

 **Subject**

Action Plan to improve the performance of energy policy instruments and the spending of Structural Funds in the Region of Central Macedonia.

 **Description**

The Action Plan aims to impact Investment for Growth and Jobs programme and was developed on the policy instrument ‘Operational Program (OP) of Region of Central Macedonia 2014-2020. The main priorities of the OP are a) the reduction of the consumption of conventional energy through the implementation of programmes to reduce consumption and increase energy efficiency, the utilization of RES and the promotion of cogeneration projects and b) the promotion of integrated interventions for urban mobility with the ultimate aim of reducing CO2 emissions, as well as other polluting factors. In this context, two are the specific objectives:

1. Increasing energy efficiency and exploiting renewable energies in public buildings and public infrastructures
2. Promotion of Sustainable Urban Mobility in the Region of Central Macedonia. The 1st Action of the project concerns the financing of the energy upgrade of municipal buildings.

 **Energy Agency Rhineland-Palatinate**

 **Subject**

The availability of energy data has been identified as a problem in RLP. Often LAs do not know about the energy consumption of their buildings and hence cannot identify efficiency measures and apply for funding. Therefore the EARLP wants to improve this field to help municipalities to get better access to funding and increase energy efficiency in public buildings. Project partner IRENA introduced a Best-Practice at first interregional seminar, a regional database on energy consumption of buildings from 200 m². The Advisory partner Climate Alliance Italy introduced a shared energy advice service for public authorities in the Rhône-Alpes region focusing on data availability and benchmarking. These examples served as input for the development of a new project aiming to create regional energy data portals. It will be part of the action plan.

 **Description**

The aim is to provide local authorities in a pilot region in RLP with a monitoring tool, always the same to obtain a consistent database. Municipalities will be assisted in the implementation of the tool and have to deliver the energy and CO2 data to the EARLP. This data will be used to build up a regional energy database. Additionally the database will serve as a benchmark. Municipalities will be able to compare their energy consumption and CO2 emissions with other municipalities of the region. They will get a better feeling for the level of their consumption and will be able to identify efficiency potentials and develop measures, for which they may apply for funding. All together the project will have an impact on the improvement of the policy instrument. Funding will be requested for the project itself and municipalities will be enabled to develop efficiency measures and further investments in energy efficiency might be generated. Furthermore the monitoring tool will help municipalities to evaluate energy and emission savings due to implemented measures.

 **GRC - Gozo Regional Committee – Malta**

 **Subject**

Gozo Energy Management Action Plan.

 **Description**

The Gozo Energy Management Action Plan consists in the development of a web application for local public authorities for the management of their energy consumption, through a standardized PDCA method, following the example of the “Energy Efficient Municipalities” (good practice presented by EARL). In order to assess the impact of this standardized method, GRC will support the participating local authorities in the calculation of the reduction of CO2 and carbon footprint, providing them with tailored tools for the collection and report of data. A memorandum of understanding between GRC and the public authorities will be signed in order to ensure their participation in the activities.

The web platform is also inspired by the SMIV system (good practice presented by IRENA). National and regional (EcoGozo) policies and targets will be shown in the platform so to promote them. The inclusion of national and regional targets is also aimed at the calculation of SUPPORT impact: indeed, the data collected through the PDCA method will be evaluated in terms of reduction of CO2 and compared with the national and regional targets so to assess the impact of the action proposed. The system will also allow to sum all the individual organizations’ results in order to quantify the total impact of this action plan.



**SUPPORT**  
Interreg Europe



**Contacts**



**IRENA – Istrian Regional Energy Agency Ltd.**

Rudarska 1, 522220 Labin

Nikola Petrić  
[nikola.petric@irena-istra.hr](mailto:nikola.petric@irena-istra.hr)

**D**ear reader,

the SUPPORT project, that started with the goal of improving various policy instruments across nine EU regions, ended its first phase on June 30th 2019. Still, SUPPORT has barely crossed the halfway line with the second phase intended for monitoring the actions prepared and envisaged within nine action plans that started on July 1st and will last for the next two years.

During five semesters of implementation, through various regional and interregional activities, many local stakeholders were involved across nine participating regions. The project has identified 26 good practices of implementation of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources (RES) use measures on public buildings. It has organised 8 staff exchanges which involved 23 participants. Staff exchange has represented a unique opportunity for stakeholders for direct and personal transfer of practices identified as suitable for their regions.

Nine action plans will be implemented during the second phase of the project, and they have identified more than 25 actions to improve the performance of their energy policy instruments and the spending of Structural Funds in their regions, also through a more effective implementation of local plans, starting from the SEAPs, in order to promote solution for energy efficiency of public building, energy management and innovative funding sources.



# Summary of the Action Plan for each partner

## IRENA - Istrian Regional Energy Agency Ltd.

### ◀ Subject

All the actions within action plan of Istrian region are focused towards resolving the issues burdening the process of energy refurbishment of heritage buildings. Actions are based on development of procedures, technical guidelines and definition of funding mechanisms for these interventions.

### ◀ Description

With more than 300 cultural property in Istrian region, there is a significant potential to be found in complex subject of heritage buildings energy refurbishment. Strict conservation rules and lack of funding opportunities are restricting this process. **Operational programme competitiveness and cohesion 2014 – 2020 lacks funding mechanisms for this kind of interventions** as and the methodology of savings calculation incorporated into the calls for funding is not suited to these buildings.

Adoption of ZEB standard in both building construction and refurbishment (in force for public buildings in Croatia from 2019) promises a shift in methodology of energy savings calculation that could be hugely beneficial for these objects.

Lack of regionally available good practices and expertise is also evident and often negatively affects cultural heritage within the region and leads to its mismanagement. Through the exchange of experiences, staff exchange and interregional seminars, IRENA, CEI and Istrian region identified good practices that will be used to partially resolve the issue of energy refurbishment of these buildings within the region. Several type of actions influenced by these good practices were developed. They range from adoption of methodological approaches such as development of Guidelines for energy refurbishment of heritage buildings in Istrian region and development of BLUE energy transfer model as approach to coastal heritage building energy refurbishment to fostering behavioural changes of building users and physical interventions on specific buildings within the region.

## Città metropolitana di Roma Capitale

### ◀ Subject

Improve governance at metropolitan level, involving all key actors in the implementation of SEAPs and especially in their transformation in SECAPs, in compliance with the requirements of the new Covenant of Mayors for Energy and Climate.

### ◀ Description

The Action consists in a set of activities aimed at reinforcing CMRC's organizational structure, enabling it to continue (and improve) its monitoring of the PAES's actions, to more effectively coordinate and support municipalities in their transition towards energy sustainability (and in the transformation of their SEAPs in SECAPs, according to the new Covenant of Mayors requirements), and to provide them with empowering services and tools. CMRC will create a "Energy Office Managing Board" with the intent to involve the local energy managers, other technical representatives from the municipalities, the Region of Lazio, and the research institutions active in the area (such as ENEA and the local universities). The Office will work in order to assess the results of the monitoring activities and plan new actions consistent with regional and metropolitan strategies (and notably with the policy instrument P.E.R.).

## Alba Local Energy Agency - ALEA

### ◀ Subject

Action Plan to improve the performance of the Energy Masterplan of Alba County; the actions focus on issues that enhance energy planning and implementation in Alba County ultimately supporting LAs to reduce CO2 emissions in their territories.

### ◀ Description

The aim of the actions in the Action Plan is to provide support for local authorities in Alba County in order to better elaborate and implement energy efficient measures in the framework of the Energy Masterplan/Energy Strategy of Alba County, the main tool that serves as strategic direction of sustainable development in the county. In this context, there are 4 actions each tackling different types of issues that currently hinder the implementation of measures set in the policy instrument: **Action 1** aims to ensure an extension of the already existent ANERGO Regional Energy Observatory to better fit the needs of LAs energy efficiency planning and implementation activities by providing support for local authorities in Alba County for energy and climate data collection; **Action 2** targets the extension of the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy initiative in Alba County by increasing the number of Covenant of Mayors signatory municipalities. The action also supports fostering Alba County signatory LAs to commit to the transition from their existing SEAPs to the new SECAPs. **Action 3** aims to increase access for funding for sustainable energy projects planned by local authorities. Lack of regional available good practices and expertise in accessing available financing for energy efficiency measures implementation is an issue that will be solved through the exchange of experience and other measures proposed in the framework of this action. **Action 4** implement a pilot action having as model SAVE@WORK project which will consist in a campaign to lower energy consumption among employees at their workplace by changing their behaviour as energy consumers under the form of a contest, using different tools.

## ESS Sweden – Energy agency for southeast Sweden

### ◀ Subject

Action Plan to improve the regional organization of actions for energy efficiency in the southeast of Sweden.

### ◀ Description

Necessary actions to enhance the regional work on energy efficiency. Actions are developed by regional stakeholders' challenges together with the findings at the interregional workshops, staff exchange, and Interreg good practice learning platform and focus on the needs of regional organization, targets and education for energy efficiency. The actions are therefore developed to meet the regional demand for a clear and structured progress work on energy efficiency and will provide improved possibilities for financing.

## FAMP – Andalusian Federation of Municipalities and Provinces

### ◀ Subject

Action Plan for improving the performance of energy policy instruments: REDEMA (Energy Network of Andalusian Municipalities) and Low-Carbon Emission Municipalities in Andalusia.

### ◀ Description

The main motivation by the Andalusian Federation of Municipalities and Counties (FAMP) is its firm commitment to enhance the sustainable management of public services and contributing to the transition to a low-carbon economy by all the Andalusian Municipalities. In line with the governance approach used by the Federation, a research-action/participation methodology has been applied that will allow the implementation of actions aimed at improving and making profitable the use made by local administrations of political and financing instruments designed to achieve the sustainable energy policies goals. The implementation of their Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) is often hindered by lack of funding and qualified human resources. The main action included in FAMP Action Plan for SUPPORT will foster cooperation among local authorities to work together on energy efficiency measures **through the creation of an Energy Network for the local entities that adhere to the Energy Network of Andalusian Municipalities: REDEMA.**

FAMP, with the collaboration of the Andalusian Energy Agency, will promote the launch of **REDEMA, an Energy Network of Andalusian Municipalities**, which is based on the lessons learnt during SUPPORT interregional learning process.

The other action included is a pilot action that FAMP wants to boost called "Low-Carbon Emission Municipalities in Andalusia". The main objective of this action is to support Andalusian cities in their strategic planning and the implementation of their strategies for mitigation and adaptation to climate change, related to the new Andalusian Climate Change Law, through the development of a pilot action on a set of municipalities with similar characteristics: different sizes, coastal, inland, mountain, lowlands, and so on, to develop a model for the "Municipal Climate Change Plan", through a technical assistance and evaluation and monitoring process.

## Ministry of Economy, Directorate General "European Funds for Competitiveness"

## Ministry of Economy, Directorate "Economic Policy" Sustainable Energy Development Agency

### ◀ Subject

The discussions with the Bulgarian stakeholders and the review of the good practices presented by the project partners showed that the latest innovations for energy solutions need to be implemented by the companies as soon as possible and set a new priority in the Innovation Strategy for Intelligent Specialisation (RIS3) and the National SME Strategy with detailed support measures by OPIC as a response to the pressure of corporate demand and EU policy requirements.

### ◀ Description

The Action Plan is based on a representative survey among the SMEs – beneficiaries of EU funding for energy efficiency aimed at the assessment and recommendations for improvement of the implementation of the strategic policy and SME support for innovations on energy efficiency. The main conclusions will help the policy makers to focus on support for acceleration of the development of new cleantech and emerging energy opportunities with technologies on the horizon of the new energy landscape.

#### 1. Establishment of RIS3 Monitoring Unit to monitor the implementation of the strategy

The creation of a RIS3 Monitoring unit, aim to ensure the monitoring and continuous evaluation of the strategy's implementation and to contribute to the strategic decision-making process in the country.

**2. Creation of National Energy Management Information System** Establishment of information system and development of services for energy consumption by industrial sectors and by types of fuels and energy including renewable energy in Bulgaria.

**3. Elaboration of National Strategy for Promotion of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises 2021 – 2027** The new National SME Strategy will contain an updated scope of supporting measures for the SME sector, including for energy efficiency, reflecting the experience received by SUPPORT Project partnership.