# Update on the action plan implementation

March 2022

# Viken County Council, Partner 1 (PP1)

Action 1.1 “OVERVIEW AND DIALOG”.
This work is completely fulfilled. Viken county council has mapped the existing sub-regional climate and environmental networks that currently exist in Viken. Only innovative and active climate network are relevant and included in this first overview.

ACTION 2.2 “HOST A SERIES OF WEBINARS AND WORK WITH THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEYS”
The overview of all the climate and energy plans in Viken is updated. This is the foundation for coordinating the climate initiatives and to get a synopsis of the climate and energy measures planned in the municipalities, and in the county as a whole. Secondly the survey to understand how the municipalities work with climate communication and climate accounting and budgeting for the municipalities has been carried out. Dedicated resources and money is needed to run the networks. This will be solved by following the Klimat Østfold Model.

ACTION 2.1 “ESTABLISHING THE SUB-REGIONAL CLIMATE NETWORKS IN VIKEN”
4 sub-regional networks have been constructed.

ACTION 2.3 “FORMALLY ESTABLISH THE VIKEN CLIMATE NETWORK UMBRELLA”
The local politicians in 2/3 of the 51 municipalities in Viken have officially approved joining the Viken Climate Network. The rest are in process. The action plan, the board and the committee will be established and approved during the first quarter of 2022.

# Stockholm Region, Partner 4 (PP4)

## 1.1 Kick off

This step is completed. Participants from several of our stakeholders (the urban cores), and a few participants from other municipalities joined for discussions about the pilot study that was presented and its result. The workshop confirmed the result of the pilot study.

## 1.2 Initiate cooperation with Energikontoret Storsthlm to plan the launch of the one stop shop

This step is ongoing, however slightly changed. Since the action plan was adopted, Region Stockholm and the County Administration Board of Stockholm has launched the “Climate Arena” which is a platform to take an overall regional action towards climate neutrality. The one stop shop in this action plan will be integrated in that platform. Energikontoret Storsthlm is not an owner of this initiative, although they are included in the process.

## 1.3 Gather information relevant to property owners

This step has not started yet. The process of gathering relevant information is dependent of actors (e.g. property owners) willing to provide this to their peers. As of now, the Climate Arena is still developing, and this step will follow.

## 1.4 Launch the one stop shop

As stated above, the one stop shop will be integrated in the Climate Arena, which was launched in the fall of 2021. The establishing of the platform is still undergoing with discussions with important actors on how to organize it. The one stop shop will be a pillar in this structure, but it has not been launched yet. Thus, this step in not completed.

# Lombardy Region, Partner 5 (PP5)

The elaboration of the Action Plan was initially focused on the improvement of the current ROP – Axis IV (which had been selected as the Lombardy policy instrument for the SmartEdge project) and the idea was that of identifying the best practices that could determine its improvement.

Due to Covid emergency, half of the funds allocated on Axis IV has been moved to other actions (mainly health) and the ROP could be no more improved and modified.

This new situation requested a revision of the Policy Instrument and this operation led to the identification of an initiative, which aims at supporting the development of the territory, preparing infrastructures and services towards the evolution of social, economic and cultural dimensions; a mission based on innovation, sustainability, cohesion and contamination.

This initiative named “Smart Land” is in line with what defines the Interreg Europe Programme Manual and in particular is a **strategy developed by public authorities and applied on the ground in order to improve a specific territorial situation**.

Smart Land is a PPP that involves BEI Jaspers, Ministry for Economic Development, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA), Department Smarter from University Insubria, Lombardy Association of Municipalities (ANCI Lombardia), the Association of local public entities (Centro Studi PIM), Lombardy Region.

The initiative started few months ago - with selected pilot actions in small areas - and through the SmartEdge Action Plan we plan to fully implement such scheme on a wider basis.

## ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION – CURRENT UPDATE

In this period, we spent time in the follow up and monitoring of the action plan implementation. We exchanged some inputs with EnergyMedia, the promoter of SmartLand model, and arranged a synergy meeting with Milan Metropolitan City referents to check how to move on in the new approach implementation.

By the end of 2021, many edge cities, including Milan, had elections and changed their administrative bodies; this of course created an interruption among the contacts and requested a further effort to try and collect the interest among the cities within the Metropolitan area.

The project is still active but it is proceeding slowly due to the above-mentioned reasons.

In addition, the pandemic situation did not help as the economic and strategic intents have been addressed for the recovery and management of local businesses, heavily affected by the Covid emergency.

# Krakow Metropolitan Area, Partner 6 (PP6)

The Action Plan consist of one action which is the creation of a comprehensive monitoring system for media consumption in public buildings of different functionality, belonging to communes of the Krakow Metropolis.

The first stage of the measure is to conduct a baseline inventory of all public buildings. The second stage is monitoring the consumption of utilities in pre-defined cycles. The data collected in municipalities will then be verified in terms of its completeness and correctness and in order to detect possible anomalies. In the next step, an analysis will be carried out, in which indicators of media consumption will be taken into account in relation, among others, to the usable floor area or function of the building.

The final result of the analysis will be the selection of buildings in which it is necessary to carry out actions aimed at improving energy efficiency (e.g. replacement of heat source or thermo-modernisation).

The pilot inventory of public buildings was implemented in the first quarter of 2021. The inventory was conducted with the use of a questionnaire constituting annex to the Action Plan. Five municipalities participated in the pilot inventory and a total of 132 buildings were inventoried. Almost half of them were educational buildings.

On April 28, 2021, a follow-up workshop was held with municipal staff. We met to discuss the findings of the pilot, obstacles and difficulties and the ideas for improvement.

All the conclusions from the pilotage were compiled in a summary report, which was sent to the communes of the Krakow Metropolis and serves as a base for future implementation of this action.

For now  PP6 is focusing on finding a financing for setting up a system to monitor and  manage the energy consumption in public buildings. Since as a Krakow Metropolis, we were in the process of developing a new supra-local development strategy, we discussed the idea for the Action Plan implementation during meetings and workshops that were held. The project to create a monitoring system for energy consumption in public buildings was included as a strategic project in a supralocal strategy “Krakow Metropolis 2030”.

In the meantime, PP6 held two meetings with the unit of the City of Krakow (Klimat-Energia-Gospodarka Wodna), which is responsible for the implementation of such a system in the city and discussed the possibility of possible cooperation on this topic. Further meetings on this topic are planned for 2022.

Thanks to an improvement in the epidemiologic data, we plan to use the coming months to focus the attention again on the Smart Land development through an active involvement of the local municipalities.

# Action Plan for Improving the Low Carbon Economy in Bucharest – Ilfov Region, partners 7 and 8 (PP7 and PP8)

**The activities and actions for the two partners in RO, have been realized together and in full cooperation.**

**Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests**

**Review of the Romanian Climate Change Strategy -**

**Adaptation component**

Regarding the adaptation component, the Climate Change Strategy and the National Action Plan for implementation for the period 2021-2030 are revised within the project “Strengthening institutional capacities to establish climate change policies and adapting the effects of climate change”, cod. SIPOCA 610. Given the constant incidence in Romania of extreme weather events such as drought, floods or storms, the Strategy will also address these environmental issues.

The financing contract was signed at the end of 2019, and the project runs for a period of 30 months and is implemented by the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests (MMAP) as a leader, in partnership with the National Environmental Protection Agency (ANPM ), The National Environmental Guard (GNM), the National Protected Natural Areas Agency (ANANP) and the University of Bucharest.

The project has the following general objectives:

* to review the old Climate Change Strategy and the National Action Plan for its implementation (2016-2020);
* to develop a new regulatory framework in the field of climate change in the direction of action adapting to the effects of climate change for the period 2021-2030 based on the systematization and simplification of the current legislative framework;
* to create and operationalize the National Adaptation Platform;
* to create and operationalize the National Climate Monitoring Center;
* to train the staff of the authorities with responsibilities in this field.

The specific objectives of the project are:

* Development of mechanisms for coordination and monitoring of climate change and air quality adaptation policies and actions, through interconnected and designed services, so as to ensure good environmental quality and protection of citizens in the context of extreme climate risks (heat / cold waves, drought, heavy rainfall, blizzard, etc.) and air pollution;
* Development of a National Climate Change Adaptation Platform - RO-ADAPT, with specialized information and data on climate change and its effects, both in the field of environmental protection (including air quality) and biodiversity, as well as in other key vulnerable sectors (energy, transport, urban development, drinking water and water resources) for a better basis for better informing citizens, at national level, about the risks generated by the increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme climate risks;
* Carrying out specialized climate services by creating a National Center for Climate Monitoring (CNMC) with a supporting role for substantiating national policies and strategies for adapting to the effects of climate change;
* Development of guidelines, procedures and methodologies for the identification, quantification and assessment of ecosystem services in order to adopt the best decisions on environmental conservation and management and thus a means of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

**Mitigation component**

In October 2021, the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests (MMAP), with the support of the European Commission / DG Reform, completed the contracting procedure to update the National Integrated Energy and Climate Change Plan (hereinafter referred to as PNIESC) and develop **" Romania’s Long-Term Strategy for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions ”(LTS)**, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 on the governance of the energy union.

This project aims to:

* establish an effective governance structure for the implementation of the PNIESC, including a working mechanism for the Romanian authorities to use to monitor, report on progress, implement and update the PNIESC;
* the elaboration of Romania's Long-Term Strategy for the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (LTS), in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 and the objective of climate neutrality;
* the creation, use and maintenance of a modeling tool for long-term energy and climate planning.

Both the PNIESC and the LTS will reflect the ambitious goal of the European Union and the Member States to achieve climate neutrality by 2050, with an intermediate target of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 55%, compared to the level of 1990, until the year 2030.

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Currently, the team of consultants, in collaboration with the central public authorities holding the programmatic documents, is working on the LTS.

## Action Plan for Improving the Low Carbon Economy in Bucharest – Ilfov Region

## (partners 7 and 8)

**By the implementation of the Action Plan, Ilfov County Council (ICC), initially addresses** Climate Change Strategy and the National Action Plan for its implementation (2016-2020). Taking into account the fact that the document will be revised and improved for the period 2021-2030, the Action Plan implementation was adapted in order to face new challenges and to be able to generate a set of recommendations and policy proposal accordingly.

Therefore, a constant communication and exchange between the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests has been a priority, as the Ministry is in charge with the strategic component and Ilfov County Council with the main two activities of the Action Plan:

* **A online web platform that will be developed in order to facilitate the transfer and to trigger the harmonization between local practices in the field;**
* **A regional analysis regarding the emissions.**

Together with the ministry, ICC elaborated a survey that will be the basis for the public consultations that will play a key role in the implementation of the plan.

The analysis of the strategies of the municipalities and the communes in relation with Ilfov County Council was made and correlated with the objectives and activities of the action plan.

The colaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests was also essential for designing the procedure that will be the base of the matchmaking platform and a list of indicators have been elaborated:

* Main sources of carbon emissions in the targeted localities
* The main areas in which there is an increase in carbon emissions;
* Practices that have led to a reduction in carbon emissions in the region;
* Ways to quantify emission reductions.

Two aspects have been worked on in order to improve the premises of the Action Plan: on one hand, the analysis of the possibility to carry on the effects of the project in the light of the following financing period, on the other hand the analysis of the changes that are going to be made in the national strategic document, in order to formulate the most appropriate recommendations in terms of improving the policy instrument and the legal background in the field of low carbon economy.

The collaboration with the stakeholders in the county revealed new ways to elaborate the regional analysis and to design the input for the platform.

 The aspects taken into account by ICC and defined by the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests in order to review the Romanian Climate Change Strategy are as follows:

**Adaptation component**

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