

Final publishable summary report

The project “ener2i: Energy to Innovation - Reinforcing cooperation with ENP countries on bridging the gap between energy research and energy innovation” focused on the need to find innovative and sustainable solutions for the resource efficiency and renewable and sustainable energy sector in four of the six Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries, namely Armenia, Belarus, Georgia and Moldova. The project directly addressed the gap between new energy research and industry. In the EaP countries existing research results are not being sufficiently transferred into innovative processes and products, and cooperation among research institutes, universities, and the business sector is at an early stage of development. In order to bridge this gap, to link EaP stakeholders up with colleagues in Europe, and to accelerate innovation performance, ener2i concentrated and achieved the following main objectives:

- With 8 workshops on innovative EE/RES technologies and innovation policies ener2i enhanced the innovation capacity and improved the innovation performance of manufacturers, energy service companies and industry in the field of energy efficiency (EE) and renewable energy sources (RES). More than 300 colleagues participated in the workshops.
- With study visits and staff exchanges ener2i mobilised 47 experts for improved knowledge transfer and innovation support in the field of EE/RES through a comprehensive trans-national cooperation.
- With 8 brokerage events, 4 in EaP countries and 4 in EU countries, ener2i stimulated effective linkages between research and innovation, and between colleagues from the EU and the EaP countries Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, and Moldova. More than 300 colleagues participated in the brokerages.
- With 30 allocated innovation vouchers à € 4000 (total €120,000 invested) ener2i strengthened cooperation between research and business actors in EE/RES in the participating EaP countries and at the same time facilitating the cooperation between EU and participating EaP countries.

These efforts were accompanied by extensive dissemination activities and clustering with similar projects funded under the Research to Innovation (R2I) scheme (e.g. organisation of joint events, coordination of activities, etc.).