

European Sustainable Energy Award for Prisons

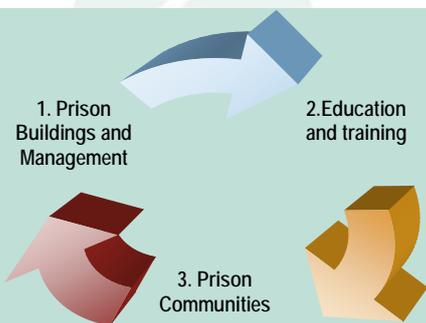
About E-SEAp

Prison sites consume a great deal of energy because of their size, building stock and constant usage pattern. Furthermore, the increasing cost of energy and focus on cost-effective services, point to a real need to use energy as efficiently as possible. A pilot study carried out with 9 prisons in Wales and SW England confirmed the value of working closely with the prison service to achieve a significant increase in energy awareness and energy savings. It also highlighted a need to recognise prisons for all their efforts in energy sustainability, not just savings, so that action towards efficiency receives greater encouragement and higher profile.

With funding from the European Commissions' Intelligent Energy Europe Programme, 8 European Regions and 14 participant prisons are working within the E-SEAp project to establish an international award and assessment framework to recognise achievements in improved energy sustainability in prisons.



Project kick-off meeting in UK
Photographed at Leyhill Prison, Gloucestershire



E-SEAp tackles the problem of energy efficiency in prisons by embracing a holistic approach that includes three elements namely the prison buildings and management, provision of education and training, dialogue with prison communities. E-SEAp aims not only to address technical and practical energy issues to achieve savings but also to raise awareness, increase skills and improve access to support. These actions are targeted at staff, inmates, and their families through the provision of training, accredited educational courses and access to advice services and grant support for the domestic sector.

An award system will be proposed and pioneered on a European level towards the establishment and promotion of the E-SEAp brand and results.

The E-SEAp project will also develop:

- A matrix identifying the award components with multiple levels of achievement for participating prisons
- A set of scoring transparent assessment criteria for each component that indicates the route of progression
- A guidance manual to support prisons in achieving the award
- A format for assessment and moderation and overall scoring methodology, with weightings applied for each component.

The project work is structured in four main phases:

1. Preparation for Practical Action - *Engagement of target group and potential stakeholders.*
2. Enabling Practical Action - *Supporting prisons on each of the three E-SEAp elements, developing the assessment framework and preparing prisons for the first awards.*
3. Finalisation - *Evaluation, adaptation and production of a unified assessment and award methodology.*
4. Promotion and Dissemination - *Instigation of Strategic Objectives through high level and comprehensive final dissemination.*

Ways to be Involved

- *As a participating prison you can join us in the pioneering of this scheme and become one of the first prisons to achieve an E-SEAp award level. You can simply contact us and request further information by sending an email to info@e-seap.eu*
- *As a member of the advisory panel you can provide input to this award via the biannual advisory board meetings;*
- *As a promoter of the project by declaring your interest to disseminate project information among your contacts and receive regular updates by email.*

Partners: Severn Wye Energy Agency, UK, Project Coordinator
HMP Hewell, UK;
Projects in Motion, Malta;
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Ekodoma, Latvia;
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, AUTH, Greece;
Building and Civil Engineering Institute, ZRMK, Slovenia;
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