

TEMPLATE

Output factsheet: Strategies and action plans

Version 1

Project index number and acronym	CE1449
Lead partner	Municipality of Forlì
Output number and title	OT.1.1 Methodology for the involvement of citizens in local energy planning
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	PP6 Energiaklub
Project website	https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/ENES-CE.html
Delivery date	30.10.2020

Summary description of the strategy/action plan (developed and/or implemented)

International experiences have demonstrated that with applying stakeholder engagement methods, more useful and applicable strategies are produced. The chances of putting something into practice are much higher this way, than they would be in a “traditional” planning process, which would miss these stages. Through the traditional method a concept is forced on the stakeholders by the decision makers, while in this output (an inclusive planning process methodology), the stakeholders can have a say what they would need, what they find important or even crucial. Further advantage of involvement in the strategy making is that a broad range of stakeholders will gain good knowledge and become well-informed about the planning process and the strategy, and, at the same time their experience, knowledge and expertise can be exploited, and their ideas utilized. The mutual information-exchange will result in a better strategy, and the transparent, democratic planning process will increase the willingness to cooperate and implement the strategy. With the help of this output everyone can access to a joint methodological framework for developing bottom-up energy planning process. It defined a shared and replicable methodology by guaranteeing the effective involvement of citizens in local energy planning.

NUTS region(s) concerned by the strategy/action plan (relevant NUTS level)

The following NUTS regions have used the methodology so far: ITH58 (Forlì-Cesena), HR046 (Međimurska županija), SI023 (Goriška), HU101 (Budapest), DE21J (Pfaffenhofen a. d. Ilm), PL314 (Lubelski)

Expected impact and benefits of the strategy/action plan for the concerned territories and target groups

Currently citizens and other stakeholders are involved in local energy planning only at the end of the process - at the approval phase of energy plans. Such an approach creates an atmosphere of mistrust that makes it challenging to implement the plans in the future. The bottom up approach of this methodology has enabled citizens to actively participate in the developing/revision process of the energy plans. This type of involvement of the stakeholders (institutions, enterprises, civil society organizations) is crucial as early as possible during the process, and with this implementation of local energy plans and other strategy creating process can be smoother.

Sustainability of the developed or implemented strategy/action plan and its transferability to other territories and stakeholders

The methodology for the revision process can be used to drive the municipalities, until at least 2030, in implementing local energy projects. The partners also can use this after the project ends for learning the process of involving citizens and other stakeholders in energy planning. The methodology can be used in other citizen involvement projects as well in the municipalities work.

Lessons learned from the development/implementation process of the strategy/action plan and added value of transnational cooperation

Based on Energiaklub's professional experience the methodology's first draft has been developed and distributed among the partners. During the document revision process, the partners added some crucial comments to improve the document.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

The output is connected to the deliverable D.T1.1.1 which has been used for the following workshops in the project and other deliverables.