

Why is this project needed?

The PEARLS Project focuses on principles that can be applied to European strategies on public engagement with renewable energy aimed at preventing climate change and global warming. Despite academia's unyielding support for the development and implementation of renewable energies, public acceptance is often hampered by the Not in My Back Yard viewpoint and their effects on landscape quality.

The PEARLS project faces up to these challenges by developing joint instruments in the fields of spatial planning and social innovation in Southern European countries and Israel. These countries are critical examples of a significant availability of natural resources for the generation of renewable energies, where, nevertheless, little attention is paid to public participation during planning processes. In order to reinforce knowledge and expertise, new advancements will be made in approaches such as Please YES In My Back Yard, Place Attachment, and Territorial Impact Assessment.

The PEARLS project brings together an international and inter-sector network of organisations to work on a joint research programme. Project partners will exchange skills and knowledge that prepare the ground for key advances in spatial planning and social innovation, while strengthening collaborative research among different countries and sectors.

About PEARLS, MSCA-RISE-2017-778039

The PEARLS project will reinforce people's commitment to secure, clean and efficient energy. Its main goal is to develop applied knowledge through questions such as how to leverage planning processes to increase public support of sustainable renewable energy systems.

The project's results will transform policy-making and strategic initiatives involving people in places where energy resources are relevant and local communities do not benefit from the opportunities that networking offers. By means of secondments, staff exchange and collaborative research, the project will investigate national legal bases; will develop methodologies for social innovation; and will explore tools stemming from the Social Sciences in different European regions and Israel.

About MSCA-RISE

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION STAFF EXCHANGE

MSCA Actions foster innovation, research-business cooperation and include a strong international component. They are based on the principle of mobility and researchers can receive funding on the condition that they move from one country to another to acquire new knowledge and develop their research careers.

MSCA thrive on being open to all domains of research and innovation addressed under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. These are chosen freely by the applicants in a wholly bottom-up way.



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PLANNING AND ENGAGEMENT ARENAS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY LANDSCAPES

H2020-MSCA-RISE-2017 – 778039-PEARLS



UNDERSTANDING

regional diversity for further advancements on low carbon economy

REINFORCING

people's commitment to secure, clean and efficient energy as actors in spatial planning and social innovation in Renewable Energy Landscapes (REL), driving the vision and experience of Mediterranean countries to the rest of Europe



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 778039



Why Renewable Energy Landscapes (REL)?



Renewable Energy Landscapes (REL) are recognised as spaces where the use of renewable power sources transforms people's relationships with energy and their perceptions of the landscape. Whilst the social benefits of REL are widely acknowledged across Europe, resistance to REL lingers on the PEARLS project will radically transform the extent and depth of scientific knowledge on how to best implement REL across Europe and extend these landscapes to other Mediterranean territories that form part of the participant countries' networks. It will set a milestone as to how REL are theorised, studied and addressed and will open up the Pan-European Energy Challenge.

The PEARLS project will provide a unified knowledge base and innovative support for harnessing the ample REL analytical insights and resources in Southern Europe and Israel for their international impact. The project will achieve all of this by establishing an international, inter-sector and multidisciplinary collaboration network. PEARLS will also innovate in knowledge-gathering and innovation exchange methods among academics, public officials, policy-makers, planners, businesses and citizens, thus forging a new generation of scholars and technicians.

Collaborative Work Packages

WP1 PEARLS Interaction Platform

To strengthen external communication during the lifespan of the PEARLS project and to achieve optimal dissemination of the results by means of virtual communication and online dissemination instruments.

WP2 Sustainable Implementation: Policies and Practices

To facilitate a better understanding of legal frameworks and instruments, energy policy, land use planning and landscape practice regulations and daily practice in the implementation of renewable energy landscapes.

WP3 Social Behaviour towards Renewable Energies

The project will delve into people's behaviour towards the Energy Challenge, identify barriers and bring sustainable technologies for renewable energy landscape development closer to people.

WP4 Spatial Planning and Analysis

To transfer knowledge on spatial planning of renewable energy resources and decision-making methods, and the development of methodologies for enhancing active public participation in sustainable energy planning.

WP5 Social Innovation and Public Engagement

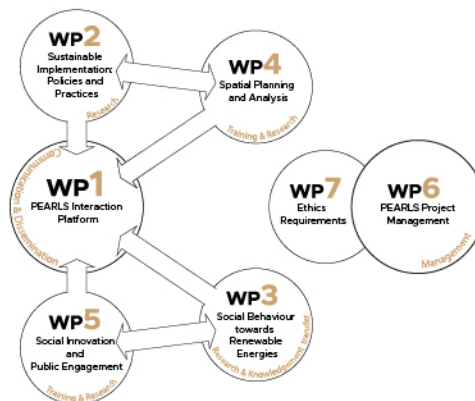
To reinforce the social dimension of renewable energy development by fostering knowledge sharing between businesses and CSOs involved in planning and implementation and academic institutions that carry out research on energy-related social issues.

WP6 PEARLS Project Management

In charge of secondment organisation, management and execution, project effectiveness, efficiency and justification, as well as ensuring international multi-sector exchange for all consortium members.

WP7 Ethics Requirements

As there are some activities in which Third Countries are involved, PEARLS will apply Horizon2020 ethical standards and guidelines regardless of the country in which the research is carried out. No materials will be imported into the EU or exported from the EU to a Third Country.



Work Packages
Interaction

Who is undertaking PEARLS?

The PEARLS consortium consists of thirteen academic and non-academic entities in Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece and Israel, as well as three more bodies from Spain, the United Kingdom and Italy that will provide support as an Advisory Board. All the participating organisations have been selected for their diverse, complementary experience and expertise in planning and public engagement in renewable energy in Southern European countries and Israel. All enjoy high international profiles in the Mediterranean Basin and have a proven ability to 'go the extra mile'.

Consortium partnership



Advisory Board



Key Facts

Start date: 01/07/2018

End date: 30/06/2022

Budget: 405,000 €

Participants: 5 academic organisations and 8 non-academic

Advisory Board: 1 academic and 2 non-academic