



# Newsletter #5

December 2018

## More Carbon Reduction by Dynamically Monitoring Energy Efficiency

Dear Reader,

welcome to EMPOWER's fifth Newsletter.

This period of the project was very busy with lots of interesting learnings, exchanging and opportunities for partners and stakeholders. Partners have been very busy with organizing two thematic Technical Workshops focusing on high-level Interregional Exchange of Experiences in this Semester.

In this edition you will find information about EMPOWER's activities over the past months, as well as the next upcoming activities on the project.

Overall, we are well on our way to empowering our regions. Our project website is also a great source of information for news, updates and progress on key outputs. Follow us on [www.interregeurope.eu/empower](http://www.interregeurope.eu/empower).

We hope you enjoy learning more about EMPOWER!



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### EMPOWER AT A GLANCE

EMPOWER aims to reduce carbon output by dynamically monitoring energy efficiency in buildings, with special focus on the use of innovative financial instruments.

Low-carbon economy

€ 1.90 M ERDF

Jan 2017  
Dec 2021

Read more about EMPOWER at:  
[www.interregeurope.eu/empower](http://www.interregeurope.eu/empower)

## Empower News on Technical Workshops

**Two countries hosted a Technical Workshop, providing an opportunity for partners and stakeholders to learn more and increase their knowledge on Energy and financial monitoring.** Both workshops topics were crucial in consolidating the learning process among project partners. Experts invited from project partners will assist them and their regional stakeholders to import their good practices into policy in each region and prepare their Regional Action Plan.

### Technical Workshop “Energy monitoring, regulation and management”

The first workshop was focused on Energy monitoring. It was organized in Costa da Caparica on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2018 and hosted by AGENEAL for around 35 attendees. This event was focused on energy monitoring, regulation and management and among the participants were local and international experts in this field, invited by the project partners. The agenda for both days of the workshop included the presentation of several good practices and in-depth debate on technical, financial and social issues linked to the topic of energy monitoring and management in public buildings.

The main objective of all presentations was to reduce energy consumption and thereby to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Within the workshop EMPOWER project also joined forces with another European project named QUANTUM to reduce energy consumption in buildings. [More](#)



### Workshop - Innovative Financial Instruments in Magdeburg

The second Technical Workshop was oriented on Financial Instruments and was organized in Magdeburg on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2018, hosted by Development Bank of Saxony-Anhalt.

The EMPOWER technical workshop gave partners a chance to cooperate in creating innovative financial instruments while benefitting from experts opinions from all the partner regions. The workshop kicked off with an overview over the European framework for financial instruments, presented by the managing authority for ERDF and ESF in Saxony-Anhalt. Next, the partners got to know several existing financing models which are already being applied today. Experts from Sweden, France, Spain, and Germany presented detailed insights into concrete examples for uses of Green Impact Bonds, the European Regional Development Fund, European Structural and Investment Funds, Crowdfunding and Energy Performance Contracting. Last but not least, there were two presentations from “a banker’s perspective” which elaborated on banking criteria for funding energy efficiency projects. [More](#)



After Energy and Financial Monitoring Workshops good practices will be imported into policy in each region through Regional Action Plans which will be produced by each partner.

You are also very welcome to find out more about EMPOWER best practices developed in each partner region in [GOOD PRACTICES REGISTER](#).

## Empower Project Management Group Meeting #4

On 23<sup>th</sup> October 2018, AGENEAL, Municipal Energy Agency of Almada hosted EMPOWER partners for the fourth Project Management Group Meeting (PMG4).

Partners were welcomed by Vlasta Krmelj, lead partner of the project. This 4<sup>th</sup> meeting was the occasion to monitor what the Project partners has done so far and to share and plan many important actions and further steps to be implemented in the next months. Partners have actively exchanged information, news, views and experiences on working during the last 6 months in EMPOWER.



## Empower enters the next stage

Empower partners are moving to the phase of preparing Regional Action Plans.

In the last months project partners were focused mostly on Peer Review and lessons learned from the Study visits. A series of Study Visits were hosted to allow the Stakeholders to get more familiar with specific financial and energy monitoring measurements. The Register of Good Practices was prepared and adopted. Two Thematic Technical Workshops have been organized, one led by Almada, Portugal on Energy Monitoring and a second led by Saxony Anhalt, Germany on innovative financing of energy projects.



## What is new on Empower website?

Our project website is constantly updated! This semester there were several new folders introduced to our [website library](#) and [news](#): Check out the articles about Technical Workshops hosted by project partners with photos, the Good Practice Register, the Project Brochure and Media Appearances in partners regions.

Do you still want to learn more? You can also find information on good practices from all over Europe on the [Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform!](#)



## Partners & Contacts

For further information, please contact the **Project Coordinator and a Communication leader at Energy Agency of Podravje**, Institution for Sustainable Energy Use, Maribor, Slovenia

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<https://www.facebook.com/Empower0/>



<https://twitter.com/interregempower>

## Project partners

- Energy Agency of Podravje – Institution for Sustainable Energy Use (SI) – Led partner
- Local Energy Management Agency of Almada, AGENEAL (PT)
- Southern Regional Assembly (IE)
- Florentine Energy Agency (IT)
- Municipality of Lorient (FR)
- Energy Agency for Southeast Sweden (SE)
- Mazovia Energy Agency (MAE) (PL)
- Development Bank of Saxony-Anhalt (DE)
- Santander City Council (ES)



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