Financing energy efficiency in Central and South-Eastern Europe
28 June 2018, Sofia, Romania

Rhodoshop
Regional one-stop-shop for the renovation of public buildings and street lighting in Rhodope region (Bulgaria)

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 748425
CITYnvest Activities in Rhodope Region

1. Investigation of current status and perspectives of energy efficiency projects (incl. RES in buildings);

2. Elaboration of an action plan considering the inventory of models and based on RENOWATT model replication (incl. funding options);

3. Meetings and consultations with local authorities on the model of RENOWATT (also attended by GRE-Liege representative) to get them on board;

4. Decisions of municipal councils on creation of Rhodope one-stop-shop for energy efficiency projects following RENOWATT model adapted to local conditions.

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Rhodoshop

- A joint undertaking of **six pioneering municipalities** - Smolyan, Banite, Chepelare, Devin, Nedelino and Zlatograd.

- Other **key actors**:
  - Association of Rhodope Municipalities (ARM) – Rhodoshop host organization;
  - Sofia Energy Centre – providing management and coordination support to Rhodoshop;
  - GRE-Liege – capacity building of Rhodoshop staff on one-stop-shop operation (training held on 27 June 2018) and on-going support.
Rhodoshop (2)

- Received funding from H2020 Call PDA, 2016;
- Main sectors of activity:
  - Public buildings;
  - Street lighting.
- 3 full time employees, 1 part time;
- Extensively trained in legal, economic and technical aspects;
- External support through subcontracting.
Rhodoshop Organizational Structure
Main Tasks of Rhodoshop

A central procurement agency with following operating services:

- Plays as a knowledge centre;
- Gathers competences and resources in one place (audits, works to be realized, financial viability calculations, define tendering specifications and assess received offers against pre-defined criteria).
- Helps identify financing solutions applicable to different municipalities;
- Assists in finding and negotiates the terms and conditions with ESCOs and other financiers;
- Performs project bundling: increase the size of the projects and the investment size, and create more attractive investment opportunities for building contractors, ESCOs, maintenance companies, financial sector;
- Prepares tenders for public works, supplies or services contracts or framework agreements on behalf of the contracting authorities/entities or public institutions;
- Monitors project results.
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Expected Results

- Launch investments of over 13 MEuro;
- Realize 8,8 GWh/year energy savings by the end of its three-year pilot phase;
- Contribute to local economy development and job creation in the Rhodope Region;
- Help to achieve the local targets in CO₂ emission reductions and thus to contribute to the overall EU energy efficiency targets for 2020 and beyond;

Advantages

- Helps Rhodope municipalities in securing funding while taking into account organizational, administrative, legal and financial aspects;
- Assists the local authorities in the region in building technical, economic, legal and administrative expertise for a wider implementation of energy efficiency in small sized rural municipalities;
- Bridges the gap between project owners and financiers by providing bankable investment projects ready to be financed;
- Overcomes barriers of small project size through bundling;

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Thank you for your attention!

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