

Ireland shares good practices with German, Spanish, Slovenian and Polish partners



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EMPOWER is an exciting project involving a partnership of 9 European regions working together to share experiences, solutions and good practices to reduce carbon emissions and explore innovative methods of financing energy projects with an overall objective to develop and deliver better public policy in these areas. Over the past few months, EMPOWER partners have been very busy, sharing their experiences and learning about good practices in other Europe countries through a series of Study Visits in Lorient, Maribor, Mazovia, Kalmar, Cork, Magdeburg, Santander and Almada.

EMPOWER's Irish partner the **Southern Regional Assembly**, with the assistance of Cork City Council and Cork Institute of Technology, recently hosted a very successful Study visit which attracted participants from Germany, Spain, Slovenia and Poland. The purpose of the study trip to Cork was to learn more about successful energy monitoring programmes currently being rolled out here in Ireland including SEAI's Public Sector Reporting and Monitoring Programme and OPW's Optimising Power @ Work Campaign. The Programme Managers responsible for implementing these Irish examples, generously shared their experience and expertise with participants during the visit.

The Irish partner gained in-depth knowledge from the French, German and Portuguese partners who shared their knowledge and experience of energy monitoring pilot schemes, monitoring technologies and innovative and more sustainable ways to finance energy projects.

EMPOWER is a five-year, inter-regional project which started in January 2017. The project aims to reduce carbon output by dynamically monitoring energy efficiency in buildings, with a special focus on innovative methods of financing. Consisting of 9-partners: from Ireland, Slovenia, Portugal, Italy, France, Sweden, Poland, Germany and Spain. The project was approved for a grant of € 1.90 m by the Interreg Europe Programme, through the European Regional Development Fund.

Learn more about EMPOWER at www.interregeurope.eu/empower

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