

**Title:**

EE4Local. Strengthen local energy efficiency policies (county and/or municipal Energy Efficiency Plans).

**Project summary**

The EE4Local project addresses local policies in the field of energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies. In this way, the project looks for an involvement and real change in the society behaviour in this field, working at local or regional level.

In this matter, bottom-up governance is crucial, in order to have a greater impact on local elements such as awareness-raising, dissemination, energy consumption in public buildings and premises, energy efficiency certificates issuance, refurbishment promotion, etc. Therefore, the aim is to achieve effective and lasting change over time.

The project overall objective is to improve and develop local energy efficiency policies, in which the participation and awareness of the different agents of the territories involved in the project is promoted, such as the business network, entrepreneurs, county actors and citizens.

Partners will work jointly improving each energy efficiency policy in terms of work areas, beneficiaries and processes. To achieve the project goals, the exchange of regional experience will represent an opportunity for each partner to present the policies, strategies and experiences on competences, governance, citizen participation, implementation mechanism and instruments of intervention, monitoring and evaluation in the field of energy efficiency at their local or county level. By this way, even if each partner has its own characteristics, methods as well as being at a different policy cycle, they will be able to deepen their knowledge of good practices, so that together they can contribute to improve the planification and management of their energy efficiency policies.

**Main Objective:**

- Improve the implementation and development of local policies in the field of energy efficiency and the use of renewable energies.

**Specific Objectives:**

- Identify the characteristics of existing energy efficiency policies or plans at local level.
- Identification and diagnosis of success factors and barriers for the implementation of energy efficient management approaches in local level plans and policies.

- Identification of good practices at local level to identify measures that can contribute to the improvement of energy efficiency plans.
- Promote information, training, awareness-raising and participation of different agents in the territories in decision-making on local.

### Tasks:

The project will facilitate sharing, learning and exchange of good practices between partners to improve their Energy Efficiency Plans in terms of work areas, beneficiaries and processes.

Therefore, the approach to the work will be organised in three phases:

#### **Phase 1. Approach to the methodology to be followed during the project**

Prior to the start of the visits and exchange of experiences, the guidelines to be followed by all project partners will be stipulated through a "Methodological guide for situation analysis" and a "Political roadmap".

The aim is to develop a common working methodology for all project partners, so that they all work in the same direction.

#### **Phase 2. Learning – Exchange of experiences process**

This phase will last three years and will host different activities focused on the exchange and transfer of experiences between the partners. The goal of these exchanges is to allow all partners to improve their regional Energy Efficiency Plans.

In this way, the interregional learning process will be carried out through visits (learning experiences) to each of the partner territories, which will allow the involvement of all participating local authorities and stakeholders' representatives.

In each visit, an exchange of regional experiences will take place, in which the project partners of the visited territory will present the policies, strategies and experiences on competences, governance, citizen participation, implementation mechanism and instruments of intervention, monitoring and evaluation in the field of energy efficiency at local or county level.

Likewise, a visit of Good Practices will take place and a peer review will be carried out in which the different participating local agents will exchange opinions about the strategies implemented in the visited territory and will deepen their knowledge of good practices, so that together they can contribute to improve the planification and management of their energy efficiency policies.

After the end of each visit, the host partner must prepare an analysis of the situation of its territory in terms of local (county and municipal) energy efficiency policies according to the contributions made by the rest of the project partners.

In addition to the interregional visits, partners will organise seminars for local stakeholders to exchange learned lessons and practices, as well as to keep them up to date on project progress. To this end, dissemination events will be held to display the knowledge gained from these visits.

This phase will conclude with the elaboration of an action plan by each partner in which the learned lessons in this phase will be included, so that they can be put into practice in their local policies in order to improve those already implemented in their territory.

### **Phase 3. Monitoring the implementation of the action plans**

The last phase of the project will take place in the fourth and final year of the project, which will move from learning to implementation. The action plans will be implemented by each partner and their progress and impact will be monitored.

The recommendations and results of the project will be disseminated to provide the opportunity to take and replicate lessons learned in other EU territories.

#### **Typology of partners:**

- National, regional and local public authorities
- Public law entities (regional development agencies, business support organisations, universities)
- Private non-profit organisations

#### **Programas de cooperación de interés**

- INTERREG EUROPE. Priority 2. Greening Europe. SO 2.1. Energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions