

Good Practice Factsheet

Portugal - Qualification System of Energy Services Companies

Core Theme and topic	Energy companies and energy services Measurement and Verification, IPMVP and other approaches
Name of work programme/project	Energy Efficiency Program in Public Administration, Eco.AP Qualification System of Energy Services Companies (SQESE)
Project scope and description	
Short description of the programme & what it hopes to achieve	ECO.AP was launched in January 2011 and is an evolving programme that translates into a set of energy efficiency measures for implementation into services, agencies and public equipment aiming to change behaviours and promote the rational management of energy services, notably by hiring Energy Services Companies (ESCOs). ECO.AP aims to achieve a 30% improvement in energy efficiency in public services and bodies of Public Administration by 2020.
What is the scope of the project? e.g. - National/regional/local - Building type/owner	In this framework, Decree-Law N° 29/2011 of 28 February, establishes the legal regime for the formation and execution of energy performance contracts to be concluded between Public Administration and energy service companies, aiming the implementation of measures to improve energy efficiency in public buildings and equipment. This law came into force on March 5, 2011, and is available online through the electronic registration of ESCOs at www.dgeg.pt under "Empresas de Serviços Energéticos".
Who are the key people involved? e.g.: - Installers - Local Authorities	On 3 July 2012 the Regulation of Qualification System of Energy Services Companies (SQESE) was approved for companies interested in participating in pre-contractual procedures relating to energy efficiency contracts with services and public administration bodies, establishing minimum requirements for technical and financial capacity, foreseen in two different levels: a) Level 1: buildings or equipment with annual energy consumption lower than 3 GWh; b) Level 2: buildings or equipment with annual energy consumption higher than 3 GWh. Technical capacity: To be qualified for level 1, ESCOs must have as employees, technicians with at least the following characteristics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two qualified experts, one qualified under the RSECE-Energy field in the framework of the National System for Energy and Indoor Air Quality Certification of Buildings (SCE), in two of the following three areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RCCTE (Regulations on Thermal Behaviour of Buildings) 2. RSECE (Regulations on HVAC Systems in Buildings) –Energy field 3. RSECE(Regulations on HVAC Systems in Buildings) -Indoor Air Quality field; • A technician with experience in energy auditing, through participation in the execution of at least four energy audits over the past two years in the country or in another Member State or qualified under the Management System of Intensive Energy Consumption (SGCIE).

	<p>To be qualified for level 2, ESCOs must have as employees, technicians with at least the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least two qualified experts within the SCE, one qualified under the RSECE-Energy field, whose skills enable the scope of the three areas mentioned above • A qualified technician as a Certified Measurement and Verification Professional (CMVP), under the International Performance Measurement and Verification Protocol (IPMVP) • A qualified technician under SGCIE, and • A civil, mechanical or electrical engineer, recognised by the Professional Association, with experience in providing energy efficiency services. <p>Financial capacity: The ESCO shall meet cumulatively the following minimum financial capacity, referring to the last two exercises or exercises to complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Level 1: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. turnover of at least € 250,000; 2. financial autonomy higher than 15%; • For level 2: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Turnover higher than € 1,500,000; 2. Financial autonomy higher than 20%.
Who was the target audience?	Public services and bodies of Public Administration
How was this work programme/project financed?	<p>In this financing scheme, the ESCO provides customer technical solutions and financial resources necessary for the development of its energy efficiency project. The ESCO will determine the best option for the technical equipment to be installed, fully or partially finance the various stages needed to develop the project and will be responsible for the management and operation of the facility during the period required to return the investment.</p> <p>The ESCO assumes all risks related to the project, and the recovery of their investment made based on the ensuing avoided energy costs over a given period of time, during which it owns and is responsible for operating the project. After this period, ownership of the facility is transferred to the customer (end user). The customer can end the relationship with the company or extend it through the conclusion of a new business relationship, such as a contract for exploration and / or system maintenance.</p>
What was the cost of the work programme/project?	Not available at the moment
When did it start and end?	We hope soon, but the procedure programme model and the specifications with the clauses to be included in contracts to be signed by the contracting authorities within the public tenders for the EPC have not yet been published
Project Outcomes & Communication	
What were the key achievements?	Not available at the moment
What were the outcomes and expected benefits?	The Program aims to achieve a 30% improvement in energy efficiency in public services and bodies of Public Administration by 2020. No evaluation at the moment
What were the key lessons learned?	Not available at the moment

Is there anything you would do differently in future?	Not possible to evaluate at the moment
What makes this a good practice example?	It is too early to consider it an example, but, for an energy services market at an early stage, the existence of a nationwide qualification criteria for energy services providers of the public sector can support the development of the market, demand and supply side.
Web links to further information	Direção-Geral de Energia e Geologia (Directorate General of Energy and Geology) www.dgeg.pt Programa de Eficiência Energética na Administração Pública (ECO.AP) (Energy Efficiency Program in Public Administration) http://ecoap.adene.pt/
Contact details of named person for further information	cristina.cardoso@dgeg.pt
Please indicate if you can give a short (15 minute) presentation at a Plenary Meeting or other event	Yes
Please indicate if this case study can be made available to the public?	Yes