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Join our Capacity Building webinars!

Through EMPOWERING, you can get better prepared for creating your sustainable energy and climate action plan, or SECAP. During spring 4 capacity-building webinars were arranged. But in case you missed them it is not too late: they are all recorded and available on the project web site.

The webinars have focused on municipalities, on empowering them so that they manage to take the step and become signatories of the Covenant of Mayors. That is a large commitment, covering a wide range of thematic areas, and the ambitions as well as needs and knowledge differ between municipalities. Therefore, the webinars have covered different topics: Awareness raising, Public financial solutions, Adaptation, and Solutions for energy measures. Altogether, this is the Capacity-Building Program of EMPOWERING.

The aim has been to make

the webinars relevant for as many municipalities as possible. International experts in various fields have been engaged and talked about their insights, experience and perspectives. Even though the main target group was the municipalities that are engaged by project partners, the webinars have been open to all municipalities within the EU. But since the local perspective can't be taken into account during a webinar with such a broad outreach, they have been complemented with workshops at regional level.

The next step, after having completed the capacity-building program, is to follow the SECAP walkthrough. The walkthrough also contains a series of webinars targeted at the municipalities engaged in EMPOWERING, combined with local/regional workshops. It includes three webinars. The idea is to step by step guide the municipalities in the process of creating a SECAP, and to

help them to get started.

The first walkthrough webinar gave a brief introduction to Covenant of Mayors, and then focused on understanding of what is needed for the Baseline emission inventory. The second webinar focused on collection of data and to improve analysis capacity. The third webinar will be held in September and will focus on how to select relevant actions for the SECAP. It is not yet possible to register for this, so watch out for information on that! The two webinars already held can be found on the EMPOWERING website.

The webinars are arranged by project partner RISE. They are part of the capacity-building program, and of the training program. The webinars will be included in the upcoming Learning Platform, which will also contain material such as micro educations, knowledge tests, presentations and useful links.

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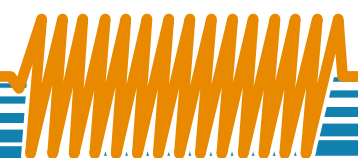
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Local training workshops in Andalusia: main outcomes and next dates

The local workshops for the capacity building of Andalusian municipalities started last May 3rd. There has been three full day meetings where the main aspects of how to develop a SECAP has been discussed. We have used the tool for BEI developed in

EMPOWERING and also we have dedicated a part of the sessions to talk about how to face the new adaptation part. Next meeting will take place after Summer holidays and it is planned to be a sum up session for the mitigation part of the SECAP.

Also, EMPOWERING had the chance to take part in some regional meetings. First in Granada during 12th - 13th April, with the region of Potenza and the office of Covenant of Mayors, and then in Sevilla on 12th June, with

projects ENERJ, SUPPORT and GREENS.

Outcomes and related documents can be consulted on the project website, in the Platform (Spanish version) and in News.



Encouraging result of the capacity-building programme in Italy

The participation rate to the 1st round of the capacity building programme organised by Sviluppo Marche srl-SVIM, in Ancona, for the 32 Municipalities members of the LEB Marche has been relevantly high.

The 2nd round takes place on 16th July "Design mitigation actions for SECAP Part I: Integrated energy – Buildings" and the 23rd July "Part II: Integrated

energy – Renewable sources; Mobility and Land Use and Planning". They respectively touch upon: Post-earthquake reconstruction in energy class A, Reduce Energy in Buildings, Urban Plan for Sustainable Mobility, Quality of the urban environment.

The 3rd Round is planned for September 2018.



Romania: Face-to-Face meetings after CB webinars

In Romania, the North-East LEB members and project team participated together to the two webinars organized for the SECAP walkthrough and discussed the next steps. The commonly agreed approach is to organize face-to-face meetings with LEB members in order to assess and clarify the data collection status for the Baseline Emissions Inventory (or the Monitoring Report) for each municipality that adhered to the Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy Initiative, also with the aim to identify

the barriers and challenges that they face in the data collection process.

The local workshops organized in North-East Region will complement the project Capacity Building Program carried on through webinars and will further address examples but also specific measures that can be adapted and included in the SE(C)APs of the LEB members. The local workshops will be organized in correlation with the support given to LEB members and will be finalized in October 2018.



Supporting towns to strengthen analytical capacity - workshops in B-A-Z county, Hungary

After the capacity building needs analysis, the identified needs were met by a series of workshops that are organised for public officers also in Hungary to explore how to effectively develop or update Sustainable Energy Action Plans.

These capacity building workshops provide an opportunity to give insight on the existing energy situation and gain practical knowledge on planning.

The first workshop for SECAP development was organised on the 8th June 2018, with the overall aim of setting energy and CO2 baseline. Participants had the chance to see the data collection methods, explore data sources and how to overcome obstacles related to data gaps.

The second workshop was held on 29th June 2018. It was focused on the mitigation and planning of the different actions. The aim of the one-day workshop was to help identify priority fields and actions.

These events will be followed by additional workshops. Forthcoming events for SECAP development in B-A-Z county include:

- Workshop III. - date: 7th September 2018.

Forthcoming events for SEAP update in B-A-Z county include:

- Workshop II. – Date: 28th August 2018.
- Workshop III. – Date: 20th September 2018.



'ENERGY DAYS 2018 of Region of Central Macedonia: Let's Act for Energy'

During of European Union ENERGY DAYS, RCM's team of Empowering project organized an event called "Energy Day: Let's act for energy", in order to disseminate the project initially to municipalities that participate to it and secondly to metropolitan area of Thessaloniki.

The event took place at elementary schools. The purpose of the event is to inform and awake very young people in terms of sustainable use of energy in fields of energy save, sustainable mobility and recycling. Pupils were taught

about how they can reduce the consumption of energy at homes with very simple and easy ways. Then they learnt how effective is for their health and for environment to move on foot and finally they learnt about recycling and making compost. Emphasis was given to transfer the message of "energy save" to other people in order to change the way of our lives.

The "Let's act for energy" event was presented to two elementary schools in the metropolitan area of Thessaloniki: Pavlos-Melas and Kalamaria.



Building sustainable future through energy efficiency

This is the message of the Region of Istria workshops in 2018, that will take place from March to September 2018, with the objective of drawing attention to the benefits of EMPOWERING cities developing SEAPs/SECAPs making them greener and smarter.

Workshops will explore ways in which the EU is helping cities to become better places to live and work. Showcasing policy developments on air quality, noise, waste and water management, it will promote participatory approaches to ur-

ban development, networking schemes, and tools for sharing best practices, engaging local authorities and citizens, and encouraging them to share their vision of a sustainable future.

Officers from local authorities are offered numerous hours of practical in-class training on how to develop harmonized SEAPs and SECAPs, together with international interactive webinars that will broaden this learning opportunity to anyone interested in EMPOWERING expertise.



EMPOWERING supporting tools for Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan

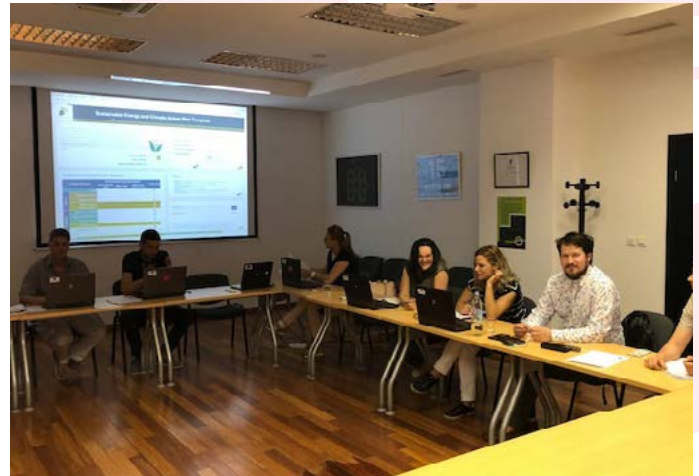
EMPOWERING project is supporting 78 municipalities and signatories of the Covenant of Mayors (CoM) Initiative from 6 different European regions by implementing capacity building activities tailored to the needs of the policy makers and public officers involved. These municipalities going one step further are embedding the international learning in the local policy shaping process by elaborating their Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAP), or by updating existing Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) using their own means.

Their first action is the elaboration or update of the Baseline Emissions Inventory (BEI) as described in the guidelines of the CoM Initiative.

In the scope of facilitating the generation of policy change in the field of sustainable energy planning EMPOWERING project partner CRES, elaborated a set of supporting tools. The tools facilitate the collection of all the relevant territorial and municipal data required for the conduction of the Local Energy Balance and elaboration of BEI, in line with JRC methodology and consists of:

- A methodological approach for the preparation of the Baseline Emission Inventory (BEI) and the detailed energy balance including specific guidelines (SF_5.2A: methodological approach for the technical support of the participating municipalities). This document includes the essential information obtained by the CoM official guidelines regarding presented as a step-by-step process.

- An easy-to-use excel tool which serves both as data collection template and as energy balance calculation tool. (SF_5.2b EMPOWERING data collection template and BEI calculation tool). This tool is accompanied by an exercise/ case study. The supporting material was fully presented during the SECAP walkthrough webinars (I & II) which are available on empowering project website. For more information, please contact us via the contact form on EMPOWERING project website!



Partners



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