

PRESS RELEASE

Agri-food Efficiency with New Energy Audit Measures

Climate change, further compacted by geopolitical and global health threats, puts added pressure on our food production systems and requires us to continually mitigate and adapt to changes. To combat environmental pollution and create a more sustainable food sector, energy use during manufacturing needs to be reduced.

The Agri-food Efficiency with New Energy Audit Measures (AENEAM) project officially launched on the 6th and 7th of February 2024, following a Kick-Off meeting hosted by coordinators *Asociación de la Industria Navarra* (AIN) at their offices in Pamplona, Spain. The project lasts from January 2024 until December 2026 (3 years) and was awarded funding through the European Union's LIFE programme (2021-2027).

The AENEAM project aims to accelerate the transition of the EU agri-food industry towards a sustainable growth model by increasing the uptake of recommended measures from energy audits. The project will encourage companies, mainly SMEs, to undergo energy audits and subsequently implement the recommendations from these audits, promoting digital solutions.

Agri-food SMEs will, through the system approach acceleration programme, build on knowledge and skills to achieve the internal expertise required to effectively implement change and improve performance of energy-saving measures. Operational services will complete and guide the deployment of these measures, notably through the joint solutions of the 4 local pilots:

- Design and development of energy community within industrial areas (Spain, Poland);
- Joint procurement activities (France);
- Deployment of renewable energy sources (Italy);
- Setting up common activities such as purchasing energy (Poland).

Project aims:

The acceleration programme created by AENEAM, tailored to the involved companies (mainly SMEs), will become an ecosystem with services including:

- high-impact monitoring;
- steady network immersion;
- energy audits;
- specialized workshops for re-skilling and enhancing the skills of energy technicians;
- green impact strategy at corporate culture and communication;
- access to investors and public funding;
- digital solutions at seminars and demonstrations.

Project expected outcomes and results:

- 104 companies benefitting from direct support
- 80 energy audits carried out within the project
- 150 energy auditors and stakeholders with improved knowledge and skills
- 600 company staff with improved knowledge and skills
- 50% increased rate of transformation of energy audits into concrete measures implementation
- Acceleration programme tailored to agrifood companies needing energy audits
- Operation support as a service
- Capacity building: training and enhancement of corporate energy culture
- Re-skilling and green impact strategy
- Direct operational support to four local pilots



The partners:

AIN

AIN is a private non-profit organization recognized as a technological centre; through its specialized knowledge in management and technology, it encourages collaboration and improvement. A technical expert in the energy, environmental and digital transformation, AIN applies PMP methodology for project management, and has significant experience leading EU Funding projects.

CONFINDUSTRIA BRESCIA

Confindustria Brescia is an Italian entrepreneurial organization, member of the Confindustria system. It is the most important association of the industrial sector in the Province of Brescia, and was partner in the consortium of EE-Metal project.

CRITT AGROALIMENTAIRE SUD

CRITT AGROALIMENTAIRE SUD is an expert in agri-food SMEs support in all technical issues, including energy management. It provides support through training, consultancy, and technology transfer, and has participated in several EU projects linked to environmental issues in the agrifood sector (AgroenvironMED, Synergia, Perfmed, Reinwaste, ...).

FOOD CLUSTER OF SOUTHERN WIELKOPOLSKA

The Food Cluster of Southern Wielkopolska unites sector related companies that have their headquarters in Kalisz but also in Konin, Poznań, Środa Wielkopolska and Krotoszyn. Energy audits will take place at these companies.

CSMT

The CSMT have strong skills in implementing energy-efficiency services in commercial and industrial sector high-value consultancy such as energy audits, energy management systems, energy consumption metering systems, implementation of energy conservation measures.

INNOV'ALLIANCE

Innov'Alliance is a French competitiveness cluster, supporting green and technological transition through open innovation in agriculture and plant processing, in four major industrial sectors: food, nutraceuticals, cosmetics, aromas and fragrance. All actors in the cluster are representative of the whole plant-based value chain in each market.

AUiPE AG

AUiPE AG was founded in order to implement principles of sustainable development, to promote renewable energy sources, and to improve energy efficiency. It specialises in energy consulting and energy auditing. AUiPE AG also assists municipalities in the planning of their energy supply using local renewable energy resources.

NASUVINSA

Nasuvinsa is a company owned by the Public Corporate Entity of Navarra and depends on the Government of Navarra. It provides technical and operational support to the regional Government in the implementation of its policies, including in the energy transition.

For more information about the project, find us on [LinkedIn](#)

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AENEAM
partnership

Nasuvinsa
Navarra de Suelo y Vivienda, S.A.

FOOD CLUSTER
of Southern Wielkopolska

ain

Critt
AGROALIMENTAIRE SUD
PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR

CONFINDUSTRIA
Brescia

CSMT

THE AGENCY OF ENERGY
USAGE AND CONSERVATION
ANDRZEJ GOLABEK

Innov'Alliance
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