

# MINUTES

## Athens, Greece, 11 February 2020

### Local Stakeholder Group – Meeting 2

#### Introduction

CRES, the Lead Partner of EMOBICITY, set up the Local Stakeholder Group (LSG) constituted by local policy and decision makers. For the moment, the LSG comprises of the following:

- Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving (CRES)
- Ministry of Environment and Energy
- Ministry of Infrastructures and Transport
- Ministry of Economics
- Hellenic Electricity Distribution Network Operator (HEDNO)
- National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)
- University of West Attica (UWA)

The EMOBICITY LSG may be enriched with other relevant local stakeholders during the project implementation, according to any new e-mobility issues that might show up for settlement. For example, CRES came in contact with the Electric Boat Association of Greece (E.B.A.) in January 2020, which showed interest in the objectives of the EMOBICITY project.

It is worth mentioning that **representatives of stakeholders engaged to EMOBICITY LSG are members of the National Inter-Ministerial Committee**, established for the implementation of the project "Promotion of electric mobility in the Greek territory", by inter-ministerial decision of 21 October 2019.

#### Local Stakeholder Group – Meeting 2

The second LSG meeting took place in Athens, Greece, at CRES headquarters in 11 February 2020, from 10:00 to 12:00 with the participation of 6 members from CRES and academia. More participants were expected; however, some members could not be present due to work overload and some others due to sick leave.

Mrs. Maria Zarkadoula, the EMOBICITY project supervisor, welcomed the participants and mentioned the recent findings of the LSG related to the e-mobility status in Greece. CRES presented an overview of European and worldwide financial incentives and tax deductions for the acquisition of EVs and installation of charging infrastructure for individuals and companies.

A round-table discussion followed regarding the e-mobility evolutions in Greece. As draft proposed financial and normative measures for the promotion of e-mobility in Greece are currently under high-level political discussions, the LSG participants shared their estimations about their effectiveness and market growth potential. **These measures will be defined and published by the Greek government by 2020, in cooperation with the National Inter-Ministerial Committee, thus with members of the EMOBICITY LSG.**

Apart from the aforementioned measures for the private sector, incentives should be provided to the public sector as well. Municipalities and Regions in Greece are willing to integrate e-mobility; however, **no funding mechanisms are available for public authorities**, dedicated to EVs acquisition. Thus, the LSG members agreed that the EMOBICITY project and

Action Plan come at a perfect timing, **to design a funding scheme** for the procurement of public e-vehicles (cars, buses, trucks etc.) and recharging stations in public areas.

In these terms, it was agreed that **CRES will focus on Regions**, by contacting the Greek management authorities of Regional Operational Programmes (ROPs), **as well as on Municipalities**, by contacting the "Green Fund" of the Ministry of Energy & Environment and the Central Union of Municipalities of Greece (KEDE). By this way, CRES will investigate the specific needs of funding at regional and municipal level and any opportunities for integrating e-mobility in the regional innovation strategy for smart specialization (RIS3). It will also provide inspiration to the local authorities by presenting e-mobility good practices and propose measures for e-mobility implementation.

Following the discussion of e-mobility in the public sector, as mentioned in the previous LSG meeting, it was noted again that the **Ministerial Decision about the acquisition of vehicles by municipalities needs to be updated** with a clear reference to alternative fuel vehicles, including EVs. The LSG had already suggested the solution of this barrier and the respective legislative amendment is expected to be issued during the following months.

The LSG members also mentioned that **the national e-mobility communication strategy should be an integral part of the EMOBICITY Action Plan**. It was pointed out that a state-of-the-art national or municipal web portal(s) with up to date information about e-mobility would be a valuable tool with multiplier effect to end users.

It is worth to mention that the EIHP partners of EMOBICITY motivated the Greek LSG to work on bureaucracy issues regarding the **licensing procedure for the installation of charging stations by municipalities**. Dr. George Ageridis, Director of Energy Efficiency at CRES, explained how this procedure takes place in Greece; it involves four different licensing steps (Mayor, City Council, Urban Planning and Revenue Service). The LSG agreed on examining any possibilities of **simplifying** this procedure, if needed.

Finally, CRES presented **some good practices** from the participating countries and regions in the project and beyond, as potential schemes for implementing e-mobility in Greece:

- The ELISA project with the construction of an e-highway for trucks in the region of Northern Hesse, Germany;
- The Azorean government initiative to support and finance action plans for integrating e-mobility infrastructure in local hotels, Portugal;
- The e-mobility "chargers on demand" system in the city of Amsterdam, Netherlands;
- The scheme of electric scooter-sharing in Milanovek, Poland.

### **Next steps**

CRES will circulate the minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to the LSG and organize the 3<sup>rd</sup> LSG meeting. Up to then, all LSG participants will provide to the Group by e-mail any respective useful information and CRES will continue to gather and share experiences and practices from the participating countries and regions. CRES already scheduled a meeting with representatives of the ROP of Thessaly Region in 25/2/2020 and it also plans to meet the Ionian Island Region and the Crete Region, as well as the Head of KEDE.

### **Author: Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving – lead partner**

*Disclaimer: This document reflects the authors' views only and the Interreg Europe programme authorities are not liable for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.*