

# **EnercitEE sub-project Grants and other Incentives for cost and energy efficiency (GRACE)**

## **Minutes of the kick-off-meeting**

**12th – 13th July 2011, Bautzen**

### **Participants:**

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Besold, Bautzen Innovation Centre, LSPP, sub-project coordinator  
Daniela Samuel, Bautzen Innovation Centre, LSPP, sub-project finance manager  
Marcel Bellmann, Bautzen Innovation Centre, LSPP  
Alicja Jachimowicz, Wrocław Research Centre EIT+ Ltd., SPP2  
Cezary Lejkowski, Wrocław Research Centre EIT+ Ltd., SPP2  
Dr. Marcello Antinucci, Energy and Sustainable Development Agency of Modena (AESS), SPP3  
Julia Kristina Culver, Nomisma, sub-contractor SPP3

### **Guests of the meeting:**

Christina Mante, Saxon State Office for Environment, Agriculture and Geology; representative of the EnercitEE LP

The kick-off-meeting of the EnercitEE sub-project GRACE was opened by the welcome address from Ms. C. Mante, Saxon State Office for Environment, Agriculture and Geology. Ms Mante introduced to the EnercitEE project. She explained the structure and the objectives of this Inter-reg IVC project.

All sub-project partners presented their institution. Bautzen Innovation Centre (LSPP) was presented by Jürgen Besold. Cezary Lejkowski (SPP 2) explained the work of Wrocław Research Centre EIT+ Ltd., Poland. Marcello Antinucci (SPP3) introduced the Energy and Sustainable Development Agency of Modena (AESS), Italy. Julia Culver gave an overview about the activities of the economic research institute Nomisma in Bologna, Italy on the second day of the meeting.

The meeting followed the work package structure of the sub-project. Jürgen Besold acts as sub-project coordinator. He started with the presentation of WP 1.

The coordinator explained the priority and the objectives of the GRACE sub-project. Task and responsibilities of the sub-project participants were discussed in detail. Three transnational project meetings and three telephone conferences or skype meetings are planned during the project lifetime. The LSPP has set up a partnership agreement. All partners should sign the agreement and send it back to the LSPP. The sub-project partners are asked to contact their regional managers. The regional managers are responsible to deliver grant letters to the sub-project partners. The coordinator introduced to the WP structure of the GRACE project. GRACE is subdivided in five work packages (WP 1 – WP 5). He defined tasks and responsibilities of the WP leaders. Furthermore he explained the schedule of the sub-project and the reporting procedure. The next steps for the implementation of WP 1 are:

- Approval of the Partnership Agreement
- Signing of the Partnership Agreement
- Identification of Regional Managers / independent controllers
- Signing of the Grant Letters with the Regional Managers

The project partners discussed the date for the next meeting. The next meeting will be held in April or May 2012 in Emilia-Romagna. SPP 3 will suggest a concrete date.

WP leader of WP 2 “Communication and dissemination” is Bautzen Innovation Centre (LSPP, SPP1). Marcel Bellmann explained the schedule of the communication and dissemination activities including important outputs. Within WP 2 the Saxon partner is responsible to develop the sub-project flyer and to contribute to the EnercitEE newsletter two times. The WP leader is responsible for the layout of the webpage. The WP 2 leader will organize the telephone conferences or skype meetings.

The WP leader of WP3, “Assessment of national and regional financing instruments for citizens/communities” is SPP3. Marcello Antinucci explained the schedule, deadlines and responsibilities of WP 3. Until the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> subproject period the WP leader will define the methodology and supply analysis tools.

WP leader for WP 4 “Exchange of experience, analysis and transfer of good practices” is SPP 2. Alicja Jachimowicz introduced to WP4. She gave an overview of activities, outputs and the schedule. She suggested for the next meetings to participate in conferences like the Energy and Climate Conference of the district of Bautzen or to organize small field trips to study good practices in the other regions. Moreover the SPP’s will compare incentives and grant programmes for their regions during the project.

In the following each sub-project partner gave a short overview of existing national and regional incentives and grant programmes for energy efficiency in municipalities and for citizens. The biggest challenge for the SPP’s seems to be the data gathering. Each SPP should check the availability of the data.

WP leader of WP 5 “Results and policy recommendations” is the LSPP. In WP 5 the LSPP will use the main results of WP 3 and WP 4 to formulate policy recommendations. The results of the interregional exchange process will be presented on final regional workshops. The policy recommendations will be disseminated at regional, national and European level. The beginning of the analysis of the main results of WP 3 and WP 4 will be in the 3<sup>rd</sup> sub-project period from July – December 2012.

On the second day of the kick-off-meeting the project partners discussed the project methodology. The LSPP presented first ideas for the methodology. The SPP’s agreed to analyze programs for citizens and communities, but not for companies. Energy efficient products will be excluded too. They will prefer funding schemes for energy efficiency but also include renewable energies. Furthermore the project partners will focus on programs for buildings.

The SPPs discussed the comparability of the regional analyses. On the second day of the meeting the partnership agreed to select similar programmes. The SPPs found out that national programmes are more relevant than regional schemes in all involved regions. It was suggested to investigate 2 programs for citizens and 1 for communities. Every SPP should be in the position to give an aggregated overview of the selected funding programs. The SPPs will discuss the selection of the funding programs again during the next skype meeting in the end of August 2011.

On the second day of the meeting Julia Culver from Nomisma explained her proposal for the project methodology. She suggested to analyse only finalised programs because there should be more data available. She also proposed that each SPP should carry out a SWOT-analysis for an overview of the different regions involved in the GRACE project. As next step she proposed to select the funding programs which should be analysed. Two excel worksheets were presented: one for a comparison of the incentive and grants programmes and another for a comparison of not only the energy-efficiency policy and legal framework and energy conditions, but also socio-economic, climate, cultural and building-related factors that could play a role in the application of the grants/incentives in the respective regions. She also mentioned the value of “learning examples” - less than successful experience which can contribute to understanding of how grants and incentives work in different contexts.

After the discussion of the GRACE methodology the SPPs participated in Energy and Climate Conference of the district of Bautzen. This conference was held in the conference centre of Bautzen Innovation Centre. More than 100 participants including regional politicians, representatives from industry, agriculture, hospitals and housing associations participated in the conference. Some of the speakers presented examples of good practices from their community or region.

Bautzen, 25<sup>th</sup> August 2011

Jürgen Besold  
Project coordinator