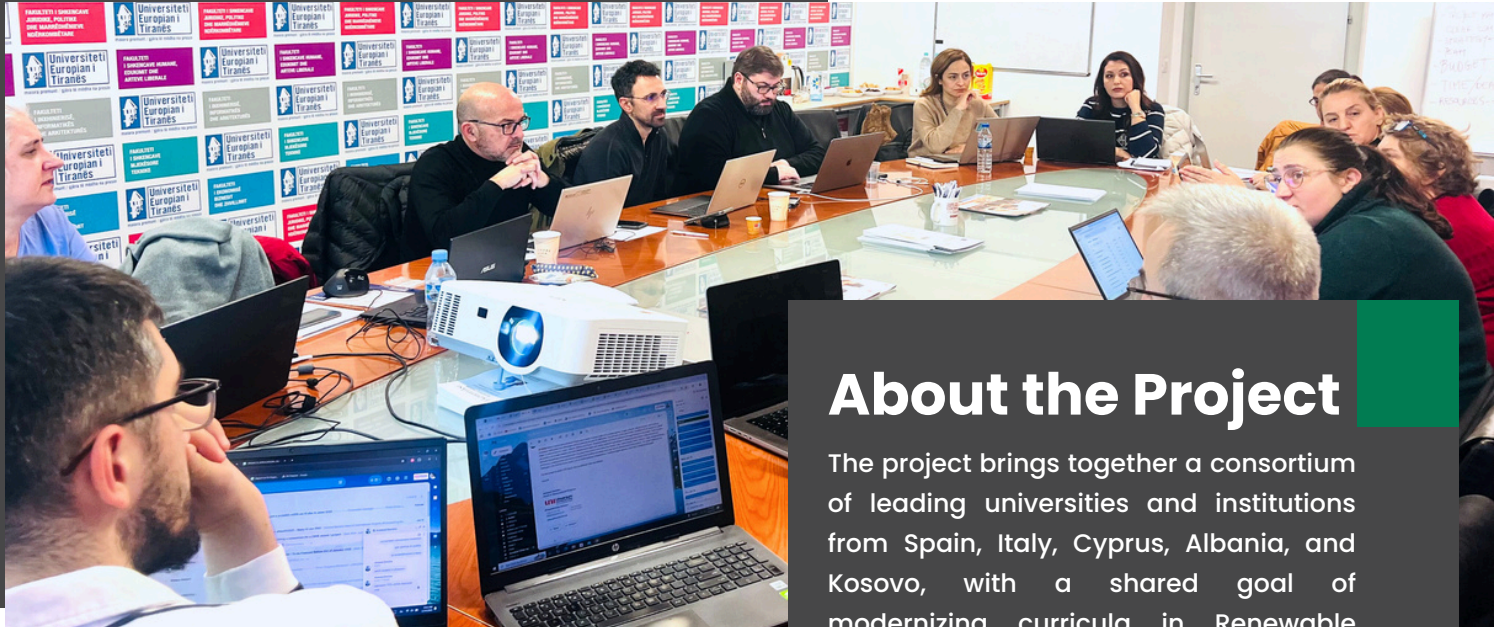




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# NEWSLETTER #3

WWW.REZEBPROJECT-EU.COM



## About the Project

The project brings together a consortium of leading universities and institutions from Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Albania, and Kosovo, with a shared goal of modernizing curricula in Renewable Energy Technologies (RETs) and Energy Efficiency (EE) applied to the building sector. Led by the University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM), the initiative addresses the pressing need to improve energy performance in Western Balkan countries and transition towards cleaner, more sustainable energy sources.

## Project Purpose

### ***Advancing Renewable Energy Technologies and Energy Efficiency in Engineering and Architecture Education***

This project, co-funded by the European Union, focuses on advancing Renewable Energy Technologies (RETs) and Energy Efficiency (EE) in engineering and architecture education. The aim is to modernize curricula, particularly in the building sector, by updating at least 25 modules, including the development of 5 new ones, across five higher education institutions in the Balkans. Aligned with the strategic priorities of the partner countries, this initiative addresses key global challenges such as climate change, CO2 emissions reduction, and energy security enhancement. By equipping students and faculty with cutting-edge knowledge in RETs and EE, the project seeks to foster innovation and environmental solutions, ensuring that future professionals can lead in these critical areas.



## OUR PARTNERS

## Info Day at Polis University

1



During September, a workshop was held at Polis University as part of the ReZEB\_Project, in collaboration with EU partners, involving 30 architecture students, staff and industry partners.

The workshop “Design with environmental analysis (DEA)”, was to inform stakeholders about the curriculum modernization driven by the reZEB project, centered on advanced environmental analyses and the implementation of passive architectural strategies to enhance the energy performance of buildings in Tirana, Albania.

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Given Tirana's specific climatic conditions, the focus was on the role of self-shading and other passive techniques in improving building efficiency. Students were introduced to algorithmic-based analyses, incorporating feedback loops to refine their architectural designs. These tools allowed for a dynamic evaluation of environmental performance, encouraging students to iteratively enhance their proposals by integrating real-time data on shading, solar gain, and natural ventilation strategies. The workshop emphasized the importance of contextually driven design solutions, aiming to push forward the initiative of "Towards Near Zero Energy Buildings" for Tirana's urban environment.



1



## OUR PARTNERS



## 4th Consortium Meeting of the reZEB Project in Tirana – Advancing Renewable Energy Education in the Western Balkans

2

On January 13–14, 2025, the Kolegji Profesional i Tiranës (KPT) proudly hosted the 4th Consortium Meeting of the reZEB Project at its campus in Tirana. The two-day event marked a key milestone in the project's mission to enhance education and professional skills in energy efficiency and renewable energy across the Western Balkans.

The meeting began with a warm welcome from Dr. Diana Biba, Administrator of KPT, setting a collaborative tone for the sessions ahead. Partners shared updates on project management and implementation, led by UCLM, who presented progress on financial management, deliverables, and EU reporting procedures. The Universiteti European i Tiranës (UET) showcased the latest developments of the reZEB project website, highlighting the importance of strategic communication and dissemination.



Dr. Diana Biba

## OUR PARTNERS





A major focus of discussion was the development of academic modules and establishment of renewable energy laboratories. Partner universities presented their progress in modernizing curricula and integrating cutting-edge technologies to strengthen students' technical and practical competencies in the field. The meeting also featured a dedicated session on quality assurance, where UCLM introduced the reZEB Quality Plan and shared insights from internal evaluations to ensure consistent project standards and impact.



## OUR PARTNERS





Throughout the two days, participants beyond engaged in constructive dialogue, exchanging experiences and ideas on how to foster innovation, sustainability, and cross-border collaboration in renewable energy education. The event concluded with renewed commitment among partners to continue strengthening institutional cooperation and to equip future engineers and professionals with the skills to drive the region toward near-zero-energy building standards.



## OUR PARTNERS



From May 19–21, 2025, partners of the reZEB Project gathered at Neapolis University Pafos (NUP) for the 5th Transnational Consortium Meeting. Hosted in the beautiful coastal city of Pafos, the meeting brought together academic, technical, and industry experts from across the Western Balkans and the EU to review progress and plan the next stages of implementation.

## 5th Consortium Meeting of the reZEB Project – Pafos, Cyprus

3



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The three-day event opened with welcoming remarks from Prof. Savvas Chatzichristofis, Dean of Research at NUP, followed by presentations and in-depth discussions on project management, development of new and modernized modules, and the establishment of renewable energy laboratories. Partners from Albania, Kosovo and the EU presented updates on curriculum design, equipment installation, and quality assurance, reinforcing the project's commitment to advancing education in energy efficiency and renewable technologies.

Special attention was given to student internships and industry collaboration, where partners shared experiences and strategies to strengthen the link between academia and professional practice. Dissemination activities, led by UET, focused on expanding the project's visibility through its website and e-learning platform, while UCLM highlighted progress on quality monitoring and reporting.



## OUR PARTNERS





The final day featured an interactive “Patent Development Workshop”, led by Prof. George Dafoulas, engaging over 40 participants in exploring intellectual property, innovation, and commercialization opportunities for green technologies.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to ensuring project sustainability, expanding the reZEB network, and preparing for the upcoming consortium meetings in Spain.

## OUR PARTNERS



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## reZEB presentation of its results at the Faculty of Engineering, IT and Architecture and different ways of engaging academic staff – Info Day at UET 2

The Office for Project Development and Internationalization at the European University of Tirana (UET) has launched a new series of collaborative meetings with faculty members, aimed at fostering stronger academic participation in international and national project initiatives.

The first meeting was held with the academic staff from the Faculty of Engineering, IT, and Architecture, focusing on several key areas: ongoing project activities, strategies for engaging academic staff during both the implementation and proposal-writing phases, and the generation of new project ideas through joint brainstorming sessions.

## OUR PARTNERS





Discussions also emphasized the importance of enhancing existing joint and double degree programs, as well as exploring innovative pathways for interdisciplinary collaboration. These meetings mark an important step toward reinforcing UET's commitment to research excellence, international cooperation, and sustainable academic development within the framework of projects such as reZEB.



## OUR PARTNERS



## WORKSHOPS

# Energy Efficiency towards Nearly Zero Energy Buildings

W.1

Apr 2024



Rome





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### The 2<sup>nd</sup> reZEB project meeting

Fostering Renewable energy technologies and energy Efficiency knowledge towards near Zero Energy Buildings of engineers and professionals in Western Balkan Countries

17th April 2024  
Internal workshops on 'Energy Efficiency towards Near Energy Zero Buildings'  
Decarbonization of the Building Sector: Environmental

**Product Declarations of Building Materials and Components**  
Prof. Francesco Asdrubali (Università per Stranieri di Perugia)

**Innovative Techniques for the Measurement and Control of the Indoor Human Thermal Comfort**  
Prof. Marco Arnesano (Università eCampus)



Universidad de  
Castilla-La Mancha



**Workshops addressed to academia and network members held together with partner meetings** | Short data on workshops and training events delivered up to September 2025. Listed by type and in chronological order.

## OUR PARTNERS





## WORKSHOPS

# Towards a more efficient and environmentally friendly building sector in Kosovo

W.2



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**reZEB Workshop**

Fostering Renewable energy technologies and energy Efficiency knowledge towards near Zero Energy Buildings of engineers and professionals in Western Balkan Countries

**September 4th, 2024**

**Workshops on:**

**'Towards a more efficient and environmentally friendly building sector in Kosovo'**

**Energy efficiency and renewable energy in the building sector: The case of Kosovo**  
Dr. Jelena Djokic (IBC-M, Kosovo)

**Passive vs active solutions: Bioclimatic architecture**  
Dr. Evanthia Dova (Neapolis University Pafos, Cyprus)

**Opportunities for solar energy technologies**  
Dr. Luca Cioccolanti (Università eCampus, Italy)

**Round table: "Near Zero Energy Buildings: challenges and opportunities"**  
Dr. Jelena Djokic (IBC-M, Kosovo), Dr. Luca Cioccolanti (Università eCampus, Italy), Dr. Evanthia Dova (Neapolis University Pafos, Cyprus), Dr. Francisco J. Castilla (University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain), Bahri Sinani (Coordinator of the sector of Environment in the Municipality of Mitrovica)



Sep 2024



IBC-M,  
Mitrovica




**Workshops addressed to academia and network members held together with partner meetings** | Short data on workshops and training events delivered up to September 2025. Listed by type and in chronological order.


## OUR PARTNERS


# Building a Greener Future – From Policy to Practice (Perspectives and exchanges)

# W.3



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**reZEB Workshop**

Fostering Renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency knowledge towards near  
Zero Energy Buildings of engineers and professionals in Western Balkan Countries

**January 15th, 2025 (9:15 – 13:15 h)**

**Workshops on:**  
**‘Building a Greener Future - From Policy to Practice (Perspectives and exchanges)’**









**Performance Analysis of Dual Source Heat Pump Systems coupled with PV-T and Thermal Storage**  
 Dr. Miriam Di Matteo (eCampus University, Italy)

**Energy efficiency legal framework. Policies to promote energy efficiency in the residential and public buildings sector.**  
 Denis Rushaj (Energy Regulator Authority, Albania)

**Energy efficiency in air conditioning systems**  
 Msc. Ing. Ilir Palushi, Dr. Mimoza Vokshi (Professional College of Tirana, Albania, National Ozone Unit, Albania)

**Application of photovoltaic systems in buildings and their impact on reducing costs. The role of municipalities in supporting such projects.**  
 Msc. Ersi Salaj (Professional College of Tirana, Albania)

**Round table:**  
**“Near Zero Energy Buildings: challenges and opportunities”**

Jan 2025



## KPT Tirana



**Workshops addressed to academia and network members held together with partner meetings** | Short data on workshops and training events delivered up to September 2025. Listed by type and in chronological order.

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## reZEB Dialogues: EU insights, Albanian perspectives, and the future of energy efficiency in building

W.4



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### reZEB Workshop

Fostering Renewable energy technologies and energy Efficiency knowledge towards near Zero Energy Buildings of engineers and professionals in Western Balkan Countries

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (9:00 – 13:00 h)

#### Workshop on:

**'reZEB Dialogues: EU insights, Albanian perspectives, and the future of energy efficiency in buildings'**

**Energy efficiency retrofitting in EU and building performance simulation tools**

Dr. Francisco J. Castilla (University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain)

**Sustainable Design Strategies & Climate Change**

Prof. Dr. Sokol Dervishi (Epoka University of Tirana, Albania)

**Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Audit Reports**

Mr. Agron Bami (Municipality of Tirana, Albania)

**National Retrofit Strategies in Tirana & Albanian context – Tirana between past, present & future**

Mr. Kurt Daci (Municipality of Tirana, Albania)

**Round table: "Bridging Academia with Practical implications of Retrofit Strategies - Discussion & Future Perspectives"**



Jan 2025



U-POLIS Tirana



**Workshops addressed to academia and network members held together with partner meetings** | Short data on workshops and training events delivered up to September 2025. Listed by type and in chronological order.

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## CONTACT US:



reZEB Project



reZEB

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