

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AGENCY (AE3R PLOIESTI - PRAHOVA) - ROMANIA



DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANISATION

The Prahova County is located in the South-Central part of Romania, covering an area of about 4.700 square kilometres (roughly 2% of the country) and has a population of about 801.000 inhabitants. The main city Ploiesti has a population of 233.000 inhabitants and it's located 60 kilometres from Bucharest and 45 kilometres from Bucharest International Airport.

The Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Agency "AE3R Ploiesti – Prahova" started its activity in 2009 as a NGO financed by IEE programme and it shortly managed to become one of the major energy stakeholders in Prahova County. The Agency is one of the members of one of the largest European networks REScoop.eu (the European federation of citizen energy cooperatives) and a Covenant of the Mayors signatory. AE3R has long lasting partnerships with important national bodies such as Romanian Energy Regulatory Authority (ANRE), Romanian Association of Building Services Engineers Bucharest Subsidiary (AIIR), New Energy Sources Employers' Association (APSNE SunE), the Society of Power Engineers in Romania (SIER) and ESCOROM- the Association of the Energy Services Companies from Romania- co-administrator of the European Code for Conduct on Energy Performance Contracts. AE3R is one of the founding members of Romanian Federation of Energy Agencies (FAREN).

The members of the AE3R Board of Administration are remarkable actors in the energy field, such as public authorities (Prahova County Council and Ploiesti Municipality to name the most important), the biggest energy distribution and supply company in Romania (FDEE Electrica and FFEE Electrica), professors with experience in the R&I field from the local Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiesti, managers from the local heat distribution company (Veolia Energie Prahova S.A.) and Public Services Company in Ploiesti.

The Agency has 4 employees, 3 full-time, and 1 part-time.

MAIN TASKS IN THE PROJECT

AE3R was involved in many projects dealing with various topics such as regional/local energy strategies/planning, various financial schemes for RES projects such as ESCO/PPP, NZEB/deep retrofitting of public buildings, initiating energy community model to tackle climate change and energy poverty, producing over 300 energy audits and energy performance certificates for public authorities and private companies, energy feasibility studies for RES pilots, implementation/management of photovoltaic projects, involving students and citizens in various campaigns, while looking for solutions to improve green mobility, reduce heat island effect in large cities and deploy smart energy grid at city level.

CVs OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT

Mr. Bogdan POTLOGIA is the Director of Ae3R Ploiesti – Prahova Regional Energy Agency having an engineer degree, specialized as energy manager for public authorities and thermography specialist. He has coordinated the activity of the Agency for the past 13 years, working closely with the Management Board to support initiatives of stakeholders from public or private sector and deliver projects in the renewable and energy efficiency fields according to the priorities of the local and regional strategies.

Mr. Alexandru Coman is an Energy Expert having an engineer degree. And Master Degree in RES. He is responsible for the delivery of prefeasibility business plans, RES potential analysis, energy planning and recommendations for public authorities to update their energy strategies. He is responsible for conducting research into and analysing the the energy use for various buildings, writing reports and mapping the total energy usage, thinking of ideas for actionable options and coming up with ideas, explaining them, with information such as pros and cons, feasibility, and costs.

Mrs. Diana Viscan is Project Manager at Ae3R having an economics degree. She has tasks related to writing project proposals, task/budget analysis, leading/managing the European projects and deliver their results in the Prahova region according to the national legislation and supporting the public authorities energy strategies. She participated in numerous peer reviews in different European countries, being familiar with various approaches to achieve energy ambitions.

Mrs. Daniela Bratu is Financial/ Economic Manager at Ae3R having an economics degree. She has worked at the Agency from the begging and she was involved in all the European Projects has the Agency has participated in. She is is responsible for the organization of accounting in accordance with the legal regulations in force; drawing up the income and expenditure budget; elaborated studies and analyzes regarding the profitability of the activities,

RELEVANT PREVIOUS PROJECTS.

The Regional Energy Agency Ae3R Ploiesti – Prahova has several agreements or partnerships with public or private stakeholders to reliable act at national, regional and local levels such as with **ANRE** the National Energy Regulatory Authority (participation in seminars/workshops on EPC/ESCO in public buildings), with **AIIR** the Romanian Association of Installations Engineers (rehabilitation of public buildings and installations with state of art techniques and materials), with **Veolia Energie Prahova** the Ploiesti Hot Water and Heat Energy Supplier (support the development of a modern central heating system in the Municipality of Ploiesti and other major cities), with **CSPER Prahova** the Public Renewable Energies and Energy Services Company (extend the energy supply in our region, tmodernize the public lighting and use renewables in cogeneration heating plants), with the **Oil and Gas University of Ploiesti** (encourage and support green entrepreneurship for the graduates) and with the **Chamber of Commerce and Industry Prahova** (provide knowledge exchange, training seminars and support for the green private companies).

Ae3R was involved in relevant projects such as:

- Supported the Prahova County Council to successfully implement the INTERREG IVC project **More4NRG** (2008-2011) which analysed the state of art of the regional energy strategies and delivered a toolkit to strengthen them which included monitoring, peer reviews, recommendations for improvement and best practice catalogue.
<https://keep.eu/projects/497/MORE4NRG-EN/>
- Implemented the IEE II 2007-2013 project “Establishment of a Regional Energy Agency in Ploiești – Prahova” (2009-2012) which put the foundations of Ae3R who started a variety of activities meant to raise awareness, trigger actions and provide support towards renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.
www.ae3r-ploiesti.ro
- Implemented the INTERREG IVC Project **Regions4GreenGrowth** (2012-2014) which was a follow-up project to More4NRG. The project looked at innovative financial instruments to facilitate and support the implementation of ambitious regional energy strategies. The peer reviews, analysis and recommendations were tailor-made for each region according to its specifics. Prahova Region was one of the three pilots to benefit from a DIO blueprint.
<https://www.keep.eu/project/5395/regional-policy-instruments-and-approaches-for-improving-access-to-finance-and-speeding-up-investments-in-sustainable-energy>
- Implemented the HORIZON2020 Project **EnPC INTRANS** “Capacity Building on Energy Performance Contracting in European Markets in Transition” (2015-2017) which improved the local capacities of the public sector to set-up and use EnPC models for the financing of their projects especially related to energy efficiency. The project delivered assessment tools, trainings, seminars and useful templates for various stakeholders.
<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/649639>
- Implemented the HORIZON2020 Project **EmBuild** “Empower public authorities to establish a long-term strategy for mobilizing investment in the energy efficient renovation of the building stock” (2016-2018) which focused on promoting local energy strategies capable to provide solutions for the deep retrofit of the public buildings stock using market analysis, tailored tools and recommendations for the involvement of stakeholders at all levels, raising awareness on the wider benefits of the energy efficiency measures.
<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/695169>
- Implemented the INTERREG EUROPE Project **COALESCCE** “Community owned and led energy for security climate change and employment” (2017-2021) which works to increase the capacity for community based approaches to local renewable energy provision across Europe in order to reduce carbon emissions, increase energy security and tackle fuel poverty whilst driving ‘Green Growth’.
<https://www.interregeurope.eu/coalesccea/>
- Currently Partner in the EUKI Project **SURF**- The SURF Project contributes to the transformation process of reaching a climate-neutral building sector by stimulating deep and sustainable building renovation at the municipal level and beyond. It focuses on employees working in the municipal building management as they are responsible for the practical implementation of renovations and,

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thus, are believed to trigger a paradigm shift in sustainable energy renovation from the ground up.

- Currently Partner in the EUKI Project **Renocally**– empowering municipal renovation action plans and use of technical assistance- The Renocally Project builds capacity among local authorities in Bulgaria, Slovakia and Romania to develop building renovation passports and municipal financing strategies to decarbonise their building stock.

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS AND/OR PRODUCTS, SERVICES (INCLUDING WIDELY-USED DATASETS OR SOFTWARE) OR OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS RELEVANT TO THE CALL CONTENT.

1. Sustainable energy action plans (SEAPs) developed for 3 local authorities and the Prahova Regional County;
2. Improving SEAPs for 8 local authorities;
3. Audits and energy performance certificates for public authorities and private companies;
4. Creating and maintaining a wide network of stakeholders;
5. Various trainings and campaigns targetting citizens, public authorities or private companies on different RES and energy efficiency topics.

DESCRIPTION OF ANY SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE AND/OR ANY MAJOR ITEMS OF TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT RELEVANT TO THE PROPOSED WORK.

Ae3R owns the following technical facilities/equipment:

- Company car to cover the entire Prahova region.
- Licensed energy auditing software according to the Romanian regulations.
- Thermal Imaging Camera to evaluate heat losses of buildings or defective equipment.
- Tools to provide energy feasibility analysis, business plans for RES pilots, management of energy projects etc.