

Qualification, certification and training of professionals in energy efficiency

The Spanish case

- Policy and national situation
- Qualification framework
- Existing professional profiles
- Conclusions

Policy and National legislation

- Delays in the transposition of EU Directives.
- Several organizations are trying to regulate, foster or frame the figure of the energy manager (public institutions, regional energy agencies and professional associations).
- Existing legal and qualification frameworks that do not translate into market (unregulated sector).
- Urgent need for homogenization (growing importance of professional profiles).

Qualification framework

- Professionals are most commonly in possession of EQF level 5 (VET diploma) or level 6 (HEI degree) training.
- Training and courses offered by private institutions
- Inexistence of a national certificate to accredit professionals.
- Professionals currently working in this field are not required to possess any specific training, resulting in a major barrier to the nationwide certification and recognition of the profession.

Existing professional profiles

- **Qualified technician for energy certification of buildings** (Law 235/2013), responsible for issuing energy performance certificates.
- **Recognised professions for issuing energy performance certificates:** Architects, technical architects and quantity surveyors; Engineers (different fields); Technical Engineers (different fields); and Chemical engineers and industrial engineers specialised in chemistry.

Existing professional profiles

- **Energy Manager** (Decree-Law 1/2014 in Andalusia), responsible for preparing the energy management plan of buildings.
- Decree-Law 1/2014 mentions that professionals acting as an Energy Manager **should** be in possession of a University degree or a Higher VET diploma that provides the technical competences in the field of energy efficiency.

Existing professional profiles

- **Energy Auditor** (Royal Decree nº 56/2016), defined as the professional carrying out energy audits in companies (250+ employees or 50+ million euros).
- According to the legislative act, energy auditors should:
 - a) be in possession of a Higher Education; or
 - b) have the theoretical and practical knowledge about energy and successfully complete a training course as foreseen in this Law – Professional Certificate (ECVET approach)

Conclusions

- Different interests of stakeholders, delays in the transposition of Directives and **growing importance of professional profiles – unregulated sector that requires homogenisation.**
- Existing legal and qualification frameworks and definition of professional profiles – **need for an official national certification** provided by the State that assures the quality and professional recognition of training and education.

Thank you for your attention!

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