

ELENA Completed Project Factsheet Flemish Energy Saving Programme Initiative (FLESPI)

Location of planned	Flanders and Brussels Capital Region, Belgium
investments	
Final Beneficiary	The Vlaams Energiebedrijf (VEB)
Final Beneficiary's address	Havenlaan 86C bus 301 B-1000 Brussel - BELGIUM
CoM signatory	No
Sector	Energy efficiency in buildings, building-integrated RES, street lighting
Total PDS costs	EUR 3,798,443
ELENA contribution	EUR 3,175,200
Project development services financed by ELENA	The ELENA technical assistance helped to increase VEB's capacity to engage with public and private investors and provide advice on their EE and RE projects, typically based on the EPC (energy performance contracting) or ESC (energy supply contracting) models. The support covered the following areas: • Coordination of the investment programme, • Procurement preparation, • Project management, • Legal advisory, • Data management and IT platform, • Financial advisory, • Dissemination and capacity building
Description of ELENA operation	VEB, a regional one-stop-shop, launched an ambitious programme to support public entities with their EE retrofit projects by way of facilitating Energy Performance Contracting (EPC). In parallel, VEB facilitated a large number of Energy Supply Contracting (ESC) for building-integrated renewable energy installations. The single largest investment project achieved was with the regional Agency for Traffic and Roads for upgrading the entire street-lighting network (worth EUR 85 m).
Timeframe	January 2019 – June 2022
Investment programme description	 The investment programme involves more than 330 individual projects spread across several work streams, notably: EE in buildings (healthcare/education/administration/culture): 54 buildings Street lighting – 70,444 lighting points Building integrated renewables: solar PV – 23 MWp across 276 buildings

Investment in implementation phase	EUR 111,9 m
Results expected to be achieved	Energy Efficiency – Annual total energy saved 39 GWh Renewable Energy – Annual total 21 GWh CO2 reductions – Annual total reductions of 8,361 CO2 eq t
Leverage factor achieved	35
Lessons learnt	 Public entities need to have a real estate strategy in order to take advantage of and accelerates the EPC facilitation process, which would also lead to an increased level of ambition on energy efficiency. The level of ambition for EE building retrofits needs to be high from the start in order to avoid 'lock-in' effects and also contribute meaningfully to the EU's 2030 and 2050 targets. Detailed building energy data is key for making informed decision and achieve the best outcomes. A financial strategy for the building stock owned by an entity is important in order to have a clear vision that also brings financial benefits and thus fosters further EE investments. Public entities continue to be resource constrained in terms of human and financial resources and as a result EE projects are slow to develop. The EPC model often focuses on energy services and technology and therefore it could be advantageous to first implement EE in the building envelope (e.g. insulation) before launching an EPC tender.
Further information sources	www.veb.be 300 projecten gerealiseerd door VEB met Europese Elena-steun - YouTube
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