

Salvambiente

Save the Environment call

KEYWORDS:

- Building culture
- Construction
- Closed loops
- Governance
- Planning Tools
- Ecology
- Energy efficiency
- Indicators
- Mobility
- Technology transfer

TARGET GROUP:

- Architects
- Builders
- Citizens
- Craftsmen
- Home Owners
- Planners
- Politicians
- Policy Makers

Results and outcomes (use cases):

'Save the Environment' is a call in Lombardy Region dedicated to handicraft SMEs introducing environment-friendly technologies in the productive process, through the co-funding of subsidy up to the 25% of investment. The call was set from 2004 to 2011, 156 SMEs participated to the last edition asking contribution for 3 mln€. The accorded funding were 69 in all 1.65 mln €.

The incentive is dedicated to:

- Achievement of environmental certification (EMAS, ISO, Ecolabel...).
- Installation of innovative RES plants dedicated to the productive process.
- Introduction of innovative technologies reducing impacts regarding emissions,

noise, waste and promoting energy saving.

- Introduction of innovative solutions dedicated to the raw materials saving and the fostering of environmental friendly materials.
- Introduction of innovative solutions to reduce process wastes and/or transform these wastes in by-products to reuse in a cycle process.
- Initiatives to reduce and optimize packaging, as well to re-use and recycle packaging elements.

It's definitely an initiative fostering a Closed-Loop Economy approach.

Description:

- The measure was promoted by UNIONCAMERE / Association of Chambers of Commerce in Lombardy and General Directorate of Handicraft in Lombardy Region from 2004 to 2011.
- The call was very participated even though not always used to apply reduction of wastes and resources saving / efficient use. The answers for Closed-Loop Economies approach were few.
- No regulation is available on this issue, it's on voluntary base.
- The measure is a call to give incentives to the handicraft SMEs fostering sustainable solutions in the productive process.

Relevance for inter-municipal planning (AlpBC):

- The measure could foster cross sector cooperation in theory, supporting re-use of by-products. The grant for associated SMEs is higher (30% of investment).
- The solutions have to be sustainable and environmental friendly to obtain grants, so they must take into account as well landscape protection in theory.
- The call promotes for sure innovative materials to reduce the use of raw materials, re-use of by-products through innovative techniques.

Relevance for policy goals (Alpine Space, Europe and the region):

The measure fosters sustainable and optimized waste management and efficient environmental friendly production processes, use of resources.