

EU partners tackle the energy efficiency of South East Europe's public sector buildings

A consortium of twelve partner organisations are developing an EU-funded project (RePublic_ZEB) focussed on near zero energy building (nZEB) tools for improving the energy efficiency of public sector existing buildings in south east Europe .

The partners have now completed and published a review on the energy consumption of public building stock types in the participating countries, with their next output set to identify the steps that each country needs to take in order to retrofit, maintain and operate its public buildings in line with the energy reduction targets.

The two and a half year project, which launched in March 2014, aims to provide the means for reducing energy consumption in public buildings to near zero in line with the ethos of the EU's Energy Performance of Building Directive and its energy targets for 2019 and 2021.

To date, efforts to implement nZEB across Europe have been limited. RePublic_ZEB is working to remedy this by providing substantial support for step changes in the participating south east Europe countries, all of which share a similar climate and therefore comparable energy demands and renewable energy potential.

The project consortium comprises twelve partners, eleven of which are from target countries, with CTI as Project coordinator and BRE responsible for providing professional consultancy and support for developing and promoting best practice. Working with the building industry as well as building operators and end users, RePublic_ZEB's focus includes assessing current public sector building stock and reviewing demonstration projects to gain insights that can be applied across the whole building sector.

Key elements of the project include engaging with public building stakeholders and authorities, estimating, analysing and benchmarking current performance, testing the benchmarks on sample refurbishment projects, and developing practical, user-

friendly tools that will help stakeholders select the most cost-effective mix of measures for maximising carbon savings and minimising energy consumption.

For further information

NOTES FOR EDITORS

The project consortium comprises:

Budapest University of Technology, Hungary
Politecnico di Torino, Italy
Black Sea Energy Research Centre, Bulgaria
Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving, Greece
Energy Institute Hrvoje Pozar, Croatia
Catalonia Institute for Energy Research, Spain
URBAN-INCERC, Romania
National Laboratory for Energy and Geology, Portugal
Building and Civil Engineering Institute ZRMK, Slovenia
CTI Energy and Environment, Italy
Macedonian Center for Energy Efficiency, Macedonia
BRE, UK

Project website: www.republiczeb.org