



NEWSLETTER #2 – February 2021

WHAT'S NEWS?

After one year from the Newsletter #1, **SME mPower Efficiency** grew widely with targeted actions involving several stakeholders in the EU.

Here what has been done and a preview of the new opportunities for SMEs and professionals.

#1

SME mPower NEWS #1 - Did you know that SMEs represent **99%** of the EU businesses and account for approximately **13%** of global final energy consumption?

Still too few SMEs see their energy efficiency as a high priority for energy savings.

The newly published paper "**Energy Efficiency Solutions for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises**", written in conjunction with our sister projects **SPEEDIER**, **E2DRIVER** and **innoveas**, describes the hands-on innovative capacity-building programmes, designed within the four H2020 projects to eliminate these barriers and encourage SMEs to undertake energy audits and implement the recommended energy efficiency measures. Find the paper here <https://lnkd.in/efnac-B> or in our **NEWS** section.

#2

SME mPower NEWS #2 - The SME mPower Efficiency Education and Training (E&T) Programme kicked off with the **first edition of the training course**. Find out more details about the training courses in the 8 partner countries in the below **FOCUS** section.

#3

SME mPower NEWS #3 - As a preliminary work to identify and align contents for the joint **E&T Programme** delivered in eight EU countries, a Program Design and Training Handbook were released by the project partners. The **Program Design** is a report outlining the common E&T Programme, the description of the whole design and the implementation process. The **Training Handbook** is an in-depth report of the Program Design, presenting the Learning Units and their contents. So far, a first version has been delivered. The Training Handbook will be continuously reviewed and updated according to the feedback obtained from participants and trainers.

#4

SME mPower NEWS #4 - The first release of the SME mPower Efficiency **Energy Analytics Tools** has begun with the **Monitoring & Targeting (M&T) tool for energy analytics**, a report presenting the online tool which is under development in the framework of the project. The online tool will allow SMEs to undergo energy audits and increase their energy efficiency through effective implementations, measured and verified.

#5

SME mPower NEWS #5 - The **Practical Action in Pilot Sites** have kicked off within the first edition of the SME mPower training course. The selected pilot sites in the eight EU participant countries allow the trainees to put in practice the actual knowledge gained, using the specific tools developed within the project to perform energy surveys and propose specific energy saving measures for each pilot site. Find out more in the **Pilot Site Selection** report.



FOCUS

The start of the New Year was a busy time for **SME mPower Efficiency**. Despite the pandemic that sadly affected all of us, we kept working hard to move forward and launch the **first edition of the SME mPower training course** in almost all the eight EU participants countries.

Training course was promptly adapted from face-to-face to online mode. However, this allowed to reach a wider audience and a major flexibility for the attendance, turning a challenge and a potential barrier into a new project's opportunity! Below a brief of what is going on in each country and more on how to enrol to the second and third editions happening this and next year.

CYPRUS

Μεταπτυχιακό μάθημα «Διαχειριστών Ενέργειας»



- » Start/end date: January 2021 / March 2021
- » Number of participants: 29



» **The training course:** The Cyprus Employers & Industrialists Federation (OEB) in collaboration with the University of Cyprus, proceeded with the organization of a free Postgraduate Course for the training of “Energy Managers” launched on the 20th of January 2021. All lessons were delivered online once a week, until the end of March 2021. In total 29 people registered and participating in this training course.

The Postgraduate Course “Energy Managers” is addressed to people who handle energy issues within their business, local authorities or other bodies and organizations, without necessarily having specialization or related academic qualifications. This course combines theoretical lessons, exercises, personal learning and practical training, lasting a total of 44 hours. Course attendance has a total credit of 5 ECTS (level 5 EQF). The award of the certificate requires mandatory attendance, submission of written work and success in a written examination.



» **SMEs engagement and case pilots:** SMEs engagement and case pilots: 15 SMEs were involved in this edition of the training course. Three of them are from the Manufacturing sector (Manufacture of beverages, Manufacture of food products & Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products), three from the Wholesale and Retail trade sector, two from the Hotel sector, and the rest from the sectors of Professional, Scientific and Technical activities, Water supply, Sewerage, Waste management and Remediation activities, Public administration, Other service activities, Construction and Real estate activities.



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GREECE

Ένεργειακή αποδοτικότητα και βιωσιμότητα σε μικρές και μεσαίες επιχειρήσεις (ΜμΕ) για ενεργειακούς διαχειριστές και ειδικούς στην ενέργεια



- » Start/end date: February 2021 / April 2021
- » Number of participants: 45



» **The training course:** The training course is ongoing, both lectures and practical action in collaboration with Greek SMEs. Started on the 20th of February, it is expected to be concluded by April 2021 and delivered exclusively online. This first edition of the training program is certified by the Center for Education and Lifelong Learning of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki with 5 ECTS credits. The training program has been announced in several local websites, gaining high attention among energy professionals and students. 45 people have been thoroughly selected, instead of 30. The professional experience, the relevance of their studies and their grade scores have been used as selection criteria. Those who have not been selected, were prompted to apply for the second or the third editions to follow, during 2021 and 2022, respectively. The registrations are open for energy efficiency enthusiasts to participate. Finally, for all interested not participating in the program, the training handbook formulated for the courses is available as an open access document on the SMEmpower portal.



» **SMEs engagement and case pilots:** in the first edition of the training courses 5 SMEs act as pilot sites, providing necessary data to be used in the framework of the practical action. Specific case studies of energy efficiency improvement interventions will be formulated for each one of them to be investigated by the course participants. The engaged SMEs are active in different economic areas, from manufacturing, to service providers, and geographically dispersed across the country. Thus, a variety of different case studies will be available for analysis, which help in formulating and providing feedback towards energy efficiency improvement in more than one SME sectors.



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GERMANY

Energieeffizienz und Energiemanagement in Unternehmen (KMU)



- » Start/end date: February 2021 / April 2021
- » Number of participants: at least 28 (registration still open at time of writing)



» **The training course:** The online distance learning course offers an easy-to-understand introduction to the field of energy efficiency and energy management. It is designed to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the implementation of measures that increase the energy efficiency of companies. Participants learn about various optimisation measures and their financing options. They gain an insight into the funding landscape in Germany and are also to be enabled to prepare energy audits. A holistic approach is intended to help overcome the challenges that arise at the stakeholder, corporate and institutional levels.



» **SMEs engagement and case pilots:** The course features many pilot cases of SMEs from several different sectors and shows how they achieved meaningful energy savings.



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ITALY

Corso E&T “Efficienza energetica e sostenibilità per energy manager e energy professional nelle PMI”



- » Start/end date: December 2020/ February 2021
- » Number of participants: 43



» **The training course:** The course is part of the Education & Training Program delivered within the SMEmPower Efficiency project. The goal is to “empower” SMEs, enabling them in identifying actions to reduce their energy consumption and facilitating the collaborative approach between professionals and SMEs. Being funded by the EU H2020 fund allows participants an attendance free of charge. The strong practical vocation of the course offers participants the opportunity to identify the most convenient measures to achieve energy and economic savings, through the development of energy audits in real pilot cases run in chosen SMEs. A second and a third edition of the training course will be launched in this and next year. These editions will be open and with the same accessibility for participants.



» **SMEs engagement and case pilots:** In this first edition the energy diagnosis within the practical action covered a heterogeneous group of SMEs, geographically located in different areas of the country and active in five different sectors. This allowed to analyze several criticalities and challenges potentially common to other SMEs. The delivery of the course was online, with a strong collaboration from the academia (University of Rome “Tor Vergata”) and the involvement as trainers of key subjects active at national and local level, such as ENEA, CNI, CNR, CasaClima Agency and Tep Energy Solution, an extreme value for the training course.



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ROMANIA

Eficiență și sustenabilitate energetică pentru manageri energetici



- » Start/end date: December 2020 / February 2021
- » Number of participants: 40



» **The training course:** During the Educational & Training programme, a holistic approach of the energy efficiency concept was conducted by lecturers with valuable expertise in this field. They provided relevant information concerning the main technical, financial and social barriers and motivations for SMEs in order to adopt energy efficiency measures. The last meeting ended with presentations of the case studies carried out as a teamwork of the attendees.



» **SMEs engagement and case pilots:** The engagement of the Romanian SMEs was successfully achieved by the team in the first edition of the E&T course. The E&T course practical action part was a good opportunity to step into the SME and define several barriers and possibilities at the same time in terms of organizational action and implementation of energy efficiency solutions. The profile of the engaged SMEs reflects the potential of encouraging knowledge, trust and taking decision for implementing energy efficiency. The participants of the E&T programme were working in groups on case studies defined by the pilot sites. Also, financial possibilities were underlined as the Romanian team, together with the Ministry of Energy, Energy Efficiency Department and the Society of Energy Auditors and Managers from Romania, supports SMEs to apply for Electric-Up program which aims to support SMEs to implement photovoltaic systems and charging system for electrical vehicles.



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SLOVENIA

Energetska učinkovitost v malih in srednje velikih podjetjih



- » Start/end date: February 2021 / April 2021
- » Number of participants: 35



» **The training course:** The training course Energetska učinkovitost v malih in srednje velikih podjetjih (EN: Energy efficiency in SMEs) has started on the 2nd of February 2021 and is being implemented online by Faculty of Mechanical Engineering from University of Ljubljana. 35 participants (almost all are employees in SMEs) are engaged in this course so they can gain vast knowledge in the field of Energy Efficiency, examine practical case studies, and increase the energy potential of their companies. Participants are receiving compelling information and extensive learning from highly competent and recognized professors.



» **SMEs engagement and case pilots:** Participants from 16 SMEs are engaged from various sectors such as manufacturing, energy supply, scientific and technical activities, mining sector, and construction.



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SPAIN

Curso E&T “Eficiencia Energética y Sostenibilidad para gestores y profesionales de la energía (en pymes)”



- » Start/end date: December 2020/ February 2021
- » Number of participants: 30



» **The training course:** As part of the SMEmpower project, it has been designed an Education & Training Program focused on SMEs. The aim is providing SMEs with tools and training for reducing the energy consumption in their facilities. The course includes a theoretical and a practical module where SMEs Managers can analyse and evaluate the energy efficiency measures learnt during the course. The Spanish edition of the course has been just finalized, but two more editions are still coming in 2021 and 2022, providing a new opportunity for SMEs to build their capacity in energy efficiency strategies and implement them in their own facilities.



» **SMEs engagement and case pilots:** During the first edition of the course, 30 professionals working in SMEs and 7 small and medium manufacturing enterprises participated in the course. This allowed analyzing the manufacturing process and evaluating promising strategies for energy reduction, therefore minimizing the cost of the resources and final product. The delivery of the course was entirely online with a strong practical approach, including applied exercises, case studies and evaluation from real manufacturing facilities.



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UNITED KINGDOM

Energy Efficiency and Sustainability for Energy Managers and Energy Professionals (in SMEs)



- » Start/end date: March 2021 / April 2021
- » Number of participants: 20



» **The training course:** Teesside University is offering free training and certification on energy use to small & medium enterprises (SMEs) to help them understand and implement energy efficiency measures (EEM) in their SMEs. The course focuses on the presentation of available EEM, in relation to energy surveys and technical data in SMEs. The training goes beyond energy consumption surveys (basic energy audit), and aims to effectively implement energy management techniques, instruments and solutions, to achieve energy savings, emissions reduction and welfare within this large and varied sector (99% of companies in the UK). Participants will plan and conduct an energy plan for their SME, with guidance from module tutors. The course will be delivered online, over five-weeks, for five hours each week. Participants from SMEs in the UK are encouraged to attend, and more than one participant from one company is welcomed.



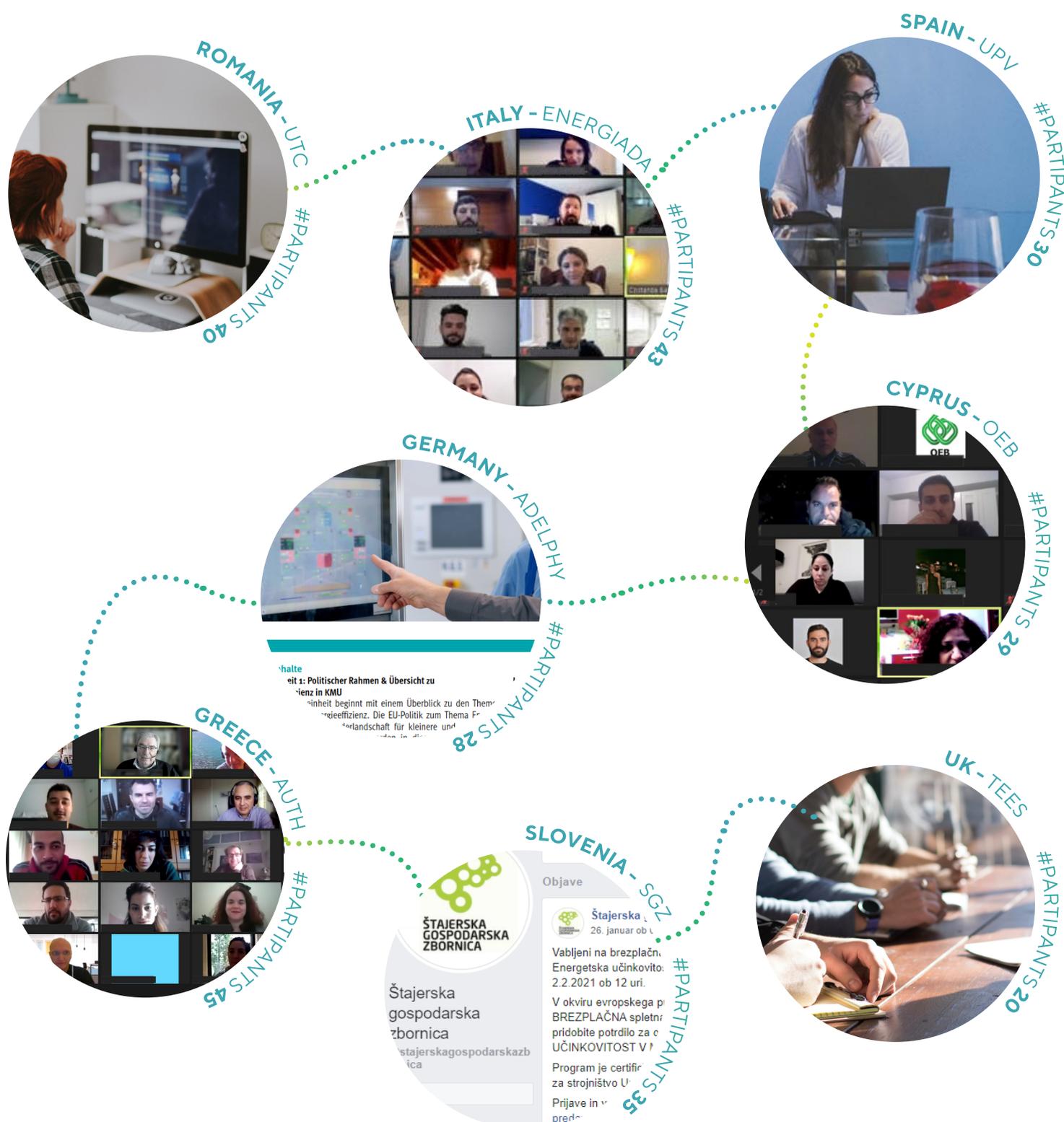
» **SMEs engagement and case pilots:** We have engaged with 6 SMEs in the manufacturing industry, including one company that designs and manufactures PPE for hazardous sites (i.e. oil & gas, power generation, petro-chemical and nuclear sites), one provider of welding services for the oil & gas, power generation, petro-chemical and nuclear industries, two companies that design and manufacture metal structures and components for construction, one chemical processing company, and one company designing and manufacturing accessibility solutions for bathrooms. We have also established strategic relationships with major SME associations in the UK to assist us with the recruitment process, in particular MakeUK (<https://www.makeuk.org/>) and Energi-coast (<https://www.energicoast.co.uk/>).



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FIRST EDITION of SMePower Efficiency Training Course in EU



DON'T MISS OUT!

» SMePower Efficiency Training Platform

The online [SMePower Training Platform](#) is live and open for potential participants and people attending the training course. The platform is the first reference for people attending the E&T training course and for whoever is interested in learning more about making SMEs more efficient. Become a member today by registering [here](#).

» Work in progress

One of the scopes of the [SMePower Efficiency Portal](#) is to facilitate energy professionals mainly in SMEs in having access to relevant energy management tools, especially energy analytics for M&T and M&V. These last tools will be finalised in the upcoming month and make publicly available to all participants to the training course as well as other people aiming to improve the energy efficiency in SMEs.

» All our project's results are [here](#) » [RESULTS](#) and [TOOLS](#)

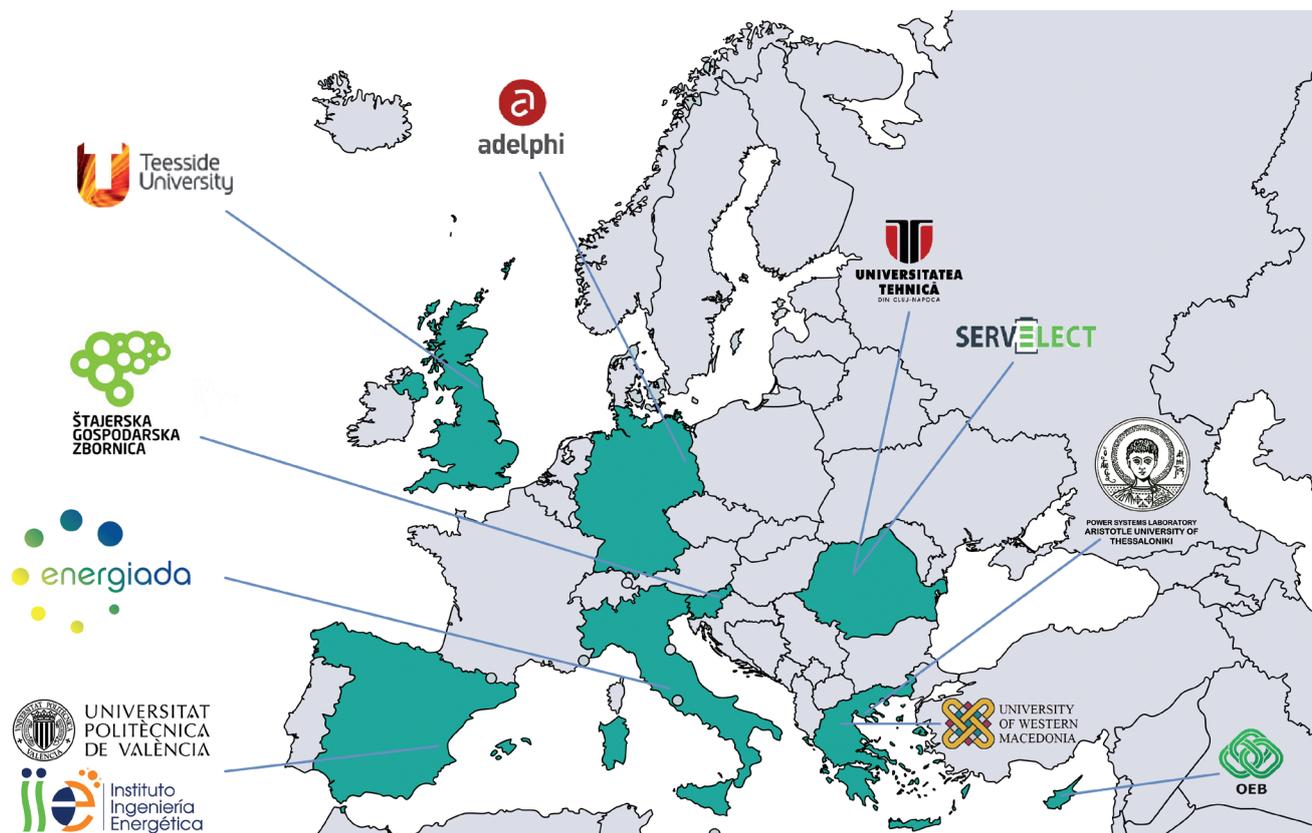


ABOUT SMEMPOWER EFFICIENCY

SMEmpower Efficiency is a H2020 project that **supports the small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)** in the implementation of the Energy Efficiency Directive, for a more **sustainable and efficient operation**.

The project's goal is to promote **energy audits** in selected SMEs and to support the best proposals. Additionally the project will deliver a series of integrated and accredited **Education & Training (E&T)** programme targeting energy related SME staff, plus in-house short trainings for decision makers.

The E&T programme focuses on **financial and technical** data required to prove that specific measures are cost-effective. The trainees apply their acquired knowledge in undergoing audits in their SMEs supported by the **SMEmpower Efficiency experts**.



HOW TO JOIN US

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