



## Project Partners

ARE Liguria (Italy)

Cyprus Energy Agency (Cyprus)

ARGEM (Spain)

Regional Energy Agency of Crete (Greece)

Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia (Slovenia)

MIEMA (Malta)

ALESSCO (Italy)

AGENER (Spain)

[www.interregmedeea.org](http://www.interregmedeea.org)



## Mediterranean Implementation of the European Energy Award



# The Project

## Background

The “European Energy Award – eea®” rewards cities and towns with a label for outstanding efforts in the governance of energy related fields (especially energy efficiency). EEA® rewards municipal integrated energy planning & activities with the aim to reach and go beyond the “20-20-20” EU energy objectives in the Mediterranean regions.

One of the main weaknesses of the Med area is that its regions have an energy efficiency level that is lower than the EU average. The aim of this project is to promote energy planning to increase the efficiency. This will reduce the emission of greenhouse gases which are very harmful to the environment and the costs related to energy. The Med region has a high potential with regards to renewable energy, such a solar energy.

Currently, more than 450 communities in 10 EU countries are successfully applying the eea®. However in the Mediterranean very few regions have implemented it so far. Mediterranean municipalities need to increase their knowhow on energy in general and to take advantage of the great Mediterranean unexploited potential for renewable energy sources and energy savings. The eea® label allows for taking into consideration not only energy issues in themselves but also their implications in any administrative procedure, internal organisation, but, most of all, planning and participation of citizens.

## Objectives

The general objective of the project is to achieve “20-20-20” European energy targets in Med regions, through an improvement of the local governance of energy issues. Specific objectives are:

- improve communication of energy policies at municipal levels,
- beyond 20% of emissions reductions by 2020) by involving more stakeholders: this will lead to capacity building and increased general culture on energy,
- overcome the barriers that prevent municipal take up of efficient energy planning: this will lead to more energy plans and a more spread uptake of renewable energy plants and energy saving initiatives,
- promote cooperation among MED municipalities and regions on energy: this will lead to mutual learning and a better knowledge of MED general energy features, data and needs,
- feedback findings to all policy levels, in order to feed in mainstream policies and report back to the EU.

## The Partners

Eight partners from six countries (Italy, Spain, Slovenia, Malta, Greece and Crete) are carrying out the MEDEEA project.

- **ARELiguria**, the lead partner, is the regional energy agency of Liguria which is a joint-stock company established in 1996 within the framework of the EU PERU program.

- **Cyprus Energy Agency** is a non-profit organization established in 2009 with co-funding by the European Commission under the IEE program and the Cyprus Union of Communities.
- **ARGEM** is the regional energy agency of the region of Murcia in Spain, created in 1992 under the European program SAVE II.
- **Regional Energy Agency of Crete** was founded in 1993 by the Region of Crete with the aim of implementing regional energy policy.
- **Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia** was established in 1992 and has 167 member municipalities, covering more than 90% of the inhabitants of the country.
- **MIEMA**, the Malta Intelligent Energy Management Agency, was set up in 2007 with the support of the IEE program and a wide array of public institutions.
- **ALESSCO** is the local energy agency of the province of Cosenza, established in 2006 and supported by the IEE European program.
- **AGENER**, the energy management agency of the province of Jaén established in 1998, is a public company owned by the Provincial Council of Jaén.