



Last phase for the QualiCert Project

QualiCert is entering the last phase of its activities and a series of so-called **implementation workshops** will be organised in order to make sure a common approach for certification/equivalent qualification of RES installers be adopted in each of the 5 countries initially tackled by the project (i.e. Austria, France, Greece, Italy and Poland). Examples on how it could be possible to do so are given by the QualiCert recommendations which will be presented once more during these events.

In order to provide our QualiCert readers with an overview of the status of certification/equivalent qualification of RES installers in the countries that will host implementation workshops, a series of country-related special issues of the QualiCert newsletter will be published before each event.

The first one will present you the **Italian situation**.

Enjoy your reading...



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What is QualiCert about?

QualiCert stands for “Common approach for certification or equivalent qualification of installers of small-scale renewable energy systems in buildings”. The project started in July 2009.

QualiCert was launched in anticipation of the implementation of Article 14 of the Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (2009/28/EC), obliging Member States to develop and mutually recognize certification or equivalent qualification schemes for installers of small-scale renewable energy systems (e.g. biomass boilers and stoves, solar photovoltaic and solar thermal systems, shallow geothermal systems and heat pumps) by December 2012.

The project has identified a number of key-success criteria that should be taken into account when designing a certification or equivalent qualification system. Any certification or equivalent qualification scheme needs to be embedded in the national training and quality framework of the Member State. Therefore, the development of one European scheme that could be applied to all EU Member States is inappropriate.

The approach taken by this project is in line with the requirement of Art. 14 of the European RES Directive asking Member States to provide such schemes by 31st December 2012. The project involves the national stakeholders of 5 core countries (Austria, France, Greece, Italy and Poland), the other EU Member States being involved through a wide dissemination activity.



Italy: where we stand with the certification/equivalent qualification of RES installers

In Italy, it does not exist any official certification/equivalent qualification scheme for RES installers. As far as the implementation of the European legislation on energy is concerned, it has to be said that this is first implemented at national level by the Ministry of Economic Development. After that, it is put into operation at regional level. Furthermore, different associations develop their own vocational and educational training with different rules and different objectives. Due to the high number of stakeholders involved in this process, it is not really easy to identify a strategy that lead them agree with a unique qualification/certification scheme.

For the time being, the Directive 2009/28/CE (the so-called RES Directive) has been implemented at national level through the legislative decree n°28 of the 3rd March 2011. More in particular, article 14 of the RES Directive has been referred to in article 15 of the legislative decree, as it follows:

Art. 15

(Qualification systems for installers)

1. *The professional qualification for activities of installation and extraordinary maintenance of boilers, fireplaces and biomass stoves, of building-integrated solar photovoltaic and thermal systems, swallow geothermal systems and heat pumps, is achieved by those who possess the technical and professional requirements as specified either in letter a) or b) or c) of paragraph 1 of the article 4 of decree n.37 of 22 January 200 of the Ministry of Economic Development, excluding what established in paragraph 2 of this article.*

2. *From 1st August 2013, the professional technical requirements of article 4, paragraph 1, letter c of the regulation established by decree n.37 of the Ministry of Economic Development on 22 January 2008, are considered to be met when:*

a) *the title of the professional training is issued according to the modalities of paragraphs 3 and 4, and the criteria of annex 4, and it certifies the installers' qualification;*

b) *the related training period is performed according to the modalities defined in annex 4.*

3. *In accordance with Annex 4, by 31st December 2012, all Regions and autonomous Provinces shall start a training program for installers of renewable energy systems or they shall recognise the training providers by communicating them to the Ministry of Economic Development and to the Ministry for Environment, Territory and Sea.*

4. *In order to comply with the criteria set in annex 4 and to guarantee homogeneity at national level, or rather in case the Regions and the autonomous Provinces do not do so by the 31st December 2012, ENEA will make available training programs for issuing training certificates. Regions and autonomous Provinces could, moreover, make agreements with ENEA and with the specialization school for environmental disciplines, according to article 7, paragraph 4, of the Law 11 February 1992, n.157, and successive modifications, for the support in the implementation of the activities of paragraph 3.*

5. *Possible additional costs for public finance coming from the training activities of paragraphs 3 and 4 are allocated to the subjects participating in such activities.*

Translation from ENEA. The entire text of the Italian legislative decree is downloadable [here](#) (in Italian)



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It is worth noticing that comma 4 of the decree requires Regions and autonomous Provinces to establish a certification scheme by December 2012. Should they not do so, the decree foresees that ENEA support them to set in place such certification/equivalent qualification scheme.

This is the reason why ENEA is now focusing on collecting endorsement letters by all the aforementioned stakeholders. The organisations below have already given their commitment:

1. Fondazione Energy lab
2. CertiEuro S.r.l.
3. ICIC
4. Provincia Siena
5. DAIKIN AIR CONDITIONING
6. ESE Engineering S.r.l.
7. Habitech
8. ICIM spa
9. Are Liguria
10. Sigeim Energia srl
11. DAIKIN AIR CONDITIONING
12. Fondazione Fenice Onlus
13. Tecnoterm srl
14. Universus
15. CoAer
16. Eco synthesi Gesioni ecologia srl

The endorsement campaign will continue after the end of the QUALICERT project and with the “WISE roadmap” which has been selected in the Intelligent Energy Europe call “Build Up Skills”.

The WISE roadmap, which foresees a national roadmap for the certification/equivalent qualification of all the workers in the energy efficiency of buildings, was supported by 4 Ministries (development, environment, education and labor) and 6 regions (Piemonte, Liguria, Veneto, Emilia e Romagna, Toscana, Puglia) besides the union of the 110 Italian Provinces and all the Union of all the Italian town halls.

ENEA’s Initiatives: the Compener and Wise projects

Compener is a Transfer of Innovation project funded by Leonardo da Vinci programme. COMPENER proposes the transfer of the certification process and the training contents and methodologies set up in Italy to Spain and Romania. It aims to improve the quality and attractiveness of the European vocational education and training system (VET system) identifying and defining qualification and certification paths for new professional competences in the energy field linked with article 14 of the Directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (COM, 2008, 19 final) to develop certification schemes for installers of small-scale renewable energy installations.

WISE: the project “Workforce for the Italian Sustainable Energy Roadmap” will identify a national qualified training system able to improve the competences of workers needed to reach the “nearly zero emission buildings” objective. The associated partners include: Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Education, and Ministry for Environment, associations of installers, associations of construction of RES plants, engineering and architects, representatives of the Regions and autonomous Provinces, consumers associations, etc.



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Some sectoral updates

Geothermal Energy

In February 2011, 24 Italian geothermal companies decided to embark upon creating this consortium, Geo HP, with the aim of promoting quality in the Italian GSHP market. Many universities in Italy (Pisa, Ferrara, Padova, Genova etc.) are proposing training courses on geothermal energy; and a number of other stakeholders are involved in the promotion of a sustainable market for GSHP: ENEA, various provinces and regions etc. The forces of these various stakeholders and groups should be combined to work towards forming 'National Education and Certification Committees'.

Heat Pumps

The EHPA EUCERT program for heat pump installers has been re-started in Italy thanks to the cooperation among COAER, the ARE LIGURIA region (under Daikin support) and EHPA. The first course is expected to be held by the end of this year 2011.

More information on the Italian state of the art, during the **Italian implementation workshop** that will be held in **Rome** on the **11th November 2011**.

The agenda of the event [here](#)

Other QualiCert Events

Certifying geothermal installations: Geotrained +

Following the end of the IEE [GEOTRAINET project](#) - aimed to develop a European-wide educational programme as an important step towards the certification of geothermal installations - EGEC and the European Federation of Geologists hosted a workshop on the **14th of October 2011** in Brussels.

The main conclusion of the event was that all interested parties should aim to create National Education & Certification Committees, to provide a framework to further work, and a European level board will be created in mid-2012, composed of delegates of these national committees.

The QualiCert implementation workshops

Italy: 11th November 2011, in Rome
Poland: 23rd November 2011, in Poznan
France: 1st December 2011, in Paris
Greece: 2nd December 2011, in Athens
Austria: t.b.c.

Participation in these events is upon invitation only!

More on our High Level Steering Group

A High Level Steering Group of external experts has been created within the QualiCert project in order to ensure a constant exchange of viewpoints with key European stakeholders with insight knowledge of certification/equivalent qualification schemes at the EU level.

Let's know more about them!

Roland Ognibene



Mr. Ognibene is the Chairman of XYLO, the Belgian association for the promotion of wood-energy which gathers manufacturers and importers of solid fuel appliances, wood burning fuels and chimney systems. Furthermore, he is Managing Director of Poujoulat Belgian branch, being the first European manufacturer of metallic chimney flues.

Christian Stadler



Technical director of General Solar Systems GmbH / Sonnenkraft, Mr. Stadler is also involved in numerous initiatives in the RES sector: chairman of joint Technical Workgroup on solar thermal of BDH/BSW, member of Standard & Certification Workgroup in ESTIF, and member EcoDesign Workgroup of ESTIF/BSW.

Christian Stolte



Deputy - head of the division "Energy-Efficient Buildings" in the German Energy Agency (dena) since 2008, Mr. Stolte is highly experienced in energy efficient installation engineering. In dena, he significantly contributed to the development of an overall efficiency strategy regarding renewable heat and has also coordinated dena's nationwide information activities on renewable heat, energy efficient heating technologies.

Thank you for reading us and do not miss next issue on Poland!