



Andalusian Energy Agency
MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS AND TRADE



Towards a Model of Sustainable Construction and Energy Efficient Buildings

3 December 2015

Venue: Pabellón de Italia. Calle Isaac Newton, Science and Technology Park Cartuja. 41092 Sevilla

BACKGROUND

The construction sector represents more than 40% of energy consumption in Europe. Therefore, actions to boost this sector, aimed at improving energy efficiency, will be key to achieving the strategic objectives of the European Union by 2020. This is the reason why many European regions have launched interesting initiatives in this field, not only aware of its implications in the energy sector, but also those associated to the environment and the generation of quality employment.

This is therefore the topic of this workshop co-organised by the 'Smart Specialisation on Energy' of the European Commission and the Region of Andalusia. The 'Smart Specialisation on Energy' was launched in May 2015 as a joint initiative of the Directorates-General for Regional and Urban Policy, Energy, and the Joint Research Centre (JRC) to set up a platform on smart specialisation on energy and will bring together representatives from EU institutions, Member States and their regions, energy experts and stakeholders to support Smart Specialisation in the energy sector and the uptake of Cohesion funds. The IPTS organised a parallel session in Seville, where representatives from different departments and agencies of the public administration, industry, research and civil sectors in Andalusia participated.

Andalusia is indeed a region focusing in this topic of sustainable construction. Its plan for Comprehensive Plan for Sustainable Construction and Rehabilitation Horizon 2020, approved by its Ministers' Cabinet on January 27 2015, is a clear commitment from the Andalusian government for change in this sector. It aims at moving towards a construction model more sustainable and respectful of the environment, based on seizing opportunities related to rehabilitation and in particular to energy adequacy, so that it contributes also to social cohesion.

This day is conceived as a forum for exchanging experiences between the participating European regions, around the three basic pillars that should underpin the new model of sustainable construction, such as innovation, improving the competitiveness of businesses and activation of demand through alternative financing schemes and greater awareness on the part of European citizens.

This event is also part of the IPTS activities to promote strategic cooperation between European regions aimed at increasing its capacity for innovation and the development of a strategic market for Europe, such as energy. Among these actions, specifically in the energy sector, it has promoted the implementation of the Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy which will be presented at the conference.



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10:00 – 10:30

Welcome

- European Commission
- Institute for Prospective Technological Studies
- Regional Government of Andalusia

10:30 – 11:30 Innovation as the cornerstone of a new model of sustainable construction

Innovation contributes to improving the productivity and competitiveness of companies of the sector, constituting a key factor for economic development. To ensure the development of a new model based on sustainable construction, it is of great importance to maximise resources and improve the capabilities that relate to innovative activity in the field of sustainable construction. In this round table the key aspects to foster innovation in the sector, current trends and successful experiences in this field will be analysed.

Introduction by Manuel Palazuelos, Project Leader S3P-Energy, Joint Research Centre, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS), European Commission

Roundtable discussion

- **How to encourage innovation for more sustainable integrated solutions.** European Innovation Partnership in Smart Cities and Communities, by DG ENER (tbc)
- **How to help the construction industry to reach the 20/20 targets and achieve energy neutral buildings and districts by 2050.** "The Energy Efficient Building European Initiative" (E2B EI), by the European Construction Technology Platform (tbc)
- **The use of bio-materials in sustainable construction** by Michael Burnard Assistant Professor at the University of Primorska
- **Opportunities for innovation in the sustainable construction sector in Andalusia,** by Fabián Varas, Technical Director of the Technological Corporation of Andalusia
- **Successful examples of innovation,** by Jose Manuel Lloris, Manager of the Andalusian Innovation Centre for Sustainable Construction

11:30 - 12:00 *Coffee*



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MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS AND TRADE



12:00 – 13: 00 **Improving competitiveness and generating high quality employment in a construction sector**

Construction sector professionals require new qualifications and skills to focus on energy efficiency. This session aims at discussing how to develop technical/professional and educational skills in the field of sustainable construction, as well as successful experiences implemented to improve the competitiveness of the sector.

Introduction by Daniele PACI, Energy, Joint Research Centre, Institute for Environment and Sustainability (JRC-IES), European Commission

Roundtable discussion

- **Connecting People for Green Skills**, by PATER (Employment Pact in La Ribera) (tbc)
- **Research Driven Cluster of Sustainable, Building, Energy and Transport**, by Thomas Miorin, Director at Habitech - Energy and Environment Technology District of Trentino, Italy
- **Current challenges and alternatives to improve the competitiveness of companies of the sector**, by Francisco Martínez Cañavate of FADECO Promotores
- **Instruments to promote competitiveness in the sustainable construction sector**, by Ramón González of the Agency IDEA

13:00 – 14:30 *Lunch*

14:30- 16:00 **Financing energy rehabilitation of buildings and its implementation**

Ensuring competitive, sustainable, and secure energy in the years to come requires significant investment. Energy receives significant funding under the Structural Funds, and in addition, energy is a topic with high interest amongst the Member States and regions registered at the S3 Platform on smart specialisation. This session aims at discussing which financing instruments are available and how to better spend these funds.

This session aims at:



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- Presenting and discussing the available EU programmes and instruments (and their synergies) that can help cities and regions in the field of sustainable construction.
- Implementing European Cohesion Funds in the field of sustainable construction (In particular, thematic objectives 1 and 4).

Introduction by Ales Gnamus, Joint Research Centre, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS), European Commission

Roundtable discussion

- **Implementing EU funding for sustainable construction in Andalusia**, by the Andalusian Energy Agency.
- **Support instruments for the energy rehabilitation of buildings**, by Francisco Martín Rubio, of the National Association of Companies of Rehabilitation and Reform

16:00 – 16:30 *Coffee*

16:30 – 17:30 **Innovative approaches to sustainable construction for urban development**

Cities represent crucial actors in achieving the EU climate and energy targets for 2020 and 2030. However, sustainable construction and urban planning often ignore one another, despite being closely interrelated. Challenges to European cities and towns demands new thinking and new solutions. While technology can certainly help in the transition of cities to a more sustainable and resilient future, we need to develop and put in practice an integrated territorial approach. This session aims at discussing how those issues can be addressed when citizens, business, public administration at different governance level as well as Universities and research organisations get involved and establishing an understanding of interconnections among innovation, societal challenges and urban development.

Introduction by Martina Pertoldi, Joint Research Centre, Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS), European Commission

- **Connecting Smart specialisation and Smart City / New collaborations between financial actors and cities** - European Regions Research and Innovation Network (ERRIN) (tbc)
- **From planning to implementation** - Judit Borsboom (Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research).



Andalusian Energy Agency
MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS AND TRADE



17:30 – 17:45 **Wrap up**

- European Commission
- Andalusian Energy Agency