



### ***Green Partnerships – Local partnerships for greener cities and regions***

On the 9th and 10th of April 2013 the kick-off meeting of the *Green Partnerships* has taken place in the beautiful city of Rethymno, in Crete – Greece. The project is supported by the European Union's ERDF funds through the MED Programme and has been submitted as project leader by the Slovene Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry – Institute of Agriculture and Forestry of Maribor, which has gathered as partners, local authorities, university institutes and NGOs from Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Montenegro, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain.

The main objective of the project is to strengthen the implementation of local public policies and strategies related to energy efficiency for sustainable local and regional development of the MED cities and local communities by:

- developing a joint innovative approach including the development, promotion and testing of operational recommendations for overcoming the existing difficulties faced by local public authorities and
- enhancing cooperation of stakeholders in implementing energy efficiency measures by creating local partnerships.

The main outputs foreseen during the *Green Partnerships* 30-month duration are:

- The overview of existing approaches to implementation of energy strategies in pilot areas and the identification of obstacles in implementation of local energy strategies.
- Transnational Expert Working Groups on different types of renewable energy sources and implementation obstacles.
- A database of existing models, best practices, methodologies and indicators on implementation of energy strategies.
- A step-by-step Guide for efficient implementation of local energy strategies by forming local partnerships.
- 11 Local Action Groups formed and 11 step-by-step plans for capacity building and implementation of measures from the local strategy prepared.
- 22 workshops for public bodies involved in energy management.
- Improved local energy strategies in 11 pilot areas with action plan for future activities and financing in cooperation with local partnerships.
- 24 local partnerships formed in 11 pilot areas, 11 pilot activities implemented, including 24 pilot cases.
- 45 events for local partnerships (workshops, match-making events, public-private roundtables).
- 28 technical solutions (investment proposals/feasibility studies/ business plans) prepared.

As summary: with *Green Partnerships*, participating organizations will make small steps towards energy efficiency in participating cities and regions across the Mediterranean area.



To find out more about *Green Partnerships* please contact:

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