

ACTION GROUP 9



To make the territory a model region for energy efficiency and renewable energy

Storytelling

There are two crucial challenges the Alpine region has to face in the energy efficiency field. The first challenge is how to change the energy consumption patterns of the Alpine small and medium enterprises. The legal framework for energy efficiency is mainly provided by the EU's energy directives, the EU goals for 2020, and the Energy Union Package, but these regulations are not mandatory for the SMEs. The second challenge calls for the support of energy management systems in the whole alpine region by developing energy efficient and decentralised monitoring systems at the local level

Concerning small and medium-sized enterprises, the crucial point is the lack of the necessary knowledge to implement energy efficiency improvement measures to track down the potential savings in their own company.

The problem of missing data and information concern not only SME'S but also public administrations in the Alpine Region. In the Alps there are many local bodies and agencies committed to energy strategies and ambitious energy transitions, but when you look at region in its entirety, it is evident that there is a lack of relevant data.

EUSALP AG9 is trying to tackle these problems building up a shared platform of knowledge for energy efficiency in all the regions involved in the alpine area. Such a platform will incorporate a portfolio of solutions, guidelines and operating templates to be adapted to the different local context

To reach these goals AG9 is developing different actions. One of the **first** actions has been to establish some guidelines for energy efficiency. Experts from the different regions have gathered a series of studies in order to analyse the situation and collect best practice examples.

A **second** important action consists of giving concrete support and networking. One **third**

macro-activity being implemented over the last two years has been a large European survey within the Alpine regions to collect data from energy consumption and renewable energy production.

Evidence from AG9 work made it clear that the Alpine region is an area that has a strong link to renewable energy and as such has very interesting potential to produce even more renewable energy.

Concerning SMEs, AG9 showed that, if implemented, the support programmes are able to reduce the medium energy consumption by 15 to 20%. The success stories in the area of the province of Bozen, in the South Tyrol region, can also demonstrate the effective implementation of such programmes and the network efforts.

All these experiences provide the concrete demonstration on how well production and sustainability can work together, positively impacting the territorial development and making the most of technical progresses whilst reducing the impact on the climate and the environment.