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RENEWAT

Project presentation

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RENEWAT objective

European rivers are rich with historical hydraulic structures, but over the years many of them have fallen out of use or have not been properly maintained.

RENEWAT main objective is to upskill local and regional actors within the partner territories about repowering and renovating watermills, as means to develop a valuable source of renewable energy at the local level.

The partners will investigate within their territories the technical and financial feasibility, to develop small hydropower schemes.



Apr 2024

Jun 2028

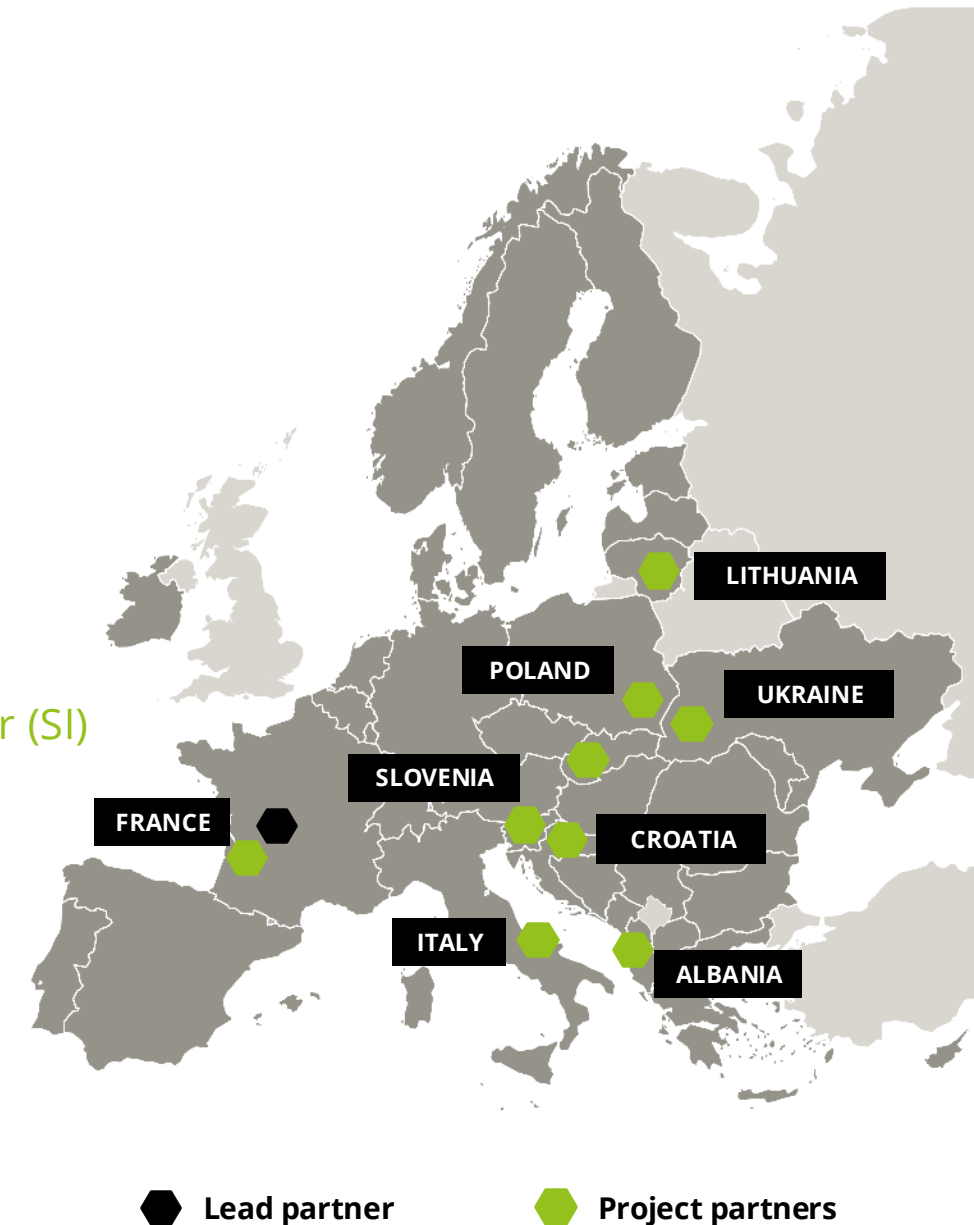


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RENEWAT partnership

RENEWAT brings together 9 partners from 8 regions:

- **Syndicate Energy Haute Vienne, Lead Partner (FR)**
- Fédération des Moulins de France, Project Partner (FR)
- Martijanec Municipality, Project Partner (HR)
- Rzeszow Regional Development Agency, Project Partner (PL)
- Energy Agency of Savinjska, Saleska & Koroska Region, Project Partner (SI)
- Vytautas Magnus University, Advisory Partner (LT)
- Molise toward 2000, Project Partner (IT)
- Udhetim i Lire – Free to Travel, Discovery partner (AL)
- Lviv City Council, Project Partner (UA)



RENEWAT addressing 6 policies

By sharing regional policies, the partners hope to **identify good practices and improve their own policy instruments** to better serve their regions in achieving a low carbon economy.

Policy instruments:

1. Departmental Strategy on Energy Transition for Haute-Vienne (SEHV, FR)
2. Regional Development Program of the Savinja Development Region 2021-2027 (KSSENA, SI)
3. Molise ERDF ESF+ 2021-2027 (GAL MOLISE, IT)
4. Municipality of Martijanec Development strategy (MoM, HR)
5. Regional innovation strategy for the Podkarpackie Region for 2021-2030 (RRDA, PL)
6. Action Plan for Sustainable Energy Development and Climate for Lviv City Territorial Community Until 2030 (LVIV COUNCIL, UA)



Lead partner

Project partners

RENEWAT territorial analysis

Within RENEWAT, in each region, the partners will consider the feasibility of renovating watermills through:

- Assessing the ecological continuity and environmental issues.
- Calculating the annual/seasonal flow rate of the river.
- Assessing the morphology of the site.
- Analyzing the ease of connecting to the electricity network.
- Studying the financial feasibility.



RENEWAT methodology

The project breaks down the work into 5 stages, that will be gradually implemented to construct regional expertise and analyse the potential for small hydropower using watermills.

RENEWAT 5 Steps process:

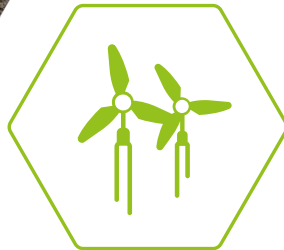
- Political awareness
- Scientific and legal framework
- Territorial potential
- Technical studies
- Financial feasibility



RENEWAT benefits regions



“Comparing different scales, approaches and locations, will enrich the approach and vision about the repowering of existing water mills in Europe.”



Policy improvement in **France**



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Departmental Strategy on Energy Transition for Haute-Vienne (SEHV, FR)

Haute-Vienne department is a hilly and predominantly rural area, with only one large metropolitan area in Limoges.

The Departmental Strategy is the frame of reference for the implementation of policies and actions in the Haute-Vienne territory in terms of energy and fight against climate change.

Small hydropower production is not clearly visible in the Renewable Energy component of the Departmental Strategy, nor in the Climate plans. **SEHV aims to continue the deployment of new types of renewable energies, in particular small hydropower schemes using already existing watermill sites.**

The Strategy was launched in May 2019 with a framework for 6 years of action

Policy improvement in **Slovenia**



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Regional Development Program of the Savinja Development Region 2021–2027 (KSSENA, SI)

Savinja region is rich in natural resources, with an abundance of watercourses and rural areas. In the past, many watermills were built in the region and used for various purposes.

The Regional Development program is a core strategic document which **defines the regional development advantages, priorities and strategies, and contains financially evaluated programs.**

Most of the watermills and watermill infrastructure in the area have neither been restored nor used, due to a lack of available state or co-financing funding schemes.

KSSENA aims to amend the Regional Development Plan to revive this heritage by utilizing the untapped micro hydropower potential of the region.

The Strategy was launched in 2021 with a framework for 6 years of action.

Policy improvement in **Poland**



Regional Innovation Strategy for the Podkarpackie Region for 2021-2030 (RRDA-PL)

Podkarpackie Region located in south-east part of Poland, it is predominantly rural and forest area and there are about 60 historic water mills mapped.

The Regional Innovation Strategy was adopted by the Podkarpackie Region Board as a development program constituting a **key instrument for the implementation of priorities related to the development, research and innovation in the region.**

The Strategy points to the production of energy from renewable sources but **focuses on creating new infrastructures, but not on using existing installations, and revitalizing water mills.** As this topic is completely omitted, RRDA aims to address that issue.

The Strategy was launched in 2022 with a framework for 10 years of action.

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Policy improvement in Croatia

Municipality of Martijanec Development strategy

Municipality of Martijanec is a local self-government unit and is responsible for every policy decision making and postulation related to its Development strategy.

The Municipality of Martijanec aims to align with its strategic objectives by revitalizing the historical watermill in Hrastovljan and transforming it into a renewable energy source.

This effort supports the goals outlined in the **Municipality's Development Strategy**, which emphasizes sustainability, rural development, and the efficient use of local resources, including water, for energy production. The project also seeks to integrate the preservation of cultural heritage with the implementation of innovative energy technologies, contributing to regional economic development.



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Policy improvement in Italy

Molise ERDF ESF+ 2021-2027

Molise is the second smallest Italian Region and its territory is predominantly rural. The region is full of hydric resources and there is a massive presence of water mills.

GAL Molise wants to improve **Molise Region policy instrument Molise ERDF ESF+ 2021-2027** content by introducing the topic of renewable and sustainable energy system and the promotion of hydroelectric plants in water mills in rural villages of Molise.

The aim is to explore several opportunities, with a focus on the promotion of energy communities and an efficient energy system connected to hydroelectric plants in water mills in Molise.

The Strategy was launched in 2021 with a framework of 6 years of actions (2021 - 2027)



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Policy improvement in Ukraine

Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) of the Lviv Urban Territorial Community by 2030

The Lviv Urban Territorial Community is located in the center of Lviv region, in western Ukraine, bordering Poland, particularly the Podkarpackie Region

Since 2022, the conditions and needs for energy efficiency in communities have significantly changed, but the strategy (SECAP) **does not consider the possibilities of harnessing hydropower, nor the restoration and construction of water mills.**

Through the RENEWAT project and the experience of our partners, we can address the efficient use of hydropower, generate additional local economic sources, create more highly qualified jobs, and positively impact the social community.

The Strategy was launched in 2022



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