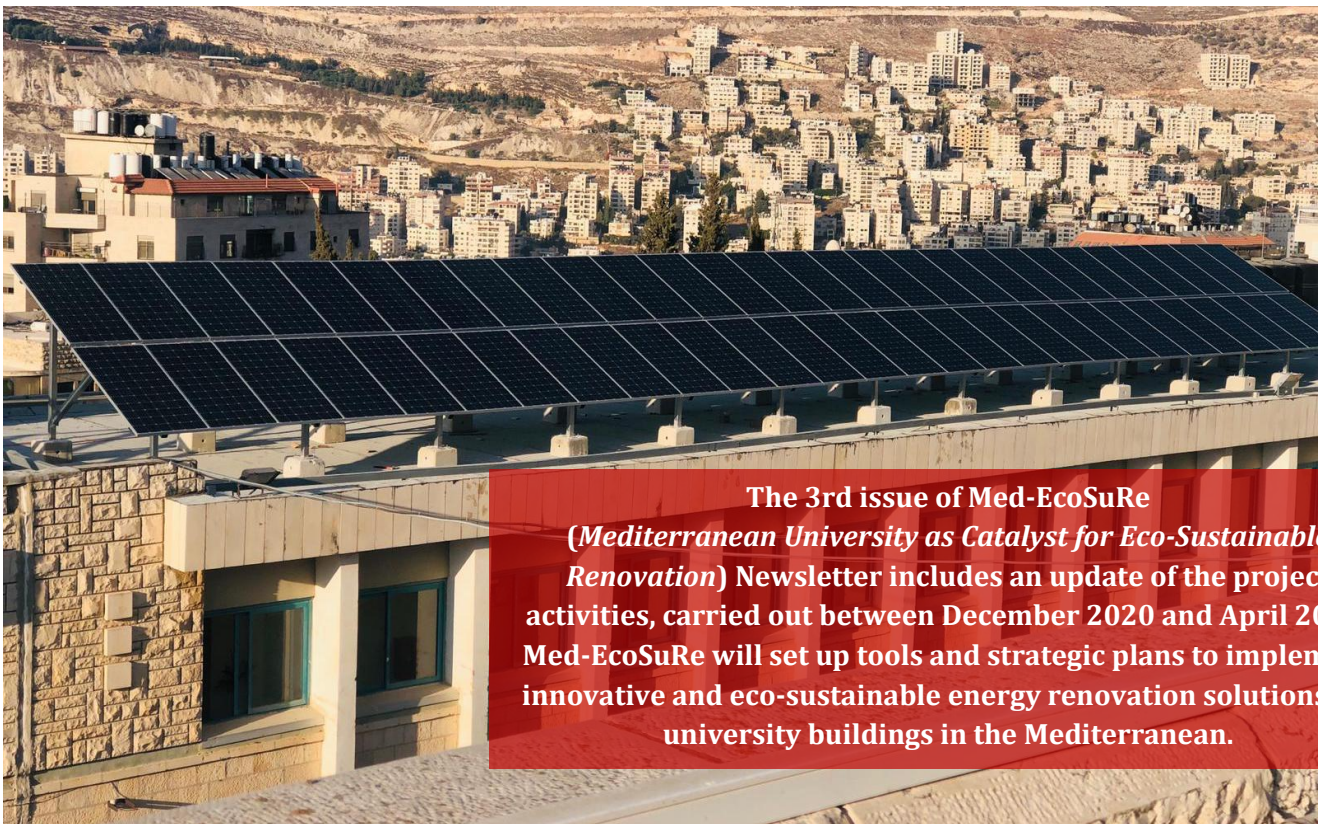


## **TOWARDS EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS**

**NEWSLETTER ISSUE #3**  
**May 2021**



The 3rd issue of Med-EcoSuRe (*Mediterranean University as Catalyst for Eco-Sustainable Renovation*) Newsletter includes an update of the project activities, carried out between December 2020 and April 2021. Med-EcoSuRe will set up tools and strategic plans to implement innovative and eco-sustainable energy renovation solutions for university buildings in the Mediterranean.

[▶ Watch the video of Med-EcoSuRe overview](#)

### **Med-EcoSuRe in Numbers**

**2.9 M€**

**Total Budget**

**2.6 M€**

**EU contribution**

**3 Years**

**Duration**

## Creating synergies with projects

### Med-EcoSuRe and TRANSDAIRY projects set up approaches boosting innovation and co-creation in the Mediterranean



[Read more](#)

On March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021 [TRANSDAIRY](#), an ENI CBC MED strategic project, organized a first Tunisian focus group meeting in Tunis, having as objective the identification of the Dairy Value Chain needs, object of the project, and the sharing of good practices with past and ongoing initiatives regarding the **establishment of Living labs** and creation of spin-offs. In this context, Med-EcoSuRe has been invited in order to share the experience of the establishment and management of its Living Lab as well as the creation of a **Cross-Border platform** for the collaboration and co-creation within the Living lab community.

### Conducting a workshop on how strategic plans are the key for an efficient energy renovation in buildings

The **Mediterranean Renewable Energy Centre (MEDREC)**, in collaboration with the **National Agency for Energy Management (ANME)**, conducted a technical workshop on February 25, 2021 in Tunis. The theme of the workshop was "**the Exchange of good practices in preparation of strategic plans for the renovation of university buildings in Tunisia**". During this technical workshop, Med-EcoSuRe team shared the recommendations drawn during [the Living Lab webinar organized on June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020](#), on the implementation of an action plan for energy management in public buildings.



[Read more](#)

## Setting the stage for energy generation and trading in a Micro-Grid platform

### Installation, commissioning and Inauguration at the National Engineering School of Tunis

A Micro-Grid platform powered by PV solar panels, **SMARTNESS (Smart Micro-grid plAtfoRm wiTh aN Energy management SyStem)**, was inaugurated at the National Engineering School of Tunis (QehNA-laboratory) on January 27, 2021. SMARTNESS will enable the investigation of new Renewable Energy technologies and new concepts such as Energy Management systems, Blockchain technology and the VPP (Virtual Power plant).



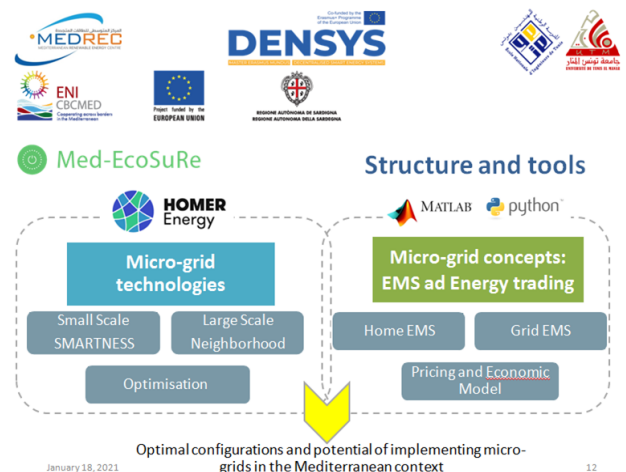
- [▶ Watch the video of SMARTNESS inauguration](#)
- [▶ Get to know the team behind SMARTNESS](#)

[Read more](#)

### Participation in an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree programme

Med-EcoSuRe proposed a challenge, in the framework of the Challenge-based module of the ERASMUS MUNDUS Master DENSYS (Decentralised smart ENergy SYStems) related to the management of energy in decentralized energy systems and including the design of energy networks, demand-side management and optimization.

The challenge proposed was selected, following an evaluation process, to be carried out by students from the University of Lorraine, France within the master Programme.



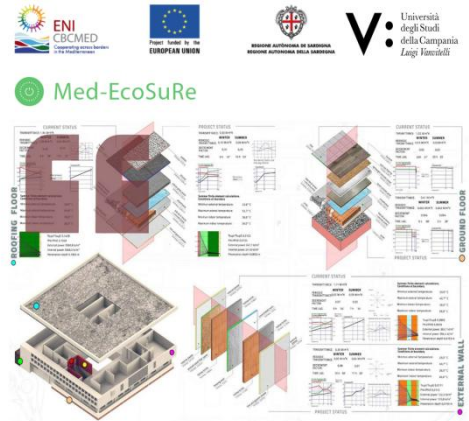
[Read more](#)

## Online course: Eco-oriented and energy efficient technological design of the pilot buildings of Med-EcoSuRe

An online training course has been successfully conducted by the Department of Architecture of the **University of Campania "L. Vanvitelli**, in collaboration with the Naples Agency for Energy and Environment, on “Energy Efficiency Action Plan in the Higher Education Building Sector”.

The course which lasted for 4 months (October 22, 2020 – January 13, 2021), provided **more than 50 students**, from the project partners’ universities, with knowledge and skills on **renovation strategies for university buildings**, while carrying out theoretical lessons and practical workshops.

In the framework of the course, the students analyzed three case studies which are the pilot buildings at the National Engineering School of Tunis (ENIT), University of Florence (UNIFI) and An Najah National University (ANNU). The students proposed **renovation passive solutions to meet nearly zero energy buildings requirements**, of the university buildings analyzed.



[Read more](#)

## An inside look at 165 kW power plant in Palestine



In the framework of Med-EcoSuRe project, photovoltaic solar power plants were installed on the roof top of different buildings at An-Najah National University, Palestine with a total capacity of 165 kW.

These power plants will enable to **reduce the CO2 emissions by around 330 Tons/year** and the university’s electricity bill as well as the use of diesel fuel during the long hours of electricity cuts.

[Read more](#)

[Watch the video to have an inside look at the installation process of the power plant](#)

## Launch of a survey for the decision making process of retrofitting in university buildings

In the framework of the Living Laboratory established within Med-EcoSuRe project, the research team at the Department of Architecture, University of Florence, developed a **toolkit of Passive Solutions Design for Higher Education Buildings Retrofitting**. A beta version of this toolkit has been finalized which includes an interactive and integrated process/roadmap to improve the knowledge framework, the analysis of Energy Efficiency criticalities, the planning and design of retrofit measures. This will serve as an innovative interactive and participative tool for training and education.

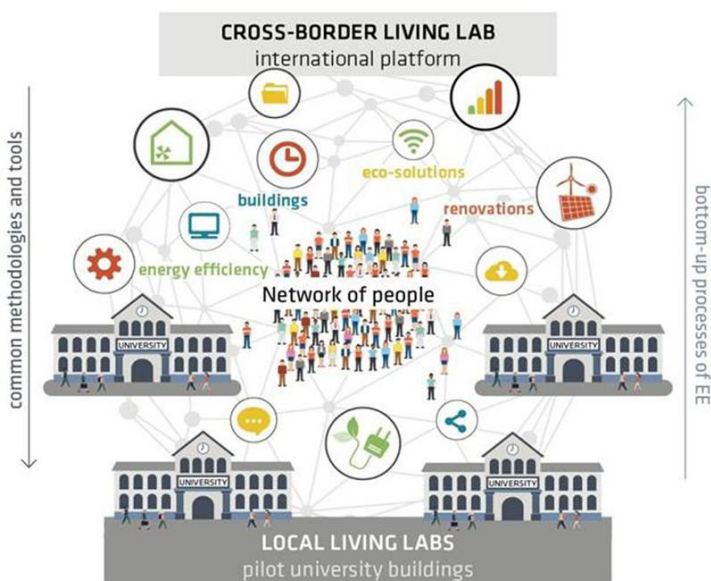
In order to calibrate this tool, taking into account the local processes of Energy Efficiency, a survey for **energy/building managers and decision makers of universities** was launched. The objective of this survey is to understand the dynamics of the decision making process foreseeing Energy Efficiency, retrofitting and sustainability in the university buildings assets.



[Read more](#)

## Project Events

### Sharing a toolkit on "Retrofit as an Innovation Process"



During an info event, hosted by the University of Florence (partner of Med-EcoSuRe project) on **April 7 2021**, a support tool/toolkit for the planning and design of retrofit process in university buildings was shared targeting decision makers and energy managers. The toolkit of **Passive Solutions Design for Higher Education Buildings Retrofitting** is an interactive, bottom up and participative (Living Lab) programme of training and education for technicians, energy managers and students on the energy retrofitting of the university building, with a list of suggestions for the management and sharing of experience.

[Read more](#)

## Promoting plaster as a construction material to improve energy efficiency in buildings

On March 31 2021, the National Engineering School of Tunis (ENIT) together with the Mediterranean Renewable Energy Centre (MEDREC) co-organized an **info and demonstration day** on the “**use of plaster in buildings**” in collaboration with the German technical cooperation agency - GIZ Tunisia, for the benefit of decision makers and energy managers within the Tunisian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and universities in Tunisia.



[▶ Watch the plastering demonstration video](#)

[Read more](#)

## Introducing the grid-connected photovoltaic power plants installed in Palestine



[Read more](#)

An online info event, held on **April 27, 2021**, was organized by An-Najah National University, partner of Med-EcoSuRe, for the representatives of local universities and companies operating in Renewable Energy field. The objective of the event was to inform the participants about the Renewable Energy sector situation in Palestine and about the **grid-connected photovoltaic power plants** installed at An-Najah National University in the framework of Med-EcoSuRe.

## International Women's Day 2021: Celebrating the women of Med-EcoSuRe with heartfelt messages

On the occasion of the **International Women's Day 2021**, Med-EcoSuRe its female members by sharing their experience while working on projects empowering women and highlighting their role in building a more powerful society.

[Read more](#)



### **Disclaimer**

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