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Promoting Energy efficiency to Local Organisations
through dissemination Partnerships in Europe
Best Actions for Collaboration in Countries
for a High efficient Use of energy in Structural funds

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Additional comfort in Schools through the use of biomass -

Vila Real - Portugal

The comfort improvement in 540 classrooms through the rehabilitation of heating equipment, installation of new individual and central heating equipment, thermal correction of buildings, construction of firewood deposits and substitution of wood by "briquettes" were priorities in this project

Target Groups	Sector	Field
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local authority - Regional authorities - Domestic consumers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Energy supply - Buildings (including municipal properties) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RES - Equipment / appliances - Information

ANALYSIS

This project was developed in the Portuguese region of "Vale Douro Norte" in close partnership with the local Municipalities.

"Vale Douro Norte" is a sub-area of "Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro", situated in the North of Portugal, bordered by Douro River in South and by "Alvão" and "Marão" mountains in the North. Its area is of approximately 1 204 Km² and it has around 112 786 inhabitants, which corresponds to a population density of 93,7 inhabitants/Km².

Between 1987 and 1990 the VALOREN Programme allowed considerable financial incentives in the area of heating in schools. In fact this intervention contributed significantly to the installation of firewood equipment. However, the lack of info and instructions of how to operate this type of equipment, the lack of maintenance by specialised companies and the lack of wood supply, contributed to the problems with the performance of the equipment installed.

In fact, there was an incomplete study of the power of equipment to be implemented in different kinds of the buildings, contributing to the underestimation of heating demands.

The main objective of this project was to study all the issues related to the heating process in schools and purpose new ways of heating systems implementation.

This project contributed to substitute the traditional fuel (wood) by briquettes (cleaner fuel, with greater calorific power and more simple to handle), contributing thus to the implementation/emergence of the biomass market, energy efficient heating equipment was implemented in schools taking into account the following criteria: additional robustness, additional safety and easier maintainability.



**Agência Regional de
Energia do
Vale do Douro Norte**



AREVDN - AGÊNCIA REGIONAL DE ENERGIA DO VALE
DO DOURO NORTE

COST AND BENEFITS

This project totalled around 670 000 Euro of investment, receiving a financial incentive through the following Portuguese Programmes:

Programa Energia (from QCAII): 50%

Programa MAPE/POE (from QCAII): 40%

The remaining investment was supported by the adherent Municipalities.

Through the use of an alternative fuel (briquettes) and the isolation of buildings, the Municipalities saved around 800 tones of wood/year.

PARTNERSHIP

This project was co-ordinated/led by the Regional Energy Agency of "Vale Douro Norte"

The active participation/collaboration of the following Municipalities, contributed to the success of this project:

Murça (one project);

Sta. Marta de Penaguião (one project);

Vila Real (three projects);

Mesão Frio (one project);

Sabrosa (one project)

RECOMMENDATIONS

The acceptance of new ideas/concepts by the Municipalities in the Biomass field was one of the main obstacles due the problems/bad image that emerged after the implementation of the VALOREN Programme.

This project contributed to the development/implementation of new concepts and ideas and an adaptation of the market to the new technologies. A special attention was taken in order to promote the use of biomass (instead of other fuels, like electricity and gas) in heating systems, contributing thus to the energy conservation/rational use of energy and to reduce the associated environmental impacts.

TO KNOW MORE

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USEFUL INFORMATION

THIS CASE HAS BEEN REALISED BY

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[back to top](#) ▲

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