

5 NEWSLETTER 5 Sep. 18

MESSAGE FROM THE LEAD PARTNER

Dear Project Partners,

Approaching the end of the first phase of our international project and making a balance of what has been successfully done in this long past period, we can be proud of the good work done.

We fixed many goals and planned many activities that have been greatly achieved, never forgetting the pursuing of sustainable development as lead objective (that is one of the main European and UN aims), in its broadest meaning, with the specific goal to share knowledge and expertise.

Sustainable development is not a destination ... but a way to "travel". Therefore, we cannot know, we cannot hope to know where we are going to or how to get there. However, we can learn how to maintain control during our journey.

Sustainable development has been defined in many ways, but the most frequently quoted definition is the following: *"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"*.

Sustainability is at the base for today's leading global framework for international cooperation – the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Goals (SDGs). Each of the 17 SDGs has specific universal targets and goals to be achieved by 2030 and involves all kind of societies and communities (governments, businesses and civil society) and everywhere they all have a role to play. **A life of dignity for all is at the essence of sustainable development.** In particular, from the connection between education and



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sustainability arises the need to invest in educational and training processes and to connect knowledge with action, knowledge with know-how and knowledge with know how to be.

Designing education for sustainable development is today considered of cultural, scientific and political interest and of immediate relevance for the governance of social life, in order to conduct lifestyles and consumption, between innovation and creativity. In fact, the way in which several environmental problems will be addressed, from the growing demand for energy, to the exploitation of limited natural resources, from climate change, to the loss of biodiversity, will determine our future. Humanity, in taking care of itself, cannot take care of the planet in which lives. **The human ability to choose and change can create a catalyst for new ideas, as conditions for a greater sustainable awareness.**

In the complex global scenario, contrasting climate change and sustainability can be key-words to reconcile the new generations with personal and community commitment to governance. As the authors of the UN Decade for Education for Sustainable Development reaffirm, it is essential to strengthen the role of learning and to improve the quality of training in terms of disseminating a systemic and interdisciplinary approach to environment. Learning can enable us to understand ourselves, others and the relationship with the wider social and natural environment, cultivating the sense of responsibility, promoting dialogue and knowledge, helping to acquire behaviours and practices and to rediscover the value of one's being in the world.

In dealing with daily challenges, the knowledge acquired and exchanged helps to build a sense of identity and belonging. Sharing the road to sustainable development means choosing ways to live the world with more awareness and respect, bearing witness good practices towards sustainability that attest to the

desire for well-being in the current complex context, to undertake improvements to protect our world and our well-being and health.

Rather than a pre-established set of knowledges, it is needed to achieve a vision that confronts the outlined principles, is capable of nourishing the necessary transformational processes and is supported by transversal skills like how to think critically, to work in solidarity, to research and apply new knowledge, to make socially negotiated and shared decisions.

For this, thanks again for having shared your good practices; for making your individual knowledge available to partners. Together it is easier to reach everyone's welfare.

Enjoy the reading!

Alessandro Attolico
PMT Coordinator



INTRODUCING THE PARTNERSHIP REGIONS

The energy strategy of Alba Iulia Municipality



Alba Iulia Municipality is focused on meeting the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy. The use of renewable resources is a priority assumed by the municipality within the Sustainable Energy Action Plan, adopted in 2016. By 2030, a 40% reduction of CO₂ emissions at local level is proposed and the concrete measures to achieve this target are defined, along with the scheduling, responsibilities and budget. In 2016, the city subscribed to the new “Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy” to be extended until 2030.

Within the Integrated Urban Development Strategy 2016-2023, the vision of Alba Iulia Municipality is to become a more attractive city for living, working and investing. The overall objective is to reduce CO₂ emissions by 24% until 2023, comparing to the reference year of 2008. It is intended that, in the city's perimeter, the necessary energy is provided, ensuring quality of life and, at the same time, avoiding energy waste.

The Energy Efficiency Improvement Programme (PIEE) is an important tool in developing a vision for 3-6 years and the target to which the energy planning will be oriented.

Within the Alba Iulia Smart City 2018 Pilot Programme, the municipality has implemented public-private partnerships with over 50 companies that invest in smart city solutions using their own budget, including world-renowned companies, such as: Orange Romania, Philips and Schröder. On the public lighting component, within this collaboration, 218 LED and 3 telegraphy systems were installed on existing poles in Alba Iulia.

Within the context of the European Multiannual Financial Framework and the programming periods of 2007-2013 and 2014-2018, Alba Iulia Municipality implemented a series of city-wide projects aimed at reducing energy consumption and CO₂ emissions and increasing the use of electricity from renewable sources, in line with the local, national and European development strategies adopted in this field. “Increasing energy efficiency of the residential buildings from Alba Iulia Municipality”, “Lot 1&2” and “Increasing the energy efficiency of school buildings in the city of Alba Iulia”, submitted under the Regional Operational Programme (ROP) are examples of implemented projects.

Projects to be submitted under the ROP, Specific Objective 4.1 - Reduction of carbon emissions in the county municipalities through investments based on Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans, proposing





the rehabilitation of the major urban transport infrastructure network in Alba Iulia, will complete the energy efficiency measures.

In recent years, the municipality has benefited from the collaboration with several organizations, institutions, research centres and universities. At local/national level, the city of Alba Iulia collaborates with organizations such as the Local Energy Agency for Alba Iulia, the 1 December 1918 University in Alba Iulia, the Technical University of Cluj Napoca, the Alba Iulia subsidiary and the Integral Consulting R&D. At European level, Alba Iulia is a member and collaborator of prestigious European organizations active in the field of sustainable energy, such as ICLEI and the Covenant of Mayors. Within the European projects in which Alba Iulia has the quality of partner or collaborator, the municipality has the opportunity to exchange experience with cities and organizations, such as: Berlin, Copenhagen, Rome, Paris, FGM-AMOR - Vienna, Coventry University UK, Amsterdam, Munich and Utrecht.

In addition to the LOCARBO project, the Alba Iulia Municipality is also partner in the Social Green - "Regional Policies towards Greening the Social Housing Sector" project, also financed under the INTERREG Europe Programme. The project is oriented to jointly tackling the topic of housing deprivation and energy efficiency in the scope of the social housing sector, towards a low carbon economy. In this context, the overall objective of the project is to improve regional policy instruments targeting the link between social housing sector and fuel poverty with green building interventions considering policy, institutional, financial and technical levels.





LAST PROJECT EVENTS

LOCARBO partnership gathers in Budapest



Budapest (HU) was the place chosen for the LOCARBO project 4th Steering Group and 5th TWT meetings, that was held on 6-7 March 2018.

The two-day event agenda included public and closed sessions to provide the LOCARBO project partners and respective Managing Authorities representatives with the opportunity to share energy efficiency best practices.

An extensive 1st day programme started with the participation in the LOCARBO Local Living Lab and the Virtual Power Plant Programme Award public ceremony, which offered several prizes to a representative number of municipalities, enterprises, schools and students which have been distinguished for good practices on energy efficiency.

Then an interesting Managing Authorities Café was organised, in a closed session for the project

partners and Managing Authorities representatives, to present the experiences gained so far and discuss how LOCARBO regional action plans will foster the improvement of the addressed policy instruments, targeting demand-driven initiatives to increase energy efficiency in the built environment.

The 1st day ended with the presentation of the Good Practices Inventory, according to each thematic pillar (new products and services, organizational structures, and technological solutions), and giving special emphasis to most innovative and relevant practices.

The 2nd day started with a guided visit to an Energy Efficiency Demo Building (Passive House), which allowed the visualization and understanding of its systems and appliances.

The meeting ended with more dedicated internal partnership activities, such as the presentation of the Action Plans status and Institutional Learning Platform experiences, and the 4th Steering Committee meeting to discuss technical and financial project issues.



LAST PROJECT EVENTS

LOCARBO participates in IE Experience Fair in Sofia



On 24-25 April 2018, almost 300 representatives of 1st, 2nd and 3rd calls of INTERREG Europe projects gathered in Sofia (Bulgaria) for the programme's annual event, named this year "Experience Fair: Journey through project implementation". The event was all about exchanging experiences among projects and getting inspired by different approaches and ways diverse projects handle the same kind of challenges.

LOCARBO was invited to share tips and tricks on how to mobilize project stakeholders, one of the most essential (and difficult) issues in the development of a project. Dr. Mezősi Balázs (Mi6 - Hungarian Innovation and Efficiency Nonprofit Ltd.) gave advice on how to do it in a structured way: identify, sort, plan, involve and monitor.

LOCARBO participates in two Interreg Europe events

On the 27th of June 2018, the "Interregional Cooperation for Energy Transition Day", co-organized by INTERREG Europe and REBUS, VIOLET and SET-UP projects, brought together INTERREG Europe projects with an interest in improved policy for the multifaceted topic of energy transition in Europe.

The agenda, using a mix of interactive panels, keynote speeches and a competition, encouraged partners to discuss their common challenges to energy transition. Challenges were established according to a co-creational approach, where each project was consulted in advance for their definition. This inter-project collaboration initiative gathered 14 different low carbon INTERREG Europe projects in a Business Case Competition organized by Resolvo.





LAST PROJECT EVENTS

Carla Pires from GAIURB, the municipal company of urbanism and housing of the Municipality of Vila Nova de Gaia (Portugal), partner in the LOCARBO project, presented an Energy Transition Business Case on New Collaborative and Adaptive Controls for Personalized and User-Friendly Energy Audits.

The “Thematic Workshop on Energy Efficiency in Buildings”, organized by INTERREG Europe on the 28th of June, focused on how low-carbon projects can work together and maximize the impact. Group discussions on how the Policy Learning Platform can assist INTERREG Europe projects took place and participants discussed the good practices identified by other projects.

Zoltan Oletics, from the Hungarian Innovation and Efficiency Nonprofit Ltd. (Mi6), presented the Virtual Power Plant Programme, a Good Practice from the LOCARBO project.

During both events, many different approaches and solutions were shared on how to meet the goals of the European Union.

LOCAL LIVING LABS AND INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING PLATFORM EVENTS

Province of Potenza



On the 29th of March 2018, the Province of Potenza organized the 3rd Local Living Lab meeting in the framework of the LOCARBO project.

The event occurred on Cultural Centre “J.M. Cernicchiaro – Villa Tarantini – Piazza Europa” facilities gathering 23 participants.

The presentation of the LOCARBO project and the strategic role of the Provincial Action Plan for project implementation was discussed.

Then, a focus on the combination of tourism and sustainability was also raised on a round table and debate about the new challenges for the tourist-receptive sector towards low-carbon economics and contrast climate change-facilitators.

Basilicata Region



On the 23rd of February 2018, Basilicata Region organized simultaneously the 3rd Local Living Lab and the 2nd Institutional Learning Platform meetings in the framework of the LOCARBO project.

It was attended by 12 members of the local/regional stakeholders group, including regional associations, municipal enterprises, technical employees from Basilicata Region and Province of Potenza, universities, etc.

The meeting was dedicated to the presentation of the progress made within the LOCARBO project, to conduct an analysis of the status of the Action Plan draft version, and to plan the next activities contemplated on the 1st phase of LOCARBO project.

Vila Nova de Gaia Municipality



The Municipality of Vila Nova de Gaia organized the 4th and 5th Local Living Lab sessions of the LOCARBO Project on 29th May 2018, with a highly-committed group of local/regional stakeholders.

The event gathered 14 participants, including business organizations, regional associations, municipal enterprises, technical employees from Vila Nova de Gaia Municipality, and regional regulatory bodies. The Metropolitan Area of Porto, a research institute and the regional hospital center participated in the meeting as new members of the stakeholders' group.

A brief revision of the project status provided the starting point of this meeting, which was focused on the discussion of the Action Plan. The strategic vision and the action lines of the Plan were intensively discussed by all the participants. This debate was extremely important for the consolidation of the actions already identified, as well as for the identification of possible complementary action lines to be developed with the involvement of stakeholders.

Durham County Council



Durham County Council organized its 5th Local Living Lab session on 14th March 2018, attended by 10 members of the regional/local stakeholders group.

The agenda of the session started with a welcome and introduction speech and the approval of the last Local Living Lab meeting minutes, then proceed with the National Local Living Lab (occurred on 21st November 2017) feedback and report and feedback from the 5th LOCARBO Steering Group meeting hosted by Mi6 in Budapest on 5-6th March 2018.

A more detailed analysis on the Action Plan draft version and the objective to influence the local Policy Instrument was debated by all the participants, and then addressed the latest agenda items related with the Regional Mid-Term events purposes and the next Stakeholder Group meeting, concluding with the appointment of the next LOCARBO Steering Group meeting location and date.

Kaunas University of Technology



On the 20th March 2018, Kaunas University of Technology organized the 5th Local Living Lab meeting joined by 10 participants of the regional/local stakeholders group.

The meeting agenda started with the presented of Hungarian Good Practices on Energy Efficiency - Virtual Power Plant Award and Passive House have been accepted by participants as the most interesting ones and worth of transferring in Lithuania. Taking this opportunity, the participants have also given the suggestion that the Lithuanian awards on energy efficiency could be extended by integrating the nomination of the multiapartment buildings renovation – energy efficiency increase.

The draft of Action Plan has been presented and the feedback from the participants has been received. They have approved the idea to concentrate on the awareness raising campaigns to the end users to increase the quality of the proposals for the renovation with the intention to increase the Energy Efficiency not only to the C energy usage class (as it is required by the legal acts), but to find more innovative and reasonable solutions for Energy Efficiency in multiapartment buildings.

At the end of the meeting, the participants and organizers of the Local Living Lab have decided to collaborate in organizing the joined events for promoting LOCARBO results in the context of Lithuanian renovation process, and it was agreed that the development and approval of Action Plan will be supported by all the regional/local stakeholders group members.

Hungarian Innovation and Efficiency Nonprofit Ltd



The 5th Local Living Lab meeting organised by the Mi6 partner was merged with the LOCARBO project 4th Steering Group and 5th TWT meetings on 6th March 2018.

This meeting incorporated the noble Virtual Power Plant Programme Award public ceremony that was attended by a very impressive number of distinguished representatives from Hungarian government, the National Council for Sustainable Development, the Virtual Power Plant Programme, the VPPP UK, and the LOCARBO project partners.

Several thematic presentations reported the effective and quickly results achieved by the Virtual Power Plant Programme, including international expansion.

Ian Bloomfield (Program Director of the VPPP UK) and Balazs Mezosi (COO of the Virtual Power Plant Programme) announced the launch of the Virtual Power Plant Programme in the UK as a result of the peer review and mentoring process with Mi6 in the framework of the LOCARBO project.

The meeting session concluded with a formal speech from Alessandro Attolico (LOCARBO



project Lead Partner) welcoming all participants and highlighting the importance of transnational cooperation in energy efficiency related policy making.

Alba Iulia Municipality

On the 23rd of March 2018, Alba Iulia Municipality organized the 2nd Institutional Learning Platform (ILP) meeting in the framework of the LOCARBO project.

The meeting was dedicated to the presentation of the progress made within the LOCARBO project. As an introduction, the project manager presented the project objectives, partners and innovative approach and the actual status of the policy instrument selected within the European Regional Development Fund Operational Programme 2014-2020.

Then, good practices identified at the project level concerning energy efficiency in the built environment were presented to the ILP members, as well as experience gained during the study visit that took place in Budapest on March 6-8.

To conclude, the draft version of the Action Plan was presented and all ILP members were solicited to come with suggestions during the next period.

REGIONAL/LOCAL ACTION PLANS

As Phase 1 of the LOCARBO project is coming to an end, the partnership has now defined the actions to include in each regional Action Plan, to be implemented in the next two years. This is the result of the Exchange of Experience process of Phase 1 of the LOCARBO project, joining partners and stakeholders around the identification of weaknesses in each region and tackled Policy Instrument, constituting disincentives to investment in Energy Efficiency. Interregional learning process enabled the share of experience and good practices between project partners, and the selection of the most suitable actions for each region.

Province of Potenza

Policy instrument: Provincial Territorial Coordination Master Plan

The Province of Potenza Action Plan is based on the involvement of communities on awareness sessions and networking building initiatives, focusing on the following domains of intervention:

- Young people in action: addressing school communities with specific Energy Efficiency and Climate Change awareness-raising actions;
- The Province of Potenza network of municipalities: reinforcing inter-institutional dialogue and collaboration;
- Communities for change: the new Covenant of Mayors as a driver for territorial innovation on energy and climate.



Basilicata Region

Policy instrument: Regional Operational Programme (ROP) ERDF Basilicata 2014-2020

The Action Plan of the Basilicata Region proposes the application of Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP) for the prototyping of new products and/or services not on the market. It foresees the creation of a standard call for tenders within the ROP, addressing the implementation of specific actions to contribute to the transition to a regional low-carbon economy.



REGIONAL/LOCAL ACTION PLANS

Municipality of Vila Nova de Gaia

Policy instrument: Regional Operational Programme of Norte 2014-2020

The Municipality of Vila Nova de Gaia Action Plan transposes the strategic aim for the municipal transition towards a low-carbon economy. The promotion of Energy Efficiency in buildings and equipment under municipal management will stimulate the use of innovative smart solutions/ technologies for preventive and corrective actions. Awareness-raising measures on the advantages of rational energy use will be implemented within an active and engaged community network of municipal buildings managers and domestic consumers, promoting new energy conscious behaviours.



Durham County Council

Policy instrument: ERDF Operational Programme 2014-2020

Within LOCARBO Action Plan, Durham County Council will be supporting the North-East Business Energy Efficiency Support

with advice and good practice. Durham will work with the National Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to develop potential options of models of Energy Efficiency after Britain leaves the EU and assess their viability. It will also continue to support the Huddle tool, ensuring that the benefits are maximised.



Durham is also exploring a pilot of a National Virtual Power Plant in the UK, incorporating learning from partners Mi6 in Hungary.

REGIONAL/LOCAL ACTION PLANS

Kaunas University of Technology

Policy instrument: Operational Programme for EU Funds Investment 2014-2020 - Republic of Lithuania

The Kaunas University of Technology Action Plan is oriented to influencing the implementation of specific projects, in order to raise the quantity of households with increased Energy Efficiency class. It will integrate the promotion of complex renovations reaching high Energy Efficiency standards. The integration of the end users as proactive actors guarantees the sustainability of the renovation results.



Hungarian Innovation and Efficiency Nonprofit Ltd (Mi6)

Policy instrument: ERDF Operational Programme 2014-2020

The Hungarian case is special, as the strategic and structural modification of the policy instrument has already been achieved, accepted and launched in Phase 1 of the LOCARBO project.

The Action Plan defines three specific objectives, each of which aims at further mobilising Mi6's strength in bridgebuilding and matchmaking capacity between the policymakers (supply side) and SME applicants (demand side) of the EDIOP-4 calls:

- Improving stakeholder engagement with SMEs using the Virtual Power Plant Programme (demand side);
- Further developing EDIOP Priority 4 (supply side);
- Monitoring the performance of the policy instrument (matchmaking).



REGIONAL/LOCAL ACTION PLANS

Municipality of Alba Iulia

Policy instrument: Regional Operational Programme (ROP) 2014-2020

The vision of Alba Iulia Municipality, on a medium and long-term perspective, is to promote Energy Efficiency, smart energy management and Renewable Energy Sources in public infrastructures. In this regard, the following actions are proposed:

- Disseminate good practices on public buildings;
- Share findings on new funding sources for greening the public sector;
- Perform campaigns related to green building, outreaching projects and activities;
- Organize workshops with relevant actors for the public building sector;
- Transmit to the Regional Development Agency ideas for improving ROP - Axis 3.1;
- Update the city's Plan for Energy Efficiency Improvement, promoting it to the stakeholders from public institutions.



REGIONAL AND EUROPEAN NEWS

Buildings sector takes bold commitments until 2030

Regulations and new planning programmes/initiatives have been defined to ensure that all new buildings meet net-zero carbon standard commitments by 2030 and set the pathway for 2050 building stock targets.

These commitments, already in progress in large European metropolises (Paris, London, Copenhagen and Stockholm), were assumed in the form of a “Net-Zero Carbon Buildings Declaration” that includes 19 world-wide cities connected through the C40 Cities network. The Declaration was signed by the Mayors of this global group of large cities committed to meet the most ambitious goals of the Paris Agreement at local level and determined to significantly cut greenhouse gas emissions.

In order to involve all building types, this commitment also includes an arrangement to work together with the private sector as well as State and regional governments to drive this transformation. Therefore, it is part of the “World Green Building Council’s Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment” for businesses, cities, states and regions, which was launched in June. The need to decrease energy poverty and to achieve highly energy efficient and decarbonised building stock, determined the commitment of the EU Commission to review its sustainable, competitive, secure and decarbonised energy system policy package, in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change objectives.

To reach these objectives, the 2016 review of the EU energy efficiency legislation combines

a reassessment of the energy efficiency target for 2030. The revised “Energy Performance of Buildings Directive” (EU) 2018/844 came into force on 9 July 2018, and EU member-states should transpose the new elements into national law within 20 months. The new Directive has huge potential for efficiency gains in the EU building sector, including measures that will accelerate the renovation rates in existing buildings and strengthen the energy performance of new buildings, making them smarter.

For more information:

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?toc=OJ%3AL%3A2018%3A156%3ATO-C&uri=uriserv%3AOJ.L_.2018.156.01.0075.01.ENG
https://www.c40.org/press_releases/global-cities-commit-to-make-new-buildings-net-zero-carbon-by-2030

UPCOMING EVENTS

5th SG and 6th TWT meeting in Vila Nova de Gaia – 25-26 September



Vila Nova de Gaia (PT) will host the 5th Steering Group and 6th TWT meetings of the LOCARBO project on 25-26 September 2018.

An extensive 1st day programme will begin with a public session for the presentation of regional and local programmes/instruments to support Energy Efficiency in Vila Nova de Gaia, and regional and local Good Practices covering the three thematic pillars tackled by LOCARBO.

The 1st day will then proceed with closed sessions for project partners and stakeholders, to present and discuss experience gained during the regional Mid-term events and ideas for the implementation of the Action Plans.

The 2nd day comprises more dedicated internal partnership activities to discuss technical and financial project issues and evaluate the results obtained within Phase 1 of LOCARBO.

For more information:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/locarbo/events/event/2007/the-1st-phase-of-locarbo-ends-in-portugal/>

World Green Building Week

<http://www.worldgbc.org/calendar/world-green-building-week-2018>

24 - 30 September 2018

5th World Conference on Climate Change – Climate Change and Sustainable Futures

<https://climatechange.insightconferences.com/>

4 - 6 October 2018

London, UK

World Congress on Climate Change

<https://climatechange.pulsusconference.com/>

15 - 16 October 2018

Rome, Italy

6th Global Summit on Climate Change

<https://climatechange.global-summit.com/>

19 - 20 November 2018

Paris, France

8th International Conference on Environment and Climate Change

<https://environmentclimate.conferenceseries.com/>

22 - 23 November 2018

Bucharest, Romania

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European Regional
Development Fund