



Enhancing Energy Efficiency: Italian industrial expertise to strengthen the dialogue in the Mediterranean

The first edition of the Energy Efficiency Training Course delivered a message of cooperation in the energy sector between the two shores

One week of lessons, more than **thirty participants** and twenty lecturers, site visits and the expertise of Asja and Iren: these are just some of the key elements of the Energy Efficiency Training Course organized by **RES4MED**, in partnership with **Asja** and **Iren**, and in collaboration with **Politecnico di Torino**.

The course saw the involvement of 10 professionals from SEM countries (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia) and 5 professionals from Serbia selected among Energy Regulatory Authorities, Ministries, Energy Agencies and Electric Companies, 10 Ph.D. students selected from the best Italian universities and 10 professionals from the RES4MED members. The objective has been the promotion of a continuous dialogue between the Northern and the Southern shore of the Mediterranean, enhancing the public-private partnership by the creation of an international network of experts.

The course, at Politecnico di Torino, Lingotto campus, was focused on providing participants with a set of technical, economical and regulatory tools to assess the most appropriate energy efficiency solutions both in public and in industrial sector, to overcome the main barriers and to foster the development of energy efficiency projects in the SEMCS countries. The speakers discussed the challenges in approaching energy efficiency projects, while analyzing the best methods to capture their multiple benefits. The lessons were presented by professors and experts from Politecnico di Torino, Esco companies, RSE and the Mediterranean Energy Observatory.

In the opening day Alberto Ricchiardi, Operations Manager at Asja, and Enrico Pochettino, Head of internationalization and innovation department of IREN, discussed their companies approach to energy efficiency. Professor Masoero, from Politecnico's Energy Department, instead described the approach of academia to the subject. After the introductory talks, lectures have addressed energy efficiency indicators and business models, with contributions from Politecnico and AVVENIA. The second day was opened by a short presentation of the PhD students on their research activities, followed by RSE analyzing the Italian experience on energy efficiency, while OME outlined trends, drivers and markets in the MENA region. The afternoon was devoted to technical presentations from Politecnico on energy efficiency in buildings and in industry, and on solar heating and cooling.

The participants had also a chance to have a direct experience of the topics discussed by the course during site visits on the third and fourth days of the course. During the visit to IREN Torino North Power Plant, big scale district heating and cooling techniques were analyzed, while participants were also introduced to the concept of cogeneration with a focus on environmental benefits. At the Asja landfill biogas and PV power plant in Pianezza, participants had the opportunity to delve into power generation from landfill gas

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generated at municipal solid waste landfill sites, while cogeneration techniques and devices were displayed at the TOTEM Energy production plant. The final day included presentations from ISMB on the role of ICT in energy management and from Smart Communities Tech on new models for increased industrial competitiveness. These lectures were followed by conclusions and Diploma ceremony.

The strong interaction among all participants from different countries has been supported by the networking events organized by Asja and Iren, and it strongly underlined the importance of dialogue and cooperation in the energy sector in the Mediterranean.

Key figures:

- 1 week course
- 35 participants
- 25 lecturers
- 1 power plant, 1 landfill biogas CHP, 1 PV plant and 1 production facility visited

The didactical material of the course is available on the dedicated page of the website www.res4med.org