

## ICP Europe Technical Forum Meeting notes – February 2, 2016

The fifth Technical Forum Meeting was held on February 2, 2016.

This was the first meeting of the year, and so it seemed appropriate to provide an overview of where ICP Europe is currently, and plans for the next few months, as well as the usual update on technical progress with the ICP documents.

### ICP Europe update and look ahead

Our ICP Europe Director, Panama Bartholomy, provided a quick re-cap on the issues that the project is seeking to address and the benefits that it would bring to the energy efficiency market, as well as a brief overview of the ICP protocols. Panama then explained the types of certification that are in the process of being developed. These will be developed for Project Developers, Software Providers, Quality Assurance Providers, and finally, for the project itself, the Investor Ready Energy Efficiency™ (IREE) certification. IREE™ was likened to other certification schemes such as BREEAM in the UK and LEED in the USA.

Panama went on to explain ICP Europe's timeline for delivery: all six completed protocols are now available on the website and ready to use on real projects and programmes, and the Project Development Specification is now the focus of our technical activities.

The team is also working towards the roll-out of the certification schemes. The first step in this process is the development of the training programme for the Project Developer and Quality Assurance certifications, so that we are ready for training to begin in May. Training will take place online and in-person, and it will be provided free-of-charge in the first year. In parallel with this, the Software Developer certification requirements will also be developed over the coming months, and we expect to have a handful of software packages certified by early summer. The IREE™ stamp is expected to be ready later in the summer, when the first round of certification for real European projects will take place.

A European Investor Network is also being developed, which will display investors active in the energy efficiency market, and in particular, those looking for suitable projects to invest in. Investors may offer incentives to those adopting ICP compliant approaches, such as expedited approvals.

Panama then went on to describe a new European Commission-funded project which will support and build on some of the Energy Efficiency Financial Institution Group's recommendations to open up the energy efficiency market across the EU. Specifically, it will create a database of energy efficiency projects in Europe and develop a common framework for underwriting energy efficiency projects. The ultimate goal is for the EC and major financial institutions to sign up to both the database and the framework.

Panama finished by explaining how members of the Technical Forum can continue to support ICP.

## Update on technical progress

An update was given on Technical Forum membership, which continues to grow. The Technical Team then provided a re-cap of the protocols that are available and how to select the correct protocol for a project.

The Large and Standard Apartment Block protocols and the Targeted protocols are all now completed. The next step is for the protocols to be applied to real projects. This may also be an opportunity to provide valuable feedback on any areas in the documentation that could be improved, since these are intended to be living documents.

The Technical Team then moved on to describe the Project Development Specification (PDS). This is intended to act as a roadmap for Project Developers to correctly implement each of the requirements specified in the protocols. Unlike the protocols, the PDS provides a comprehensive description of minimum requirements, and the need for the use of referenced documents is not essential. It will also provide templates of key documents required as part of the ICP process. The PDS is intended to be used together with other ICP Europe products such as the Index of National Resources. The Team's approach with the development of the PDS is to complete a section at a time, with the release of the final version in April when members of the Technical Forum would be invited to comment on it. However, if members would like an earlier opportunity to feedback on specific sections as they are completed, then we would welcome this.

Next, an update was given on the Annex A national resources research ('cross protocol' annex to the protocol documents), including which specific European countries the Team is looking for support from. The team continued to request assistance from technical experts across the EU to support this work.

The presentation concluded with a brief summary of the future of the Technical Forum, the key message being that meetings will be held at key milestones during the course of the project, rather than at monthly intervals necessarily.

The following are the main questions and answers from the webinar:

- Mark Bose, Masterplan: *Will the ICP website and its Ally Network provide any functionality for allies to get in contact with one another?* The ICP Ally Network will make people aware of other leaders in the energy efficiency space so that they can contact each other and discuss projects, but we are not currently intending to provide any specific functionality along these lines. However, we are always happy to consider new ideas and suggestions. On a related note, we are currently working with the organisation Joule Assets has recently begun a new project to develop a platform for matching projects and investors across Europe.
- Mark Bose, Masterplan: *Are there any practical examples of how the protocols have been applied to real projects?* We have five projects certified in the USA now and case studies will be available this quarter. We will also be releasing case studies for European IREE projects when we announce the certification scheme in the summer.