

BEST PRACTICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR ENERGY TRANSITION	
TYPE OF BEST PRACTICE:	TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS
<b>TITLE:</b>	Common methodology for the preparation of Energy Efficiency Investment Plans in more than 70 public authorities in the MED area.
<b>Keywords:</b> <i>Please select from dropdown lists (cells B5-B9), up to 5 representative keywords that best describe the features of the best practice.</i>	Methodology / tool / solution Energy transition planning Energy transition measures Public authorities' cooperation
<b>Country:</b> <i>Please select from dropdown list (cell B10), the country where the best practice was implemented. If in more than one countries, select "multiple countries" and describe in cell B11.</i>	Multiple countries
<b>Region / Municipality / location:</b> <i>Please provide further details on the territory where the best practice was implemented, as applicable (e.g. Region and/or Municipality and/or location of individual building).</i>	
<b>Short description:</b> <i>(Up to 150 characters)</i>	Common methodology and 70 public authorities engaged for the preparation of energy efficiency investments.
<b>Long description:</b> <i>(Up to 1000 characters)</i> <i>Describe a best practice in the field of Technical solutions [e.g. innovative technical tools/methodologies/solutions developed to increase energy-efficiency in public buildings or sustainable mobility; case studies of successful implementation of such solutions in actual projects; etc.]</i>	Within the STEPPING project a common methodology was identified. More than 70 public authorities were engaged thanks to local events and a technical assistance service provided, for the preparation of energy efficiency investments. For the purpose, 22 Formal Agreements were signed. Small municipalities of a specific area were pooled together to develop Joint Investment Plans (economy of scale plus critical mass for the EPC market requirements) and, in some cases, to launch the EPC tender. After the selection of 170 suitable buildings an energy audit campaign was carried on, back to back with training activity in each of the regions involved. The common working approach, schemes and tools developed by the project partners allowed the drafting of 16 Investment Plans, tailored to the different framework conditions of the territories. Their implementation would bring to a total investment of about 18,5 M€ with an energy saving of 7 GWh/year and about 2000 t of CO <sub>2</sub> /year avoided emission. Thanks to a wide involvement of policy makers and stakeholders STEPPING released the "EPC Policy recommendations" and all the experience gained during the project implementation, together with an analysis of the specificity of the MED Area, was resumed in the EPC MED Guidelines. This document provides extremely useful advises to all the subjects interested in replicating and improving the STEPPING lessons learnt. Despite the existence of some technical issues (i.e. the climatic specificity of the MED Area, the level of maturity of the market, the financial framework conditions) and several political and administrative bottlenecks, the main goals of the project were achieved even more than expected.
<b>Project full title / acronym:</b> <i>The title of the Best Practice is inserted in cell B4. Please only fill in this field (cell B19) if the Best Practice was implemented as part of a "Project". The "Project" can be an EU project or a local / national initiative, a private initiative etc.</i>	STEPPING
<b>Funding Programme:</b> <i>(If applicable)</i>	Interreg MED 2014-2020
<b>Project website:</b> <i>(If applicable)</i>	<a href="https://stepping.interreg-med.eu/">https://stepping.interreg-med.eu/</a>
<b>Relevant images:</b> <i>Photos, project logo etc.</i>	
<b>Progress status - Start date:</b>	January 2016
<b>End date:</b>	October 2019
<i>If relevant, please include any further information as regards progress of the case study.</i>	STEPPING PLUS is an On-going project that started in March 2021.
<b>Key benefits / outcomes:</b> <i>Describe key benefits - key outputs from this best practice. Where available and relevant, use users' testimonies.</i>	70 public authorities engaged; 22 Formal Agreements signed; 16 Investment Plans drafted; EPC Policy recommendations released.
<b>References:</b> <i>Provide relevant links or documentation (reports / photos / videos etc.) that relate to the described case study (Note: please only provide where it is acceptable to make the information publicly available online.</i>	One of the key deliverables of STEPPING is the <b>MED EPC Guidelines</b> aiming to provide step-by-step guidance for the energy retrofitting of public buildings in the MED area through the use of Energy Performance Contracts, taking into consideration the intrinsic characteristics of the region:  <a href="https://aegean-energy.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/med-guidelines.pdf">https://aegean-energy.gr/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/med-guidelines.pdf</a>