

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF
PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLERS IN EUROPE



www.pvtrin.eu



INTELLIGENT
ENERGY
EUROPE

FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



The PVTRIN initiative

The high photovoltaic market growth rates, further favoured by the EU supporting policies and the favourable national regulatory frameworks, may cause some concern to the PV industry due to the lack of adequately skilled workforce for PV installation and maintenance. Furthermore, the interested parties (manufacturers, developers, investors) seek skills certification and quality assurance in all phases of a PV installation (design, installation and maintenance).



The PVTRIN (Training of Photovoltaic Installers) project addresses the market needs by developing a training and certification scheme for technicians who are active in the installation and maintenance of small scale PV systems.

This scheme incorporates the criteria set by the 2009/28/EC Directive for qualification schemes and certified training courses in each Member State, taking into account the national framework and legislation. It will, initially, be implemented



in six (6) countries: Greece, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Romania and Spain. In order to incorporate the genuine market needs and to assure the broadest possible support, the key stakeholder groups are involved in the project's activities.

The PVTRIN challenges are to:

- set the base for the adoption of a mutually acknowledged certification scheme
- establish a pool of local technicians who are competent at installing PV systems according multinational quality standards
- guarantee the best performance of PV installations, lowering risks or technical failures during the system's installation and life cycle
- reinforce PV technology's credibility and to boost the competitiveness of the PV industry

The PVTRIN is supported by the Intelligent Energy-Europe programme of the European Commission.

The National Consultation Committee

The National Consultation Committee (NCC) members will play a significant role, sharing their knowledge and providing guidance during the whole duration of the project.

In each country, representatives of the interested key stakeholder groups (i.e. PV/RES industry associations, professional unions and installers associations, vocational training organizations, accreditation bodies, chambers of commerce, consumers/investors associations, national authorities) are involved in order to transfer the market's experience, to provide consultation during the training development and to support the certification scheme.



Expected results

The PVTRIN activities will result in:

- accredited training courses and operational certification scheme for PV installers in 6 countries
- practical training material/tools for the installers and their trainers; web portal with access to technical information
- 8 pilot training courses implemented, a pool of skilled / certified PV installers in participating countries
- a roadmap for the adoption of the certification scheme across Europe.

Long term, PVTRIN will:

- contribute to the PV/BIPV market growth in the participating countries
- encourage a greater number of technicians to advance their professional skills
- provide a supporting instrument, for EU Member States, to meet their obligations for acknowledged certifications for RES installers till 31/12/2012
- enforce the EU countries to achieve the mandatory target of a 20% share of energy from RES in overall Community energy consumption, by 2020.

The PVTRIN Consortium

Partner	Country	Website
 <p>Technical University of Crete Environmental Engineering Dpt. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Systems Lab <i>PROJECT COORDINATOR</i></p>	Greece	www.tuc.gr
 <p>Agency of Brasov for the Management of Energy and Environment</p>	Romania	www.abmee.ro
 <p>Building Research Establishment Ltd</p>	UK	www.bre.co.uk
 <p>Energy Institute Hrvoje Požar</p>	Croatia	www.eihp.hr
 <p>European Photovoltaic Industry Association</p>	EU/ Belgium	www.epia.org
 <p>Scientific and Technical Chamber of Cyprus</p>	Cyprus	www.etek.org.cy
 <p>Sofia Energy Centre</p>	Bulgaria	www.sec.bg
 <p>Tecnalía</p>	Spain	www.tecnalia.com
 <p>Technical Chamber of Greece <i>Branch of Western Crete</i></p>	Greece	www.teetdk.gr



The PVTRIN Certification will offer:

To installers

- Proficiency
- Recognition
- Mobility
- Aspirations
- Employability

To PV investors

- Confidence
- Better system performance
- Reduced risks

To PV industry

- Efficient workforce
- Satisfied customers
- Lower operational costs
- Increased credibility



PVTRIN

INSTALLER CERTIFICATION

Benefits for the installers, the PV industry and the society

- Creating a qualified installers workforce, PVTRIN supports the **EU PV Industry** to address the need for skilled technicians. The increased confidence of PV investors will lead to market growth.
- The **trained installers** gain professional competitive advantage, improving their technical skills and knowledge; the certification provides the “passport” to the EU job market. The training material, tools and web platform will provide them a “24/7” technical assistance.
- **Developers and engineers** will profit by the existence of skilled installers. Involving them in their PV projects means efficient installations, less technical failures and satisfied customers.
- **PV investors** win confidence that the appropriate level of quality and performance is met and maintained for their PV system.
- **National authorities** will find a supporting instrument to meet their obligations for acknowledged certifications for RES installers.
- The **entire society** is to benefit; the higher PV penetration to the energy mix will reduce the greenhouse gas emissions improving citizens’ quality of life.

Contact us:

For additional information please contact the project coordinator:



TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF CRETE (TUC)
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
RENEWABLE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY
SYSTEMS LAB

Address: University Campus
Kounoupidiana, 73100 Chania, Greece
stavroula.tournaki@enveng.tuc.gr
www.enveng.tuc.gr



PVTRIN is supported by the Intelligent Energy - Europe (IEE) programme. The sole responsibility for the content of this publication lies with the authors. It does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Union. Neither the EACI nor European Commission are responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein. Photographs acknowledgments to Chris Rudge, Clean Air Solutions, Wesco Cort, EPIA, European Commission.