

## 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	Jozef Stefan Institute – Energy Efficiency Centre
Type of institution (city, region, agency, tech institute...)	Research institution
Main contact	<p>Name: <b>Ales Podgornik</b>            Position: project developer            Telephone: + 386 1 5885300            Mail: <a href="mailto:ales.podgornik@ijs.si">ales.podgornik@ijs.si</a></p> <p>Name: <b>Polona Lah</b>            Position: project developer            Telephone: + 386 1 5885232            Mail: <a href="mailto:polona.lah@ijs.si">polona.lah@ijs.si</a></p>

#### 2. Project description

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

Name of the project	Upgrading of Energy Efficient Public Procurement for a balanced economic growth of SEE region
Acronym of the project	EFFECT
Starting date	1 <sup>st</sup> March 2011
Ending date	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2014
Project status (finished, execution...)	in progress (execution)
Project type (standard, targeted, strategic, ...)	standard
Lead partner of the project	ARAEN – Abruzzo Regional Energy Agency
Project website	<a href="http://www.effectproject.eu/SL/index.php">http://www.effectproject.eu/SL/index.php</a>
	SEE – South East Europe

Programme (MED, Interreg...)	
Programme Priority	Priority: 2 Protection and Improvement of the Environment Area of Intervention: 2.4 Promote Energy & Resource Efficiency
Programme Objective	
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)*

The main objective of the EFFECT project is to evaluate public procurement procedures in SEE countries and to stimulate their upgrade with energy efficiency criteria to meet EU Public Procurement requirements. Also, EFFECT project aims to support the adoption of EU renewable energy policies in SEE area, upgrading public authorities and key local energy actors, acting on the leverage of energy efficient public procurement (EEPP) as the key instrument to improve competitiveness and promote balanced and sustainable economic growth.

The main milestones of the project:

WP3: Project partners analysed the current status of application of EE criteria in SEE area public procurement procedures. The analysis covered both sides of the public procurement, demand side (public sector) and supply side (private sector).

WP4/WP5: Based on the results of the WP3, project partners through training activities and local focus groups upgraded competences and skills of the public sector (demand side) and private sector (supply side) on EEPP drafting and participation.

Main project outputs and results are:

- 1) EEPP guidelines in English;
- 2) Ten (10) Memorandum of Understanding signed by the local authorities committed to insert EEPP in next programming period 2013-2020;
- 3) Ten (10) public tenders drafting for EEPP guidelines application;
- 4) Ten (10) Operative Plans;
- 5) One (1) informational program and awareness campaign
- 6) Communication and dissemination plan;

### 3. Result description

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

Name of the result to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY	Training Seminars on energy efficient public procurement
Type of result (operational tool, recommendations, good practices, guideline, ...)	Good practice
Current status of the result (under development, completed, not started...)	The methodology and the trainings completed The report on trainings is under development
Type of deliverable (document, website, database, ...)	Training, report (evaluation and minutes of the training)
Specific URL link	<a href="http://www.effectproject.eu/events.php">http://www.effectproject.eu/events.php</a>
Publication date	
Language	

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.)*

The result/activity of the EFFECT project chosen to be capitalized in URBAN EMPATHY is called "Training Seminars for public authorities on energy efficient public procurement«.

In the EFFECT project each responsible partner had to organise two (2) local training sessions about energy efficient public procurement based on the defined common methodology. The main objective of these training sessions was to upgrade the competences of local stakeholders on Common Criteria on Energy Efficient requirements that were detected by EFFECT project partners in each country. Also, during the training sessions great emphasis was on the concrete transferability of those criteria in the public procurement procedures at national, regional and local level. The participants on the local training sessions were national, regional and local public authorities responsible for public procurements.

Also, one international training seminar was organised in October 2012 in Slovenia (Ljubljana). The international training seminar focused on how to integrate energy efficiency requirements in national/regional public procurement procedures and how to deal with still open and unsolved issues. The participants on the international training seminar were experts in public procurement related to energy efficiency and renewable energy requirements from various EU and non-EU countries.

The organisation of local training sessions was based on the **common training methodology** and training sessions were assessed through **questionnaires**. Skills and competences of

trainees, before and after the training activities, were tested in order to evaluate the increased competences of local stakeholders. The **evaluation report** about overall training success is in progress.

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...)*

Training of Public Authorities  
Energy Efficiency Criteria  
Public Procurement Procedures

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

The **direct** benefits that the training sessions on energy efficient public procurement may generate through the capitalization process are:

- a) Improved skills, competences and knowledge of public authorities regarding the energy efficient public procurement. The overall effect can be measured through questionnaires before and after training sessions. Also, it can be measured by increase in the number of public tenders including energy efficiency criteria.
- b) Increased number of energy efficient products/services procured by public authorities. Once again, this can be assessed as an increase of the number of public tenders of energy efficient products/services or can be measured as a contribution of public sector to the 9% savings of final energy consumption by the year 2020.

The **indirect** benefit that the training sessions on energy efficient public procurement may generate through the capitalization process is:

- a) Public procurement as leverage for promotion of social, environmental and economic policies. Energy efficient public procurement gives clear signal from demand side to suppliers and contributes to creation of markets of energy efficient technologies and innovative solutions, contributes to the development of green business and low carbon economy.

#### 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:

- There is a great interest of public sector to participate in these trainings. Their officials have a wide experience managing public procurement processes but generally they have a lack of knowledge in EE that they don't know how to properly integrate. They expect to meet their aims in these trainings.
- Working on public procurement is a modest aspect regarding all aspects of energy efficiency but it is a fundamental one: it is totally applied and practical, it has direct consequences on administrative decisions and it has also an exemplifying effect.

Weak points:

- There is a clear need for tailor made training sessions since energy efficiency criteria are difficult to integrate into the national public procurement procedures and varies from country to country. The approach of the EFFECT project is that the training sessions are based on the common energy efficient criteria but this approach cannot be applied in all SEE countries, since there are major differences between national legislations and the state of implementation of the energy efficient criteria in the SEE countries.
- Communication: To have a wider exemplifying potential this EE measures should be communicated to general population (on the final product of the purchase). Therefore green public procurement should include a small communication plan.

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

Energy efficiency

It is the focus of the result: all the purchase decisions taken under energy efficiency criteria,

if they are correctly applied, give a final result of less energy consumed.

Social and economic cohesion

Due to the volume of their operations, public procurement has a capital role orientating both business and social awareness of environmental issues. Their decisions stimulate the creation of new employment in stable and technologically advanced sector and push current enterprises to invest in research and technological development.

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)*

Energy efficient public procurement does not have direct influence on urban policies. Public procurement is only a tool used for implementing sustainable urban policies. The public sector has to implement many measures on sustainability that are defined in strategic EU, national and regional documents. The public sector can implement these measures only by taking into account rules on public procurement.

In last 20 years public procurement procedures have changed dramatically. In the past, preparing tenders meant that a public authority had put purchasing decisions out to tender and then select a provider which offered the lowest price. Nowadays, in the case of purchasing energy efficient products and services instead of conventional ones, public procurement procedures demand integration of higher quality standards and energy efficient criteria into the public tenders.

The main advantage of this quality approach gives public authorities a better understanding of the products or services that suits their needs. The main disadvantage is that it makes the process of public procurements considerably more complicated and bureaucratic, particularly as it demands extra knowledge to produce quantifiable factors related to energy efficiency. For this reason public authorities need to be trained in order to improve competence for preparing public tenders related to energy efficiency.

However, energy efficient public procurement has an indirect impact on sustainable urban policies. The effect on policies is retroactive and comes out of procurers' practical experience and may result in many aspects: as identification of energy saving potential, proposals of development of additional energy efficiency criteria, etc.

As the project focus on energy efficiency criteria, it needs to articulate well with other environmental requirements that have to be present in public procurement (p. e. sustainable management of biodiversity, water, mobility etc.). Otherwise the final decision may not be the one that enables the optimal balance between all sustainability aspects.



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 results can be addressed to the public administration authorities on all levels: national, regional and local. Public participation can be enhanced as well by introducing this concept to the private sector representatives and to general public. Private sector is involved in the energy efficient public procurements, as it always participates on the suppliers' side of the tender and for that reason it is crucial that private sector gets up to date information on the future activities/guidelines/characteristics of public sector purchases. Also, it is crucial that private sector representatives participate in these trainings and share their knowledge on the energy efficiency products and services. The added value of this approach is direct communication between public and private sector and open discussion about barriers and opportunities identified by the private sector.

One of the EED requirements is that public sector has to lead by example. To support this requirement a general public has to stay informed about public sector activities on improving energy efficiency and energy savings. The promotion and dissemination of results create simulative environment for successful implementation of energy efficiency measures in other sectors as well.

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

The result is not in use out of the processes of EFFECT project.

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

The trainings' "innovativeness" is the clear emphasis on the concrete transferability of the energy efficiency criteria in the public procurement procedures at national, regional and local level. This approach is similar to the integration of "green" elements to public tenders, but it is more sophisticated and end-user oriented.

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.)

This methodology can be easily applied or reasonably adopted for any further use. The upgrading of skills of public sector representatives about energy efficient public procurement procedures can be implemented through the continuation of training activities. The improvement can be realised in workshops, focus groups, pilot cases, etc. The continuation of training activities mainly depends on how much experience each country has gained so far from the training sessions about the GPP.

The estimation of costs comes out from the actual costs from several training sessions organised during the EFFECT project. The training costs vary from 4.000€ to 8.000€ per training. The estimation includes following costs:

- Organisation (rental of conference room, catering) 200€ - 1.000€
- Lecturers (preparation of training materials, lecturing, mentoring) 500€- 3.000€
- Staff costs (on organisation activities) 3.300€ – 4.000€

Regarding the financial aspects of organisation of training sessions, some financial resources could come from planned actions in existing Action plans on Green Public Procurement or in National Energy Efficiency Action Plans. Additional financial resources could be provided by various industrial associations which see public sector as an important consumer.

Training process demands involvement of variety key actors: experts on public procurement, GPP criteria, EU and national legislation on energy efficiency, financial experts, etc.