

Introduction

SmartEdge is an Interreg Europe V project, under the Low carbon economy platform. The overall objective of the project is to improve low carbon economy policies in edge cities and their metropolitan regions.

Eight partners from the metropolitan areas of Akershus, Barcelona, Brandenburg, Ilfov, Krakow, Milano and Stockholm, and the Romanian Ministry of Environment will exchange experience, transfer good practices and facilitate learning between the partners.

The partnership will share experience, ideas and know-how in 5 thematic workshops with site-visit. Will host 35 regional stakeholder meetings, and identify 12 good practices. Will host 1 regional dissemination events in phase 1 and 1 political meeting for politicians and policy-makers in phase 2. Development and monitoring of 7 Action Plans.

Goals of SmartEdge

The project is expected to result in improved low carbon economy policies in edge cities and their metropolitan regions implemented in seven action plans.

SmartEdge is expected to result in more effective implementation of policy instruments, increased capacity and capability of decision makers, stakeholders, municipal and regional actors.

The overall objective is addressing the following four dimensions:

- 1) Metropolitan governance and the role of edge cities in low carbon metropolitan areas
- 2) Economic development based on renewable energy in Edge cities
- 3) Renewable energy and energy systems and buildings
- 4) Renewable energy and energy systems and transport.



Europe's Edge Cities unite for a green future

Phase 1: 1 June 2018 - 30 November 2020

Phase 2: 1 December 2020 - 30 November 2022



An interregional cooperation project for improving low-carbon economy policies.

Project Partners

Akershus County Council (NO)
Brandenburg Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (DE)
Barcelona Metropolitan Area (ES)
Ilfov County Council (RO)
Ilfov County Council (RO)
Ministry of Environment (RO)
Stockholm County Council (SE)



Good practices from Interreg Europe SmartEdge

1. Energy dashboard

Barcelona Metropolitan Area has developed a Web platform (SaaS) that gives an overview of the 35 municipalities of the Metropolitan Area in a single environment of visualization and joint data analysis. This tool helps policy makers to prioritize and define metropolitan energy policies. AMB also want to create a forum and make the saving measures taken by the municipalities clear to the public.

2. A partnership towards energy transition

Città Metropolitana di Milano (CMM) has developed an instrument called +Community. This multilevel governance framework develops portfolios of integrated projects in order to implement the energy transition and achieve social regeneration. One of the objectives is to offer a lifelong free learning-program about energy, water, reclamation and waste in order to improve the services for all the citizens.

3. Climate protection manager

Rehfelde, a small edge city in Brandenburg, has established a Climate protection manager. The purpose is to coordinate, structure and realize different actions that follows the Energy Concept. One important task for the manager is to involve the public in relevant projects in order to build local capacity and to create a will to change behaviour. The Climate protection manager has played an important role in the developing of the Climate Protection plan of Rehfelde.

4. Participation with youth in urban planning

In Akershus, a primary school and a secondary school were invited to participate in an activity to create a plan for green mobility – Experience Lørenskog. Through an app the students registered a journey from the school and to a specified place in the municipality. The registrations were analyzed, and the students gathered half a day to participate in a competition with proposals for future environmentally friendly travel solutions in the municipality.

5. Milan's District Heating System

Milan has a large district heating system which serves both Milan and neighboring municipalities. The network has operated since 1997 and has been developed in segregated networks that will be interconnected in the future. The network connects approximately the 5,3% of existing building volume within the City of Milan. The total network serves approximately 166.000 flats and consists of five main distribution networks and 6 minor networks creating individual 'nodes' of district heating.



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