PATH2LC

LEARNING MUNICIPALITY NETWORKS

D2.5 Two success stories fact sheets for dissemination

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CONSORTIUM PARTNERS

LOGO	PARTICIPANT	COUNTRY	TYPE
IREES research for future.	Institute for Resource Efficiency and Energy Strategies (IREES)	Germany	Scientific
Fraunhofer ISI	Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research ISI (Fraunhofer)	Germany	Scientific
TU WIEN TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT WIEN Vienna|Austria	Technische Universität Wien (TU Wien)	Austria	Scientific
think ENERGY RESEARCH	Zentrum für Energiewirtschaft und Umwelt (e-think)	Austria	Scientific
ENERGYCITIES	Energy Cities (ENC)	France	Scientific
HESPUL	Hespul (HESP)	France	Communication
UCSA Ufficio Comune per la Sostenibilità Ambientale	Joint Office for Environmental Sustainability (UCSA)	Italy	Local network
SUSTAINABLE CITY CITY NETWORK	Sustainable City Network (SCN)	Greece	Local network
OESTE SUSTENTÁVEL AGÊNCIA REGIONAL DE ENERGIA E AMBIENTE DO OESTE	Agência Regional de Energia e Ambiente do Oeste – OesteSustentavel (Oeste)	Portugal	Local network
CITIES NORTHERN NETHERLANDS	City Northern Netherlands represented by City of Leeuwarden (CNNL)	Netherlands	Local network
ALTE69 Agence Locale de la transition Énergétique du Rhône	Agence Locale de la Transition Énergétique du Rhône (ALTE69)	France	Local network

THE PATH2LC PROJECT

In the PATH2LC project, public authorities are working together within the framework of a holistic network approach (so-called learning municipality networks) with the aim to achieve low-carbon municipalities.

The core of the project activities is the SE(C)APs (Sustainable Energy (and Climate) Action Plans), or similar climate protection plans developed by the municipalities. The PATH2LC project fosters the exchange of existing knowledge and experiences among municipalities, enhances coordination among different administrative bodies within the municipalities, improves cooperation with local stakeholders and civil society and equips stakeholders in public authorities with required planning and monitoring tools to develop and implement transition roadmaps for achieving the targets set in the SE(C)APs.

The holistic network approach intends to link stakeholders in public authorities among municipalities enabling peer-to-peer learning and increasing engagement for the energy and climate transition. Policymakers and public authorities at the local level are supported with scientific analysis and expertise in order to understand and implement their SE(C)AP measures. Five existing networks of municipalities in Italy, Greece, Portugal, the Netherlands and France are participating in the project.

A special interest of the project is to invite other municipalities to replicate the learning municipality network approach and take advantage of the knowledge base collected in the project.

For further information, please see www.path2lc.eu

Project information

Proposal number: 892560
Acronym: PATH2LC
Title: Public Authorities together with a holistic network approach on the way to low-carbon municipalities
Years of implementation: September 2020 - August 2023
Client: EASME

Acknowledgement

Legal Notice

Content

1   INTRODUCTION

The PATH2LC project brings together municipalities on regional and international levels to support them in the process of implementing their existing SEAPs or SECAPs. Five existing networks of municipalities in five countries (Portugal, Italy, France, Netherlands, and Greece) take over the implementation part of the project and are supported by scientific and dissemination partners.

In PATH2LC, the approach of learning energy efficiency networks is adapted to municipalities and implemented for the first time as so-called Learning Municipality Networks (LMNs). The LMN approach of the PATH2LC project aims to support and enable decision makers and administration staff of municipalities to obtain the competencies and skills needed regarding the implementation of energy-saving or climate protection measures on a personal and a group level. The approach of Learning Municipality Networks follows a defined process: initiation of the network – identification of climate and energy-related measures – setting a common target by all network participants – regular network meetings on predefined topics with relevant municipal stakeholders – monitoring of progress and success of the network – dissemination of results and experiences - trans-regional and international exchange with other municipalities. Within the project, we work together with existing networks and municipalities, which have already identified measures in their SEAPs or SECAPs.

As existing networks are the starting point of the project, they benefit from the adaption of the successful LEEN network process supplemented with in-depth capacity building and support of energy planning tools. In addition, sharing cross-country experiences among the networks in PATH2LC countries is enabled by the project. The main advantage of this approach is that the municipalities are accompanied in their process to implement measures of their Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) as well as to draft long-term energy transition roadmaps.

From the supervision of the network process, two success stories were identified, which are presented in this deliverable. For these two cases, fact sheets were developed that present the process, framework conditions, challenges and success factors leading to the successful implementation of concrete measures within the PATH2LC project. These two fact sheets were included in the leaflets that have been printed and published online and will also be included in the last newsletter as well as in the knowledge base on the PATH2LC website, serving for replication.

2   SUCCESS STORIES

By leveraging the power of collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and innovation, the project has given rise to two success stories that give insights into some of the potential benefits of participating in a learning network. These success stories demonstrate the potentially transformative power of the learning network approach in addressing complex challenges and shaping a sustainable future.

In the following, two success stories by the French network (coordinated by ALTE69), as well as the Greek network (coordinated by SCN), are presented.

The first success story of the French network deals with political engagement and commitment to climate and energy actions at the departmental scale. The participating inter-municipalities of the French network agreed on one common political objective in autumn 2021: to organise a cycle of departmental convivial events called the "Biennial of the Territories in TransitionS of the Rhone", once every two years, open to all inter-municipalities/municipalities of the Rhone Department (including the Lyon Metropole), to engage local elected representatives, technical civil servants, and some key institutional partners, to implement climate energy actions, by increasing their skills on the necessary conduct of behavioural changes in public policies, and to stimulate the concrete implementation of measures identified in their respective SECAPs, by presenting local success stories.

The second success story of the Greek network deals with the supply of a monitoring system for remote control, remote management, and leakage detection of the existing internal and external water supply network of Ierapetra. This measure is part of a holistic planning of the Municipality of Ierapetra for upgrading the control and energy

efficiency systems of the water supply networks, through the supply, installation and deployment of a monitoring, tele-control and tele-management system for the existing external and internal water supply network of the Municipality of Ierapetra. This measure is an optimal solution for leakage reduction, detection of water poaching, water collection, purification and distribution through quantitative/qualitative management and control of water resources.

These success stories serve as a testimonial to the potential of the learning network approach in addressing complex challenges and building a cleaner and more resilient future in these municipalities.

4.1 Success story of the French network

Introduction of the municipality	
Name of your inter-municipalities community	Rhone Positive Energy Territories Network (CCSB, CCMDL, COR, SOL), with the active support of Agence Locale de la Transition Energétique du Rhone (ALTE69)
Region and country	Rhone, France
Number of inhabitants	+/- 248 000 inhabitants (2020)

Measure(s) – short overview
Political engagement & commitment to climate and energy actions at a departmental scale –   **"Biennial of the Territories in TransitionS of the Rhone"**   Four Energy Positive Territories (called "4 TEPOS") agreed on one common political objective in autumn 2021: to organise a cycle of departmental convivial events, once every two years, open to all inter-municipalities/ municipalities of the Rhone Department (500 000 inhabitants), Lyon Metropole included (1,5 Million inhabitants), in order to: - engage local elected representatives, senior & other technical civil servants, and some key institutional partners, to implement climate energy actions, by increasing their skills in the necessary conduct of behavioural changes in public policies, and   - to stimulate the concrete implementation of measures identified in their respective SECAPs, by presenting local success stories   More info : https://alte69.org/fr/biennale-des-territoires-en-transitions-du-rhone-et-au-lancement

Process
Who initiated the process?   During the 2ⁿᵈ PATH2LC local network meeting in September 2021, the network was in the process of setting itself common targets. This was foreseen as part of the concept or process of LMNs – all networks were supposed to set themselves an internal and common target(s) for the whole network.   With the assistance of ALTE69, the 4 TEPOS identified four common targets. One of these targets was rather a political (more than a technical) goal: to create a cycle of convivial events, once every 2 years, that would gather all the local authorities of the Rhone Departement, Lyon Metropole included, that have adopted– or will adopt - a SECAP, in order to enlarge the community of territorial actors involved in the operational implementation of their respective action plan.   *How did you approach the measures? Who was involved in the decision process?*   Since the idea came from technical civil servants, it was necessary to have this target validated in order to respect the existing hierarchy of their local administration. Therefore, at first, it was necessary to obtain the validation from their senior managers, and then, to have it adopted/voted by local politicians (i.e. the Vice-President in charge of

climate and energy issues, and the President of each inter-municipality).
The described overall process has taken from 6 months to 1 year, depending on the territory.

In late 2022, the Biennial Steering Committee, consisting of 4 TEPOS and ALTE69, brought together the Departmental Council of the Rhone (Local Government), the Departmental Direction of the Rhone Territory ("DDT", a decentralized state body) and the National Agency for the Environment and Energy Management (called "ADEME"). The 1st edition of this departmental event, named "1st Biennial of the Territories in TransitionS of the Rhone", was held on Monday, April 24th, 2023, all day long, in Belleville-en-Beaujolais. More than 200 participants took part.

Framework conditions

Who are the people responsible for the measure?
Initially, the SECAP civil servants from the 4 TEPOS and ALTE69, that is to say: the nucleus of the PATH2LC local network.

How did you acquire the necessary funding, if any?
Initially, ALTE 69 had secured a small budget of 3.500 euros dedicated to the realization of the event. Late 2022, this enabled the 4 SECAP civil servants to ask their senior manager to include in their respective 2023 budgets from 1.000 up to 5.000 Euros, depending on their capacity. End of 2022, the Departmental Council of the Rhone decided to also contribute up to 5.000 Euros. Finally, a 3rd wave of co-financing was approved by the hosting TEPOS ("CCSB"), to complete the final budget (total final budget about 15.000 Euros).

How did you engage stakeholders?
The motivation of partners differed, according to which stakeholders were engaged. The institutional partners, such as the DDT (decentralized state body) and ADEME (national agency), had high ambitions in this project because the Biennial event met one of their needs on "how to better mobilize elected officials and senior managers/ how to create favourable conditions to encourage new Energy Transition projects " at a departmental level. For the political partner, the Departmental Council of the Rhone, it was an opportunity to put forward new political orientations on Energy Transition, with an event that they could not have organized alone.

Challenges

What challenges did you face, and how did you overcome them?
In the beginning, the challenge was to mobilize co-funding to complete the budget and to achieve the ambition of the event, since potential co-funders did not plan to organize such an event.
We managed to overcome this challenge by maintaining the level of ambition of the Biennial event to inspire and attract stakeholders and by embracing a broad spectrum of partners, identified as potential co-funders, to have more chances of ultimately obtaining the necessary funding. But also, by staying flexible at any time to adapt certain aspects of the Biennial (e.g. concerning the agenda), to be able to integrate new co-funders, when these latter eventually decided to co-finance.

Another challenge was the engagement of stakeholders, as we were facing big hesitations from certain stakeholders to be actively involved (especially state bodies or the national agency - DDT & ADEME), regardless of their real interest in participating in the planning process of the Biennial, due to their inability to react "quickly" towards such an initiative and to co-finance it. However, we managed to overcome this challenge by convincing these stakeholders that their engagement is still relevant, even if only based on "technical" participation, rather than financial. We kept soliciting/inviting them to participate in the Steering Committee, to get them engaged as soon as possible in planning the Biennial event.

Success factors

In your experience, which factors are essential to successfully implement the measure and to overcome challenges along the way?

- To allow oneself to dream and be daring!
- To have a "human nucleus" (local network approach) – composed of allies/volunteers, who are active and reliable mediators to convince internally the hierarchical superiors and elected representatives in charge
- To create confidence within the protagonists' community (thanks to the local network approach), by demonstrating signs of seriousness and professionalism in the ability to act, from its beginning to its completion
- Not to underestimate the time for communication - to inform people and to make the project known
- To make people want to be part of the adventure to broaden partnerships in acting (DDT, ADEME, and the Rhone Department Council), for example by inviting well-known personalities who stand out (e.g. presence of experts, members of the IPCC, local elected representatives from elsewhere) and who have a "different" view of our realities
- To launch the realization of the idea/action even before having all financial arrangements fixed (but be certain of the availability of a minimum "core" of financing, as a guarantee of seriousness).
- To be able to readjust the final budget to complete the action
- To create lasting communication media/support to keep the collective memory of the action, to replicate the action 2 years later and elsewhere
- To evaluate the action, once completed, to improve it.

Impact

In the case of non-technical measures such as stakeholder engagement, please state the impacts of these measures, if any.

Positive impacts on:

- **Engagement of "official" partners in working together:** The fact of having organized this Biennial event together created and consolidated the confidence of "working together".
- **Participation rate:** more than 200 participants in the morning, and 150 in the afternoon (we had expected a lower rate of participation of 100-150 persons max.)
- **Target profile**: 30% of participants were elected officials, whereas they are difficult to mobilize for this kind of event, which can be considered a success factor.
- **Positive feedback**: During and just after the event, participants expressed their satisfaction and congratulated members of the Steering Committee. A **questionnaire** was sent to the 211 participants (10 May 2023), to evaluate the degree of satisfaction and to obtain feedback on possible improvements concerning the content and the logistical aspects of the Biennale. To date (5/06/2023), about 30% answered. The qualitative feedback is very good: almost all of them want to take part in the 2nd edition of this Biennial, scheduled for 2025.

Impressions of the measure

The agenda and presentations of the 1st Biennial event can be found on the dedicated webpage (only available in French): https://alte69.org/fr/biennale-des-territoires-en-transitions-du-rhone-et-au-lancement/

Lundi 24 avril, à partir de 9h00 jusqu'à 20h30, à Belleville-en-Beaujolais

Téléchargez le programme au format PDF

MATINÉE - ACADÉMIE DE LA TRANSITION ÉNERGÉTIQUE DU RHÔNE

9h - 9h30 - Accueil Café et émargement

9h30 - 10h - Ouverture
Par Jacky **MÉNICHON**, Président de la CCSB
et Jean-Jacques **BOYER,** Sous-préfet de l'arrondissement de Villefranche-sur-Saône

10h - 10h30 - Lancement de l'Académie de la Transition énergétique
Par Christophe **GUILLOTEAU**, Président du Département du Rhône, ou son représentant
et Valérie **GRILLON**, Conseillère départementale et Présidente de la commission "politiques territoriales"

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10h30 - 11h30 - Introduction sur les enjeux liés à la crise climatique
Par Jean **JOUZEL**, climatologue émérite
et Sandrine **MATHY**, économiste environnement au CNRS

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11h30 - 12h30 - Échanges sur la conduite aux changements de comportement dans les politiques publiques
Par Nicolas **FIEULAINE**, enseignant-chercheur en psychologie sociale, ENA-Lyon 2
et Frédéric **PRONCHÉRY**, Vice-Président délégué à l'environnement du Département du Rhône et maire de Belleville-en-Beaujolais,
et Jean-Marie **MARTINO**, Directeur Général des Services du Département du Rhône

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12h30 - 14h30 - Déjeuner

Crédit photo ©Département du Rhône & ©Agence locale de la Transition Énergétique du Rhône (ALTE69)

APRÈS MIDI - BIENNALE DES TRANSITIONS : COMMENT AGIR

14h30 - 16h00 - Au choix : **visite de site** ou **participation à un des ateliers** présentant des retours d'expériences innovantes et réalisées sur nos territoires

Visite de la station d'épuration Saône-Beaujolais CITEAU	+

Atelier 1 : Le développement du solaire photovoltaïque dans le cadre de partenariats publics/privés	+

Atelier 2 : Développer le bois énergie et le bois d'œuvre en intégrant une gestion durable et locale de la forêt	+

Atelier 3 : Rénovation performante et le déploiement de dispositifs d'aides locales incitatifs	+

Atelier 4 : Mobilité active et valorisation de l'usage du vélo en milieu rural	+

Atelier 5 : L'alimentation et promotion des circuits-courts	+

16h00 - 16h30 - Pause-Café

16h30 - 18h00 - **Table-ronde : Face aux enseignements tirés des exercices de prospective "neutralité carbone", quels leviers d'action à l'échelle territoriale ?**
Échanges entre experts, prospectivistes sur le climat et maires.
Avec la participation de Emmanuel **GOY**, Directeur-Adjoint de l'ADEME AURA, Jean **JOUZEL**, Sandrine **MATHY** et d'élus locaux : Emmanuelle **GAZEL**, maire de Millau (12), Michel **MAYA**, maire de Tramayes (71), et Frédéric **PRONCHÉRY**, maire de Belleville-en-Beaujolais (69).

Télécharger le support de présentation

18h - 18h30 - Clôture et prise de recul

18h30- 20h30 - Apéro dînatoire convivial

Crédit photo ©Agence locale de la Transition Énergétique du Rhône (ALTE69)

Overview of some interviews done during the Biennial (short video creation)
Jean Jouzel, Michel Maya, and Emmanuelle Gazel

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4.2 Success story of the Greek network

Introduction of the municipality		
Name of your municipality	Municipality of Ierapetra	
Region and country	Crete, Greece	
Number of inhabitants	28.000	

Measure – short overview:

Supply of a monitoring system for remote control, remote management, and leakage detection of the existing internal and external water supply network of Ierapetra

This measure is part of a holistic planning of the Municipality of Ierapetra for upgrading the control and energy efficiency systems of the water supply networks, through the supply, installation and deployment of a monitoring, tele-control and tele-management system for the existing external and internal water supply network of the Municipality of Ierapetra.

The implementation of the system aims to solve problems in the existing external and internal water supply network. Preliminary studies for this project indicate that 80% of the problems could be avoided by introducing this monitoring system. This measure is an optimal solution for leakage reduction, detection of water poaching, water collection, purification and distribution through quantitative/qualitative management and control of water resources.

Process

Who initiated the process? How did you approach the measure? Who was involved in the decision process?
Due to the lack of human resources within the Municipality, but also due to the lack of know-how, the idea and the decisions were taken by the political leadership of the Municipality (in cooperation with the community leaders) while the implementation – either in terms of the preparation of the necessary studies or the installations – was entrusted to private specialised partners and/or companies.
The policymakers took part in the decision-making process along with the respective members of the technical department of the municipality and the community leaders. Wanting to apply a holistic approach to the management of resources, such as energy and water, it was decided to divide the studies into different funding programmes, to reduce the time needed to conduct the studies and the bureaucratic procedures that accompanied them.
The Municipality communicated regularly with the citizens about the progress of the project through various information campaigns, e.g. press releases on the Municipality's website, social media and through articles to local media. Moreover, they disseminated the project's results to other municipalities and regions, to encourage them to implement similar projects in their areas.

Framework conditions

Who are the people responsible for the measure? How did you acquire the necessary funding, if any? How did you engage stakeholders?
The Municipality of Ierapetra is responsible for the water supply and sewerage services of the area. The Technical Services Department is continuously responsible for the completion and maintenance of the project.
To make the implementation possible, in the first stage, the necessary studies were divided and submitted to different funding programmes, such as FILODIMOS and ANTONIS TRITSIS and from several different sources, such as the Recovery Fund (''Green Transition''), the Region of Crete (regional program) and NSRF (national program) funds.
Regarding stakeholder engagement, the municipality took into account that the project was implemented in the whole municipality, so they included in the decision-making process community leaders and stakeholders from all the local communities.

The cost of the project implementation was 868.000€ and was funded by the *Ministry of Economy and Development* under the Operational Program "Transport Infrastructure, Environment and Sustainable Development".

Challenges

What challenges did you face, and how did you overcome them?

Three main challenges existed:

1) there was no appropriate infrastructure to support the project and speed up its implementation (for example, mobile phone antennas had to be installed to connect the installations to the system).
2) there were no adequate resources to finance the project. For this reason, the necessary studies and the implementation (installation part) were allocated to be financed by different programs. A further problem regarding funding was that no one in the municipality was aware of the existence of specific European funding programmes that the municipality could have been eligible for. Through the technical assistance process within the PATH2LC project, the local network team and specifically the municipality was supported in identifying suitable European funding programmes. We can now, either on our own or jointly with other municipalities, apply for funding, and therefore have the intention to expand the project.
3) the lack of human resources combined with the lack of expertise is a problem in all municipalities. The learning network approach in the PATH2LC project significantly helped to overcome this challenge through the regular network meetings enabling the exchange of experiences with staff from other municipalities on common problems as well as through the technical training focusing on energy and energy savings.

Success factors

In your experience, which factors are essential to successfully implement the measure and to overcome challenges along the way?

Based on our experience in the municipality, key factors for the successful implementation of such measures are:

- the will and support of the municipal authority
- the support (or at least no opposition) of citizens
- available financial resources for the implementation of such projects/measures
- learning network approach: the learning network approach of the PATH2LC project helped us to establish good contacts with representatives of other municipalities in our region. Most municipalities in the same region face similar problems and similar bureaucratic processes that accompany them. When one of us has encountered and solved a problem differently, whether it is about technical or funding issues, it is very important to have contact and share that information. The networking process helped municipal officials to share their knowledge and best practices in order to overcome the problems they face. The technical staff (especially less experienced staff) had the opportunity to connect and exchange experiences and information, especially concerning the procurement process and national funding instruments.

Impact

The system is based on a holistic approach to the use of resources such as water (reducing leakage) and energy (reducing the energy needed to operate the installations, while reducing the need for constant maintenance).

The use and exploitation of the project's technologies facilitate:

1. Collection of data,
2. Control of the electrical quantities of each pumping station (power consumption, current intensity, etc.),
3. Monitoring the quality characteristics of the water from the pumping stations, boreholes and reservoirs.

The transmission of data through a wireless network to the central control station allows the Municipality of Ierapetra, through the appropriate evaluation and processing of these data, to always have a clear overview of the operational status of the entire system and to take the desired corrective actions or to present the operating parameters of the installation.

The pipes were really old and the electric system therefore consumed a lot of energy. Now, the system is much more energy efficient: problems are now reported in a live stream so they can be solved immediately, leading to energy savings between 15 – 25% for each station.

Based on the data available so far, it has been established that:

- Pumping has decreased by 1.270.846 m^3/year
- The percentage of total losses has decreased from 61.82% to 36.32%.
- The percentage of actual losses decreased from 54.41% to 24.10%
- A reduction of the leakage rate by 30%,
- Energy savings (15-25 %) through controlled operation of pumps and reduction of electricity costs through rational management of infrastructure and avoidance of excessive operation of wells and pumping stations.

Finally, key savings targets were achieved by replacing the panels of the wells/pumping stations, which included indicative energy meters and inverters for starting the pumps, thus reducing energy consumption due to the smooth start-up and operation of the pump. By measuring energy consumption and the relationship between energy consumption and pumping capacity, problem areas with high energy consumption can be identified and immediate preventive measures can be taken to solve the problem and avoid future difficult situations.

In the beginning, the staff of the municipalities had no experience with the functioning of the pumping stations altogether. By regular communication, the technicians now gained more knowledge of the system and of EU funding schemes. They learned that only if they collaborate they can apply for bigger funding together – this exchange of knowledge and collaboration was only made possible through the PATH2LC project (e.g. the threshold of 30Mio € in the ELENA funding scheme).

During the last year, other municipalities that are part of the PATHLC network got inspired and are in the process of submitting and preparing similar projects to upgrade their system:

- Municipality of Pella: Submission stage
- Municipality of Messini: Tendering stage
- Municipality of Oichalia: Tendering stage
- Municipality of Dodoni: Electronic tender procedure (in progress)
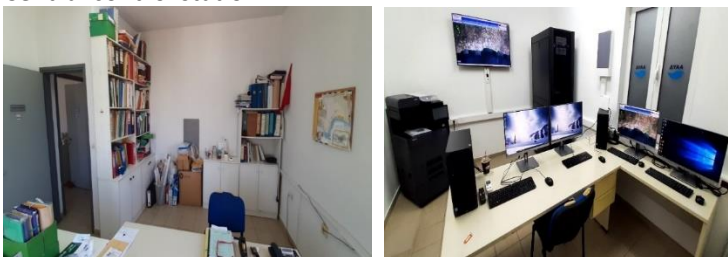- Municipality of Xylokastro – Evrostini: Final stage

As they did not have any experience to do that, the learning network approach was very important to support them in the process and to learn from the "first mover" through the exchange of experiences throughout PATH2LC.

Impressions of the measure

Equipment upgrade

Central control station

Before   After

3   ACKNOWLEDGEMENT