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PRESS RELEASE

START2ACT INTRODUCES TWO NEW SERVICES FOR YOUNG BUSINESSES

Budapest, Hungary, 29. July 2017 - In summer 2017, START2ACT is launching two new sets of free-of-charge energy efficiency support activities for young SMEs and startups in its nine European countries. START2ACT aims to help young SMEs and startups to save energy and cut costs at their workplace and boost their competitiveness.

Following the business breakfasts which were organised all over Europe, START2ACT has started rolling out brand new **online and on-site energy efficiency services**. The first one to be offered is the **Knowledge Base** which represents a free-of-charge online hub on energy efficiency accessible for everyone via the project website. Furthermore, START2ACT has started the **training and mentoring sessions** tailored to the special needs of young SMEs and startups, respectively.

The Knowledge Base

The Knowledge Base serves as an online tool on energy efficiency-related topics. The curriculum of the base is divided into sections according to business type (SME or startup) and secondary categories (manager or employee of an SME; own office or a shared office for startups). The learning material covers key areas ranging from office heating/cooling and lighting systems to effective metering and monitoring strategies for tracking of office-based energy consumption.

By using the Knowledge Base, young businesses will gain an overview on measures and funding opportunities that can help them improve their energy efficiency at the workplace. All the information is country-specific as well, as the Knowledge Base is tailored to the participating START2ACT countries.

Consultancy for SMEs and mentoring for startups

To further assist young businesses with the implementation of energy efficiency measures, the project offers two types of on-site support: **consultancy** for young SMEs and **mentoring** for startups. While the consultancy for SMEs will be conducted at their offices, startups will be able to meet the experienced START2ACT trainers at incubators and co-working spaces.

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The flexible modular and discussion-based structure of the startup mentoring sessions enables the trainers and participants to fully arrive at customised solutions. During the sessions, the business will be able to explore available energy efficiency tools, the scope of their potential energy savings and different methods on how to turn sporadic actions into a sustainable office culture. These face-to-face training sessions are devised to help companies improve their energy policy without having to conduct time-consuming research or to invest in costly third-party services.

Who we are

The START2ACT consortium is a group of international energy and entrepreneurship experts who joined forces to make small businesses greener and more energy efficient through behavioural changes with the support of the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. It consists of 11 partners from Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and the United Kingdom.

For more information about START2ACT, please visit www.start2act.eu

Contact

Daniel Frohnmaier
Project Manager
Geonardo Environmental Technologies Ltd.
T: +36 1 250 6703
daniel.frohnmaier@geonardo.com
info@start2act.eu
@START2ACT | Facebook | In| www.start2act.eu |www.geonardo.com
Download more project information: First flyer, second flyer.

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