

REsearch Center for Energy and New Technology (RECENT) project been executed within the Regional Potential scheme whose aim is to unlock the research potential of less developed and peripheral regions of the EU by improving the research capacities of the highest quality centers.

Sole beneficiary of the project was the Institute of Thermal Technology (ITT) of the Silesian University of Technology (SUT) supported by four partner institutions:

- School of Process Environmental and Material Engineering, University of Leeds, UK
- Centre of Energy Resources and Consumptions, University of Zaragoza, Spain
- Department of Energy Engineering University of Florence, Italy
- VTT – Finland National Research Centre

The aim of the project was better integration of ITT in the European Research Area. Though research has not been directly supported by the scheme, the backbone of the project were three energy related topics: energy systems, clean combustion and numerical simulations. Organization of several types of meetings, employment of staff, intensive know-how exchange and purchasing of research equipment were the main fields of activities of the project. The list of the most important achievements of the project encompasses

- Organization of three international conferences each attended by nearly 100 researchers who presented over 220 papers the most important of which have been published in special issues of high impact factor international journals.
- Organization of three workshops for PhD students attended by nearly 80 students primarily from ITT but also from other Polish research institutions. Electronic and printed materials have been prepared for each meeting.
- Organization of three seminars for Polish industry and two for local government on various aspects of energy generation, optimization, environmental aspects and policy attended by more than 200 individuals.
- Employing three Assistant Professors and one Associate Professor for the period of project execution. After the project had finished, all have been offered positions at ITT.
- Six one year secondment of junior staff at partner institutions and four one months secondment of partner staff at ITT along with more than 50 short bidirectional missions between ITT and partner institutions
- Purchasing of scientific equipment: rapid and high resolution IR camera and Particle Image Velocimetry system
- Employing two foreign Professors, each for half a year.
- Twelve visits of external experts at ITT who gave seminars and exchange know how with ITT staff
- Presenting 20 papers at important international conferences
- Organization of workshops and individual training for ITT staff in project management, Intellectual Property rights, industrial engagement, writing FOP proposals
- Organization of special events aiming at dissemination: presentation of the project:
  - seminar at the European Parliament *True Colours of Silesia* promoting the research in the region of Silesia,
  - seminar on Horizon2020 with invited speakers: rapporteurs of FP7 and H2020 Prof. J. Buzek and Prof. MdG Carvalho, Minister J. Guliński, numerous interviews in newspapers, on TV and broadcast stations.

After the first reporting period, the project has been selected as a Success Story. A summary of the achievements in of the project have been published in European Service Network.

Employees of ITT were advisers in energy policy to local and central government and Parliament. The execution of the project enhanced the efficiency of ITT in research fund raising. More than 50 projects financed by the industry and 14 major projects financed by various national funding agencies have been executed. The total budget of these projects reached €3M. Additional grants for enhancing the infrastructure resulted in construction of a new research laboratory and purchasing equipment .Along with the activities on national level nine international projects have been filed. Three of the applications were successful, four are under review.