

Summary of the Report on COP Meeting – Semester 2

PP3: Cyprus Energy Agency

The second Community of Practice (CoP) meeting of the Cyprus Energy Agency took place on the 20th and 22nd of September 2017 at '1010 Hall' in Nicosia. It was combined with the second Project Meeting where the CoP members were actively involved.

Representatives of ministries, local authorities, universities and other associations, from the fields of energy and cultural heritage, attended the meeting and gave an insight into the 'State of Art' in Cyprus concerning the issues VIOLET is dealing with.

Specifically, Mr. Hadjinikolaou, the energy ambassador from the Cypriot Ministry of Energy, Commerce, Industry and Tourism, presented the background regarding the legislation on buildings energy performance and the so far progress of Cyprus in this domain.

Mr. Michael and Ms Thravalou from the University of Cyprus presented the outcome of recent research activity, and thereby shared their experience about the vernacular architecture of Cyprus and the energy performance of the type of buildings tackled by VIOLET.

Following up Ms Theodosiou shared her architectural experience on the topic of 'Restoration/Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings in Cyprus', where she presented numerous examples of interventions and measures on these kinds of buildings targeting an increase of the buildings' energy performance where possible.

In the concluding debate plenty interesting points were raised such as:

- Each traditional building is unique, and this should be taken into consideration while renovating it from an energy efficiency perspective.
- Funding for energy efficiency would be available but is difficult to direct towards historical buildings. There is a need for more successful examples to be used to convince policy makers in the calls for energy efficiency.
- It would be important to set separate, achievable targets for traditional and historical buildings, otherwise, historical building owners would not participate in the call.

Moreover, some CoP members attended the participative session on solutions to the topic 'Multi approach SWOT' and the 'round table' discussion with stakeholders from Romania, which led to fruitful outcomes for all participants.

During the closure of the meeting the next steps were discussed, mainly concerning the analysis and prioritization of the solutions to the local barriers and weaknesses for VIOLET's implementation.