

EurekaBuild (E!3790) Project Idea Form

ES04 - Integration of Environmental Aspects in the Building Sector

> Describe your project idea

The main objective is to promote the integration of environmental aspects in the building sector in a bottom-up approach from local authorities' activities to European level. Main specific objectives of the project are the next:

- Define technical specifications of an integrated eco-building, based on local construction procedures and attitudes, depending on construction procedures of each European country. Special attention will be paid to new Member States.
- To build some demonstrator buildings
- To provide knowledge and to raise awareness to professionals, industry and all stakeholders involved in the construction sector, in order to achieve integration of environmental criteria to produce new and renovate buildings.
- Promotion of technologies developed to improve the environmental performance of buildings.
- Further development of regulatory issues to the promotion of sustainable construction at local level. What is a "sustainable building"? The regulatory framework is not clear and many companies use this concept intentionally without providing the sustainable conditions accordingly.
- To show and disseminate about practical experience on sustainable construction to general public and professionals.

Steps:

- Eco building repository (or database) creation from scattered data about Eco-buildings in Europe. It will be based on specific criteria and parameters previously defined by local authorities.
- Elaboration of the demonstrator "technical specifications" for each region, to be translated to the own regional building practises. In addition, some of the city partners will set up demonstration activities integrating different environmental issues related to construction works. Finally, and Eco-centre management plan will be designed both in some cities to help go further with technical specifications and demonstrators previously achieved.
- Build the demonstrators.
- Set up sustainable awareness raising activities to stakeholders of the construction chain. through implantation of information desks on sustainable construction in each partner city. Edition of Eco-guides, development of training activities for professionals and citizens and start up of local information desks, connected in local and European network and supported by local websites.
- Technical specifications defined before will give knowledge base to local authorities to adopt environmental aspects into local policies including regulations, incentives, information, demonstratives, and other measures to promote and integrate sustainable construction at local level.
- Project dissemination and diffusion. Different activities related to the project dissemination will be taken at local, national and European level. Participation of all partners must assure wider uptake of the project activities in order to make stakeholders aware and interested.

> Please explain briefly your expertise

TRANSRIC is a SME of the Valencian Region and representative of multiple industrial interests made up by more than 100 companies mainly related to environment and waste management. TRANSRIC will bring to the project the necessary experience to carry out dissemination tasks and good practices, giving the feedback of the construction private sector for the Spanish part, giving publicity for the events in relation with the demonstrators in the sector and bringing legal know-how and point of view of the sector for the evolution of the policies. The company will cooperate with AIDICO, Construction Technology Research Institute (www.aidico.es). **AIDICO** is a non-profit-making association with over 80 employees active in many construction related activities, working very close to the industry, providing services to its over 400 associated construction related companies. Among other activities and services, AIDICO carries out research and development projects in a wide range of areas, such as sustainable construction. AIDICO carries out R&D activities on the areas of construction and industrial wastes for new construction products, construction waste management, local regulations for solar energy or life cycle assessment, or saving energy in buildings. AIDICO is active member of the European and Spanish Construction Technology Platforms in different Focus Areas (Quality of Life, Cities and Buildings...).

> Please describe what your contribution will be to this project (financial, technological,...)

- Technical assistance to local authorities/local regions in establishment of local criteria and parameters (see below, Local Authorities). Guidance to policy bottlenecks or points of attention. Support for the development of local technical specifications that create a clear regulatory framework.
- To define training activities and develop training material, to give technical assistance to the Valencia local authorities to edit Eco-guides.

> Explain which type of contribution you are looking for (financial, technological,...)

Research centres :

To contribute in the same way as AIDICO in other European regions

LA (local authorities):

- Each city/region has to give local criteria and parameters, influenced by local particularities like sensibility, policy, customs, climate, etc and collect, classify and validate the information on eco-buildings built in their areas.
- To promote and build a sustainable building.
- To develop an information desk local Network and coordinate them to achieve a European network of information desks. To promote training activities in the information desks. To edit Eco-guides. To develop web sites. Work closely with the local/regional construction industry on developing tools for marketing sustainable building features to end users including house buyers.
- Define policies which incorporate principles of sustainability. Review with partners existing policies, for instance spatial planning, procurement, design specifications, impact of various EU Directives, waste planning and resources management, climate change tools, building regulations, local or regional design awards etc.

Industry

- Review and give the point of view and feedback of the private construction sector in each area in order to discuss the feasibility of the chosen policies and/or regulations.
- Build the demonstrator.
- Give publicity for the events in relation with the demonstrators in the sector.
- Give legal know-how and point of view of the sector for the evolution of the policies.

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