

Financing a certification scheme: example of Qualit'EnR in France

ADEME



Agence de l'Environnement
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A gradual process

- ADEME (French Environment and Energy Management Agency) created the quality label Qualisol (for solar thermal systems) in 1999 within the framework of Solar Plan (Plan Solaire)
- By 2005, Qualisol was gathering a network of 9 000 installers
- The quality label brought immediate benefits to the sector by upgrading the competences of solar systems installers



Scheme founded by 5 national entities

- Qualisol management was taken over by the new French Association for the Quality of RES systems in 2006
- CAPEB, ENERPLAN, UECF-FFB, UNCP-FFB and SER (Renewable Energies syndicate in France) founded the association



Support of professional sector and public sector

- Installers representatives (syndicates): CAPEB and FFB
- Industrial representatives for EnR: ENERPLAN and SER
- ADEME: mandate from the ministry of environment



Good example of public private partnership

From a single quality label to the development of several quality label dedicated to EnR systems

- The scheme started with one quality label: Qualisol
- The need to develop quality labels dedicated to other EnR systems for private property owners was soon to be recognised, on the basis of the experience of Qualisol
 - Qualibois for biomass heating systems
 - QualiPV for photovoltaics systems connected to the grid
 - QualiPAC for heat pumps and geothermal systems



Qualit'EnR manages 5 quality labels


- Qualisol (2006): Solar heating system and combined solar systems
- QualiPV (2010): Photovoltaic systems connected to the grid
- QualiBois (2010): biomass boilers (wood)
- QualiPac (2010): Heat pump

- **CERTIFICATION GIVEN TO ENTREPRISES NOT INDIVIDUALS**



Main features of QualiCert as certification scheme

- Assessment and upgrading of the skills of installers through **training**
- Control of installations with **on-site audits** (but no audit to obtain the certification initially)
- Administrative (training and audits results) control for the **renewal** of the certification (renewal after 1 year)



➤ Entreprise pay an annual fee (around 100 euros) to Qualit'EnR when entering the certification scheme (does not include the training and the audits on-site)

What guarantees the quality of installations for Qualit'EnR

- Qualit'EnR has defined the quality criteria of installations
- Entreprises sign a contract committing them to the criteria
- Besides, the entreprise must prove a minimum level of activity
- and have at least one « **technical referent** » who has fulfilled proper training and **one criteria of competences** (training, or experience, or audit)
- At least one successful audit is mandatory every 3 years



Importance of training

- Even though training is not mandatory, Qualit'EnR organises training session to give installers the chance to gain in competences and knowledge (and keep up to date)
- QUalit'EnR has developed training referentials and can train its trainers





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