

## **SmartReFlex – Recommendations for setting up a task force on RES DHC**

The following descriptions on how to create and manage a successful task force base on experiences from task force activities (e.g. establishment and management) within the project SmartReFlex in Catalonia (ES), Emilia-Romagna (IT), Kerry and Tipperary (IE), Schleswig-Holstein and Baden-Württemberg (DE).

Prepared by the SmartReFlex partners in June 2016

### **Should a regional task force be set up as a new one ‘from scratch’ or should an already existing one be ‘used’?**

*This depends on the specific situation in the region. At places where e.g. advisory or working groups on RES or on DH issues already exist, these groups can be used and new members can be added. Reason is the benefit from expertise and networks already created by the working group. Furthermore subgroups can be selected for addressing more specific issues, e.g. heat suppliers and developers for addressing market needs or energy agencies for developing promotion and advisory activities. In regions where no similar groups exist so far, the task force has to be set up from scratch. Another possibility in this case is to check the situation on national level, as especially in smaller countries this might help to use synergies with groups from other regions or acting on national level.*

### **Who should be invited or asked for participation and why?**

*Relevant stakeholders for RES DH that should be invited for participation are the following:*

- 'Supply and demand side': Heat suppliers, municipalities, energy cooperatives, housing industry, energy initiatives, citizens*
- 'Practical supporting actors': Suppliers, planners, city planners, experts in heat planning, banks, financiers, energy agencies, R&D organizations*
- 'Political supporting actors': Politicians, parliamentarians, authorities, associations of above mentioned stakeholders*

*In general it is important to cover the whole value chain. Furthermore beside the above mentioned stakeholder groups, the task force can be kept open for new stakeholders that actively ask for being involved in the activities.*

### **How often should the task force meet and how can a regular participation of the persons be ensured?**

*Meetings can take place every 3 to 5 months. It is important to focus on different thematic issues at the meetings and address therefor different subgroups. By this approach not every member of the task force has to participate at every meeting.*

*Furthermore a good participation can be reached by involving the corresponding ministry. The ministry should also support activities in the RES DH sector that are concrete and acknowledged by the stakeholders. It is also evident that the activities are sustainable and not only project related.*

### **How can the topics be found that are discussed in the task force?**

*The first workshops can be focused on receiving input from stakeholders regarding market needs, barriers and opportunities. To effectively collect ideas at the workshop, the participants can e.g. be contacted by email before and asked on already in the public discussed topics as input for the workshop.*

*Afterwards the collected ideas should be prioritized and one after the other picked and addressed as central theme at the following meetings.*

### **How it is possible to profit from the experiences in the other implementing regions?**

*Although the situation and experiences in the regions are different these can be shared with the other project partners. Some topics can also be developed in cooperation.*

*Furthermore experts from the other regions can be invited to some of the meetings and workshops.*

### **What are the main achievements?**

- *Creation of a new regional network of stakeholders involved in RES DHC*
- *Workshops and training courses on RES DH issues*
- *Profiting from the interaction with the other regions*
- *Benefiting from the advice from expert partners from abroad*
- *Political will to support the development of RES DH*
- *Cooperation and discussion between different ministries involved in RES DH issues*
- *Increase of market activities and new projects*

### **Recommendations / Lessons learned?**

*A pool of experts and market stakeholders covering a broad field of RES DH is a very efficient and flexible structure for implementing a task force as well as the corresponding activities and allows meeting regularly in thematic subgroups.*

Further information and recommendations also from the participating regions can be found in: **'SmartReFlex – Guide for regional authorities'** (see [www.smartreflex.eu](http://www.smartreflex.eu)).

### **Supported by**



Intelligent Energy Europe Programme  
of the European Union

### **Legal Disclaimer**

The sole responsibility for the content of this publication lies with the authors. It does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the funding authorities. Neither the authors nor the funding authorities are responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.