

# Regional Action Plan of Parma City Council

# Project Interreg Europe POTEnT

Public Administrations Transform Energy Transition

Public administrations are called for action in the Interreg Europe project POTEnT which objective is to achieve progress towards carbon reduction that is 10% greater than what is expected or planned in each partner region by 2023 through the improved provision of energy services by public authorities).

**Abstract:** Municipalities and regional urban areas have been identified as the main opportunity in reaching climate neutrality, as they consume 78 % of the world's energy and produce more than 60 % of GHG emissions. There is a common shared view towards energy transition shared across EU cities & regions, however, the transition process is complex and significant barriers have been identified for the elaboration and implementation of impactful decarbonizing actions.

The most important barriers are related to 1) the lack of appropriate horizontal and vertical multi-level coordination between public and private stakeholders, 2) the lack of mechanism for societal engagement in energy transition.

Therefore, the main objective of the Regional Action Plan of the city of Parma is the establishment of a model in which the city councils become frontrunner and driver of energy transition, by acting simultaneously on several layers: cultural, technical, methodological. The model and deliverables of this Regional Action Plan will integrate the Baseline Emission Inventory of Parma's SECAP in 2023. Each of the actions included in this plan will update the relative sections of Parma's SECAP.

The Regional Action Plan of the city of Parma will deliver: a) 5 SECAP school modules for capacity building in middle and high schools in Parma. b) 5 Training Packages in the field of energy efficiency and RES to tackle energy poverty. c) 1 new PV plant of 20kWp built in a residential area in Parma; d) 1 feasibility study to create the first energy community in Parma.









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IL SEGRETARIO GENERALE MESSINA IL VICE SINDACO BOSI

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### 1. Introduction





POTENT (Public Organisation Transform Energy Transition) innovatively addresses a key challenge for European cities and regions: how to achieve more carbon reduction by harnessing the potential of direct and local action by **citizens and communities**. The need is both great and urgent.

Regional and local authorities can provide a positive alternative to the market-based provision of energy services. The POTENTIAL lies in their local connections, opportunities and accountability. However, they face many challenges in becoming actors in the energy market. First, they need to develop legal mechanisms, attract investment, acquire skills, and engage communities. Second, many market-regulations are made at Member State level, so tailor-made solutions are required. The project's objective is to reduce carbon emissions faster than "Business As Usual" through more and better energy services provided by local and regional authorities. To this end, 4 city councils and 4 energy agencies cooperate through:

- Identification and exchange of good practices to contribute to each respective regional policy instrument in order to support and boost energy transition locally;
- Organization of Study Visits to fully study and understand the selected good practices;
- Develop/improve public Energy Services Companies (ESCOs) and increasing their "marketshare";
- **Build the capacity** of all relevant public authorities including ERDF Managing Authorities;
- Increase investments in low carbon projects, and inspire/empower local decision-makers and communities;

The project's main outputs are focused on new energy transition solutions through:

- New projects to increase investment in low carbon projects, inspire/empower local decisionmakers and communities to achieve higher levels of carbon reduction
- Improved governance by delivering policies to develop/improve public Energy Services Companies and transform existing mechanisms into "future-fit" organisations that will have a bigger impact on carbon reduction.









#### **General** info

Project: POTEnT: Public Organization Transform Energy

**T**ransition

Partner organisation(s) concerned: Parma City Council

Country: Italy

NUTS2 region: Emilia-Romagna

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Figure 2: Good practice OnCIMè, community involved

Through POTEnT, communities will develop or improve energy services that are locally-owned. In this way their transition to a low-carbon economy will be quicker and deeper.







# 2. Territorial and Policy Context

#### **Emilia-Romagna Region**

Emilia Romagna is a Region of northern Italy, with 4,5 M inhabitants. The region is mostly flat (48%), 27% hilly and 25% mountainous; to the east it is washed touched by the Adriatic Sea. The southern part is characterised by the Apennines, which reach their maximum height with Mount Cimone (2,165 metres). The northern border is almost completely marked by the Po, the largest Italian river. Many of its tributaries flow down from the mountains, such as Secchia, Panaro and Taro; other important rivers flow directly into the Adriatic (Reno, Savio). A few kilometres from the sea are the Comacchio Valleys, a large marshy area with

brackish waters. Bologna is the regional capital (1 M inhabitants in the metropolitan area), all the other provincial capitals have more than 100,000 inhabitants and are, in order of population, Parma, Modena, Reggio nell'Emilia, Ravenna, Rimini, Ferrara, Forlì and Piacenza. Parma City is an Italian town of 200 342 inhabitants, the capital of the province and the second largest city in Emilia-Romagna region by population after the regional capital Bologna. The city was nominated on February 16, 2018, the Italian capital of culture for the year 2020-2021.



The Emilia-Romagna Region is an energy intensive territory: energy consumption per capita accounts to 2.9¹ tons of oil per inhabitant (tep), higher than the national average equalling to 2 tep per inhabitant. Regional gross oil consumption are the 11% of national consumptions, corresponding to 13 million of tons of oil (Mtep). In the Region, industries require 30% (3.9 Mtep), it is therefore a crucial sector to achieve regional goals for the energy transition. The impact of the tertiary sector is 18% on total consumptions (2,3 Mtep), constantly growing year by year. Emilia-Romagna is one of the most industrialized region in Europe.

#### Energy Planning in Emilia Romagna

In recent years, the Emilia Romagna region has undertaken a process of transition towards a sustainable energy paradigm and adaptation to climate change through the establishment of a permanent forum: Regional Climate Change Forum (Forum Regionale Cambiementi Climatici), an Organisational Climate Change Watch (Presidio Organizzativo sul cambiamento climatico); an Energy Observatory (Osservatorio Energia); a Regional observatory of climate change scenarios (Osservatorio Regionale degli scenari di cambiamento climatico). Since 2013, the Region has provided some tools to Municipalities and Unions, to support them first in the elaboration of the Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) and - since 2015 - in its evolution towards the Action Plan for Climate and Sustainable Energy (SECAP).

<sup>1</sup> 2012 data







### Parma: the city

The territory of Parma is worldly recognized as Food Valley, and it is particularly rich in opportunities related to the development of renewable energy plants powered by woody biomasses (large portion of wooded area) or deriving from food processing waste (meat processing, dairy production) that create a potential for new production and energy management models.

The city is located in the northern Italian region of Emilia-Romagna, it is famous for its architecture, music, art, prosciutto (ham), cheese and surrounding countryside. With a population of 198,292 inhabitants, Parma is the second most populous city in Emilia-Romagna after Bologna, the region's capital. The city is home to the University of Parma, one of the oldest universities in the world. Parma is divided into two parts by the stream of the same name. The district on the far side of the river is *Oltretorrente*. Parma's Etruscan name was adapted by Romans to describe the round shield called *Parma*. In 2020, the city was elected as the Italian Capital of Culture. In 2022, the city of Parma was selected among the 100 Climate Neutral Cities (Horizon Europe Mission)

#### Energy Planning in Parma

In the last years, the Parma City Council has developed several policies for energy efficiency (Energy Code and SEAP) and many actions have been implemented involving private (industry) and public buildings, public lighting, mobility, and smart city. The City of Parma is a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors initiative since 2013. The adhesion to the movement was part of a strategic vision started in 2005 with the drafting of the Municipal Energy Plan (PEC), in application of Law 10/91. The commitment of the City of Parma towards environmental-related issues, steadily increased during the process. In 2014, the City of Parma launched its Sustainable Energy and Climate Action plan (SEAP) aiming at reducing the greenhouse gas emissions by 20% in 2020. The interventions focused on **building renovation**, **public light refurbishment** and **sustainable mobility** with the involvement of both private and public sector. In the following years, the Administration developed the first (2017) and the second monitoring (2019) of the SEAP, as required by the commitments undertaken by joining the Covenant of Mayors.

With the approval of its **Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan** in June 2021, the city of Parma started its journey towards carbon neutrality, which also includes increasing the resilience to climate change of its territory. To this end, the City Council has chosen an integrated approach mixing mitigation and adaptation. It will be therefore necessary to rethink and reformulate the city and its functions at all levels: adopt sustainability models and new methods of intervention on the entire urban environment (areas and buildings).

In June 2021, the City of Parma approved the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) with the target of reducing emissions between 46% and 58% by 2030. In parallel to that, the SECAP addresses some of the major climate threats of the territory surrounding the city of Parma such as, drought, water loss, and heat islands. Among the most important interventions in mitigation and adaptation there are: the **renovation** of the buildings in Parma (public and private), the substitution of public lights, and sustainable mobility solutions. From the point of view of adaptation, there are: the **expansion** of the green areas in Parma, the



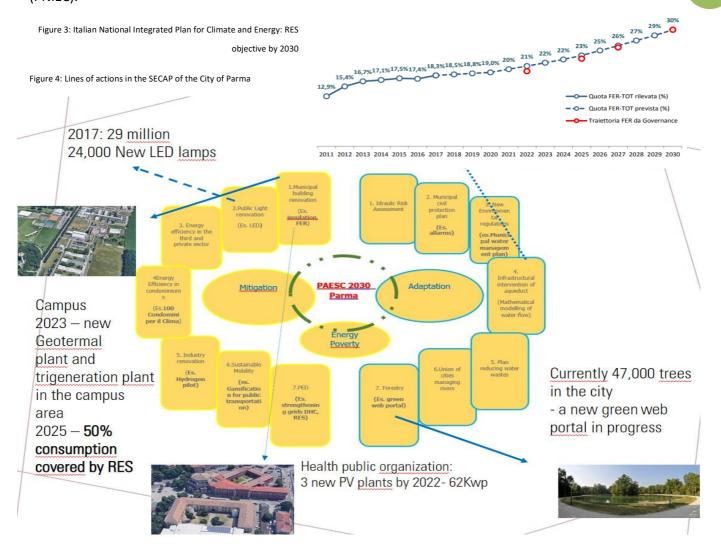




**creation** of new alarm and monitoring systems for climate hazards (e.g. air quality mobile app, civil protection alarm for floods, others), and the **refurbishment** of the municipal aqueduct to prevent water losses.

During the last ten years, Parma City Council managed to establish several working groups on several themes such as 4.0 industry, Positive Energy Districts, smart city control platform. This stakeholder engagement process has contributed to create a permanent local network that includes public and private entities, research institutions, start-ups and local associations operating in the city. Thanks to the synergies activated through these working tables Parma has been recently selected as one of the 100 Climate Neutral Cities<sup>2</sup>.

In spite of this great effort, the impact on energy transition is not satisfactory yet. A lack of effective and **proactive involvement of the citizenship** has been noted, which represents a barrier to Council's ambitions related to sustainability, the compliance with the objectives set by the National Energy integrated Plan (PNIEC).



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe/climate-neutral-and-smart-cities">https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe/climate-neutral-and-smart-cities</a> en









### **Policy Instrument addressed and Learning Needs**

The Action Plan aims to impact:

Investment for Growth and Jobs programs	He
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- ☐ European Territorial Cooperation programme
- X Other regional development policy instrument

Name of the policy instrument addressed: SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

The objective to improve the policy instrument "Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan of the city of Parma" relates to the establishment of a legal, economic and social framework to support and foster a multi-lateral and multi-sectorial collaboration with stakeholders from all territorial levels to strengthen energy transition locally. This new framework will be included in the new Baseline Emission Inventory of Parma's SECAP in 2023 to update the SECAP, operationalize its strategies, and give orientation to new European, national, and local funds.

The SECAP of the city of Parma was approved in June 2021. The document set a path of decarbonisation and adaptation to climate vulnerabilities. Its ultimate goal is to achieve an overall emission reductions equalling to 46% by 2030 (CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation). In addition, Parma aims to develop a better resilience of its territory (adaptation), in accordance with the European strategies for 2030 and 2050. The Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan of the city of Parma recognizes that, to sharply cut CO2 emission reductions and effectively respond to climate hazards, the whole city must reformulate the current development model in function of new methods of intervention coherent with a more sustainable paradigm. This "epochal shift in perspective" requires the integration of many disciplines (environmental planning, water management, and sustainable energy production, others), a more participated policymaking, and a pro-active role of the citizenship. In this framework, health protection and citizens' quality of life become more and more central elements. Therefore, the required transformation cannot be limited just to the technological level, but requires radical changes in the economic models (towards an economy that is increasingly circular) and in the behavior of citizens: this represents the bigger and more demanding challenge because it is played on a social level. The SECAP of the city of Parma underlines the necessity to seek and identify new approaches to develop a new model to comply with the above-mentioned requirements. Upon matching the vision and the learning needs of its SECAP, through POTEnT, Parma City Council will focus on:

- Identifying new tools and approaches to mobilize citizens;
- Empowering stakeholders with information and capacity to shape and be active players in local energy transition;
- Developing and strengthening Private and Public partnership;
- Giving the opportunity to co-design innovative forms of energy consumption, such as energy communities.







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The SECAP underlines several elements, recognized as drivers for local sustainable development: the One Stop Shop (OSS) for energy retrofitting, energy communities and younger generation as future prosumers.

#### Into the Carbon Neutrality Alliance of the Province of Parma 2030

In December 2020, Parma City Council, together with other 9 entities within the city of Parma, established the **Carbon Neutrality Alliance of the Province of Parma 2030**. The purpose is to achieve carbon neutrality through a transformative effect on all territorial levels. To do this, a multidisciplinary approach is necessary. Indeed, the members of the partnership have cross-sectorial and complementary spheres of influence: three wide-city consortiums dealing respectively with agriculture, forestry, and industry are joint into the Alliance. In parallel, the University of Parma, the Regional Agency for Energy and Environment (ARPAE), and the Italian National Research Council (CNR) provide the Alliance with technical consultancy (e.g. development of a Carbon Budget to quantify the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions). Ultimately, Emilia Romagna regional authority, the Province of Parma, and Parma's City Council guarantee its support and coordination. Indeed, the virtuous transformative effect of such a partnership will strictly depend on the level of engagement of the society and new signatories. Coordination and synergy are mandatory. The partnership will have to carry out communication actions, territorial animation, dissemination, information and knowledge on climate change. The technical committee will work on the integration of the various initiatives put in place by territorial stakeholders to participate to funding calls of 2021-2027 programming.

Figure 5: logo of the Carbon Neutrality Alliance of the province of Parma

Despite the good results of the previous Sustainable Energy Action Plan, approved by Parma City Council in 2014 (-12% of emission reduction in 2020), the new SECAP aims to strengthen the relation with its stakeholder, which, in the previous year lacked an active commitment, especially from the point of view of citizens, and young generations. The SECAP states that it is crucial to activate a network of dialogue with internal and external stakeholders. The SECAP select the OSS and energy communities as crucial points in energy transition. However, strategies and concrete support actions are not yet developed



within the policy instrument. The need to strengthen an interface with citizens and stakeholders is considered a first step in this direction. Hence, the following learning needs have been identified:

- To find a bottom-up model to involve younger generations in the shape of Parma 2030 vision.
- To strengthen and enlarge the role of the One Stop Shop for energy retrofitting. Currently, Parma's
  OSS is too limited and linked with the national bonuses for house retrofitting, which will end in 2023.
  The aim of this action is to improve the One Stop Shop to simplify, digitalize, and increasing the
  number of its services.
- To develop new mechanisms of co-designing RES energy projects (e.g. energy communities), by progressively allowing participation and involvement of citizenship in climate planning.







#### **Regional Action Plan of the City of Parma**

#### **Objective:**

Support and Foster a multi-lateral and multi-sectorial collaboration with stakeholders from all territorial levels to strengthen energy transition

Action 2 (A; B): One Stop Shop Energy Info-point: a new model for energy transition

Action 3: Feasibility Study to create an energy community in Parma

Cross-sectoral Action 1: SECAP lessons for school students to elicit a prosumer culture

The three actions, once included in the SECAP will achieve their purpose through:

- ❖ Regional Calls ROP-ERDF 2021-2027
- ❖ National funds Recovery Fund
- EU Calls
- Crowdfunding

Stakeholders mobilized during the interregional Learning phase

# Parma city Council – other projects

RUGGEDISED;

FEASIBLE;

COOLTORISE;

CoM Expert Mission;

MAS – Pinqua;

#### **Public Sector**

Province of Parma, Emilia-Romagna Region,

**Region Piemonte** 

Municipality of Padova

#### **Private Sector**

IREN SPA, Siram VEOLIA, ENERBRAIN, MAPS

# Research, agencies associations,

ATES Parma, ENEA, RSE, Arpae, MC2, AESS Modena, Eurac research

#### *In order to*

- Improve the energy class of residential buildings in Parma
- Increase the number of RES plants for self-consumption and collective self-consumption in Parma
  - **Elicit** a more inclusive and participated energy transition

#### Synergies with stakeholders

11

Alleanza Carbon Neutrality of the Province of Parma;

RES DHS (IREN);

Padova FitExpanded;

INNOVATE (Mantova);









### 4. Actions

In this section, the actions envisaged in the Regional Action Plan of the city of Parma will be described, one by one, with particular attention to the following sections: **Nature of the Action, Relevance, Purpose, and Stakeholders.** 

# Action 1: SECAP LESSONS FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS TO ELICIT A PROSUMER CULTURE:

<u>Summary</u>: This action is transversal to the other two actions in this RAP. The idea behind this action is that, through **knowledge**, **education and capacity**, it is possible to create a more sustainable and decarbonized society – energy communities, Private Public Partnerships, and One Stop Shops are all instruments to achieve this goal.

#### **Nature of the Action 1: Elicit Prosumer Culture**

Within POTEnT the City of Parma aims to create a stronger **policy framework** fostering and supporting citizens' participation in energy transition. Hence, the nature of this action is **cross-sectorial**, meaning that it is interlinked with the other two actions envisaged in this RAP. Parma City Council understands that, although top-down policies (national, regional, and local) are crucial to direct and guide territorial transitions towards sustainable, circular, and decarbonized societies, the results might not meet the expectations without a massive **behavioural change** at individual level. A shift of mind-set is necessary to achieve a more significant progress towards sustainability. For this reason, from the perspective of municipalities, the success of climate policies can be leveraged and boosted through successful citizens' engagement.

The community plays a crucial role, as reported in the community-centred principle "Leave no one behind" of the Agenda 2030, or in the programme Horizon Europe "100 Climate Neutral Cities, by and for the citizens". The reason lies in the shift in role and responsibilities of individual consumers that, by acquiring more awareness on their impact in society, might become prosumers (i.e. consumers able to make rational choices for the environment and themselves). Indeed, final consumers are the ones who can change massively the impact of the climate footprint of their city by changing their demand for products and services, influencing the main economic actors. To provoke such change in societal mindset, a systemic and integrated approach is necessary.

**Leave no one behind (LNOB)** is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It represents the unequivocal commitment of all UN Member States to eradicate poverty in all its forms, end discrimination and exclusion, and reduce the inequalities and vulnerabilities that leave people behind and undermine the potential of individuals and of humanity as a whole. <sup>3</sup>

The climate emergency must be tackled within cities and by engaging citizens who are not only political actors in a governance structure, but also users, producers, consumers and owners — 100 Climate neutral cities: by and for the citizens<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/100-climate-neutral-cities-2030-and-citizens en





European Regional Development Fund



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://unsdg.un.org/2030-agenda/universal-values/leave-no-one-behind

#### **Our Action**

This action intends to support a shift of mind-set in our local society in the long term. To this end, the Energy Office of the City of Parma will work on the development of specific material to build capacity and boost societal engagement in local energy transition. Following, the Energy Office will gather the inputs from the young generations in Parma to bring them in front of the Strategic Board of the Carbon Neutrality Alliance of the Province of Parma. A set of <a href="two complementary sub-actions">two complementary sub-actions</a> has been defined:

- ➤ Educate future consumers: Parma City Council will spread the Strategic Vision of Parma's SECAP among young generations through ad-hoc lessons on key issues in regards to energy transition from the policy maker perspective. 5 modules will be developed covering the topic of Sustainable Mobility, cities and green areas, energy and renewables, smart and resilient cities.
- > School wellbeing learning path: co-organize a learning program to give the opportunity to students to provide bottom-up inputs to improve the environmental wellbeing of their schools.

Purpose of the action: this action implies a stricter collaboration between the municipality and the association CUS Parma and ARPAE, that manage the environmental education curriculum in all the middle and many high schools in Parma. More into detail, The Energy Office of the city of Parma will support the educational program Giocampus Green by providing ad hoc material in regards to sustainability projects from the Council's outlook. In addition, the Energy Office will support the creation of a co-design summer lab and a School wellbeing learning path in which schools students will be invited to express their opinion on the city of the future. Teenagers may conversely focus on key thematic challenges based on the knowledge acquired through the program, such as (Sustainable Mobility, cities and green areas, energy and renewables, smart and resilient cities).







ACTION 1	SECAP LESSONS FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS TO ELICIT A PROSUMER CULTURE		
MAIN OBJECTIVE	This action aims to spread the Strategic Vision of Parma's SECAP among young generations through ad-hoc <b>lessons</b> on key issues in regards to energy transition from the policy maker perspective. The objective of this action is to build capacity and transform students in young sustainability policy makers through a collaboration between Parma City Council and the program Giocampus Green.		
DESCRIPTION	This action is divided in two steps: a) technicians from the Energy Office contribute to the environmental education curriculum in middle and high schools in Parma. They will provide inputs to create and held at least 5 lessons. Parma City Council, CUS Parma, Arpae will work together on these modules. Each module will present in an interactive way a SECAP sphere of activities (sustainable Mobility, cities and green areas, energy and renewables, smart and resilient cities). Each of these lessons will include real life projects that will be realized in the city of Parma.  Secondly, The Energy Office of Parma City Council together with ARPAE will set up Co-design Summer Lab for students part of the Giocampus Green program (that have been trained in sustainability in their schools) to develop a Young People Position Paper For the Carbon Neutrality Alliance of the Province of Parma. This paper will include several bottom-up solutions they want to be realized in Parma by 2030. The paper will be than presented as a bottom-up input to the strategic board of the Carbon Neutrality Alliance for the Province of Parma.		
LEAD ORGANISATION	Parma City Council		
	Parma City Council Energy Office – the technicians will work on the interactive activities and		
STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED & ROLE	Parma City Council, Energy Office – the technicians will work on the interactive activities and select the SECAP actions to be presented in Schools. The Energy Office will work together with ARPAE to organize the Co-Design Hub and present its results to the Carbon Neutrality Alliance.  CUS PARMA - Sport Association organizing the program Giocampus in schools in Parma - They will create the schedules of the lessons and the Co-design Hub.  ARPAE - Environmental Agency of the Emilia Romagna region- They will revise the technical contents of the modules and help the Council to organize the co-design Hub.  Carbon Neutrality Alliance of the Province of Parma – a wide city partnership to make Parma a carbon neutral province by 2030 – The output of the co-design hub will be presented to the meeting of the Alliance.  P3 Pamplona City Council – good practice owner that inspired this action		
MONITORING INDICATORS	- 5 lessons co-created by Parma City Council and ARPAE; - 200 schools students with increased capacity in the SECAP and sustainable development;		
INDICATIVE COSTS	The Municipality of Parma finances the project Giocampus with 210,000 euros in the year 2022-2023. These funds are devoted to sport and educational activities in schools.		
INDICATIVE SOURCE	These internal funds are allocated from the Sport Department of Parma City Council to CUS Parma, the organization managing the program Giocampus.		
TIMESCALE	The creation of the 5 modules will be completed between January 2022 and September 2022.  This activity will be parallel to the organization of the school lessons.  In May 2022 – September 2022, a co-design lab will be organized in collaboration between ARPAE and the Energy Office of Parma City Council.  January 2023 - 1 Young People Position Paper developed "Tu e Parma 2030".		







#### Relevance of this action: what inspired us.

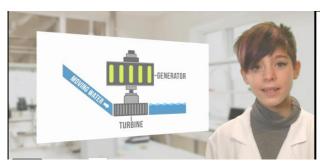
This Cross Sectorial action took inspiration from the good practice 1.7 "Bien Là – Local energy loop", and the good practice 3.9 "Gaming tool to educate school pupils about energy". The two practices together show new and original ways to boost citizens' engagement in the energy sector and promote a new culture favouring sustainable development. However, while the actions in the next sections are specifically addressing the themes of the One Stop Shop and Energy Communities, in this paragraph the outlook is more general but nonetheless concrete: the mobilization of citizenship and local actors in energy transition.

#### Good Practice 3.9: Gaming Tool to educate School Pupils about Energy



In the heart of the interregional process, project partners were all dealing with finding an effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This was a hard challenge for the interregional learning process, and partners had to re-invent their methods of communication and knowledge transfer. A number of online study visits were held in the form of phone calls, email exchanges, etc. In relation to this good practice, the representative of the city of Pamplona, Leire Iriarte, gave the possibility to the Energy

Office of the city of Parma to access a tool developed by the city of Pamplona to train primary school students on energy. This initiative is part of the 'Go Green Pamplona' program within the STARDUST project. In this pilot, children involved in specific training programs on energy and RES to take part to practical learning labs. To do that, an online **game-designed platform** was created. There, children can follow online lessons, win challenges, and get rewards. In order to develop the Action Group, teams will be set up to discover the school's energy use trends by carrying out an energy diagnosis. At the end of the training lessons, young technicians will have the capacity to develop a proposal aimed at optimizing the consumptions of their schools.



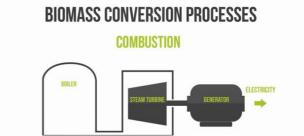


figure 7: lessons for schools from the online platform Go Green Pamplona





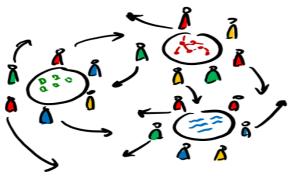


#### Good Practice 1.7 Bien Là – Local Energy Loop

On 21 June, ALOEN hosted the city of Parma, its stakeholders, and the Southeast Sweden Energy Agency ESS (VEAB) in an online study visit to present the Innovative Energy Loop (Bien Là). It is a project co-financed by the region of Brittany and Lorient Agglomeration showing the critical impact of a long-term facilitation strategy on the energy transition. The notion of energy loop indicates the network of territorial actors such as associations, companies and institutions that have the ambition to give birth and promote new projects related to energy transition. In 2013, ALOEN participated in a regional call to create an energy network and involved Lorient Agglomeration for the region of Brittany. The focus of Bien là was divided in three pillars: rational use of energy efficiency, energy security and renewable energy sources. The approach adopted was to network local socio-economic players, to strengthen their mobilisation around the energy and climate challenges in order to develop partnership projects. This bottom-up approach, to which ALOEN is very attached, is the key to the success of future societal, environmental and energy changes. The specificities of this loop therefore lie in its governance and animation. In concrete, the project took place in two stages: firstly, the organisation of thematic workshops leading to 21 courses of action. Secondly, the transformation of these proposals into projects of different formats: financing of opportunity or feasibility studies, investment grants, setting up new missions in the area (energy observatory, energy support for companies, etc.). This three-year project (2013-2016) was co-financed by the Brittany Region and Lorient Agglomeration as part of a call for projects. It brought together a large number of participants.

figure 7 -Bien Là- local energy loop









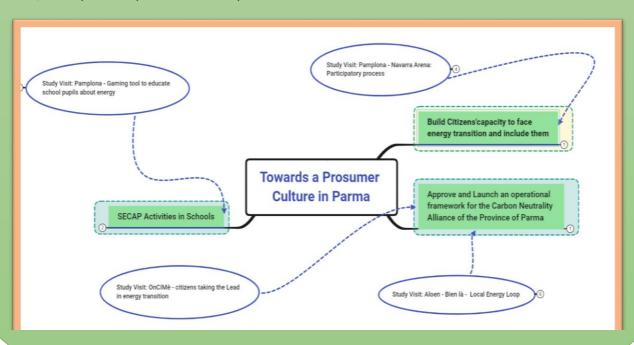


#### What we learned from the good practices in France and Spain

Pamplona City Council recognizes the importance of involving younger generations in sustainable development by giving them the insights to act as active player in the energy transition. The Energy Office of the city of Parma reviewed with interest the good practice shared by Pamplona City Council, and started a dialogue with its stakeholder, CUS Parma, to replicate some successful elements of this practice: gamification, co-design, and capacity building.

One key insight regards the training of non-expert actors in the sector of energy. Indeed, even hard and complex topics such as the one of energy transition can be divided into simple units understandable by school students. We want to provide students with the possibility to express their opinions and incentive a bottom-up activism. This practice inspired us to strengthen the collaboration with CUS Parma to update and align the environmental education curricula in schools with Parma 2030 vision included both in the SECAP and in the Parma Carbon Neutrality Alliance's statue. The final objective is to provide young people with the insights necessary to adjust the energy behaviour of their parents and be enthusiastic in taking part to Parma 2030's vision.

Aloen presented the concept behind the *energy loop*, a partnership that has been created through periodical meetings, conferences and word cafés giving many stakeholders (official and not) the opportunity to express their ideas, co-design opportunities, and launch new projects. Marie-Laure Lamy and Bruno Livory, respectively director and project manager of ALOEN, explained the design of a series of workshop that set the basis of the energy loop. From the governance perspective, the establishment of a **technical committee** was necessary to develop the contents of the workshop. To this end, a strict collaboration with the municipality was established. Following, a **steering committee** worked to prioritize the financing of projects. This good practice reminded us about the centrality of human and knowledge capital and showed us that a local authority can play an active role in facilitating the emergence of an *Energy Loop* through **communication**, **capacity building**, **and gamification**. The Energy Office of Parma City Council presented some elements of this good practice to the members of the **Carbon Neutrality Alliance of the Province of Parma on July 14<sup>th</sup> 2021**. This study visit has shown us an exemplar virtuous cycle mobilizing key actors in the energy transition. We will make use of the **inputs received for designing successful training material for the youngest generation and creating a co-design session for school students.** And last but not least, **patience** proved to be a crucial asset in Bien Là. Aloen waited many years to see the results of the energy loop (projects, investments, initiatives). We will consider this practice for the engagement activities in action 3. The following good practices also share some elements that helped developing this action, and they are shortly summarized visually in the scheme below:











# Action 2 (A;B): ONE STOP SHOP ENERGY INFOPOINT – Provider of Co-Designed Services

<u>Summary</u>: The One Stop Shop energy info point ("Sportello Energia & Condomini") addresses the themes of energy efficiency, renewable energy and energy poverty leveraging a bottom-up energy transition. The OSS currently assists citizens living in Parma in renovating their apartment (thermal envelope, boiler substitutions, thermostatic valves, others).

Two actions are presented in this RAP, on the one hand, to strengthen the collaboration between the OSS and local stakeholders, and to provide training packages on energy poverty on the other. These two actions have the purpose to expand the range of services given by the OSS.

#### Nature of Action 2 (A;B): A One Stop Shop to Surf the Renovation wave

Within POTEnT the City of Parma aims to create greater interactions of the existing policy instruments at the local and regional level, to ultimately boost citizens' engagement in the energy transition. The One Stop shop is a link between policy makers and citizens supporting bottom-up retrofitting interventions. However, through the experience of Parma's One Stop Shop, we understood that citizens face several barriers in their journey to renovate their apartments: technical competences, legal knowledge gaps, and time restrictions. We want to create a new model to amplify the range of services of our One Stop Shop to: a) create additional layers of support for citizens, b) increase the number of stakeholders of the OSS, c) develop financial mechanisms to self-finance the structure. This set of activities is required to transform our energy info point into a pillar of the energy transition policies of Parma City Council. This can be a leading example for all Emilia-Romagna Region, and can support the growth of a national network of OSSs.







#### **Our Actions**

These actions intend to increase the services provided by the OSS, identify possible financial resources, and reinforce the stakeholder network.

Creation of an OSS stakeholder protocol: develop a protocol with stakeholders (escos, banks, building companies, professional orders, SMEs) to create a stronger local network of experts on energy efficiency, renewable energy, legal and economic fields. This collaboration aims at developing integrated services co-designed with local stakeholder and OSS's customers in regards to the needs and capacity of the stakeholders 'value chain. These insights will allow the OSS to develop effective services and packages in relation to the most shared needs.

**Purpose of the action:** With this protocol and the consequent stakeholder network, it will be possible to expand the range of competences of the OSS in the legal, economic, and building field. The OSS will therefore be able to reach a wider audience and help more people to refurbish their house. This implies a stricter collaboration with ESCOs, banks, building companies, professional orders, SMEs in the city of Parma. These entities will collaborate to define new criteria to allow the OSS to develop new services (such as training packages) and connect citizens with the stakeholder in the protocol, in this way they will be part of the project, and help the OSS to create specific training material on several issues: heat pumps, PVs, condensing boilers, others. As we have seen in France and Spain, the One Stop Shops need to diversify their competences and stakeholders to be successful.

Energy Training Packages: development of training packages to build capacity among citizens and stakeholders on energy poverty, energy efficiency, technologies and renewables. In this way, we will teach people how to be more efficient and reduce their energy consumptions.

**Purpose of the action:** Improve the range of services that of our OSS. The "Sportello Energia e Condomini" will become a provider of Training Packages Concerning Energy in accordance with 2030 Agenda of the Emilia-Romagna Region to build capacity among citizens. This will be a new type of services that the OSS can offer to its customers.







#### **ACTION 2- A** ONE STOP SHOP ENERGY INFOPOINT: A NEW MODEL FOR ENERGY TRANSITION - Creation of an OSS stakeholder protocol MAIN In order to boost the refurbishment of buildings in Parma this action aims to transform **OBJECTIVE** the current OSS from a Facilitator to a Service Provider providing integrated services codesigned as part of a shared path with stakeholders and project partners. The Energy Office of Parma City Council and ATES will transform the nature of the current OSS. **DESCRIPTION** The energy info-point will shift from being a facilitator to be a service provider. The new OSS will indeed coordinate local actors such as architects, engineers, energy company, professional orders and businesses to set up a value chain to simplify the renovation process and offer citizens willing to renovate their home a list of possible services according to their needs. Indeed, this action aims at defining a public-private partnership that involves the representatives of all the actors of the value chain in the context of the energy requalification of buildings and that facilitates the construction of integrated services, offered through Parma's OSS, to achieve the energy transition. This may take place through the strengthening of the capacities and the public-private partnership of the supply chain (training, new methods of collaboration), greater involvement and awareness of civil society (direct access to information, participation through specific dissemination and gamification tools) and the identification within a shared process of minimum requirements to guarantee the quality of the services offered and the use of the IT platform to expand the catchment area of the branch. **LEAD** Comune di Parma **ORGANISATION** Comune di Parma, Energy Office – Provides strategic guidelines on the development of the OSS. **STAKEHOLDERS** We will support ATES in the definition of the protocol and the creation of the energy training **INVOLVED &** packages. **ROLE** ATES – Sustainability Agency for territorial and sustainable development - it runs the OSS. ATES will develop the Energy training packages a the protocol. ASP – Association Elderly Care Centre, in the framework of the project had to renovate its public buildings. They are stakeholders of the project FEASIBLE. AISFOR - Agency for Innovation and Development - It supports ATES and Parma City Council in developing training packages. ACER – Social Housing Company, it manages many buildings in Parma that could be suitable to create a collective self-consumption. It can connect people living in social housing and coordinating the energy training sessions. Padova City Council –involved in a EU project to develop a OSS, it has the objective to create a national network of Italian OSS Region Piemonte - Italian Region involved in the project EUROPA on the OSS - ATES in mentee of the Europa project and is inspired by a stakeholder protocol developed in the EUROPA project.







	Other smaller municipalities in the Province of Parma Comune di Sissa Trecasali Comune di Fornovo di Taro Comune di Polesine Zibello Unione Montana Appennino Parma Est (Comuni di Corniglio, Langhirano, Lesignano de' Bagni, Monchio delle Corti, Neviano degli Arduini, Palanzano, Tizzano Val Parma) Unione Pedemontana Parmense (Comuni di Collecchio, Felino, Montechiarugolo, Sala Baganza, Travesetolo)			
	P3 Pamplona City Council – good practice owner that inspired this action.			
	P1 ALOEN – good practice owner that inspired this action			
MONITORING INDICATORS	- at least 10 stakeholders involved - 1 co-design plan for the stakeholder protocol			
INDICATIVE COSTS	The current personnel running the OSS has been financed with an amount equalling to €300,000 (2 years) including: 2 technicians and 4 faciliatators. Marketing activities: Radio spots, banners, social media marketing. 2 computer and telephones.			
INDICATIVE SOURCE	The resources for this action comes from EU funds: Horizon 2020 project FEASIBLE; COOLtoRISE (h2020)			
	Life CET – ROP-ERDF 2021-2027  ATES and Parma City Council budget was approved in 2019.			
TIMESCALE	Total timescale: January 2022 – July 2023			
	<b>November 2022</b> - creation of an executive summary on the renovation process (a list of the key actors, services, opportunities).			
	January 2023 – Stakeholder checklist			
	May 2023 – Development of a Co-design Plan for the stakeholder protocol.			







ACTION 2 -B	ONE STOP SHOP ENERGY INFOPOINT: A NEW MODEL FOR ENERGY TRANSITION  — Training packages to build capacity among citizens and stakeholders on energy poverty, energy efficiency, technologies and renewables.		
MAIN OBJECTIVE	The objective of this action is to create an OSS able to train professionals and citizens in several areas linked with energy: RES, technologies, virtuous behaviours to reduce energy poverty and others.		
DESCRIPTION	6 Training packages will be developed tackling the topic of energy poverty, smart solutions for reducing consumptions, renewables and others actions for improving the sustainability of the living areas. The format of these training packages will be Power Point presentations including recommendations related to reduce consumptions.		
LEAD ORGANISATION	Comune di Parma		
STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED & ROLE	Comune di Parma, Energy Office – Provides strategic guidelines on the development of the OSS.  ATES – Sustainability Agency for territorial and sustainable development - it runs the OSS.  Aisfor – education association working with ATES and Parma City Council on energy poverty training courses  P3 Pamplona City Council – good practice owner that inspired this action.  P1 ALOEN – good practice owner that inspired this action		
MONITORING INDICATORS	- 6 modules developed		
INDICATIVE COSTS	The resources allocated to Parma City Council and ATES for the workforce that will develop the training packages are 148,000 euros.		
INDICATIVE SOURCE	Amount funded by the project COOLtoRISE (h2020)		
TIMESCALE	Total timescale: May 2022 – January 2023  January 2023 – ATES, AISFOR, Energy Office of Parma City Council develop the first 3 modules.  May 2023 – ATES, AISFOR, Energy Office of Parma City Council will complete the creation of the 6 modules.		

#### Relevance of the actions: what inspired us.

This action refers to the good practices 1.2 and 3.1 as "good practices" that gave Parma City Council an overview of different models, strategies and business models that a one-stop shop can have. The energy info point offices in Italy (Parma), Spain (Pamplona), and Lorient (FR), have been reviewed, and compared in a joint online study visit on **April 21**st **2021.** 







#### Good Practice 1.2 "One Stop Shop info habitat"



**Aloen**, the energy agency of the south of Brittany, presented **the good practice 1.2 "One-Stop Espace info habitat".** The Espace Info Habitat was created with the initiative of Lorient Agglomération to provide free and neutral support to residents

wishing to renovate, buy, build or rent a home. A personalized support system is offered to them. This practice showed the structure of the refurbishment office in Brittany, their funding sources, and their stakeholder network.

The "Espace info habitat" brings together 4 structures that also answer all questions from elected officials and partners (local authorities, banks, building professionnals, estate agents, associations, housing organizations, developers, etc.). The info-point provides financial diagnosis, architectural advice, advice on eco-materials, and advice on energy interventions. Public funds and  $CO_2$  taxes managed by the region of Brittany provides the "espace info habitat" with the resources to hire the personnel and run the office. It has strong links with the housing



department of the municipality, social workers, and the regional authority. The regional network of one stop shop in Brittany counts 23 structures, it is a stable well-established and interconnected network.















#### Good Practice 3.1 Effidistrict (OSS part)



**Pamplona City Council** presented the good practices **3.1 Effidistrict (OSS part):** showing the structure of the refurbishment offices and their role in the renovation of the *Taxantrea* district.

A network of nine independent offices are present in the region of Navarra. Six of them are regulated regional Decree DF

363/1997 and financed by the housing service of the regional government. Nasuvinsa, a public housing company, manages the other three. As in Brittany, refurbishment offices are a well-established practice in Navarra. The first two were launched in 1986/7, and their finance have been regulated through the regional decree DF 289 of 14th December/1996: In order to facilitate the extension of the network in the region the possibility for the offices to provide also advice on urban planning was given. The increased influence of these offices in the sector of housing planning was included in the official Housing Plan that promoted and supported the extension of the network of OSS. Therefore, these offices are modular, and



can be adapted to different services, such as providing City Council advices on urban planning matters, supporting and assisting the general public, issuing reports on municipal permissions for construction works. In the vision of supporting the transition towards energy communities, the Energy Office of Pamplona City Council's envision the set up of one OSS in each neighbourhood of the city.

#### What we learned from the One Stop Shops/ refurbishment offices set up in Pamplona and Lorient...

Seeing these models of One Stop Shops in France and Spain gave a new perspective to Parma's ambition. Sportello Energia & Condomini started its services in September 2020, few months after the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. As there were no preliminary experiences or local best practices as guidelines, many doubts has arisen concerning the effectiveness of setting up a **physical One Stop Shop**. However, thanks to the review of the good practice 1.2 in regards to the OSS set up by ALOEN, we understood that face-to-face interaction with citizens is a key issue, and, despite pandemic contingencies, it is crucial to provide them a personalized face-to-face support, as seen also for the One Stop Shop runned by Nasuvinsa, Pamplona'housing Company.

Another key learning from the review of the "espace info habitat" concerns the outlook of energy poverty. In Lorient, the OSS is in close connection with social services to be the facilitator and promoter of a more rational usage of energy. We think this is an important element to be replicated in Parma in order to reach more vulnerable households, and to train them to read energy bills, and make more rational choices on their consumptions.

Both in the energy info points in Pamplona and Lorient, we could notice the **multi-disciplinary background** of the personnel: lawyers, architects, energy experts, technicians, and administrative assistants. This reflects the fact that both offices deal not only with energy retrofitting bonus but also with taxation, urban planning, contractual technicalities, and compliances with regional laws. This is why we want to establish a closer relation with the professional orders and the stakeholders of the OSS in Parma: through a more structured network of professionals it will be possible to wider also the range of services and to develop specific training courses on different matters. These insights will lead the Energy and Sustainability Agency of the Territory of Parma to develop a protocol with the key stakeholders in the province of Parma.

# Action 3: Clean Energy for Communities – Mobilization for Self-Sufficient Energy Communities

<u>Summary</u>: This action is the first step of a long-term strategy to support the spread of energy communities and Positive Energy Districts in Parma. These configurations require an active commitment of citizens that have the choice to join existing energy communities or to be promoter and initiative leader of a new configuration. City Councils can be facilitator of bottom-up energy communities, by transferring knowledge and building consensus, or by providing citizens with a public PV plant, giving them the choice to join. With these premises, Parma City Councils will install a PV plant in a parking lot in a neighbourhood in Parma. Parma City Council, through a dialogue with key stakeholders, intends to create a feasibility study to make the best use of the clean energy produced by this PV plant in favour of the local community.

#### Nature of Action 3: Clean Energy for Communities

The framework of this action is related to the renewable energy objectives of the National Energy and Climate Plan<sup>3</sup>, which equals to 30% of the gross national energy consumption. The 2030 Agenda of the Emilia Romagna Region is aligned with the national strategy, and it is processing a new law to support the creation of energy communities in the local context. Furthermore, the expected increase of *the price* of energy bills worldwide put additional pressure on the achievement of energy national goals. The SECAP of the city of Parma, identifies energy communities as an innovative model to be included in a wider vision, in the framework of **Positive Energy District**. This action represents a first step towards this direction, and will improve City Council 'capacity to successfully co-design and implement new projects related to self- production and consumption of RES. The city of Parma understood several obstacles related to energy communities: **knowledge hurdle**, **economic mistrust and linguistic barriers**.

Within this action, Parma City Council will create a focus group to study the feasibility of an energy community in the neighbourhood of Alberi di Vigatto, close to Parma. Nearby to the future PV plant there is a kindergarden, a cultural and social association and a public school that can be connected.

#### **Our Actions**

Within our action, we are going to pursue the following activity:

Create a Feasibility Study to co-design an Energy Community in the neighbourhood of Alberi di Vigatto (Parma) where a 20 kWp PV plant will be installed in a public area.

**Purpose of the action:** This action aims at co-designing a solution to provide services fuelled through clean energy to local community. This implies coordination, capacity building, and co-design activities with citizens living in suitable buildings for energy communities and all the stakeholders involved. On the one hand, Parma City Council will set up a 20kWp PV plant in a neighbourhood in Parma (Alberi di Vigatto). On the other hand, through a co-design process the Council will study the creation of an energy community by connecting the PV plant to the buildings nearby.







	FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR AN ENERGY COMMUNITY BETWEEN MUNICIPALITY			
ACTION 3	AND THE HEADQUARTERS OF THIRD SE	AND THE HEADQUARTERS OF THIRD SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS		
MAIN	The objective of this action is to increase the	ne amount of RE produced and consumed		
OBJECTIVE	locally through demand aggregation			
DESCRIPTION	Alberi di Vigatto is a small neighbourhood located few minutes from Parma. The municipality of Parma is about to install a PV plant of 20 kWp close to an electrical cabinet in a public area in Alberi di Vigatto. The City Council aims at creating an energy community to supply close buildings with clean electric energy.			
LEAD	Parma City Council			
ORGANISATION				
STAKEHOLDERS	Parma City Council: coordinates the install	ation and the stakeholders of the potential		
INVOLVED &	energy community.	•		
ROLE	<b>FAMIJA ALBERESE:</b> cultural association whose headquarter is in Alberi di Vigatto.			
	potential members of the energy community.			
	SEP ENERGIA: company that will install the Photovoltaic plant in Alberi di Vigatto.			
	<b>PROGES</b> : a social cooperative that manages childhood services in a kindergarden			
	close to the PV plant.			
	ATES – Sustainability Agency for territorial and sustainable development – Provides			
	the municipality with technical consultancy.			
	RSE – National Agency for Research on Energy Systems – Provides the municipality			
	with consultancy on energy systems.			
	<b>ENEA</b> – National Agency For New Technologies and Sustainable Development - They			
	will help the City Council in modelling the energy flows.			
	PP3 Pamplona City Council – good practice owner that inspired this action.			
	<b>PP2 ALOEN</b> – good practice owner that inspired this action.			
MONITORING INDICATORS	20 kWp PV plant installed  0,022 GWh/year energy savings through engagement the owners of private residential buildings			
INDICATIVE COSTS	The PV plant includes an inverter, a battery and PV panels for a total of (20 kWp) Total €70,000			
INDICATIVE	City Council's internal budget will finance this action. The budget has been collected			
SOURCE	by the urbanism department through Conto Energia.			
TIMESCALE	The installation of the PV plant will be cond	cluded in October 2022.		
	A Feasibility study for the creation of an Energy Community will be completed in March 2023.			







#### Relevance of the project for Action 2

#### Good Practice 1.5 Bretagne Energies Citoyennes and OnCIMè



In February 9<sup>th</sup> 2021, Parma City Council took part to an online study visit organized by ALOEN, the Energy Agency in the south of Brittany. Lisa Croyere and Bruno Livory presented OnCIMè, an **energy company created** and fully owned by citizens that rents PV panels to public authorities and commercial stakeholders. Jean-Luc Danet, the legal representative of

OnCIMè, and Peter Crepeaux, an energy expert from Lorient municipality explained how the association "Bretagne Énergies Citoyennes" raised enthusiasm and leveraged people interest in energy transition setting the basis for OnCIMè. It all began with a regional call to raise citizens' awareness, which led to the creation of a tender for the installation of solar panels on the town hall's rooftop. On one hand, the municipality managed to produce 5% of its energy needs through photovoltaic panels for self-consumption. This strategy revealed itself as being cost-effective and cheaper than buying certified green energy. On the other

side, **citizens** created local business opportunity to invest in green renewable **energy** and to generate profit. up: OnCIMè borrows PV panels to municipality, and the latter pays the rent and manages the maintenance. No grid intervention nor batteries are needed, just financial planning. At the moment, OnCIMè installed more than 500 solar panels, but they are already looking at the future aiming at developing a storage system through the installation of a boiler by 2022.



#### What we learned from Bretagne Energie Cytoyenne and OnCIMè...

The good practice OnCIMè is *disruptive* because it shows a unique example of how citizens could take part in the energy transition aside from being part of energy communities or collective self-consumption. We have seen that the only limit of the possible forms of citizens 'engagement in energy transition is limited by the level of enthusiasm and creativity of energy stakeholders.

The evidence of this practice has shown us that City Councils can establish exemplar partnerships with associations, citizens groups, and agencies. This action is exemplary because it shows an original public-private partnerships aiming at increasing the amount of Renewable Energy produced locally. It develops renewable energy projects owned by citizens and thus relocates the social and economic benefits.

We will use the key insights of this visit to leverage interest in joining energy communities or other sustainable communities initiatives. More into detail, we will enter in contact with NGOs located close to the PV plant that will be installed in Alberi di Vigatto in order to invite them to join an energy community.









#### Good Practice 3.6 Development of an Energy Community for a Pilot Project of Collective Selfconsumption

On May 27th, the city of Parma took part to the online study visit organized by Leire Iriarte and Zaradoya Illana Javier from Pamplona City Council jointly with Arantxa Goikoetxea Irigoienm, Head of International Project Department of the government of Navarra. The event focused on a pilot project to build an energy community in a public sport center (the Navarra Arena) in Pamplona. This pilot project was designed under the framework of the Energy Plan of the Navarra region for 2030 setting the goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40%, and to increase the share of renewable energy up to 50% by 2030. To achieve these ambitious goals several measures are envisaged, such as promotion and implementation of forms of energy self-production and consumption, the implementation of trainings and awareness programs, calls for aid and tax deductions. The good practice studied is the 3.6 concerning the development of an energy community

on a sport centre in the outskirt of the city of Pamplona to include citizens

in collective self-consumption configuration.

At the time of the study visits (May 2021) the **feasibility study** was conducted by a cross-functional team, in which technicians, lawyers and facilitators took part. In order to gather consensus for the citizens' energy community, the team created and started a participatory process by paying particularly attention to media promotion, training sessions, and cohesion. Great emphasis was put into the participative culture to gather the interest of society and fight common distrust in public administration, a serious barrier for energy communities.





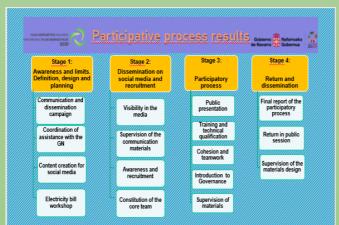




# What we learned from the Energy Plan 2030 of the Region of Navarra and the design of the Energy Community into the Navarra Arena

Energy Communities are a popular topic nowadays. The transposition of the REDII directive on renewable energy In Italy, as well as in many others EU members' states was postponed, living local authorities with a lack of certainty on many technicalities in regards to the concrete set up of energy communities. Surely, one of these is the legal framework regulating the distance of the energy community from the medium/low voltage cabinet. Another one is the maximum power peak allowed in each EC pilot. These differences made the interregional learning more complex, but conversely, created a solidarity among participants in study visits. In other words, we are all on the same boat.

The review of the best practice 3.6 emphasized the crucial role of citizens as an active players in energy transition. Parma City Council and its stakeholders observed the structure of the participatory process, created by the Government of Navarra, with particular interest. We learned that, to design an energy community, aside from the technical aspects, surely crucial, capacity building activities (workshop energy poverty workshops), disseminating, and recruitment activities can boost citizens 'interest, knowledge and capacity in the field of EC. We understood that these activities are perfect to "set the field" of a participatory process, increasing the possibility of success in terms of active participation.





We want to make the best usage of these learnings to **create an active stakeholder engagement program for CE pilot** in Parma.







## 5. Results

The actions envisaged in this RAP aims at strengthening and operationalize the strategies included in Parma's SECAP that currently lack a major level of specificity. Hence, the following table put in relation the actions envisaged Regional Action Plan, the Actions of the SECAP, learning needs, and how the SECAP will be improved in the next monitoring emission inventory, which **will be developed in 2023** and will be attached to the current SECAP.

RAP Actions and activities	SECAP sections	Learning Needs	SECAP improvements in the next monitoring emission inventary
ACTION 1 - SECAP LESSONS FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS TO ELICIT A PROSUMER CULTURE	(p. 20 SECAP) the SEAP and The SECAP followed the strategy of Parma City Council called "Scuole Sostenibili" implying the renovation of the schools as place of education and participation of younger generations.	(p. 142 SECAP) despite the SECAP aims at supporting citizens 'engagement in climate policies both in mitigation and adaptation, the City Council lack of concrete actions favouring the mobilization in the field of energy transition.	We will improve the current strategy "scuole sostenibili" of the current SECAP with the actions of this RAP as a continuation of a strategy started in 2014.
Action 2 (A) – ONE STOP SHOP ENERGY INFOPOINT: A NEW MODEL FOR ENERGY TRANSITION – CREATION OF A STAKEHOLDER PROTOCOL	(p.83 SECAP) The current document mention the OSS in the Council's strategy to refurbish the residential sector in relation to the project FEASIBLE.	There are no clear guidelines on how Parma's OSS should evolve either in relation to its services concerning energy efficiency, either in relation to the spread of RES sources.	SECAP will be updated to include additional steps in the development of the OSS like: the creation of a protocol with stakeholders, and a set of training packages. We will include the description of the protocol, its technicalities and the synergies established thanks to it
Action 2 (B) – ONE STOP SHOP ENERGY INFOPOINT: A NEW MODEL FOR ENERGY TRANSITION – TRAINING PACKAGES	(p.83 SECAP) The current document mention the OSS in the Council's strategy to refurbish the residential sector in relation to the project FEASIBLE.	There are no clear guidelines on how Parma's OSS should evolve either in relation to its services concerning energy efficiency, either in	SECAP will be updated to include additional steps in the development of the OSS like: the creation of a protocol with stakeholders. A set of









		relation to the spread of RES sources.	training packages. We will update the SECAP with the service offered and the training material created in relation of energy poverty and the other themes
Action 3 FEASIBILITY STUDY TO CO-DESIGN AN ENERGY COMMUNITY	(p. 106 SECAP) The SECAP mention several times the intention of the City Council to develop energy communities. They are considered a way to spread RES plant locally.	The document lack of concrete studies and example of co-designed energy communities favouring the mobilization of citizens	We will update the SECAP with the feasibility study to make use of the PV plant in Alberi di Vigatto.

Please note that Parma's SECAP can be downloaded at the following link: <a href="https://www.comune.parma.it/pianoenergiaclima/it-IT/Sintesi-PAESC.aspx">https://www.comune.parma.it/pianoenergiaclima/it-IT/Sintesi-PAESC.aspx</a>







### **Annex**

### Synergies with Emilia-Romagna ROP-ERDF 2021-2027

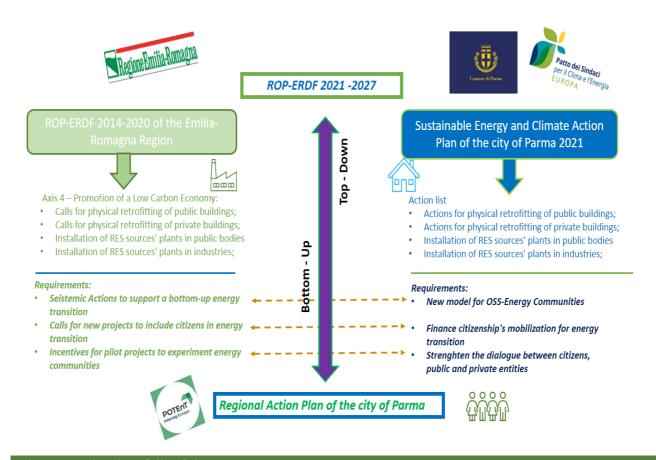
In the application form of the project POTEnT, the policy instrument initially addressed by Parma City Council was the ROP-ERDF 2014-2020: axis 4 - promotion of a Low Carbon Economy of Region Emilia-Romagna. However, during the timeframe of the Interregional Learning activities of the project, we noted a lack of calls and support to the lines of actions that the city of Parma intended to pursue within the project. That being said, upon discussing several possible lines of actions with the representatives of the regional authority that closely followed the project POTEnT, Tiziana De Nittis, DG Knowledge Labour & Enterprise Economy Research Innovation Energy & Sustainable Economy, and Attilio Raimondi, Director of the Green Economy and Energy Service Office, the greatest opportunity was to analyse the previous policy instrument to influence and improve the new one: ROP-ERDF 2021-2027. For almost two years, the city of Parma and the Region of Emilia-Romagna worked in this direction. To this end, Tiziana De Nittis took part in several interregional learning activities of POTEnT, such as the Study Visit at the One Stop Shops and Energy Communities. Hence, the Region of Emilia-Romagna had the occasion to take inspiration from such events. We observed that our key learnings and suggestions on the regulation for One Stop Shops and Energy Communities have been listened, and somehow contributed to the draft of the new ROP-ERDF 2021-2027. We know that Region of Emilia-Romagna will support its territory in launching pilots on Energy Communities and supporting OSSs through the Specific Objective 2.2 of the new ROP-ERDF 2021-2027 "Promotion on RES in accordance with UE REDII directive 2018/2001" to which 87 million will be allocated.

Unfortunately, due to the timeframe of the approval of the document, the new policy instrument in this Regional Action Plan could not be specifically addressed. Yet, we cannot avoid mentioning the work that has been carried out, and the potential impact that POTEnT had on the development of this policy instrument. In addition, the development of Parma's SECAP had synergies with the POTEnT project - an additional policy instrument strictly related to the others, as shown in the following figure.









#### What were the shortfalls of the ROP-ERDF 2014-2020?

The ROP ERDF 2014-2020 axis 4 (Promotion of the low carbon economy in regions and in the production system) allocated great part of its resources into physical retrofitting of public buildings. Despite the city of Parma managed to make proper use of these public funds to renovate many public schools and other buildings, the behavioural side of the energy transition, achievable trough an effective citizenship engagement, seems to lack of effective resources and public calls. There is a lack of direct policies that directly involve citizens, both in terms of reducing consumption (e.g. residential sector - condominiums or public structures - sports facilities managed by associations) and in terms of production of renewable energy (e.g. small renewable energy plants built in collaboration with citizens gathered in cooperatives or building solar platforms publicly available). In addition to identifying these new targets, towards which investment support measures must be adopted, it is necessary to develop new business models from a legal, financial and taxing point of view, for shared public/private management, including pre-existing small plants. The compliance with the REDII directive and the Italian national goals for renewable energy production requires cities to strengthen their local control on the energy transition for an effective participation of citizens and communities in the management and implementation of energy transition policies. In order to spread new paradigms of decentralized energy production and consumption, as in the case of energy communities, the technological transition shall be accompanied by a cultural shift in order to effectively promote a fair, realistic and effective transition.

This is why Parma City Council together with the project secretariat and the Regional Authority decide to synergize the Parma's RAP with its SECAP keeping alignment with the new ROP-ERDF 2021-2027.





