

Lessons learnt from cooperation have improved the policy instruments of partner regions

The Regional Action Plans (RAP) implemented in the last months include a variety of action approaches on open data, fuel poverty, hospital and school refurbishments, carbon-neutral region goals, positive energy family competitions and more.

Letterkenny, 7th December 2021

CLEAN or 'Technologies and Open Innovation for Low-Carbon Regions' project is part-funded under the [Interreg Europe](#) programme with the main objective of improving the capacity of the low-carbon policy instruments in the participating 9 partner regions.

Since January 2017, partners from Ireland, France, Spain, Italy, Slovenia, Romania, Greece, Finland and Sweden have been working together to **increase energy efficiency in housing and public infrastructure by an average of 4%.**

CLEAN project partners are proud of the quality of the Regional Action Plans that were produced in Phase 1 and shared and implemented in Phase 2 of the project.

For example, ERNACT and Les 7Vents were successful in their applications for additional funding to implement good practice and pilot actions that were identified during Phase 1. ERNACT conducted a pilot action to test the **efficacy of open energy data** in improving energy measure decision-making. **Les 7 Vents implemented the 50/50 good practice**, raising awareness of energy use in three Norman schools (France), creating incentives to encourage the reduction of energy consumption and the adoption of low energy habits, along with activities and awareness raising measures. Les 7 Vents also reported that the lighthouse projects of their regional action plan in Normandy have achieved, among other things, a **20% decrease in energy consumption among positive energy families.**

CLEAN project Finnish partner, **Regional Council of North Karelia have achieved HINKU (carbon-neutral) status** in their region, which was one of the actions described in their Regional Action Plan, and they are planning for continued improvements in terms of emission reductions in their plans to be a forerunner in climate sustainability by 2030.

The **ENERTIC building** built as part of the "REPLICATE" project shared by partner Fomento de San Sebastian (Spain) is **an inspiring example of a nearly zero emissions building**, having been designed within energy-conscious parameters, with the aim of reducing the energy demand of the building and relying on renewable sources.

The Regional Development Agency of Savinjska Region, RASR (Slovenia) **has focused on promoting selected good practices in the upcoming 2021-2027 Regional Development Program Savinjska**

region (RDP). RASR has been actively promoting the RDP development focus “*Promoting energy efficiency, smart energy management, and the use of renewable energy sources in public infrastructure, including public buildings, and the housing sector*” to its stakeholders and has already gathered a large number of project proposals, all of which were sent to the ministry.

Agenzia Napoletana Energia e Ambiente, ANEA (Italy) was proud to share on the final conference the progress being made **in implementing eco-efficient solutions for public hospitals.**

Regional Council of Västernorrland (Sweden) reported **some impressive results in terms of solar panel installations in public buildings, contributing to the goal of 4% of energy** coming from own-produced renewable energy by 2024.

Covid19 affected the implementation in some regions

Municipality of Iasi (Romania) has worked through the delays and other impacts of Covid-19 **to move forward with modernising their public lighting.** The efforts to rehabilitate Recuperare hospital were impacted by it being designated as a Covid-19 support facility, but the time was effectively used to create an improved energy efficiency plan.

In Region of Crete, despite of Covid-19 also had to manage the impact of extreme natural phenomena including flooding and earthquakes **but managed to continue to work on the implementation of their RAP activities, including street lighting upgrades and supply of electric bikes,** inspired by the good practice of project partner Fomento de San Sebastian "REPLICATE".

More information about the project can be found on the project website:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/clean/>