

EnergyViLLab

The EnergyViLLab project mainly aims to improve the use of renewable energy sources, the rational use of energy and sustainable mobility in the cross-border area through the experimentation of virtuous approaches in the participated planning of initiatives in the transnational territory. Specifically, 10 Energy Virtuous Living Labs (EnergyViLLabs) have been developed within the project – 7 in Italy and 3 in Slovenia – using the Living Lab methodology. It concretely allowed to initiate open innovation processes participated by local actors: universities/research centres, business representatives, local public authorities/municipalities, citizens. The implementation of participated initiatives in specific local contexts, the involvement of final users, activities raising their awareness and the exchange of good practices contributed significantly to the reduction of CO² and allowed encouraging results in terms of reduction of energy consumption. The 10 experiences, developed within the project, merged in the EnergyViLLab Network as permanent instrument for sharing and promote local development programmes and joint agreements. In this framework, cooperation initiated with 11 municipalities which already join or are willing to join the European initiative “Covenant of Mayors”, national and international organisations working in the energy field (Green Building Council in Italy, Slovenia and Croatia), the European Network of Living Labs and the Italian Network of Living Labs (respectively ENoLL and INoLL), incubators and start-ups. The consortium represented an important added value facilitating technical knowledge development and sharing as well as joint projects development which assure the sustainability of the activities implemented within the project. Effectiveness and fertility of the approach adopted are demonstrated by the strong interest toward the EnergyViLLabs and by the growth of new Living Labs, thanks to the stimulus given by the Network.