



EVENT DESCRIPTION

Project Partner: Municipality of Maribor

Title of the event: City working visit in Maribor

Date & location: 22.4. – 23.4.2015, Maribor, Slovenia

Organiser(s): Municipality of Maribor / Energy Agency of Podravje

Number of Participants: 2 participants from the Municipality of Kalmar

Participants from Municipality of Maribor (1), Energy Agency of Podravje (1)

Summary

The Municipality of Maribor and the Energy Agency of Podravje organised a working visit to exchange best practices and discuss issues relating to energy performance contracting (EPC) in the field of public street lighting (SL) in Slovene municipalities. Representatives of the city of Kalmar attended the event.

First the representatives of the city of Maribor and the Energy agency of Podravje explained the situation in Maribor in the field of energy issues and especially in street lighting. In the villages of Hoče-Slivnica and Starše the responsible person for street lighting presented their best practice for street lighting refurbishment.

In Bled we visited the biggest controlling centre of an ESCO in Slovenia. The Mayor of Bled presented the procedure of introducing energy performance contracting in their municipality.

Objectives & main programme points

Maribor presented the actual situation and stage of the process for introducing EPC for street lighting. The political decision was taken to work on the public procurement for PPP for energy performance contracting for street lighting for the whole city.

Best practices about public lighting were presented by the Energy Agency of Podravje on cases of smaller municipalities.

The mayor of Hoče-Slivnica explained savings in energy consumption since the introduction of EPC for street lighting.

The responsible person in the village of Starše presented the investment in new public lighting in several parts of the village and the frame of the investment as well as savings made.



Since the producer of the new LED luminaires of Starše is situated in the surroundings of the village, we organized a visit at the headquarters of the enterprise where the manager showed their technology, luminaires and realized projects in EU countries.

The next day we visited the Municipality of Bled in North West Slovenia. Bled is one of the first municipalities which started with EPC in the field of public lighting in Slovenia. The mayor and his assistant presented the process of EPC procurement, specialities about cultural heritage lamps and the savings made.

We visited the controlling centre of a Slovenian ESCO near Bled. The centre has an overview of small and big municipalities' street lighting energy consumption. Their experts are observing and comparing energy consumption with help of modern ICT technologies.

Conclusions & lessons learnt (based on stakeholder input)

SL is not only a technical component of the city therefore all aspects of it should be taken into account: architectural, cultural heritage, nature preservation, safety, citizens wishes, therefore before starting technical and financial calculation other aspect should be discussed within the city administration and citizens and maybe with decision-makers.

- It is very good to see in details how ESCO is working within the EPC, how they develop the project and how they manage the service within the agreement period.
- Different municipalities took different approaches in EPC in SL: some offered just energy savings technical measures, some also included maintain work. This have very big impact on financial calculation.
- Municipalities need help with EPC because it is not only legal procedure but also saving calculation are depending on many circumstances.
- LED lights offer many advantages especially when they are coupled with good ICT supported regulation system. And with LED also colours can be adjusted and it makes many opportunities for architectural design and corporation SL in development concepts of the cities.
- The LED technologies are developing very fast and there is no problem to have very specific light design with LED. They have very long life and small maintaining costs.
- Small municipalities are easier to handle within the EPC but at the same time savings are smaller and therefore the projects are not so interested to private partners. Here are idea to make joint EPC project for more municipalities but it needs very experienced project leader.

Lessons learnt Kalmar:

- The regulations on limit values on measurement of energy savings and on limit values for light pollution of the environment, leads the municipality to decide some of the requirements for the EPC projects.

- That we should do a small pilot project in the municipality before doing an EPC project for the whole of the municipality.
- Gain the knowledge of the technology in the municipality; make sure to know what you want and how you want the streetlights to be changed to. Make sure to do your research and not rush into decisions.
- We learned that we need put in more resources on engineering for technical issues for the tendering.
- In our case we also need to add in infra-structure changes. Old infra-structure together with how to do the street light in general shall be redesigned in combine with budget.



