

SmartReFlex

The SmartReFlex project aims at increasing the diffusion of smart and flexible district heating and cooling systems, basing on high shares of renewable energy sources in European cities.

- www.smartreflex.eu

In order to reach this aim, a mixed project consortium was created, including regional authorities, DHC utilities and consultancy partners, which specific high-level skills on RES DHC and on energy planning at local level.

6 regions in 4 countries (DE, IE, IT, ES) will implement legislative and organisational measures for promoting high-RES DHC, also benefitting from the know-how transfer by Denmark.

1st KOM - Italian regional task force on DH and renewables in Emilia Romagna

In the context of capacity building activities foreseen in SmartReFlex, the first kick off meeting of the Italian regional task force took place in Bologna, December the 1st with more than 40 participants.

The meeting was greatly and jointly organized for the two European projects RES H/C Spread and SmartReFlex by the local partners of Emilia Romagna region, ANCI and ARPA.



Foto source: ARPA ER

The two projects share the goal of creating a long-lasting working group at local level with the focus on renewable heat sources. The purpose is to provide tools and guidelines for promoting at regional

level as well as planning the exploitation of renewable energy sources and waste heat for district heating and cooling applications.



Foto source: ARPA ER

The intention of RES H/C Spread is to support the collection and evaluation of data concerning regional demand and to provide thermal energy mapping. SmartReFlex aims on increasing the share of smart and flexible district heating and cooling, in combination with a high share of renewable energy sources.

To cover all different kinds of interests in the local DHC sector the task force is composed of,

- local authorities,
- universities,
- research centers,
- producers,
- environmental associations,
- energy agencies,
- consultants.

Hereby a heterogeneous group is created in order to have a wide perspective on common challenges. Noteworthy is that all parties share the same focus on renewable heat sources for the Emilia Romagna region.

This was the first meeting of the potential members of the task force, organized to create interest in the involved actors and to collect the stakeholders' necessities and proposals.

A collective brainstorming was the main goal of the first task force meeting and the session devel-

oped visions of possible and desired future scenarios in associated with renewable energy in the Emilia-Romagna region. The starting point for the conclusions was the following idea: “Imagine being in 2030 in Emilia-Romagna, what’s the energy situation? Which are the success factors?”.

The participants played a simulation game, imagining being in Emilia-Romagna in 2030, where renewable heat sources are widely diffused and work very well.

Every actor adopted a role different to the actual one. 4 groups were created consisting of: citizens, industries, profit and non-profit companies as well as local authorities. After having identified with their character, the workshop participants had to represent the reality of the assumed future and described fictive behavior, tangible positive changes plus benefits and measurable indicators of success.



This kind of brainstorming session was a pleasant and effective way to merge the most important ideas and goals of the principle stakeholders of district heating and cooling. To achieve a higher share of renewable energy in the region the get-together of people with different know-how, experiences and needs was very successful. Despite the differences they all have in common that they share the same idea to have a sustainable energy future.

This workshop has been the milestone of a progress that will continue during the two projects

and build the basis to future case studies on DHC and RES in interesting and interested contexts.

Spanish task force’s activities

The Catalan task force is composed by high level representatives of the region, dividing them in four different groups depending on their skills; regional authorities, DHC representatives, municipalities with experiences, urban projects, associations concerned in DHC and consumer associations. Nowadays 15 organizations are involved in our task force.

During the 36 months project period, we will do 7 task force meetings with the entire group and some parallel thematic meetings with part of the members and with new stakeholders. Till now we have organized 3 task force meetings and 4 parallel thematic meetings:

- The first task force meeting was on the 12th of March we did a general presentation of the project, explaining the main goals, the project implication and the barriers detected to start collecting needs and feedbacks of our members.
- During the months of April, May and June we did four parallel thematic meetings with different topics; such as the producers, the lawyers, the consumers and the planning developers.
- On June we sent specific surveys to our task force members and other institutions for knowing their opinion about the barriers detected and their needs.
- The 2nd task force meeting was on the 23rd of July, we explained the current situation of the task, the project’s evolution, the first conclusions of the regional survey and a good practice in Renewable DH systems.
- And the 3rd task force meeting was on the 14th of October matching with the Barcelona’s Project meeting.

In order to further encourage the commitment, we have sign a common intentions document with the taskforce members.