

O.T2.1 “5 TRAINING COURSES IN THE 5 REGIONS FOR UTILITY PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS ON PILOT ACTIVITIES”

Conducted By **ADELPHI**

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Reinhaltungsverband Trattnachtal
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KOMPETENZZENTRUM
Wasser Berlin

Output factsheet: O.T2.1 “5 Training Courses in the 5 regions for utility partners and stakeholders on pilot activities”

Project index number and acronym	REEF2W
Lead partner	ENEA
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Responsible partner (PP name and number)	PP 04ADELPHI
Project website	https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/REEF-2W.html
Delivery date	06.2018

Summary description of the implemented training measure(s), explaining the specific goal(s) and target groups

The training has the main purpose to present and interactively test the Integrated Sustainability Assessment (ISA) tool that can be used to systematically assess technical innovations for energy optimisation of waste and wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) on different sustainability criteria. In this way it helps potential users such as utility operators or decision-makers in municipalities to determine whether and how the implementation of measures to increase energy efficiency and renewable energy production are useful. It does this by making predictions about potentials to improve energy performance, the technical feasibility or the environmental sustainability of the Reef2W solutions. Target groups were professionals working on the management and planning of plants, well acquainted of wastewater treatment issues. The pool of participants (excluding the organizers) comprised three different backgrounds: a representative from Berliner Stadtwerke, a public provider of renewable energy and agency to promote them in the city, provided an energy perspective. Practical experience in engaging with wastewater treatment utilities was provided through Berliner Wasserbetriebe, Germany’s largest water service provider, which runs and oversees all water and wastewater utilities in the realm of Berlin. Kompetenzzentrum Wasser Berlin is a long-standing partner to both of them, and has led various joint applied research projects on the topic from over recent years. Adelphi has engaged with the water-energy nexus topics in various projects.

NUTS region(s) where training(s) have been conducted (relevant NUTS level)

The training was carried out in the premises of Kompetenzzentrum Wasser Berlin gGmbH (KWB) .

Cicerostraße 24
10709 Berlin
Country (NUTS 1) DE
Region (NUTS 2) DE30, Berlin
Sub-region (NUTS 3) DE300, Berlin

Expected impact and benefits of the trainings for the concerned territories and target groups

First, the training had a promotional and educational purpose. While the participants had been aware of the REEF2W-project, the training constituted the first formal event where they learnt about REEF2W, its objectives, and potential outcomes resulting during its course. Therefore, in the first part of the training the participants were given a short overview of the REEF 2W project, the different pilot sites and the specific technological upgrades and their differences between them. The participants were informed about the feasibility and advantages of these new technologies. In addition, they learned about the ISA-tool and how to use it. This enables them to apply the tool in their own utility or in other projects.

Another expected benefit for the project consortium was to elicit sufficient feedback about the beta version of the ISA assessment tool. Therefore, the tool was “live-tested” together with the participants. Real data was plugged into the EXCEL tool as the different components of the tool were introduced. This allowed the participants to ask questions, point out aspects that were unclear, and spot errors in the calculations. After the trainings, the participants were issued questionnaires, both to evaluate the facilitation of the training and the tool. This feedback will be used to revise and refine the tool over the course of the next week. It will also be used to prepare the training of the trainings.

Sustainability of the training(s) and developed training material(s) and their transferability to other territories and stakeholders

Sustainability and transferability of trainings:

Sustainability is here defined as the degree to which project outputs are further used during the project period and beyond by partners and other actors. This includes concrete measures (including e.g. institutional structures, financial resources, policy improvements etc.). In the case of Berlin, the Berliner Wasserbetriebe (the municipal water supplier) and the Berliner Stadtwerke (the municipal energy supplier) showed interest during the training to apply and promote the tool once it is finalised. KWB is interested to extent the research on the tool and customize it for other purposes. Furthermore KWB will try to carry out more detailed research on the outcomes of the tool development and ideate about further project development steps. Both of the Berlin project partners (Adelphi and KWB) shared the training events via social media through personal and institutional accounts to further create reach.

Sustainability and transferability of training materials:

The training materials for the Berlin training included a power point with general information on the REEF2W-project and the ISA-tool, the ISA-tool in form of an Excel table, the Guideline for the ISA-tool (DT1.5.1), an abstract of the guideline for the ISA-tool, and the Training Curricula (DT.1.5.5) in German. These materials were made available in printed form. They will also be uploaded to the website and later used during the Training of training of public administrations the Training of Trainers (DT4.2.1) and Trainings of Public Administrations

(DT.4.5) in WP4. Most importantly, experiences and best practices gathered during the training will provide lessons learnt for the REE2W book in a chapter that will potentially focus on an evaluation of the way trainings for wastewater-to-energy should be designed (D.C.2.5).

Lessons learned from the development and implementation of training measures and added value of transnational cooperation

The following lessons learnt might be most important to the design of the two future trainings:

- Utility operators and representatives of public administrations are usually busy and hard to convince for spending time on matters that bring no immediate payback. **The good network of adelphi and KWB** proved crucial in attracting multiple participants. The good quality of the connections was also important for having had them committed to the event. For example, there were few last-minutes cancelations, which is often the case.
- The pool of participants (excluding the organizers) comprised three different backgrounds: A representative from Berliner Stadtwerke, a public provider of renewable energy and agency to promote them in the city; representatives from wastewater and water utility, Berliner Wasserbetriebe (BWB); and policy makers. These different backgrounds were important for gaining **interdisciplinary feedback**,
- **The size of the wastewater utility** is important for gaining relevant feedback. The Berliner Wasserbetriebe is the largest water and wastewater service providers in Germany. For the training, this has advantages. A large operator has more capacity to actually allow some staff to take part in the training, but also to communicate regularly and carry out small research tasks. Additionally, staff in a large utility is likely to be more familiar with a broad range of technical aspects and innovations that go beyond only treating wastewater.
- Before hosting trainings, the tool needs to be able to demonstrate **a certain level of readiness**. KWB and adelphi learnt that the tool was still at a low stage of development and showed quite a range of major deficiencies and errors. While some of these cannot be avoided, “weak” results could easily give participants the impression that they are wasting their time and discourage them from any further engagement (especially if they are not paid for participation).
- As the agenda in DT.2.2.1 shows, the training for the Berlin pilot lasted two hours. **The duration of the training was shorter than initially planned**. KWB and adelphi decided to do so consciously. Our perception was that a longer training would have resulted in a lower number of participants.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links
If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

The Training Course (DT2.2.1) is an integral part of the project REEF2W. It plays a crucial role in promoting the REEF2W project and ISA tool to different stakeholders. As aforementioned, its purpose was as well to receive feedback for how the tool should be improved during the course of the project. Furthermore the Training Course will also serve as a basis for designing the Training of Trainers (DT4.2.1) and Trainings of Public Administrations (DT.4.5) in WP4.



Figure 1: Christian Loderer from KWB presenting the REEF2W-project