



Newsletter n° 1

The Project

QualiCert is an Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) co-funded project of a duration of 30 months (from July 2009 until December 2011).

In line with an obligation for all Member States, arising from article 14 of the Directive on the promotion of the use of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) (28/2009/EC) to develop certification schemes or equivalent qualification schemes for installers of small-scale renewable energy installations, QualiCert proposes a **concerted action among different Member States** on certification and accreditation of installers of small-scale building-integrated renewable energy systems. The project precisely addresses the **RES Directive's requirement** of certification schemes or equivalent qualification schemes in each Member State that obey to a set of similar criteria and recognise each other's certification.

To guarantee broadest possible support to the future accreditation and certification scheme, QualiCert is relying on an **interdisciplinary multi-stakeholder approach** involving builders and installers through their EU associations, existing training providers and accrediting bodies with grassroots experience, the RES industry through its European associations, and a number of national energy agencies. This EU-wide concerted approach will allow going beyond national discussions, which are sometimes highly politically-tainted and blocked, to have a more pragmatic, result-oriented outcome based on the **best identified methodology valid for EU-27**.

Beyond the proactive approach fulfilling the EU obligation, QualiCert is also addressing the genuine market need for a **comprehensive system to certify installers** in order to guarantee quality installations and satisfied customers, which in turn will spur further **market deployment**.

The Consortium

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Visit our website www.qualicert-project.eu for more information!

Our objectives

QualiCert sets out to develop a **common approach to accreditation and certification** of installers of small-scale RES systems for 5 EU Member States – Austria, France, Greece, Italy and Poland. This approach will be designed so as to be replicated in other Member States (MS).

What we expect from our work

- Assessment of the **performance of existing schemes** for accreditation of training and certification of installers EU-wide.
- **Validation of success criteria** with stakeholders groups and development of a manual of success criteria addressing technical, legal, institutional, financial and communication aspects.
- **Adoption of the common approach** as detailed in the manual in the 5 involved countries and mutual recognition of schemes that follow the common approach based on at least the ones expressed in Annex IV to the Directive.
- **Facilitation of implementation** of accreditation and certification schemes based on the joint approach in the 5 MS.
- **Promote the widest adoption and replication** of the joint approach for all 27 EU MS through targeted dissemination activities.

What we committed to do

- In **WP2** we will **assess the existing accreditation and training schemes** through a desktop research.
- The set of **success criteria** thus elaborated will be subject to a validation through a series of **6 validation workshops** in **WP3**. A **practical manual on common success criteria** will be the result of this exercise.
- In **WP4** we will work on the **adoption of a joint approach**, subject to the approval not only of installers and training providers, but also of public authorities through **5 national roundtables**.
- **WP5** will first be focused at **facilitating the implementation of the joint approach** as drafted and then at **communicating and disseminating** it, in particular through **5 workshops and 2 conferences**.
- We will also be involved in *ad hoc* **dissemination activities** to increase synergies between and the visibility of **IEE-supported projects** in **WP6**.

... some news

QualiCert has been quoted in: REHVA journal (issue n°3 – June 2009); “new energy” magazine (issue n°4- August 2009); in issue n°11 – September 2009 of “Qualit’EnR Infos” and in the brochure “Paving the way for 2020 – Guidelines and supporting document for the design phase of the NREAPs” under the REPAP2020 project.