



Mitigation Enabling Energy Transition in the MEDiterranean region
Together We Switch to Clean Energy



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Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
المركز الإقليمي للطاقة المتجددة وكفاءة الطاقة



meetMED Workshop on

QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RE & EE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES – TOWARDS A REGIONAL QUALITY MARKET

Wednesday, 30 October 2019 - Algiers, Algeria

Introduction:

In cooperation with the Algerian National Agency for the Promotion and Rationalization of Energy Use (APRUE), the Regional Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (RCREEE) has organized a regional consultation workshop on Quality Infrastructure for RE & EE Products and Services, as part of its involvement in the activities of the meetMED (Mitigation Enabling Energy Transition in the Mediterranean Region) Project.

Background:

The assessment and the certification of quality for RE and EE products and services has become increasingly important since RE and EE applications (e.g. building insulation materials, energy efficient windows, solar water heaters, energy-efficient appliances) are largely used in the Mediterranean region.

In order to ensure minimum standards, quality infrastructures are necessary to ensure the successful implementation of RE and EE programs. Those quality infrastructures include laboratories, testing facilities, conformity (inspection and certification) assessment bodies, metrology institutes, standardization organizations and accreditation councils.

Objective:

This event was an opportunity for national and regional experts to consult based on the questionnaires developed by RCREEE and completed by the national experts prior to the event, in order to screen the level of existing quality infrastructures and to assess needs, opportunities, weaknesses and strengths (including regulatory and institutional framework).

Experts from regional institutions and industrial associations also contributed and consolidated the stakeholders' approach towards the creation of a regional quality market.

Participants:

Involved participants were mainly national experts from conformity assessment bodies, metrology institutes, standardization organizations and accreditation councils from some of the meetMED target countries (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia), who presented achievements and challenges in the field of standardization, certification and testing in their respective countries.

External regional and international experts contributed with their national and regional experiences and initiatives as well (i.e. Quality assurance systems in the EU), in order to contribute to the formulation of recommendations towards the development of a regional quality market.

Recommendations:

Participants formulated the following policy recommendations to develop a regional quality market for RE and EE goods and services and for its implementation in the target countries:

1. Work together to complete the Global QI assessment report;
2. Suggest to the EU commission continuing to support the above-mentioned activity and convert it to a sustainable working group, where experts can share their knowledge and competences;
3. Support the operability and the comprehensiveness of the quality infrastructure according to the current needs in line of the level of development of the sector;

4. Prioritize RE and EE products and services focusing on AC quality schemes;
5. Harmonize standards, testing procedures and accreditations;
6. Support the exchange between QI and energy trade to support economic development and future planning;
7. Support R&D activities for more applicable standards to the Mediterranean region;
8. Support the development of the training package for quality in RE&EE services, focusing on systems installation and maintenance, with the aim to draft regional guidelines;
9. Support awareness raising and public relations activities;
10. Ensure confidence and peer-to-peer exchanges between involved parties.

Conclusion:

After the screening of existing quality infrastructure and schemes for RE and EE products and services and the interviews conducted and in light of the recommendations generated during this workshop, a global consolidated report about developing a regional quality infrastructure market will be released. The report will contain suggestions to implement such market and will be based on the analysis of obstacles, needs, opportunities, weaknesses, and strengths for each quality component at all the levels. The first draft will be shared with all involved experts for a peer-to-peer review before the final version will be launched next January 2020.