



T3 FOSTERING THE CO-CREATION OF LOCAL ENERGY COOPERATIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CITIZEN BASED PILOT ACTIONS

A.T3.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF PILOT ACTIONS IN MUNICIPALITY OF FORLI'

D.T3.3.2 - Report on pilot project 2 2022 implementation in Municipality of Forli







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1. Introduction

The Report on pilot project implementation in Municipality of Forlì is developed for providing main lessons learned from implementing the pilot action, establishing the consumer energy group and using participative tools for citizen engagement during the implementation of mentioned activities in Municipality of Forlì. The document highlights the main problems and obstacles which posed a risk for successful realization of implementing pilot action and establishing the consumer energy group and clearly describes counter actions and solutions adopted by responsible project partner in real case scenario.

Through the first chapter of the document the implemented pilot action was specified by means of its experimental nature and demonstration character, expected impact and benefits of its implementation for the concerned territory and target groups and leverage of additional funds if applicable, sustainability of the pilot action results and transferability to other territories and stakeholders. After specifying the pilot action in Municipality of Forlì, the lessons learned and added value of the action to transnational cooperation were elaborated as well as its contribution to relevant regulatory requirements, sustainable development (including possible environmental effects) and horizontal principles including equal opportunities and non-discrimination. In order to prove the realization of the implemented pilot action, additional documentation including pictures and photos and other relevant project deliverables, web-links were also provided. Within the first part of the document the relevance of using the tool D.T2.2.2 Community energy investment guidelines - technical, business and legal aspects for identifying and final selection of mentioned pilot action was also elaborated.

The second part of the document deals with the issue of establishing the consumer energy group in the Municipality of Forlì and elaborates the legal status and other relevant data of the newly established consumer energy group. In connection to that, the main lessons within establishment of consumer energy group were outlined as well as the contribution of using the tool D.T2.2.1 Co-design workshop methods for engaging participants into local energy planning in engaging the citizens to join mentioned consumer energy group. In order to ensure the sustainability of established consumer energy group in targeted region and its operation outside of the project duration, it is important to invite new members to be a part of the group and further encourage the implementation of community energy projects. Linked to this statement the relevance of using the tool D.T2.2.3 Communication methods for local energy plans and creating an atmosphere which will help public officers reach out to their community and engage the citizens in future energy planning was also elaborated.

All the lessons learned within the mentioned activities are considered to be key (both positive and negative) experiences collected throughout the lifecycle of a pilot project action and establishment on consumer energy group and are reflecting the knowledge and understanding of relevant partner, which can be convert into actions aiming at fostering the implementation of energy projects important for the community in the future. All the lessons learned while implementing the pilot action, establishing the consumer energy group and using participative tools for citizen engagement during the mentioned activities in Municipality of Forlì are compiled with main lessons learned in other project partner regions in one common document D.T3.14.3 Lessons from developing citizen energy in Central and Eastern Europe.





2. Implemented pilot action in Municipality of Forlì

The Municipality of Forlì set up a "Consumer Energy Group" in order to disseminate concrete best practices of energy savings. The pilot project has been defined during the Workshops with the local stakeholders for the revision path from the SEAP to SECAP and was set the investment in equipment constituting 100 energy savings kits. The Municipality purchased them through its in-house Society FMI s.r.l. and then started to be distributed to the interested citizens. The equipment is distributed for free under request up to the end of the available equipment by a one stop shop office on energy efficiency (Energy Help Desk), within the Municipality of Forlì open to the citizens and to the members of the consumer energy group, but not exclusively. Then, no state aid will be concerned and economic advantage to specific private actors. The private buildings where the equipment addressed to energy savings will not be selected but distributed while stocks last. The use and the debate among citizens about the use of energy in everyday's life will lead to highlight the importance of being aware of any individual contribution and of acting jointly.

2.1. Specification of implemented pilot action

Table 1 - General information on implemented pilot project action

Project deliverable and title of the pilot action	D.T3.3.1_PA1-IT: Distribution of energy saving kits
	The Energy saving Kits are distributed for free under request up to the end of the available equipment by a one stop shop office on energy efficiency (Energy Help Desk), within the Municipality of Forli open to the citizens and to the members of the consumer energy group, but not exclusively.
	The Energy Saving Kit is composed by technical devices, which are intended to be helpful in measuring the use of energy in everyday domestic life. In more detail, the equipment handed out are the following:
	• A thermo-hygrometer and CO2 air monitoring device;
The continuous of all the obline	 A power and energy plug-in measurer;
The main goal of pilot action	A Luxmeter;
	A high-efficiency LED lamp.
	Beside the distribution of such technical equipment, the Municipality of Forli purchased 500 Solar Toys to be handed out to any parent who request it for his/her child or to be distributed during some educational activities in schools: the energy saving subject can be taught to children through the use of renewable energy in such everyday life activity like playing.
	The use and the debate among citizens about the use of energy in every day's life will lead to highlight the importance of being aware of any individual contribution and of acting jointly.





Start and end date of the pilot action	The distribution of the 100 Energy Saving Kits started during the last Workshop of the revision path from SEAP to SECAP on 30 th of June 2021 and will continue until stocks last.
	The request is presented by filling a form for the data processing authorization and the interest into the activities of the Consumer Energy Group sharing the common values of sustainability, protection of the environment, importance of the SECAP issues.
Technical information on the implemented pilot action (break down of investment costs)	The equipment is distributed for free under request up to the end of the available equipment by a one stop shop office on energy efficiency (Energy Help Desk), within the Municipality of Forlì open to the citizens and to the members of the consumer energy group, but not exclusively. No state aid will be concerned and economic advantage to specific private actors. The private buildings where the equipment addressed to energy savings are not be selected but the kits are distributed until stocks last.

Please describe the implemented pilot action in in Municipality of Forli in accordance with the following aspects:

Experimental nature and demonstration character of the pilot action:

The use of technical measurement instruments has both an experimental and a demonstrative value. People joining the pilot project for free can deal with energy efficiency in a different way: they can read in a short time how strong the impact of every day's choices can be and translate such an invisible entity as energy efficiency into something tangible and valuable.

Expected socio-economic impacts¹ and benefits of its implementation for the concerned territory and target groups and leverage of additional funds if applicable:

Being aware of the impact of one's effort into a common struggle like the environmental and energy issues, will foster the willing of the individual and hopefully let him/her more likely join a group of sensitized people and act jointly. The more people is interested in energy refurbishment of building and systems, the more the territory will exploit the benefits

Sustainability of the pilot action results in the future after the project end and transferability to other territories and stakeholders:

The energy saving kit will remain to the citizens who requested it, so even after the project, they could continue measuring their energy consumptions and spread the voice with other people, increasing the awareness of the city dwellers. An instruction manual is given together with the kit, it can be translated and distributed together with new kits purchased in other territories.

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¹ Such as new knowledge and improved skills, stronger community engagement, integration of socially excluded, target groups, etc.





Please shortly describe if your pilot action has had any relevant impact on the attitude of stakeholders towards similar projects in your region. Existence of increased interest or dialogue, changes in relations while implementing pilot action:

Since the assessment of the stakeholder need highlighted the importance of the role of guidance of the Municipality, the pilot action gave the opportunity to citizens to reflect on the importance of their energy use and the impact of their every day's choice on the environment. Therefore, both the citizens and the stakeholder of the territory can acknowledge the support of the Municipal Energy Help Desk to their activities.

Main problems/milestones/challenges/risks connected to the pilot action which influence its successful implementation and the solutions for overcoming them:

The main problem, even in handing out the equipment for free, is the lack of interest in contributing in first person for the sustainable energy issue. Many activities have been deployed to stimulate the reactivity of the target. What better fit the purpose were: a series of educational laboratory in primary schools, the production of stop-motion videos, and workshops with stakeholders and technicians.

Contribution of pilot action to relevant regulatory requirements, sustainable development (including possible environmental effects) and horizontal principles including equal opportunities and non-discrimination in targeted region:

The use and the debate among citizens about the use of energy in every day's life will lead to highlight the importance of being aware of any individual contribution and of acting jointly. That means that the single citizen can benchmark his/her own use of energy with, for example, the requirements for new buildings. The use of the devices distributed is widely horizontal as everybody can experiment by his/her self because of their simplicity.

Pilot action documentation of corresponding activities while planning and implementing the pilot action including pictures and photos and other relevant project deliverables, web-links, etc. proving the implementation of the pilot action:

The request is presented by filling a form for the data processing authorization and the interest into the activities of the Consumer Energy Group sharing the common values of sustainability, protection of the environment, importance of the SECAP issues.

The form is the following:





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The energy saving kit distributed is the following:







2.2. Lessons learned while planning and implementing the pilot action

Elaborate the lessons learned while planning and implementing pilot action and description of added value of the implemented pilot action to transnational cooperation and knowledge transfer within the partnership.

The lessons learned planning and implementing the pilot action can be summarized as follows:

It is very important to examine the assessment and the expectation of the engaged stakeholder and act in accordance with them. In particular, in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energies, the local stakeholder asked the Municipality to undertake the role of a guidance and to start a path towards the energy sustainability in the city and from every day's action of anybody.

Some economical local stakeholder, already aware of the need of an energy transition, stated they need citizens to be sensitized about a better use of the energy: that will lead to improvements spreading from the single person to the wide population.

2.3. Lessons learned while using the tool Community energy investment guidelines for defining technical, legal and economic aspects of selected pilot action

Describe how the tool was used while planning the pilot action in the region and elaborate the lessons learned while using mentioned tool in aspect of identifying and selecting the implemented pilot action (D.T2.2.2 Community energy investment guidelines - technical, business and legal aspects).

Unfortunately, in Italy the regulation on Energy Communities wasn't approved yet, during the activities of project ENES-CE. Which means that the planned pilot action didn't require any investment on the citizen side and it was not possible the use of the tool in such a context.

Nowadays, since Energy Communities are admitted and incentivized, the tool and its guidelines will surely be very useful to approach and explain the mode of operation of energy communities and their convenience for everybody.





3. Established consumer energy group in Municipality of Forli

3.1. Specification of established consumer energy group

Table 2 - General information on established consumer energy group

Project deliverable	D.T3.2.2 Creation of the consumer energy group in Municipality of Forlì
Name of consumer energy group	Consumer Energy Group
Establishment date of consumer energy group	30 th of June 2021
Legal status/form of established consumer energy group and connection to relevant regulatory framework if applicable	Informal group, mailing group.
Number of members	61

Please describe the characteristics of established consumer energy group in Municipality of Forli in accordance with the following aspects:

Direct positive and/or negative effects of the establishment of consumer energy group in Municipality of Forli:

The main effect of the establishment of a consumer energy group in Forlì, is connecting the citizens at different levels of awareness about the issue of the use of energy and raise a dialogue among them, which could eventually lead to a collective purchase of some energy devices or hopefully to the creation of a Renewable Energy Community

Main problems/obstacles/challenges occurred during the establishment and operation of consumer energy group in Municipality of Forlì and how they were solved by responsible partner:

The main problems are related to a lack of interest in the field of the energy saving actions. The Municipality of Forlì tried to face the problem promoting the Consumer Energy Group while distributing the Energy Saving Kit, and focusing some activities directly to the children and reaching their parents in an easy context like a workshop in a park, so that the communication could take place in a relaxed ambiance.

Please describe the differences between different stakeholder groups included in the established consumer energy group and elaborate their interest on further dialogue, cooperation and changes in existing relations:

The main classes of stakeholders engaged in the process and in the consumer energy group are four:





Public Administration, Economical Stakeholders, Environmental Associations and common citizens; these groups play different roles on the same territory.

In the consumer energy group, on one hand the members can act both as a single citizen, and add to the communication their competences and knowledge, on the other hand they can work inside their organizations to ease some process they may think need some intervention.

The influence of established consumer energy group on further investments in the local energy infrastructure of Municipality of Forlì and their cooperation with public authorities:

Hopefully the Consumer Energy Group will lead to some collective purchase of energy devices, or to the creation of an Energy Community, maybe also in cooperation with the Municipality in the frame of the SECAP Actions. The Group has the support of the Municipal Energy Help Desk.

Sustainability of the consumer energy group in the future after the project end and possible actions to be taken in the future in order to maintain the active work of the established citizen energy group/cooperative in the target region:

The Consumer Energy Group is intended to reach a certain grade of independence and is invited to act on its own with the support of the Municipal Energy Help Desk which will last even after the end of the ENES-CE Project

3.2. Lessons learned while establishing and working with consumer energy group in Municipality of Forlì

Elaborate the lessons learned while establishing and working with consumer energy group in Municipality of Forli and describe the added value of the established consumer energy group to transnational cooperation and knowledge transfer within the partnership.

The establishing the Consumer Energy Group gives a new perspective to the City. It allows to introduce a new point of view in the citizens' way of thinking about the use of the energy ore their contribution in the path of the Energy Transition and their deployment against climate changes.

The main lessons learnt is that a Consumer Energy Group, even if it is not focused on an community investment yet, gives the opportunity to the members to reflect on their own impact on energy and climate goals, to realize that they are not alone in the struggle and actually it is possible to act collectively in order to reach higher aims.





3.3. Lessons learned while using the tools for participatory energy planning in establishment and future operation of established consumer energy group in Municipality of Forli

Elaborate the lessons learned while using of mentioned tools in aspect of engaging relevant stakeholders in local energy planning and using relevant communication tools and strategies which will further engage the community, e.g., citizens in local energy planning in targeted region (D.T2.2.1 Co-design workshop methods for engaging participants into local energy planning and D.T2.2.3 Communication methods for local energy plans and creating an atmosphere of acceptance).

Similarly to the revision path from the SEAP to the SECAP, the tools made available by the Project ENES-CE to design the workshops and engage the participants and to communicate to the several different target groups, were very useful and gave a strong effort to fulfill the goals.

In particular, the Municipality of Forli realized an additional tool: a couple of stopmotion videos produced as an output of an educational activity with some primary schools with environmental educator and video-maker. The projection of the work of the children expressing their point of view during the workshops and the consumer energy group establishment, gave the opportunity to engage in a deeper way the stakeholders and also to get the attention of the pupils' parents and to present them the aims of the project.

https://youtu.be/ET76rypzWSI https://youtu.be/irzpJuLBkwM





4. Policy recommendations for creating more stimulative energy focused community

Please insert below any comments and/or propose possible policy recommendations for creating a more stimulative energy focused community that you might have in connection to the preparation or implementation of your pilot projects (implementing defined pilot action, establishing consumer energy group) or those that are reflecting the drawn lessons learned while implementing pilot projects in your region.

When it comes to plan a common activity or investment, a good habit is to analyze t	the
needs of the participants of the community: it can be a survey, a questionnaire or a canv	as-
discussion.	

The result can both be the starting point for the next steps and foster a debate within the members to visualize their goals and to stimulate the ideas and the participation.





5. Conclusion

The importance of citizen-based activities, such as the mentioned pilot actions and the establishment of a Consumer Energy Group are fundamental for a fruitful implementation of the Municipal SECAP actions. It allows to connect the citizens to the local stakeholders and to the public authority in a trustworthy ambiance.

Furthermore, the engagement of the citizens on a multilateral point of view, which implies education, economical savings, exponential profits of acting jointly than by on one's own, will starts a virtuous circle for the fulfillment of the Actions for the Energy and Climate Sustainability and for the environment end economy of the local territory.



