



# TrainERGY

Training for Energy Efficient Operations

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## BUSINESSES ATTEND ENERGY EFFICIENT OPERATIONS TRAINING



Sheffield University Management School and key European institutes and organisations delivered an intensive five-day industry centred training on energy efficiency operations. The 45 participating international trainees and business leaders received training and new skills around energy efficiency and resource consumption reduction via green external operations management; Environmental sustainability and regulatory compliance through green purchasing and; Technological advancements via waste reduction solutions and business optimisation.

"I am really looking forward to applying SCEnATi in my company," said Ms Spyridoula Fotopoulou, Supply Chain Manager, Olympia Electronics— a Greek global manufacturing company that exports in 72 countries.

## THE RESEARCH SO FAR

The research conducted so far as part of the TrainERGY Project has aimed to identify a set of skills related to energy efficient operations and whether there is need for European SMEs to know and use them more. A survey was sent to SMEs to test their theoretical and practical knowledge of energy efficient skills in order to prioritise which skills most require

Skills	Country			
	Italy	Poland	Greece	UK
<i>A1 Technologies for energy consumption (reducing consumption)</i>	B	B	C	D
<i>A1 Technologies for energy consumption (renewable sources)</i>	B	B	C	D
<i>A2 Technologies for reducing pollution</i>	A	A	C	C
<i>A3 Technologies for reducing consumption raw materials</i>	A	B	C	C
<i>A4 Technologies for reducing waste</i>	C	A	C	C
<i>A5 Tools and DSS for supporting environmental decisions</i>	A	B	D	C
<i>A6 Database management systems</i>	A	B	C	C
<i>B7 Green innovation (new product/services development, eco-design)</i>	B	B	C	D
<i>B8 Green purchasing</i>	A	A	C	C
<i>B9 Green marketing</i>	A	A	C	C
<i>C10 Green internal operations management</i>	B	A	C	C
<i>C11 Green external operations management</i>	A	A	C	C
<i>D12 Environmental regulatory frameworks</i>	B	B	D	D
<i>D13 Environmental certifications</i>	A	A	C	C
<i>D14 Auditing activities</i>	A	A	C	C
<i>D15 Reporting activities</i>	A	A	C	C
<i>E16 Definition of Environmental objectives and Environmental Performance Indicators (EPis)</i>	A	B	C	C
<i>E17 Measuring EPis</i>	A	B	C	C
<i>E18 Interventions identification</i>	A	A	C	C

fast educational and training interventions in each country. This in turn has helped to drive the curriculum development of the Masters degree in energy efficient operations. According to the survey findings, collated by the University of Naples, participating businesses in Italy, Poland, Greece and the UK want to know more about Green Operations Management, Green Purchasing, Reporting Activities, Interventions Identification, Database Management Systems, Environmental Objectives, and Performance Indicators.



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## GREEN PURCHASING

There are different tools and methods that can help to improve the sustainability of business processes in a supply chain. One of the key areas of a sustainable supply chain is green purchasing. It is a strategic approach to buyer-supplier relationships oriented towards environmental performance improvement. Green purchasing is aimed at providing products and services that have less environmental impact than traditional ones. This can be achieved through source reduction or waste elimination. Green purchasing focuses on a long term cooperation with suppliers. It requires know-how exchange and joint engagement of buyers and suppliers. In practice, buyers define environmental criteria to be met by suppliers, provide the tools that facilitate 'greening' the purchasing process and implement such concepts as supplier development or early supplier involvement.

This approach is an important element of managing a sustainable supply chain. It has positive effects on the environment resulting from more responsible sourcing, sufficient waste management and the reduction of CO2 emissions.

## GREEN EXTERNAL OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

Reducing the environmental impact of operations has become a high priority for businesses in line with the recent guidelines and targets set by the EU; There must be a shared commitment of the labour market and the growing sensibility of customers around environmental issues.

In this context, companies are currently asked to adopt and implement strategies and tools in order to manage all their operations, both internal and external, in a greener way.

In particular, "external operations" comprise of all of the processes related to the interaction between the business itself and the suppliers, as well as the customers. Therefore, "green external operations management" can be seen as a combination of logistics and supply chain management in terms of cost savings/profits maximisation and environmental impact minimisation.

Routes and truck load optimisation, usage of green fuels, implementation of new distribution systems (cross docking, direct shipping or warehousing) and the definition of proper warehousing techniques (lot for lot, periodic order quantity, fixed order quantity, etc.) are typical examples of strategies that businesses can undertake to better manage transportation and warehousing processes.

Although they are promising, implementing these strategies underline a strong complexity due to the need to analyse in depth and, eventually, to re-think the entire external supply chain of a company.

Therefore, "green external operations management" represents a crucial challenge for decision-makers to design sustainable supply chains.

## BE A PART OF ENERGY EFFICIENT OPERATIONS

To help the academic institutions to produce the right course curricula that meets businesses needs for energy efficient operations, businesses are invited to test the Virtual Learning Environment, and be a case study.

**Businesses are invited to participate in a second training taking place 15-19 May 2017 in Naples, Italy.**

For more information and to get involved, contact your local project coordinator or visit [www.trainergy-project.eu](http://www.trainergy-project.eu)

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