presented in Slovenia in September 2013, in order to initiate a first commitment of ELIH-Med and MARIE partners at political level.

This work of diffusion and lobbying will be intensified with the second version of the Policy Paper. Only after this, the Policy Paper and its recommendations may be really used, ie applied, by policy-makers in the MED area.

According to your own criteria, what are the main innovative aspects of the result? (150 words aprox.) *(Please provide further information on the level of innovation achieved by the result to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY: new methodologies, etc...)*

The Policy Paper results from a close collaboration between two strategic projects and is supported by one more (PROFORBIOMED). This kind of collaboration between several projects on the production of recommendations which require consensus is not very common and can then be considered as innovative.

Also, as the Policy Paper identifies barriers to the development of energy efficiency and energy renovation in buildings, it intends to bring innovative solutions to overcome these barriers and change public policies covering energy efficiency in buildings, in order to enable its effective development: the stress is put in particular on financial engineering capabilities, as the capacity to identify and mix different sources of funding is key to finance and then implement energy refurbishment. Participative methodologies to involve inhabitants and users are also developed, as well as training for professionals.

How do you think your result could be implemented? Through which means? Do you think it is easily transferable? Estimated costs, resources, time needed for implementation, key actors involved... Please include any other relevant criteria you may consider important (300 words approx.) *(Please provide further information on implementation and transferability requirements of the result)*

Implementing the Policy Paper would mean that recommendations included in it would be applied by decision-makers by integrating them in public policies, and then used by stakeholders. Notably, operational programmes – regional and also from transnational programmes – is a first set of policies to target. Future calls for projects of the MED programme during the next programming period could also integrate priorities related to energy efficiency as stated in the Policy Paper.

To allow this appropriation by policy-makers, an intensive work of diffusion and lobbying of the Policy Paper has to be made towards different decision-making levels, in particular when its second version is finalized. The different steps of action envisaged up till now are the following:

- presentation of the “Declaration of Ljubljana” – synthesis of main recommendations of the Policy Paper aiming to involve political levels of projects partners and targeted institutions – in September 2013 in a joint capitalisation meeting between ELIH-Med, MARIE and PROFORBIOMED, involving also transnational cooperation programmes representatives
- transmission of the Policy Paper to all the Presidents of Regions and Provinces and their services by projects partners and mobilized networks
- meetings with targeted policy-makers, in the framework of European presidencies held by Greece and Italy in 2014
- participation to various public events and conferences

All this work will require mainly staff costs (the major part), a few travels and probably the translation of the Policy Paper in various languages, financed by ELIH-Med (and MARIE) until late 2014.