

# *IEE PROJECT CONURBANT*



## *MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF SEAPS DELIVERABLE 6.3*

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SEAP development process in Conurbant consisted of following steps: signatory of CoM, energy inventory, organisation of energy forums, development and approval of SEAP, organisation of working groups and peer-to-peer activities. At the end of the project all of these activities were monitored and evaluated and this report summarises the main results achieved.

Monitoring and evaluation of the main parameters was performed in two phases. The first step included gathering of the quantitative data, e.g. number of signatories, SEAPs developed and approved etc. The second phase foreseen interviews with Conurbation municipalities. The main objective of the interviews was to:

- assess satisfaction of the municipalities with the approach of Conurbant;
- identify advantages and disadvantages of the whole process;
- seek for further improvements and recommendations.

In order to facilitate monitoring and evaluation procedure, an interview guide was developed. In order to collect quantitative data, an excel tool was provided to partners with required information.

In total 60 municipalities joined Conurbant project and will deliver savings of 2914 GWh in 2020 in case the actions in the SEAPs are implemented. In the meantime increase of 544 GWh of renewable energy is planned in the whole project area. Planned actions will ensure reduction of almost 2 million tCO<sub>2</sub> in 2020 in the whole project area of the Conurbant partners. The average forecasted CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction per capita for the Conurbant municipalities is 0.9 tCO<sub>2</sub> per capita in 2020.

Most of the Conurbation municipalities appraised the possibility to cooperate in the framework of the project. In some cases they have admitted that they would not have committed without this invitation. Trainings, energy forums and assistance in development of BEIs and SEAPs have been mentioned as most important added value for them. In the meantime, they agree that there are many opportunities (and very few obstacles) to cooperate further on larger energy efficiency and RES projects.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Monitoring of the results is an important part of the SEAP implementation process. This report focuses on monitoring of the SEAP development process throughout the Conurbant project.

Chapter 2 describes the background and context how the project was constructed and what where the main elements. Chapter 3 focuses on the design of the monitoring and evaluation and describes the main components of the process. Results of the evaluation are presented in chapter 4.

It should be noted that this report has been prepared in cooperation with all the project partners. Task leader (Ekodoma) developed and proposed the methodology for the evaluation and summarised the quantitative results in the report. In the meantime, interviews (chapter 4.2) have been performed by each partner from respective project area.

## 2. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Conurbant project was design to reach four main specific objectives:

- To introduce a peer-to-peer approach between medium and large EU cities and involving their smaller, surrounding conurbation towns;
- To develop, implement and monitor sustainable energy action plans in eight Trainee municipalities and 40 Conurbation towns during the project's lifetime;
- To guarantee the institutionalisation of sustainable energy policies and to ensure the coherent implementation and political continuity of SEAPs during and after the project's lifetime;
- To make results widely available.

In order to reach these objectives and also contribute to achieving EU targets on CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction, energy efficiency and RES, five main directly related activities were implemented throughout the project (see the figure 1).



*Figure 1: Five main elements of Conurbant project*

SEAP development included activities like BEI development, organisation of energy forums that are part of the SEAP development process. Peer-to-peer approach meant to increase the awareness and capacity building of less experienced peer cities and their related conurbations. It was done through both - an indirect and direct approach:

- indirect approach was managed through audit schemes;
- direct approach was used with Cities during peer visits, and with conurbation cities/villages in specific sessions of peer visits.

More information about the results of the peer-to-peer approach is given in the Learning from each other for Sustainable Energy Action Planning – practical guidance for peer-to-peer working across a range of actors and realities.

This report however describes the monitoring results of the SEAP development process. The results of the SEAP implementation are presented in the Report on selection and implementation of actions included in SEAPs, i.e. D6.4 on the website of the Conurbant project. In the meantime, also Report on the monitoring and evaluation of institutionalisation is available on the website of the project.

### 3. DESIGN OF THE EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation of the main parameters was performed in two phases. The first step included gathering of the quantitative data, e.g. number of signatories, SEAPs developed and approved etc. The second phase foreseen interviews with Conurbation municipalities. The main objective of the interviews was to:

- assess satisfaction of the municipalities with the approach of Conurbant;
- identify advantages and disadvantages of the whole process;
- seek for further improvements and recommendations.

In order to facilitate evaluation process, monitoring procedure and an interview guide was developed. In order to collect quantitative data, an excel tool was provided to partners with required information (see Annex 1).

In the meantime, set of questions were proposed for the interviews:

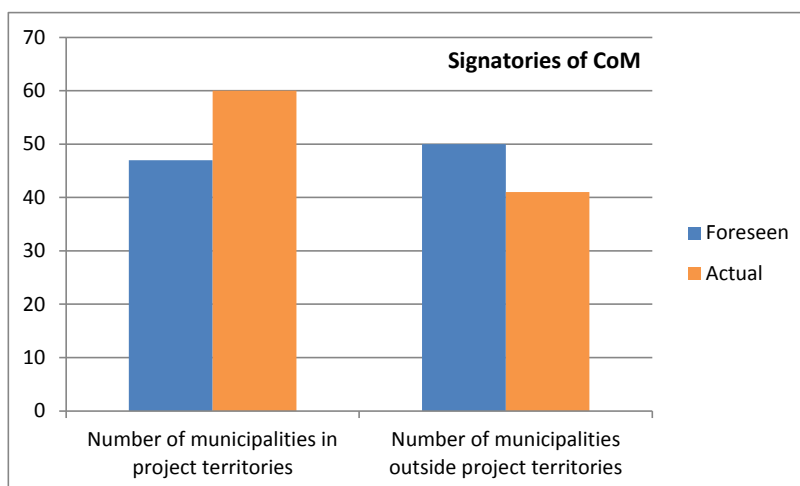
1. Name of the municipality
2. The date of the interview
3. The name of the interviewer
4. The position of the interviewer
5. Short information how long the person has been working in the municipality and what are the main duties in the municipality
6. How would you describe the willingness of your municipality to sign Covenant of Mayors (great; hard to convince etc.)? What were the main factors contributing to the signing of CoM? What did convince the mayor to sign CoM?
7. How would you define the collection of the data for energy baseline? Was it simple or very hard? What were the barriers?
8. What would you suggest how to improve this process in other municipalities?
9. How do you value energy forum organised in your municipality? Was it necessary? Will you continue with this initiative? If and what could be done different?
10. How was the process for finalisation of the SEAP in your municipality? Did politicians, technicians and stakeholders have a lot of comments for the initial version of the SEAP?
11. How long it took for your municipality to approve SEAP? What were the main objections/barriers (if any)?
12. What are the further needs for your municipality? Do you see that you will implement the actions written in SEAP? If not, why? If yes, which?
13. Did you get enough support, input and ideas from the partners of the Conurbant project (municipality and/or technical partner)?
14. Do you think such approach when several municipalities have training, working groups and meetings together should be further applied? Have you learned something from other municipalities during these last three years? Do you have suggestions for improvements in this respect?
15. What could be improved in the future in this respect? How to ensure better collaboration inside the municipality between different departments? And also how to improve collaboration between municipalities?
16. How do you think it would be possible to collaborate with neighbouring municipalities also for projects, e.g. to create an energy efficiency portfolio together? Have you tried? Do you see any advantage of this? What are the barriers?

## 4. EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS

Relevance; effectiveness; efficiency; information and awareness

## 4.1. QUANTITATIVE INDICATORS

Figure 2 summarises results of the signatories in the framework of the Conurbant project and outside the project territories. As it can be seen, it was foreseen to involve 48 municipalities in the project but in total 60 municipalities were approached and participated. The increase of the actual number of the municipalities in project territories was thanks to municipality of Timisoara that involved in total 16 Conurbation municipalities.



*Figure 2: Number of new signatories due to the Conurbant project activities*

The other objective of the project was to involve new signatories outside the project territories. At the end of the project due to the different activities, e.g. trainings, energy forums and other dissemination activities it can be acknowledged to Conurbant that 41 municipality has joined CoM. Even if the target was 50 municipalities, there are other municipalities that have not yet joined CoM but plan to do that during 2014-2015.

The first step in the SEAP development is the collection of the data and compilation of the baseline emission inventory (BEI). In total BEIs for all 60 municipalities were developed. In total municipalities can include emissions from at least 12 different sources, e.g. municipal buildings, equipment, residential buildings, private and commercial transport etc. As it was indicated by different partners, the main sources not included in BEIs are industries (non EU ETS), urban rail transport, tertiary buildings and also energy production. One of the reasons for exclusion is the lack of the data for these sectors.

In the figure 3 the main results of the energy forums are presented. In total 51 energy forum was organised and 989 participants took part in these events. In average 3 different sessions were arranged during one energy forum, e.g. on energy efficiency in buildings, street lighting, sustainable transport solutions etc.

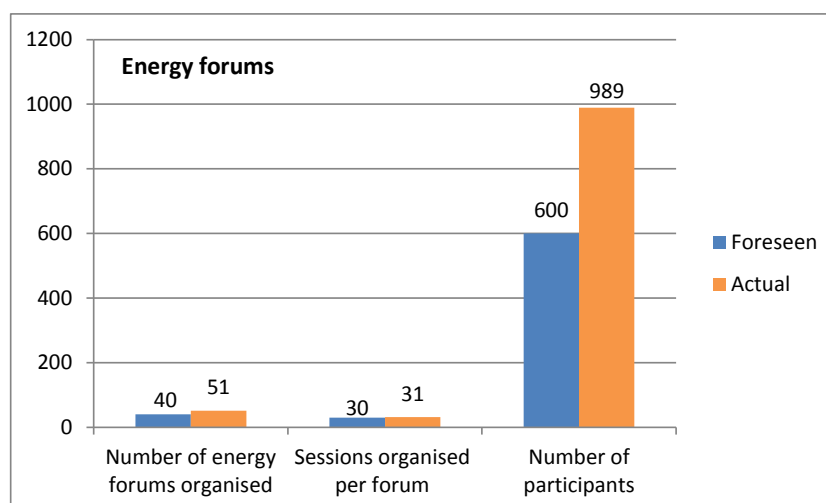


Figure 3: Statistics on energy forums

41% of the stakeholders taking part in the energy forums were end users, representatives of the associations and citizens. 33% were policy makers and representatives of the public bodies (see figure 4), including mayors, executive directors, deputies etc.

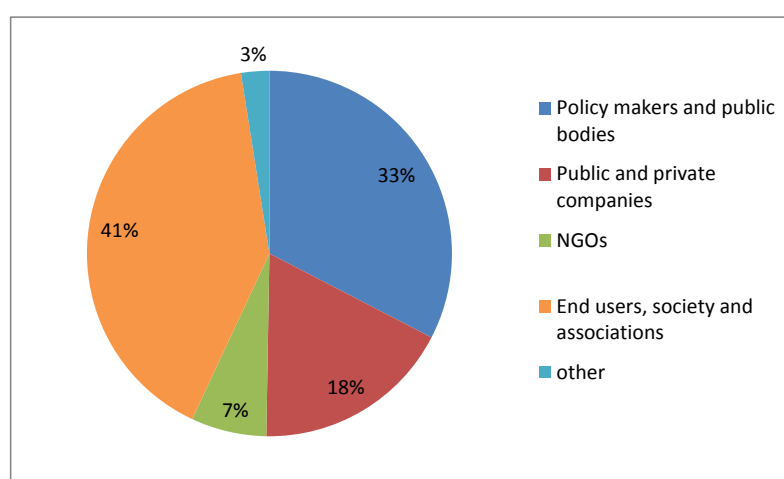


Figure 4: Distribution of categories between stakeholders

During the project 52 SEAPs were developed and approved with the support of the local opposition (target was 48). Based on the collected information, Figure 5 and 6 presents the main planned energy savings and CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions until 2020 by each partner area. The greatest forecasted energy savings will be achieved in Palma (1032 GWh in 2020) but the smallest in the Conurbation towns of the Alba Iulia – 19 GWh in 2020. In total 2914 GWh will be saved in 2020 in case the actions in the SEAPs are implemented. In the meantime increase of 544 GWh of renewable energy is planned in the whole project area. The greatest increase will be reached in Palma and to lesser extent in Vratsa and Salaspils.



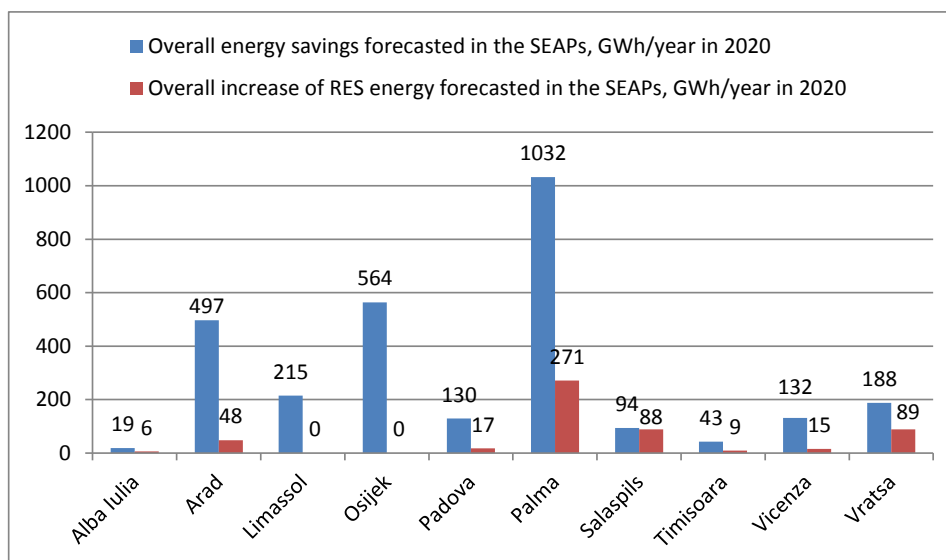


Figure 5: Forecasted energy savings and increase of RES in the SEAPs in 2020

Based on the SEAPs, planned actions will ensure reduction of almost 2 million tCO<sub>2</sub> in 2020 in the whole project area of the Conurbant partners. The distribution of the forecasted CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction is presented in figure 6.

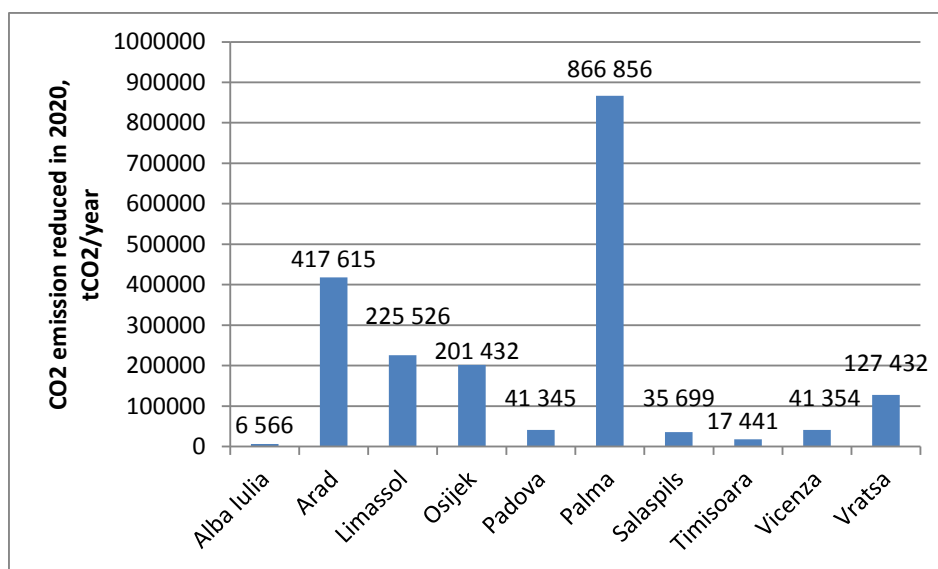


Figure 6: Forecasted CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction in 2020

The greatest CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction will be achieved in Palma (also largest populated area), i.e. 867 thousand tCO<sub>2</sub> in 2020. The other cities with great forecasted CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction targets are Arad, Limassol and Osijek. In figure 7 are presented another evaluation result – tCO<sub>2</sub> emission reduced per capita in 2020.

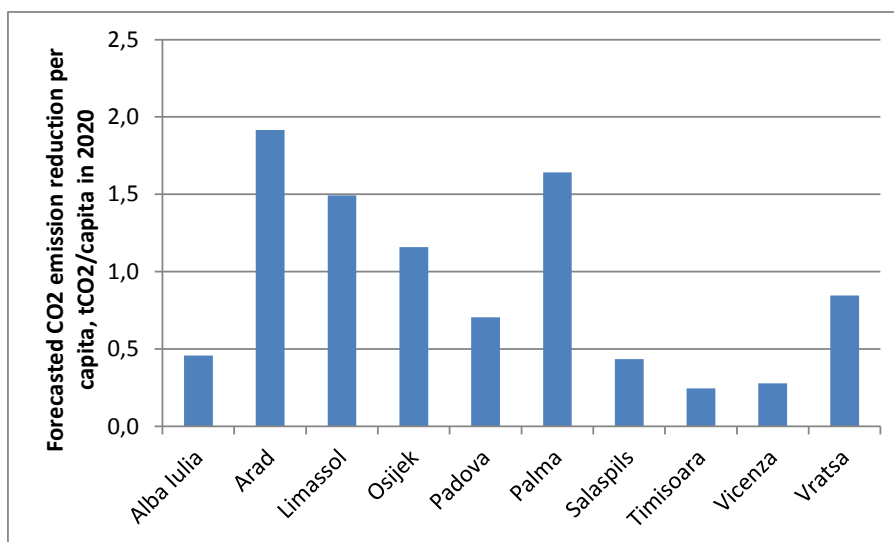


Figure 7: Forecasted CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction per capita in 2020

As it can be seen, the greatest forecasted CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction values per capita will be achieved in municipality of Arad and its conurbation municipalities (1.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>/capita in 2020). The average value for the Conurbant municipalities is 0.9 tCO<sub>2</sub> per capita in 2020.

In the framework of the Conurbant, 41 working group meeting was organised in the partner areas. More than 650 persons attended the meetings in order to increase their knowledge about SEAPs, collection of the data, implementation and merging of different actions. There are no data available yet if any actions will be merged and implemented in close cooperation between conurbation municipalities. In the meantime, during the project such possibilities were identified. One of the main challenges in this respect is setting responsibilities and overcoming bureaucratic obstacles.

Peer-to-peer audits were performed throughout the project. In the box below is presented the example of the methodology used and meetings held by one of the mentoring municipalities – municipality of Padova.

## The TUTORING process by Padova

Here under are described the peer tutoring phases managed by municipality of Padova for the tutoring cities: Vicenza-Palma and Osijek-Limassol. All those phases had a goal that was followed and achieved.

### 1) Kick-off 30-31.05/1.06.2011

Mentoring/Facilitation activities on feasibility of the CONURBANT Project goals

### 2) 1<sup>st</sup> tutoring in Vicenza 22/06/2012

During the first tutoring Padova monitored Vicenza (and with remote means Palma) on the development of the City's and the conurbation cities BEIs and SEAPs

### 3) 2<sup>nd</sup> Tutoring / peer-to-peer 4/10/2012 on financial management of energy related operations (and on the CONURBANT project) in Limassol

Osijek – Limassol and Vicenza-Palma were managed by Padova in two different subgroups addressing the aspects related to financial management of energy related projects.

### 4) 3rd tutoring in Palma, with Palma-Vicenza twinning visit

22-23.04.2013 – The twinning of Vicenza-Palma was concentrated on the analysis of the advancement of BEIs e SEAPS in the two cities and the related Conurbations

### 5) 26-27/06/2013 Partner Meeting BXL

- The tutoring involved all 4 conurbation areas (Vicenza, Palma, Limassol, Osijek) and focused on:
  - BEIs (in particular to try to find solution to complete the missing parts and to best use local work groups to do that)
  - SEAP developments
  - focus group on the possible actions to apply for ELENA Facility

### 6) 9-12.10.2013 Meeting Palma

- The tutoring involved all 4 conurbation areas (Vicenza, Palma, Limassol, Osijek) and focused on try to analyze the SEAP Actions and to find the two for each city to try to implement completely, by the end of the project.

### 7) 24-25.01.2014 Freiburg, Local Renewables

The tutoring involved all 4 conurbation areas (Vicenza, Palma, Limassol, and Osijek) and focused on European frameworks to finance sustainable energy actions

### 8) Twinning Osijek 18-21.02.2014

The meeting was a twinning between Osijek - Limassol and focused on trying to analyze common Actions between Osijek and Limassol and Osijek conurbation cities and on how to best institutionalize the process. Another aspect of the peer visit was the analysis of the advancement of the ELENA (or similar) facility in Osijek and in Limassol

### 9) Twinning Limassol 18-22.03.2014

The meeting was a twinning between Osijek - Limassol and focused on trying to analyze common Actions between Osijek and Limassol and Limassol conurbation cities and on how to best institutionalize the process. Another aspect of the peer visit was the analysis of the advancement of the ELENA (or similar) facility in Osijek and in Limassol

### 10) Twinning Barcelona 27-29.03.2014

The meeting was a twinning between Vicenza and Palma and focused on trying to analyze common Actions between Vicenza and Palma.

Another aspect of the peer visit was the analysis of the advancement of the ELENA (or similar) facility in Palma and in Vicenza

### 11) Final tutoring in Osijek 22-25.04.2014

The final event was an occasion for the 4 cities to wrap up their advancement on ELENA (or similar) Facilities

## 4.2. QUALITATIVE INDICATORS

In order to evaluate the process of the SEAP development in Conurbation municipalities, an interview guide was developed. The purpose of the interviews was to evaluate the project performance based on the input from the partners from Conurbation towns.

The interviews were performed through telephone or mutually by the project partners. Mainly they were contacted in March and early April except for Osijek – in May.

The results of the interviews are presented below by project partners from respective territories. Partners selected different ways to present their results. Most of them used transcription however Limassol and Arad submitted summary of the whole interviews but Alba Iulia summarised the results in the table.

### 4.2.1. INTERVIEWS WITH CONURBATIONS OF PADOVA

1. Name of the municipality

Comune di Rubano

Comune di Vigonza

Comune di Ponte San Nicolò

Comune di Due Carrare

2. The date of the interview

All interviews were taken in a common meeting on 14 March 2014. Meeting was organised by the Comune di Padova at its premises to talk about financing of the future common SEAP actions

3. The name of the interviewer

Marco Frau

Leopoldo Battistoni

Simone Bezze

Claudio Garbo

4. The position of the interviewer

Director of Technical Services

Director of Public works

Director of Environment and technological plants service

Deputy Mayor and Councillor for Environment

5. Short information how long the person has been working in the municipality and what are the main duties in the municipality

The Director works as Director in Rubano since 2010 and manages all technical offices

The Director works as Director in Vigonza since 2010 and manages Public works

The Director works as Director in Ponte San Nicolò since 2008 and manages all aspects related to technology and environment in its LG

Mr. Garbo is Politician in Due Carrare since 2010

6. How would you describe the willingness of your municipality to sign Covenant of Mayors (great; hard to convince etc.)? What were the main factors contributing to the signing of CoM? What did convince the mayor to sign CoM?

The Municipality long before Conurbant project decided to sign the CoM, but after that it was very difficult with its own skills to proceed in developing the BEI and SEAP. The political leader of the action was Mr. Segato, the councillor for Environment

Vigonza already had a detailed analysis of its own building consumption and projections on future intervention to reduce its consumption, but was lacking in the other aspects related to a SEAP. When Padova, in the framework of IEE Conurbant presented this opportunity the Mayor was really committed in putting us all active in reaching the goal of having a SEAP.

The decision of implementing a SEAP in the framework of IEE CONURBANT wasn't taken easily: both our General Director and our Mayor wanted to have information and "basic training" on what the goals of IEE CONURBANT and of the Com were and which were threats and opportunities. The officers of the Comune di Padova and Ponte San Nicolò Councillor for Environment (Mr. Cappuzzo) guided the process that made it possible for the municipality to apply.

The decision of signing the CoM was taken directly by the Deputy Mayor - in accordance with the Mayor: Mr. Garbo is very active on the field of energy efficiency for public lights, so had already the knowledge to step forward.

7. How would you define the collection of the data for energy baseline? Was it simple or very hard? What were the barriers?

The collection of BEI data was easy, what was difficult was the analysis of past and future actions because the process went on in fragmented way. The support of Conurbant was therefore of utmost importance to recover lost time.

Vigonza had already a good set of data and also some scenarios: this part of the work was therefore easily achieved.

Ponte San Nicolò had no problems in getting all required data to develop a BEI.

Due Carrare already possessed a lot of data on energy consumption both from the municipality and territory side: on the other side, what was missing has been found with a lot of efforts and difficulties in particular some public buildings' gas consumption and the electricity share of the Community.

8. What would you suggest how to improve this process in other municipalities?

Institutionalization in the municipality was well established: what is important for small Italian LG is to set up (and make live) and internal technical working group.

Participation with external stakeholders has to be set up really early

Since we're small LGs, the important thing is to do the things together....probably in the future Joint SEAP should be a good opportunity for rural areas or for little LGs in a metropolitan context

Signing the Com AFTER you have the BEI

9. How do you value energy forum organised in your municipality? Was it necessary? Will you continue with this initiative? If and what could be done different?

Energy forums were really important and successful and for sure they will be used also for future assessment of our SEAP. A good point for them is also that external stakeholders are often very expert and have connections and stakes also in other conurbations LGs.

Energy forums in Vigonza have been really useful: we're lucky because our Master plan already had an active participation working group - and part of it became SEAP forum. Its contribution was, is and will be necessary for future developments of climate policies.

The forum was really necessary: without it we wouldn't have reached the -20%. We surely will activate it once in a year to look for advice, new actions, possible PPP.

Energy Forum was really important to find actions we didn't know about and for future cooperation with neighbouring municipalities on common grounds.

10. How was the process for finalisation of the SEAP in your municipality? Did politicians, technicians and stakeholders have a lot of comments for the initial version of the SEAP?

Finalization - though slow - went on smoothly with few comments.

Comments were made in the environment commission, but were really few: the forums helped a lot on that

No comments in the finalisations, probably because all comments have been tackled during the forums.

The finalisation is still to be fulfilled: anyway I foresee no major problems due to the fact that we activated a really good working forum.

11. How long it took for your municipality to approve SEAP? What were the main objections/barriers (if any)?

The whole process took 4 years: we stopped for lacking of skills, not for political reasons.

The whole process took 2.5 years and had no barriers

The whole process took 2.5 years and faced no major problems

The whole process took 3 and found it difficult to collect all quantitative Data from some energy providers

12. What are the further needs for your municipality? Do you see that you will implement the actions written in SEAP? If not, why? If yes, which?

Common answer:

- further needs will be external help for assessment.
- Padova and the conurbation municipalities will implement private building refurbishment actions, will apply on a project related to urban public mobility and have applied for an ELENA on public buildings and public lightings refurbishment.

13. Did you get enough support, input and ideas from the partners of the Conurbant project (municipality and/or technical partner)?

Common answer: Yes

14. Do you think such approach when several municipalities have training, working groups and meetings together should be further applied? Have you learned something from other municipalities during these last three years? Do you have suggestions for improvements in this respect?

Common answer:

- ▲ The approach works but we should try to get all the conurbation cities together in such works and should try also to link big neighbouring cities through "corridors" in order to implement better mitigation actions

15. What could be improved in the future in this respect? How to ensure better collaboration inside the municipality between different departments? And also how to improve collaboration between municipalities?

The SEAP will surely be implemented in many parts but we still have to work hard in implementing the cooperation between internal departments: in this sense the coordination by the Directorate General of the municipality is necessary.

Many action of the SEAP are to be easily implemented and our internal working group works well as well as the political supporting working group. The difficult aspect is to try to implement the actions that are not directly under our control: in that sense cooperation between municipalities is important. The whole process took 2.5 years and faced no major problems. Collaboration between municipalities is necessary, but most of all we need to implement collaboration with other departments in our municipality.

Collaboration of officers in our municipality is easy since we're a very small municipality: we need to improve the data collection system.

16. How do you think it would be possible to collaborate with neighbouring municipalities also for projects, e.g. to create an energy efficiency portfolio together? Have you tried? Do you see any advantage of this? What are the barriers?

Common answer:

- ⤴ No barriers, we're already cooperating and we expect to extend our approach to all the municipalities surrounding Padova, and more

#### 4.2.2. INTERVIEWS WITH CONURBATIONS OF VICENZA

1. Name of the municipality

Comune di Arcugnano

Comune di Creazzo

Comune di Monticello Conte Otto

Comune di Sovizzo

2. The date of the interview

21 March 2014 - all interviews were taken in a common meeting organised to talk about future common SEAP actions financing and ELENA facility options organised by the Comune di Vicenza and Sogesca

3. The name of the interviewer

Giovanni Reato

Teresa Piccoli

Christian Zocchetta

Paolo Centofante

4. The position of the interviewer

Deputy Mayor and Councillor for Environment

Deputy Mayor and Councillor for Environment

Deputy Mayor and Councillor for Environment

Deputy Mayor and Councillor for Environment

5. Short information how long the person has been working in the municipality and what are the main duties in the municipality

Politician in Arcugnano since 2010

Politician in Creazzo since 2010

Politician in Monticello C.Otto since 2010

Politician in Sovizzo since 2010

6. How would you describe the willingness of your municipality to sign Covenant of Mayors (great; hard to convince etc.)? What were the main factors contributing to the signing of CoM? What did convince the mayor to sign CoM?

The Municipality of Arcugnano did not have specific technical skills to effort a detailed analysis of its own building consumption and a projections on future intervention to reduce its consumption, but thanks to technical support and Vicenza Municipality, in the framework of IEE Conurbant project, a great opportunity was presented to the Mayor that became really committed in putting us all active in reaching the goal of having a SEAP

The decision of implementing the SEAP in the framework of IEE CONURBANT wasn't taken easily: both our General Director and our Mayor wanted to have information and "basic training" on what the goals of IEE CONURBANT and of the Com were and which were threats and opportunities. After starting the Conurbant path, thanks to the technical support we had a easiest way to follow.

Monticello already started a first analysis of its own building consumption and projections on future intervention to reduce its consumption, but was lacking in the other aspects related to a SEAP. When Vicenza, in the framework of IEE Conurbant presented this opportunity me and the municipal technicians we started an enthusiastic process.

The Municipality long before Conurbant project decided to sign the CoM, but after that it was very difficult with its own skills to proceed in developing the BEI and SEAP. In fact we signed in 2010 but we were not able to proceed with the BEI, till Conurbant arrived and the Municipality of Vicenza gave us this chance.

7. How would you define the collection of the data for energy baseline? Was it simple or very hard? What were the barriers?

The collection of BEI data was not very easy; in particular what was difficult was to receive some data in electric consumption from the supplier. The support of Conurbant technical partner was therefore important to recover lost time. The participation to local training sessions was fruitful too.

Creazzo had some problems in getting all required data to develop a BEI, but the Conurbant support was very useful.

Monticello Conte Otto already possessed few data on energy consumption both from the municipality and territory side: on the other side, what was missing has been found with a lot of efforts and difficulties in particular some public buildings' gas consumption and the electricity share of the Community.

Sovizzo had already a pretty good set of data and also some scenarios: this part of the work was therefore easily achieved.

8. What would you suggest how to improve this process in other municipalities?

Institutionalization in the municipality was well established: what is important for small Italian LG is to set up (and make live) and internal technical working group.

Participation with external stakeholders has to be set up at the very beginning of the process

Since we're small LGs, the important thing it to do the things together....probably in the future Joint SEAP should be a good opportunity for rural areas or for little LGs in a metropolitan context

Sign the Covenant of Mayors adhesion AFTER you have BEI done in order to respect the first year deadline.

9. How do you value energy forum organised in your municipality? Was it necessary? Will you continue with this initiative? If and what could be done different?



Energy forums were really important and successful and for sure they will be used also for future assessment of our SEAP. A good point for them is also that external stakeholders are often very expert and have connections and stakes also in other conurbations LGs.

Energy forums in Creazzo have been really useful: we're lucky because we had the demonstration that we have good local stakeholders that ensured an active participation working group. Their contribution was fruitful and it will be necessary for future developments of climate policies.

The forum was really necessary: without it we wouldn't have reached the -20% action list inserted in our SEAP.

Energy Forum was really important to find actions we didn't know about and for future cooperation with neighbouring municipalities on common grounds.

10. How was the process for finalisation of the SEAP in your municipality? Did politicians, technicians and stakeholders have a lot of comments for the initial version of the SEAP?

Finalization - though slow - went on smoothly with few comments.

Comments were made in the environment commission, but were really few: the forums helped a lot on that

The finalisation is still to be fulfilled: anyway I foresee no major problems due to the fact that we activated a really good working forum.

Few comments in the final stage, probably because all comments have been tackled during the forums.

11. How long it took for your municipality to approve SEAP? What were the main objections/barriers (if any)?

The whole process took 2.5 years and had no barriers

The whole process took 2.5 years and had no barriers

The whole process took 2.5 years and faced no major problems

The whole process took 4 years: we stopped for lacking of skills, not for political reasons

12. What are the further needs for your municipality? Do you see that you will implement the actions written in SEAP? If not, why? If yes, which?

Common answer:

- further needs will be external help for assessment.
- Vicenza and the conurbation municipalities will implement private building refurbishment actions, will apply on a project related to urban public mobility and will apply for an ELENA on public lightings refurbishment.

13. Did you get enough support, input and ideas from the partners of the Conurbant project (municipality and/or technical partner)?

Common answer: Yes

14. Do you think such approach when several municipalities have training, working groups and meetings together should be further applied? Have you learned something from other municipalities during these last three years? Do you have suggestions for improvements in this respect?

Common answer:

- The approach works but we should try to get all the conurbation cities together in such works and should try also to link big neighbouring cities through "corridors" in order to implement better mitigation actions

15. What could be improved in the future in this respect? How to ensure better collaboration inside the municipality between different departments? And also how to improve collaboration between municipalities?

The SEAP will surely be implemented in many parts but we still have to work hard in implementing the cooperation between internal departments: in this sense the coordination by the Directorate General of the municipality is necessary.

Many action of the SEAP are to be easily implemented and our internal working group works well as well as the political supporting working group. The difficult aspect is to try to implement the actions that are not directly under our control: in that sense cooperation between municipalities is important. The whole process took 2.5 years and faced no major problems. Collaboration between municipalities is necessary, but most of all we need to implement collaboration with other departments in our municipality.

Collaboration of officers in our municipality is easy since we're a very small municipality: we need to improve the data collection system.

16. How do you think it would be possible to collaborate with neighbouring municipalities also for projects, e.g. to create an energy efficiency portfolio together? Have you tried? Do you see any advantage of this? What are the barriers?

Common answer:

- No barriers, we're already cooperating and we expect to extend our approach to all the municipalities surrounding Vicenza

#### 4.2.3. INTERVIEWS WITH CONURBATIONS OF SALASPILS

1. Name of the municipality

Municipality of Ogre  
Municipality of Kegums  
Municipality of Ikšķile  
Municipality of Lielvarde

2. The date of the interview

18 March 2014  
25 March 2014  
28 April 2014  
28 March 2014

3. The name of the interviewer

Ilze Staģīte  
Dace Sobeļeva  
Indra Leja  
Airita Brenča

4. The position of the interviewer

Project manager of Development section  
Project coordinator  
Head of Development section  
Head of Development and project management section

5. Short information how long the person has been working in the municipality and what are the main duties in the municipality

Works since 2012 and main duties are project preparation, implementation and supervising.

Works since 2012 and main duties are project implementing, analyzes of it and formulation of proposals for actions, collaboration with NGOs

Works since February 2010 and main duties are preparation of Development program, Strategy and Development planning, business coordination in municipality.

Works since 2008 and main duties are development documents preparation (development program, projects etc.), EU project supervising

6. How would you describe the willingness of your municipality to sign Covenant of Mayors (great; hard to convince etc.)? What were the main factors contributing to the signing of CoM? What did convince the mayor to sign CoM?

The decision of signing the CoM was great, because when mayor of municipality started working as the Mayor, he already had the tendency to use green energy and he also met mayor from the Netherlands where they talked about cooperation regarding the use of green energy.

To signing CoM mayor was convincing in Salaspils in the one the first meetings about CONURBANT project and there wasn't long thought to sign CoM. Main factors was proposed possibilities to attract actions to improve development of municipality.

It was easy decision and the main factors were publicity and also if we have SEAP, than easier will be getting financing for project implementing.

The decision that need mayor is need to sign CoM was come from Development Section and he decided it easy to sign it, because there is actions what are useful for municipality.

7. How would you define the collection of the data for energy baseline? Was it simple or very hard? What were the barriers?

It wasn't easy, because records of data in the city and in the regions are in different places. In the city one of the data are in the one institution and another data was in another and difficult was get it to one place. Also difficult was get any data in transport section.

Barriers were that the main data was in the different places and also if they are, they are excerpts (some data for some time period is missing or not collected). Difficult also was get data in transport section, because data collecting not organize municipality. In municipality also hadn't counters for heat energy.

It was easy to get the data, but problem was that oldest data before wasn't collected and older data was missing.

The data were collected by different institutions and to get data from them was easy. Some problems occurred when data from earlier years were needed, because there isn't a one place where data was collected and easy obtainable.

8. What would you suggest how to improve this process in other municipalities?

Must be one common system or institution where the data was collected.

In small municipality it would be a good collaboration with the heads of different institutions, where they are collecting data of their buildings and when the data is needed then they give it to someone who needs it in municipality.

I would be great to install automatic reader system and data collection. The data can collect person who responsible for that in each institution. Before that need to explain to that person and CEO why these data need to collect and why it's important.

Need to collect data regular and there is need to control it someone. And also it is easier if there any form produced for that data collecting.

9. How do you value energy forum organised in your municipality? Was it necessary? Will you continue with this initiative? If and what could be done different?

Energy forum was necessary, but there was difficult to get people from residential houses to that forum.

Energy forums are needed, because for now is actualize questions about heating, but it's said that in forums not participated young and attractive peoples, who has a much more power to realize and speed up the action. And forums is needed make in region separately, because in different region is different questions what to need discuss.

Energy forums are needed and at first it is needed for specialists who work in municipalities' administration. Before forums need more information and explanation about these forums why its important and what will get from attending of these forums. We will continue organized forums, but before them we will work harder with publicity of forums.

Energy forum was good, because there was a moderator who can organize and gather all people from different sectors and help to understand their needs and also what the programme offer to them. And we continued it – once a year we will organize it.

10. How was the process for finalisation of the SEAP in your municipality? Did politicians, technicians and stakeholders have a lot of comments for the initial version of the SEAP?

There were comments from specialists from municipality; from deputy also were some comments. Specialists and deputy comments were that in the SEAP there were included also actions what was based to public sector and they considered that this sector was hard to organize and affected.

Process was easy and there were few comments. It was also approved during the first reading.

There were few comments, but the biggest question was what we will get from this process and SEAP. There were many comments and questions from specialists who are involved in data collection and in analysing SEAP process. Also discussion was for mayor from previous term about SEAP proposed scheme.

11. How long it took for your municipality to approve SEAP? What where the main objections/barriers (if any)?

The whole process took about one year and one of main objection was that for financing SEAP substantial investments are needed.

The whole process took half a year. Barrier was to get data for BEI.

The whole process took about 2 month.

The whole process took more than one year. We did not like the quality of the SEAP document.

12. What are the further needs for your municipality? Do you see that you will implement the actions written in SEAP? If not, why? If yes, which?

Yes, the actions will be implemented, but it also depend if there was some financing programmes from state or ES.

Some actions already implemented and some are in process, like street lighting. About one action we are still thinking (railway crossing), because it's not municipalities infrastructure and there is also need for large investments. During the next years also improved traffic infrastructure.

SEAP was made on real needs and of course we will implement these actions, but it depends on financing.

Yes, priority is energy efficiency in public and residential sector. It depends also from funding.

13. Did you get enough support, input and ideas from the partners of the Conurbant project (municipality and/or technical partner)?

Yes

Yes

Yes. And if you do not asking, than there is nothing happened.

Yes

14. Do you think such approach when several municipalities have training, working groups and meetings together should be further applied? Have you learned something from other

municipalities during these last three years? Do you have suggestions for improvements in this respect?

Yes that approach was good, because if there a problem in one municipality, the other municipality has problem solving for this action and in these training there was possibility to change with good practice too.

Trainings was very valuable and one the most valuable things was exchange of experience. These trainings meeting is need to organize more often maybe once a quarter.

Trainings are needed because of strengthening the capacity. There is no need to do these training oftener, but more quality and need to organize these trainings on specialist level.

It's a good opportunity to find partners in sections what we are interesting and establish professional friendship also.

15. What could be improved in the future in this respect? How to ensure better collaboration inside the municipality between different departments? And also how to improve collaboration between municipalities?

Collaboration is good. In some actions need to improve the collecting of data, there was some same data what collecting several people and it need to combine somehow. To improve collaboration between municipalities there is need one who organize meetings and said that there is need to meet, that is some good ideas what we need to discuss.

Collaboration is already good and there is no problem. Each other support in some actions and also in problem solving.

Collaboration depends on willingness to communicate and interest. It's developed also personal acquaintance between professionals.

It would be good to organize some video conference about current topic what is actual for now some times in a year.

16. How do you think it would be possible to collaborate with neighbouring municipalities also for projects, e.g. to create an energy efficiency portfolio together? Have you tried? Do you see any advantage of this? What are the barriers?

Collaboration is needed and there was already collaboration with some municipalities. One of the barriers that need to be mentioned is the appointment of responsible for that kind of project.

Collaboration is need because capacity is much bigger and can better realize some actions.

Collaboration is good for making some pilot projects – implementing some new technologies etc. Also we could make projects to inform inhabitants and stakeholders in energy efficiency, green technologies etc.

It's a good opportunity to collaborate with neighbouring municipalities. In last three years our collaboration is better and it depends of course on them how you want to do that.

#### 4.2.4. INTERVIEWS WITH CONURBATIONS OF PALMA

1. Name of the municipality

Santa Maria del Cami

Calvià

Andratx

2. The date of the interview

24/03/2014

02/04/2014

02/04/2014

2. The name of the interviewer

Guillem Ramis I Canyelles

Pablo de la Peña

Jairo Fernández Herrera

3. The position of the interviewer

Environment and Markets Councillor

Responsible of Calvià climate office

Municipal technician.

4. Short information how long the person has been working in the municipality and what are the main duties in the municipality

Elected member of the Municipality and Councillor with municipal govern responsibility in environment and markets areas since May 2011.

- Direction of Calvià Climate office.
- Development and monitoring of Calvià SEAP and its BEI.
- Development and monitoring of Local Agenda 21 of Calvià.
- Sustainability projects coordinator of Calvià climate office.

I draw up projects and I lead municipal works, since 5 years.

5. How would you describe the willingness of your municipality to sign Covenant of Mayors (great; hard to convince etc.)? What were the main factors contributing to the signing of CoM? What did convince the mayor to sign CoM?

Environment awareness of politician municipal groups from previous and actual govern equipment encouraged the sign. Equipment of Govern availability is really good but, there are a lack of technical and management capacity.

- Reduction of CO2 emissions in Calvià and improve energy efficiency.
- Municipality of Calvià is working on sustainability since 1995 and policy makers had been historically sensitized about necessity economical development through sustainability. The signature of CoM was a step in this committed way.

The willingness of Mayor was favourable. The main factor which contributed was contribution to take care of environment.

6. How would you define the collection of the data for energy baseline? Was it simple or very hard? What were the barriers?

Very complicated due to unknowing and dispersion of the information. The electric supply companies seem interested in keep confusion about real consumptions and they didn't cooperate at all, to provide good data to understanding fares and the evolution of municipal energy consumption.

Collection data was very complicated and it had great difficulty to find energy data at municipal level.

Collection data was very complicated. There was a lack of information and data.

7. What would you suggest how to improve this process in other municipalities?

By contracting a specialized technician in this kind of issues, to perform a complete energy consumption audit, to analyze the contracted power, to study consumption charts and to compare to the real needed in each hour and in each service.

Autonomous (Regional) Government gives clear instructions to facilitate data access by municipal technicians.

Autonomous (Regional) Government has to be leadership in the Covenant of Mayors initiative, at regional level.

We have to update the inventory of municipal vehicles, assets and facilities.

8. How do you value energy forum organised in your municipality? Was it necessary? Will you continue with this initiative? If and what could be done different?

In small municipalities, members of city council are overworked, without people who work, lack of knowledge and economic resources. The forums and others initiatives started from voluntary initiatives of citizenship and city halls support them if we consider it reasonable.

Energy forums were an initiative positive and operating, however get citizen's involvement is not always successful.

We didn't organize in our municipality. We participated as municipality taking part of Palma's conurbation.

9. How was the process for finalisation of the SEAP in your municipality? Did politicians, technicians and stakeholders have a lot of comments for the initial version of the SEAP?

It depends a lot on the contracted company and municipal government equip. Citizen's participation was low.

All departments have participated on a SEAP development, including policy makers from every involved area.

We had a hard working year before approving SEAP by the politicians, all municipal departments were involved on develop SEAP.

10. How long it took for your municipality to approve SEAP? What where the main objections/barriers (if any)?

The CoM signed in January 2010. Contracted company was fast in make studies and proposals. Contracted company it work fast and it started at the beginning of 2011 and it finished in October of the same year. There aren't any barriers.

One year. The main difficulty was to adopt the methodology of Covenant of Mayors.

One year. The main barrier was obtaining information about energy data.

11. What are the further needs for your municipality? Do you see that you will implement the actions written in SEAP? If not, why? If yes, which?

Initially to make an invitation to tender for electricity supply to have guaranties that electricity supply what provided us (to City hall) it had been acquired from renewable energy plants. Then substitute the whole public lighting by high pressure sodium gas bulbs. And finally substitute municipal fuel vehicles and fuel boilers by electric vehicles and biomass boilers, depending on the necessity.

We need to find mechanisms for funding major strategic projects. For example, renewable energy and energy efficiency, in buildings.

We are going to need better financing to be able to develop SEAP actions.

12. Did you get enough support, input and ideas from the partners of the Conurbant project (municipality and/or technical partner)?

Acceptable.

Yes.

Yes.

13. Do you think such approach when several municipalities have training, working groups and meetings together should be further applied? Have you learned something from other municipalities during these last three years? Do you have suggestions for improvements in this respect?

For me, every meeting has been useful. Participation and involvement at political level have lacked. I believe that to others editions you have to invite and involve persons, entities and local non profit organizations, that have expressed they concern against climate change.

Lack of development of some joint measure.

Yes, interchange of experiences and data from projects is a useful tool to can implement the positive actions from others municipalities.

14. What could be improved in the future in this respect? How to ensure better collaboration inside the municipality between different departments? And also how to improve collaboration between municipalities?

We have to consider the SEAP as a tool for priority management at political level, involving civil servant staff, with knowledge and sensitivity in efficiency energy, and some level of authority over the rest of municipal staff.

Regional leadership in initiative of Covenant of Mayors.

A develop actions database for each municipality and urban area.

15. How do you think it would be possible to collaborate with neighbouring municipalities also for projects, e.g. to create an energy efficiency portfolio together? Have you tried? Do you see any advantage of this? What are the barriers?

We have to facilitate the recruitment of shared technicians among the municipalities which participate in the project. We have always difficulties on knowledge and investment, for small municipalities the lack of technicians and money is the first problem, however in my municipality, there is a political predisposition about fight against Climate change.

Regional leadership in initiative of Covenant of Mayors.

The barriers are the different necessities among the municipalities which participated nowadays in the Conurbant project.

Yes, it would be a great advantage, collaboration among different municipal technicians from neighbouring localities. They are political decisions that do not take municipal technicians, like create an energy efficiency portfolio together or something like that.

#### 4.2.5. INTERVIEWS WITH CONURBATIONS OF ALBA IULIA

Enquiry	Name of the municipality	Reply
1. The date of the interview	Berghin	26 March 2014
	Ciugud	26 March 2014
	Ighiu	31 March 2014
	Sintimbru	31 March 2014
2. The name of the interviewer	Berghin	Bojan Alin
	Ciugud	Arsu Vasile Marius
	Ighiu	Bolea Ionela Maria
	Sintimbru	Giana Delia Cornelia
3. The position of the interviewer	Berghin	Public Procurement Expert
	Ciugud	Technical Manager
	Ighiu	Legal Adviser
	Sintimbru	Specialized Inspector



4. Short information how long the person has been working in the municipality and what are the main duties in the municipality	Berghin	8 years of experience. Develops and completes public procurement procedures, contracts management.
	Ciugud	5 years of experience. Responsible for evaluating the technical projects, feasibility studies, verification of eligibility conditions and the quality of work.
	Ighiu	9 years of experience. Responsible for ensuring compliance legal dispositions concerning the management of public and private domain for commune of Ighiu
	Sintimbru	12 years of experience. Develops and completes public procurement procedures, responsible for urbanism and territorial planning.
5. How would you describe the willingness of your municipality to sign Covenant of Mayors (great; hard to convince etc.)? What were the main factors contributing to the signing of CoM? What did convince the mayor to sign CoM?	Berghin	The decision to join the Covenant of Mayors was taken easily. One of the most important elements that led to the signing the CoM adhesion was the benefit of having a SEAP and thus an overview of community problems to solve in terms of energy efficiency and financing of these measures.
	Ciugud	From our point of view joining the Covenant of Mayors was a unanimous decision of the entire administration of Ciugud because it is a step forward regarding the community development in terms of energy efficiency. One of the biggest motivations in joining the Covenant was the opportunity to access funds for the development of our commune.
	Ighiu	What convinced the mayor to sign the CoM is the approach of sustainable energy actions for the community benefit and to reduce CO2 emissions. The decision was easy after they were shown the benefits and help that will benefit from Conurbant project.
	Sintimbru	For commune of Sintimbru was an easy decision. The main factors that influenced the adhesion to CoM were: - promotion of sustainable energy - Public awareness on the benefit of reducing energy consumption and thus CO <sub>2</sub> emissions.
6. How would you define the collection of the data for energy baseline? Was it simple or very hard? What were the barriers?	Berghin	Some of the institutions that have asked for information about the consumption have provided us the data without problems.
	Ciugud	We cannot say that there were problems because the time allotted for the inventory was appropriate in collecting the data needed. Though we have encountered difficulties in finding some information that were not within the competence of the local public administration such as finding the percentage of households that are using a heating system with wood and finding the number of households who have made some work of thermal rehabilitation.
	Ighiu	The collection of data which we were able to deliver from own administration was easy, but there were problems with the data that we had to get them from utility providers due to the lack of legislation to compel them to release all requested data for these situations.

	Sintimbru	It was not easy, because it was a large amount of information that had to be collected and synthesized to be able to achieve the EIB.
7. What would you suggest how to improve this process in other municipalities?	Berghin	Better cooperation between the involved institutions to provide faster and more accurately required information.
	Ciugud	No, we don't have any suggestions.
	Ighiu	To choose the reference year for which all data can be obtained.
	Sintimbru	It is very important to select the reference year for data collection, should be identified reference year for which you can collect all the data and then the realization of the EIB becomes an easier process.
8. How do you value energy forum organised in your municipality? Was it necessary? Will you continue with this initiative? If and what could be done different?	Berghin	The energy forum was necessary and we wish to continue with this initiative.
	Ciugud	Initiatives of this kind are always well received because these initiatives are increasing the sense of responsibility within the community as well as changing behaviours which are very important even at a low level. As a local promoter of energy efficiency and reducing the energy consumption, the City Hall must provide an example regarding the energy efficiency and should continue to do so in the future.
	Ighiu	The forum was very appropriate and we want to continue with this initiative. During implementation of SEAP we want to organize other forums to have feedback from stakeholders.
	Sintimbru	The forum held in our village by colleagues from the City of Alba Iulia was very interesting and was presented very clearly all important aspects and the feedback was equally good.
9. How was the process for finalisation of the SEAP in your municipality? Did politicians, technicians and stakeholders have a lot of comments for the initial version of the SEAP?	Berghin	Have not been comments for the initial version of the SEAP so it has been completed successfully.
	Ciugud	The completion of SEAP was difficult in terms of the number of steps taken in relation to the amounts predicted for these measures to be implemented by 2020. We haven't received any comments.
	Ighiu	The process for finalisation of the SEAP was relatively easy. We had proposals which we took into account for finalisation of the SEAP.
	Sintimbru	The finalization of SEAP was easy thanks to the support given by colleagues from the City of Alba Iulia. We have not received comments from stakeholders in our community.
10. How long it took for your municipality to approve SEAP? What were the main objections/barriers (if any)?	Berghin	It took 11 months to approve SEAP after signing adhesion CoM.
	Ciugud	It took one year from signing the CoM to the approval of the SEAP by the local administration. There were no objections.
	Ighiu	It took 8 months. There were no barriers.
	Sintimbru	Approximately 1 year.
11. What are the further	Berghin	- Creating of public lighting system powered from renewable sources

needs for your municipality? Do you see that you will implement the actions written in SEAP? If not, why? If yes, which?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thermal rehabilitation of several buildings</li> <li>- Replacing transport means of our institution with environment friendly means.</li> </ul>
	Ciugud	Future needs for our city are the completion of the infrastructure works as well as the finalization of the public lighting project using renewable energy. The actions under implementation that have been included in the SEAP are the completion of the energy audit of the buildings belonging to the public domain of Ciugud, the completion of the energy audit of public lighting and rehabilitation of the cultural centers from several villages such as Seusa, Limba, Hăpria and Teleac. Therefore, at the moment, we are searching for a supplier of renewable energy equipment for the rehabilitation of the building that will become the new administrative building of the commune.
	Ighiu	Future needs for our municipality: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thermal rehabilitation of public buildings.</li> <li>- Public lighting rehabilitation.</li> <li>- Construction of a Small Hydropower Plants in order to benefit from renewable energy.</li> </ul>
	Sintimbru	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Making energy audits for public and energy labeling.</li> <li>- Municipality building thermal rehabilitation.</li> <li>- Making new General Urban Plan that take into account energy sustainability</li> </ul>
12. Did you get enough support, input and ideas from the partners of the Conurbant project (municipality and/or technical partner)?	Berghin	We received support on drafting and preparation of the BEI and SEAP.
	Ciugud	Yes.
	Ighiu	Yes, we were assisted by city of Alba Iulia to achieve the BEI and SEAP.
	Sintimbru	Yes, from the CoM adhesion, EIB and SEAP achievement up to actions selection and implementation process.
13. Do you think such approach when several municipalities have training, working groups and meetings together should be further applied? Have you learned something from other municipalities during these last three years? Do you have suggestions for improvements in this respect?	Berghin	Yes, because the collaboration between institutions lead to better collaboration and thus achieve favourable results.
	Ciugud	Working in partnership can have several benefits if we take the example of the signatories of the Covenant of Mayors within the Alba County. Alba Iulia Municipality proved to be a constant support for Ciugud commune. Besides serving as a model, the measures that are implemented in the municipality regarding the energy efficiency can be adapted to other villages situated in the area. In addition, the development of partnerships with the municipality has lead to the development of the Ciugud commune as well as the development of Alba Iulia metropolitan network through cooperation with neighboring towns.
	Ighiu	I want to underline that only because we worked in groups have achieved the BEI and SEAP.
	Sintimbru	Group work is beneficial because each one comes with one idea and with many suggestions we can optimize our actions. It is important due to the exchange of experience because we could benefit

		from the experience and expertise of Alba Iulia Municipality.
14. What could be improved in the future in this respect? How to ensure better collaboration inside the municipality between different departments? And also how to improve collaboration between municipalities?	Berghin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exchange of available information</li> <li>- To consider collaboration a major aspect in objectives achievement</li> </ul>
	Ciugud	Working in a city hall assumes a certain collaboration between departments. Regarding the collaboration between different city halls, we think that these kind of forums and exchanges of experience are very fruitful beside the fact that are leading to strong partnerships.
	Ighiu	Should be ensured better coordination between departments otherwise is difficult to implement the SEAP actions.
	Sintimbru	More meetings of working groups to exchange experiences. Several projects and joint programs.
15. How do you think it would be possible to collaborate with neighbouring municipalities also for projects, e.g. to create an energy efficiency portfolio together? Have you tried? Do you see any advantage of this? What are the barriers?	Berghin	We are open to cooperation with neighboring communes, which would bring us a great advantage to create an energy efficiency portfolio.
	Ciugud	Such projects can be achieved, considering that it will bring benefits for both sides and will improve the quality of life of the citizens living in these communes/villages/cities.
	Ighiu	We are part of AIDA (Alba Intercommunity Development Association) so we have experience in working with with neighbouring municipalities with which we want to implement as many projects.
	Sintimbru	We have already begun working with neighboring localities , being a member of the Alba Intercommunity Development Association that includes several communities with which collaborate in the most important areas.

#### 4.2.6. INTERVIEWS WITH CONURBATIONS OF ARAD

The four conurbation towns of Arad (**Nadlac, Santana, Pecica and Lipova**) were interviewed by the Municipality of Arad during a **common meeting** organised in order to assess the status of actions implementation and discuss the future actions, at the City Hall of Arad, on the **7<sup>th</sup> of March 2014**.

The **mayors** of all four conurbation towns attended the meeting and were interviewed: Mr. Vasile Ciceac, Mayor of Nadlac since 2004, Mr. Daniel Sorin Tomuta, Mayor of Santana since 2012, Mr. Petru Antal, Mayor of Pecica since 2008, Mr. Iosif Mircea Jichici, Mayor of Lipova since 2012.

After the start of the Conurbant project, in 2011, the mayors and staff of Nadlac, Santana, Pecica and Lipova were informed by the Municipality of Arad on the project, on the Covenant of Mayors and on the importance of developing SEAPs for their towns and all were open to join and commit to the proposed course of action. The main arguments that determined them to sign the Covenant of Mayors were: (i) it is important to be part of a large group that shares common interests, ideas and this way have access to information, share experience and get better visibility for your actions; (ii) developing a SEAP increases the chances of a locality to implement energy projects financed by the EU; (iii) the community will feel that the administration is committed to energy projects and citizens will be motivated to become more active.

The Municipality of Arad offered support to all conurbation towns and assistance all along the process of joining the Covenant of Mayors and the mayors, appointed by their local councils, signed **Adhesion form to the Covenant of Mayors** in the last quarter of **2011**: Nadlac on 19.10.2012, Pecica on 24.11.2011, Santana on 20.09.2011, Lipova on 28.10.2012.

The **Emission Baseline Inventory** was a difficult task due to lack of relevant data for the period before 1990 (communist period). **2008 was chosen as reference year** for all BEIs, because it was the **first year after Romania's EU adhesion**, when some of the EU requirements started to be addressed, one of them being to centralise data on the environment. At the beginning, the year of 1990 (the first post-communist year for Romania), was also considered as an alternative, offering the signatories the possibility to choose the year that offers the most complex and accurate data, so as to have a BEI as conclusive as possible.

The BEI was based on data about the general energy consumptions in each locality – electricity, natural gas, fuels.

The **development of SEAPs** was based on a detailed assessment of all aspects that lead to establishing the carbon footprint (quantity of greenhouse emissions produced in one year by burning fossil fuels for district heating or electricity, fuels used for transportation etc.) for each locality, expressed in tCO<sub>2</sub>/year/capita.

The interviewed mayors made the following suggestions for improving this process to other municipalities:

One of the essential conditions to develop a relevant SEAP is **to involve the community** in its drafting and afterwards in its implementation. The key to success is the **common vision concentrated on common directions of actions** for all the decision makers, local stakeholders and citizens.

The conurbation towns understood this priority from the beginning. Therefore **local teams** for the development of SEAPs were appointed by mayoral resolutions, composed both of municipal staff / heads of departments and representatives of different activity groups/structures/institutions.

**Energy forums** were very useful in the development of SEAPs: it was for the first time when local administration and representatives of various other groups met and discussed on energy bearing in mind a common purpose and a common course of action. Involving large groups of participants offered the possibility to generate ideas of projects and measures, both “traditional” and innovative.

Different meetings were organized by the Municipality of Arad together with local teams of the conurbation towns, having very well defined objectives:

- training sessions for understanding the project objective
- training sessions for understanding and accepting the work methods and the methods used for the development of SEAPs
- work sessions for collecting the relevant data for BEIs
- work sessions for establishing the specific objectives, targets and measures needed for reaching the targets
- assessment and evaluation sessions for identifying the potential for emissions reduction
- data reporting sessions and actions status

Being strategic documents, SEAPs included actions to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions linked directly to a sustainable development of the localities, bringing economic, social and environmental benefits to the communities. As the decision makers, politicians, technicians and stakeholders were involved in the development of SEAPs from the very beginning, the **local councils approved them without objections**, by large majorities.

The periods from the appointment of the work teams to **SEAPs approval varied from 9 to 14 months** (Nadlac: 26.01.2012 – 27.03.2013, Santana: 25.01.2012 – 20.11.2012, Pecica: 15.03.2012 – 12.12.2012, Lipova: 11.05.2012 – 08.04.2013).

Evaluation of SEAPs after their approval by the local councils may lead to revisions of some actions with the view of reaching the targets or to improvements such as including new measures. Actions were defined SMART and the SEAPs included clear responsibilities for the implementation of each

action and for monitoring the degree of implementation reached. Proposed financing sources included a wide range of possibilities, from local budget, loans, grants to PPPs and other forms of association.

The implementation of SEAPs has been strongly supported by the mayors and local councils and different municipal departments have collaborated to develop energy efficiency projects and some of them even initiated actions to contribute to CO2 reductions.

Many action of the SEAP are to be easily implemented and the municipal teams as well as the political supporting working group have worked very well.

The collaboration between all the conurbation towns was very good and the Municipality of Arad intends to extend the network to other surrounding localities. A first step in this direction would be to **invite representatives of other towns to a conference organised during the Energy Days 2014** where the teams of Arad and the four conurbation towns could present their results and offer advice on how to sign the Covenant of Mayors and how to develop a SEAP.

#### 4.2.7. INTERVIEWS WITH CONURBATIONS OF VRATSA

1. Name of the municipality

Municipality of Vratsa  
Municipality of Kozloduy  
Municipality of Krivodol  
Municipality of Mezdra  
Municipality of Mizia  
Municipality of Oryahovo

2. The date of the interview

31.03.2014  
28.03.2014  
27.03.2014  
26.03.2014  
25.03.2014  
24.03.2014

3. The name of the interviewer

doctor dipl. eng. Violeta Bozhinova  
Mario Milov  
Ivan Ivanov  
Dipl. eng. Georgi Valentinov  
Ventsislava Parvanova  
Elka Gulenova

4. The position of the interviewer

Director Directorate "Protocol, administration of projects and international cooperation"  
Director Directorate "International Projects and Procurement"  
Director Directorate "Specialized Administration"  
Deputy Mayor "Economic activities and infrastructure"

Chief expert, "Economic development, European programs and projects, international cooperation and public procurement"

Chief specialist "Ecology and Waste Management"

5. Short information how long the person has been working in the municipality and what are the main duties in the municipality

Doctor dipl. eng. Violeta Bozhinova has been working as director since 2005. She is responsible for the preparation and implementation of projects, financed under European funds. Also the directorate is in charge of preparation of strategically documents for the municipality as Municipal plan for development, strategies, policies, etc.

Mario Milov has been working as director since 2008. He is responsible for the preparation and implementation of projects, financed under European funds. Also the directorate is in charge of preparation of strategically documents for the municipality as Municipal plan for development, strategies, policies, etc.

Ivan Ivanov has been working as director since 2001. He is responsible for the preparation and implementation of projects, financed under European funds. Also the directorate is in charge of preparation of strategically documents for the municipality as Municipal plan for development, strategies, policies, etc.

Dipl. eng. Georgi Valentinov has been working as deputy mayor since 2011. He is responsible for the support of the infrastructure in the municipality. Also he is in charge of preparation of strategically documents for the municipality as Municipal plan for development, strategies, policies, etc.

Ventsislava Parvanova has been working as expert since 2007. She is responsible for the preparation and implementation of projects, financed under European funds.

Elka Gulenova has been working as specialist since 2010. She is responsible for the ecology and waste management. Also she is responsible for the elaboration and implementation of SEAP, programme for the environment and programme for RES.

6. How would you describe the willingness of your municipality to sign Covenant of Mayors (great; hard to convince etc.)? What were the main factors contributing to the signing of CoM? What did convince the mayor to sign CoM?

Common answers:

- The willingness of six municipalities to sign Covenant of Mayors was great.
- The main factors contributing to the signing of CoM were: the new way to fight with climate changes, the engagement of the municipalities to achieve 2020 goals, new ways for finding the financing for the projects.
- All mayors were been convinced to sign the CoM when the Conurbant project started. It was no so difficult, because they saw the new possibility to fight with climate changes.

7. How would you define the collection of the data for energy baseline? Was it simple or very hard? What were the barriers?

Common answers:

- The collection of the data for energy baseline was the hardest activity in the whole process.
- The main barrier was the refuse of energy suppliers to give a reliable data and data at all.

8. What would you suggest how to improve this process in other municipalities?

Common answer:

- Signing the CoM AFTER you have the BEI in order to prepare the most relevant actions to achieve the goal.

9. How do you value energy forum organised in your municipality? Was it necessary? Will you continue with this initiative? If and what could be done different?

Common answers:

- All forums were organised as the better ways to achieve their goals.
  - It is one of most suitable tools to disseminate the target of CoM and the aim of the municipalities to achieve 2020 goals.
  - It will be useful to organise other energy forums in order to disseminate the results, to look for advice, new actions, possible PPP.
10. How was the process for finalisation of the SEAP in your municipality? Did politicians, technicians and stakeholders have a lot of comments for the initial version of the SEAP?
- Common answers:
- The finalisation of the SEAP was passed fast.
  - No comments in the finalisations, probably because all comments have been tackled during the forums.
11. How long it took for your municipality to approve SEAP? What were the main objections/barriers (if any)?
- Common answer:
- When the SEAPs were been prepared, their approval took only one month. Cause of all hold forums and the transparency of the activities during the elaboration there were no problems from the Municipal councils to approve the SEAPs.
12. What are the further needs for your municipality? Do you see that you will implement the actions written in SEAP? If not, why? If yes, which?
- Common answer:
- Further needs will be external help for assessment.
  - Vratsa and the conurbation municipalities will implement public building refurbishment actions, actions to improve the transport infrastructure, action to increase the use of RES.
13. Did you get enough support, input and ideas from the partners of the Conurbant project (municipality and/or technical partner)?
- Common answer:
- Yes. The support of partners of Conurbant project was very useful and reliable.
14. Do you think such approach when several municipalities have training, working groups and meetings together should be further applied? Have you learned something from other municipalities during these last three years? Do you have suggestions for improvements in this respect?
- Common answer:
- The approach works very well. It could be used in other projects as a good practice. Putting together municipalities with experience and such without experience is a very useful tool to implement such complicated actions.
  - Yes, we learned many new things from other municipalities during the last three years. The study tours are one of most suitable tools which give the opportunity to see all in action.
15. What could be improved in the future in this respect? How to ensure better collaboration inside the municipality between different departments? And also how to improve collaboration between municipalities?
- Common answer:
- Collaboration of experts and politicians in all our municipalities is easy since we're a small municipality: we need to improve the data collection system.
16. How do you think it would be possible to collaborate with neighbouring municipalities also for projects, e.g. to create an energy efficiency portfolio together? Have you tried? Do you see any advantage of this? What are the barriers?



Common answer:

Collaboration with neighbouring municipalities is easy, but the joint actions are difficult cause of they are smaller and they have no capacity to prepare and implement SEAP.

#### 4.2.8. INTERVIEWS WITH CONURBATIONS OF LIMASSOL

The interviews were performed on 27th and 28th of March 2014. Four persons were interviewed, one from each municipality. From the Municipality of Limassol, the person interviewed was Mr Demetris Theoti, Head of Health and Environment Department. Mr Theoti has been in the Department for 30 years and his main duties concern handling issues of health, environment and energy efficiency. From the Municipality of Kato Polemidia, the person interviewed was Ms Skevi Paraskeva, Health Inspector of the Municipality. Ms Paraskeva has been holding this position for 14 years and her main duties concern health and environment issues. From the Municipality of Yermasoyia, the person interviewed was Mr Timos Misseris, Senior Environmental Health Officer. Mr Misseris has been working for the Municipality for 17 years and deals mainly with public health and environmental subjects. From the Municipality of Mesa Ytonia, the person interviewed was Ms Pantelitsa Mavrommati, Health Inspector of the Municipality. Ms Mavrommati has been holding this position for 18 years and her main duties concern health and environment issues.

The willingness to sign the CoM was great by all Municipalities and some of the factors were the challenge to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the environmental and economic benefits and the participation of other big Municipalities from the country. The energy data collection for the energy baselines was very slow and at times hard due to lack of organisation of these particular data in all municipalities. This could be improved if the Municipalities kept record of the energy consumption related data.

The forums proved to be necessary and very valuable and most possibly the municipalities will continue with this initiative. The SEAPs were finalized taking into account the technical partners' actions recommendations and the energy forums and working groups actions suggestions from municipalities energy teams. All SEAPs were approved immediately after the finalization without any problems.

Financing the SEAP actions is the main need for the municipality. Several actions are going to be implemented during the next couple of years and more prominent are the public lighting replacement with LEDs and tree and bushes planting. The approach when several municipalities have training, working groups and meetings together should be further applied. Partner and local municipalities have learned a lot from each other.

Better collaboration inside the municipality, can be achieved with better management, better coordination of the different departments and better exchange of information. About improving the collaboration between municipalities, in the Limassol district there is the informal council of the mayors were decision making and information sharing takes place.

Collaboration between neighbouring municipalities can be possible through the formation of a common energy team with representatives from all municipalities and common proposals for funding projects. In Limassol district 5 municipalities collaborated for the creation of the coastal bicycle and walking path. The main advantage is the homogeneous and sustainable development of the territory. The main barriers are the hard coordination of funds and works.

#### 4.2.9. INTERVIEWS WITH CONURBATIONS OF OSIJEK

1. Name of the municipality

Grad Osijek/ City of Osijek

Grad Belišće/ Town of Belišće

Grad Vinkovci/ City of Vinkovci

Grad Beli Manastir/Town of Beli Manastir

Grad Donji Miholjac/Town of Donji Miholjac

2. The date of the interview

May 5<sup>th</sup> 2014

April 29<sup>th</sup> 2014

May 5, 2014.

May 5<sup>th</sup> 2014

May 5<sup>th</sup> 2014

3. The name of the interviewer

Mira Lizačić Vidaković

Ljerka Vučković

Ivan Ereš

Kornelija Pacanović –Zvečevac

Darko Mikić

4. The position of the interviewer

Senior expert in the Department of environmental protection

Deputy Mayor

Senior expert in Department of economy

Head of the department for architecture, housing and public utilities

Deputy Mayor

5. Short information how long the person has been working in the municipality and what are the main duties in the municipality

Mrs Mira Lizačić Vidaković has been working for the City of Osijek since 1994. Her main duties are to give expert opinions and form documentation on energy efficiency and waste management.

I have been working for the Municipality (Town of Belišće) for 10 months now, but before that I've been town council-woman, so I had knowledge of the participation of the town in the Conurbant project. My main duties in the municipality are preparation and implementation of projects funded by EU and other sources. I also participate in creation of policies within the town and in elaboration of strategic documents. I'm also representative of the town in our Local action group.

Ivan Ereš has been working in City of Vinkovci for 6 years. He performs tasks in the field of agriculture, keeps records of tenants and buyers of state-owned land, keeps track of mined land and his plan for demining, keeps track of the assessment of damages caused by natural disasters and prepares documentation for the Commission to assess the damage caused by natural disasters, analyzes data on energy consumption in all buildings owned by the city.

Kornelija Pacanović-Zvečevac has been working as the Head of the department for architecture, housing and public utilities for more than seven years now. Main duties are to form and conduct local policies in the fields under department's jurisdiction.

Darko Mikić has been Deputy Mayor for 10 months. One of the responsibilities set before him was to conduct and bring to conclusion SEAP development for Town of Donji Miholjac.

6. How would you describe the willingness of your municipality to sign Covenant of Mayors (great; hard to convince etc.)? What were the main factors contributing to the signing of CoM? What did convince the mayor to sign CoM?

The Municipality was not hard to convince to sign the CoM. The topic of signing the CoM was presented to the Mayor by Mrs Lizačić Vidaković and Deputy Mayor Ivan Vrdoljak who strongly believed in all the benefits which come from signing the CoM and developing SEAP.

The former mayor was easily convinced to sign the Covenant because he was able to realize the value of networking and cooperation in such important issues. The new mayor continued in these footsteps. The goals of the Covenant were very convincing and so were all the esteemed persons and municipalities who gave their support before us.

Willingness of City of Vinkovci to sign Covenant of Mayors was quite good. Mayor recognized the need to do something specifically related to environmental protection and energy efficiency and to raise citizens awareness of the problem of climate change. He wanted to show citizens that the city is taking concrete measures to combat these climate changes.

It was not so hard to convince the Mayor to sign the Covenant of Mayors because we all thought that it is an important Initiative and that the benefits of joining it would be great for our town.

Since I was not in the former local government, I do not have the insight on what were the main reasons of the former Mayor to join Covenant of Mayors, but both, the new Mayor and me can see the importance of joining such a good cause and development of SEAP.

7. How would you define the collection of the data for energy baseline? Was it simple or very hard? What were the barriers?

The collection in the City of Osijek was really hard and slow. Although we had an electronic base of energy consumption in public buildings developed by the, we still had to get the data for traffic, public lighting and buildings in private and tertiary/commercial sector. The biggest challenges were the data in private sector. We had immense help from REGEA who developed our SEAP in the end. They had experience in getting the data from stakeholders who were unwilling to cooperate.

Belišće – It was certainly not easy. There is always a lack of people who would deal with these issues exclusively. It was also difficult to collect data due to the fact that not all the information can be obtained in one place. It will still take time to make this data collection a routine. But with extra effort, we made it.

It was really hard. The barriers showed up when we needed to collect the data outside of the town's or state institutions (such as petrol suppliers). That is why we decided to get help from REGEA, because they had experience with getting this kind of data.

The collection of data went well. Of course we had some setbacks, but majority of data was already collected by the UNDP for the public buildings, and we had our own for the public lighting. Traffic and private housing were a bit harder to get, but we managed to complete it.

It was hard, because we did not have enough people who would exclusively deal with collection of data, so it was hard because we had to put everything on people who were already overwhelmed with other things. In the end we were in delay, but managed to finish everything.

8. What would you suggest how to improve this process in other municipalities?

It was suggested to armour themselves with strong will and patience. To check all the accessible data before getting into the process of SEAP development and to establish good connections with all stakeholders in the municipality that could bring their data and expertise into SEAP development. Also, it is good to have an experienced technical support such as REGEA was to us.

First of all we need to talk about it more. Extra effort should be put into campaigns. Certainly the measures introduced by the Fund for environment protections and renewable energy sources help a lot in raising awareness on all issues regarding sustainable development.

Better cooperation at the level of all institutions in the city is needed.

Better cooperation at the level of all institutions in the city is needed, organizing a good team for BEI and SEAP development.

Better cooperation at the level of all institutions in the city is needed and organizing a team of people who will work exclusively on this if you want to speed things up.

9. How do you value energy forum organised in your municipality? Was it necessary? Will you continue with this initiative? If and what could be done different?

Energy forum was a great success in our City. We find it one of the most useful things in SEAP development because you can hear opinions from all stakeholders who will be involved in SEAPs future implementation. We find it necessary for the action and also we will try to use this kind of approach and cooperation with stakeholders in the future. There are always some organizational issues that you would like to do better, but in the end, everything worked quite well.

Energy forums are absolutely necessary, even if attended by fewer people than planned. Maybe even to introduce a regular forum every two or three months. Issues about energy saving and all possible measures which can be applied have to reach citizens, and this can only be achieved by talking about it. All the time!

Energy forum in City of Vinkovci was quite good. I think it was necessary because it is important to include representatives of all the institutions and the citizens in the fight against climate change and allow them to present their own proposals and eventual criticism. I hope we will continue with this initiative.

Energy forum in Beli Manastir went quite well. The institutions, NGOs and private sector were really interested in giving their comments and suggestions in development of SEAP for the town. We had some really good inputs from private sector. This kind of action is necessary if you wish to please all groups of interest and get the best possible measures tailored for your town. It would be good to use this type of cooperation in development of other strategic documents.

The forum in Donji Miholjac went well, although we expected more cooperation from the private sector. Public institutions were the ones most interested in proposed measures (schools). Forums, as I see them, are necessary in the SEAP development, because they provide you with different opinions and needs from public and private sector alike, and also NGOs. We would do them again, maybe in development of other strategic documents.

10. How was the process for finalisation of the SEAP in your municipality? Did politicians, technicians and stakeholders have a lot of comments for the initial version of the SEAP?

We discussed it mostly through forum and working groups. There were no major comments on the initial version.

They certainly have some. But in my opinion stakeholders as well as citizens in general will yet have to learn to cherish the fact that we have the SEAP which can be very useful in many fields of activities – for the local government and for the other two sectors: business and civil.

The process for finalisation of the SEAP in City of Vinkovci was good. There were no negative comments for the initial version of the SEAP.

The comments were mostly good. They were given on our local forum, but all stakeholders were given a chance to comment them before the final draft of SEAP was prepared for Council's decision.

All the comments were given on forum in Donji Miholjac and included in the final draft.

11. How long it took for your municipality to approve SEAP? What were the main objections/barriers (if any)?

City Council approved it on the first time that it was put on the agenda. So the process did not take long. It was unanimously.

Once it was finished it didn't take long. I have the feeling that members of the Town Council are growing more and more aware of the fact that good strategic documents are essential for any kind of activity in the local community. It will take still a lot of education for decision makers and for citizens in order to get familiar with all the challenges put before us in the future, but I believe that we are going in the right direction.

It took about 2 months. There were no barriers. SEAP was approved at the first city council held after its adoption.

It took about a month and the SEAP was confirmed on the first Council session. The decision was unanimous.

It took two months to prepare everything, but because of large number of things that should have been decided prior to the decision on SEAP, we had to wait for the first Council in which agenda we could put the SEAP in. No other barriers.

12. What are the further needs for your municipality? Do you see that you will implement the actions written in SEAP? If not, why? If yes, which?.

All of the measures were put in SEAP to be implemented in some way. We guess that the ones which are cheaper will come first, because it takes less time and less funds to prepare and implement them, but of course, if we find the funding schemes for the complicated and expensive measures, we will proceed in their implementation too.

We will certainly try to apply measures regarding public lighting, which seems to be the issue in most of the Croatian municipalities. But there are also a lot of space for improvement in the field of public transportation – in this light we are building bicycle paths, organising public transportation for students etc.

We will definitely implement some of the actions written in the SEAP. Energy audits and energy certification of buildings owned by the city, reconstruction of thermal protection coating and roof repairs residential and single-family houses, education and the promotion of energy efficiency, changing the light bulbs in all public and private buildings with energy efficient light bulbs, management and control of public lighting etc. are on the top of our list.

We are already started with implementation of some of the measures – public lighting, bicycle paths and development of study on the traffic in the town.

We have started with the preparation for implementing the measures in public lighting and traffic - development of bicycle paths, but also in building sector – energy audits, EE refurbishment of public buildings.

13. Did you get enough support, input and ideas from the partners of the Conurbant project (municipality and/or technical partner)?

Yes. All questions asked, all difficulties faced were resolved really quickly after contacting our coordinators, tutoring city and other partners.

Yes, the synergy between the conurbation municipalities was just as good as between the partners in the Conurbant project. But we still need to come up with new joint projects. This is where our SEAPs will help, because they show that we have very similar problems.

Yes, they were very helpful.

Yes, but we expect to develop some joint projects also.

Yes, they were helpful. We would like to work with them on other projects.

14. Do you think such approach when several municipalities have training, working groups and meetings together should be further applied? Have you learned something from other municipalities during these last three years? Do you have suggestions for improvements in this respect?

All trainings, working groups and meetings were very fruitful and useful. We have learned a lot from our tutoring municipalities and technical partners. Also, we learnt to cooperate in a huge consortium with people all over Europe who share the same difficulties and interests. Starting this project we were at the beginning of everything having only ideas on what SEAP should be and how to develop it. Every time we went on training we were more prepared for resolving issues back home.

Definitely! Further joint trainings and working groups are the way for networking and cooperation which lead to new joint projects. We were able to learn about variant solutions from the conurbations from other countries and this is certainly the best way to exchange good practices and to implement experiences which are proven to be good.

Yes, I think this approach was very good and we definitely learned a lot from other municipalities.

The approach is great for sharing our problems and defining our joint interests. This was the first time that the neighbouring municipalities met to talk about their joint interests and to think of new projects together, without the initiative from the County government. This approach is something to try and incorporate in other future projects.

Approach is really good and we all were able to learn from each other's mistakes and to share our good practices.

15. What could be improved in the future in this respect? How to ensure better collaboration inside the municipality between different departments? And also how to improve collaboration between municipalities?

We are trying hard, and I guess that we have managed to succeed in some way, to get all Departments, needed for good quality implementation of EU projects, working together and working something outside of their usual business. During the project implementation we were faced with change in the City government so that was something to work with and it set us back a bit because we had to get the political support again from different politicians. In the end they were very understanding and we managed to complete the project with no major setbacks.

Regarding the municipalities, the informal the communication the better.

In small municipalities/towns collaboration between departments is a must and it certainly exists. In bigger cities it might be a problem. As for collaboration between municipalities, we have to

implement more projects such as Conurbant in order to prove that we don't have to be rivals and competition for one another but rather partners which can well distribute and share the knowledge, experience and results of the future joint projects.

The role of mayors and heads of departments inside the municipalities is very important. They need to show initiative and encourage further collaboration.

As we are a small town, there is a good collaboration between all of our departments. Also, it is good to have a mayor who understands the issues we are dealing with. Regarding other municipalities in our neighbourhood, we certainly must try and work much more together.

Being a Deputy Mayor in a small town, I can say that there are no major disagreements between our departments. It would be good to work again with our neighbouring towns and cities.

16. How do you think it would be possible to collaborate with neighbouring municipalities also for projects, e.g. to create an energy efficiency portfolio together? Have you tried? Do you see any advantage of this? What are the barriers?

We were discussing that during the whole project implementation. On the level of technicians, everything is possible, but we still need to take into consideration different political options ruling in the municipalities. But, if we get them to see that this kind of planning would be something that will benefit us all, I guess that we could manage to succeed in it.

The barriers can be lifted if there is a will, and readiness for cooperation needs to be nurtured by joint brainstorming and joint projects. I think that in our region we could also rely on LAG-s which already per se represents a way of collaboration between various municipalities. Further step would be to integrate already existing SEAPs into one joint document for our local action group (15 municipalities with 85.000 citizens). Thus we would be able to create an energy efficiency portfolio which could be further combined with portfolios from other regions.

As I said, the role of mayors in this issue is crucial. There were some ideas but nothing concrete was realised. I think there are a lot of advantages because we are talking about small towns with limited budgets and only together we can successfully implement projects. The main barrier for this is political diversity.

We were discussing working together during this whole project implementation. I guess that, having this project as a foundation, it would be much easier to sit and discuss some other projects. We will gladly join the new Conurbant project if there will be one. The barriers could be various – political differences amongst ruling parties can be one of them, but I guess that the joint interest in doing something in benefit for all of us will bring us together.

There was a talk about developing joint projects and we agreed with all other municipalities. Being a Deputy Mayor I can say that the political differences are not a problem for us if the cause benefits us all.

#### 4.2.10. INTERVIEWS WITH CONURBATIONS OF TIMISOARA

##### 1. Name of the municipality

Town of ȘÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN

Town of PECIU NOU

Town of ȘAG

Town of GHIRODA

Town of REMETEA MARE

Town of BUCOVĂȚ

Town of GIARMATA

## Town of GIROC

### 2. The date of the interview

Town of SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN - 01.04.2014 – Interview took place at Sînmihaiu Român Town Hall;  
Town Of PECIU NOU – 02.04.2014 – Interview took place at Timișoara City Hall;  
Town of ȘAG – 02.04.2014 – Interview took place at Șag Town Hall;  
Town of GHIRODA – 03.04.2014 – Interview took place at Ghiroda Town Hall;  
Town of REMETEA MARE – 03.04.2014 – Interview took place at Remetea Mare Town Hall;  
Town of BUCOVĂȚ – 03.04.2014 – Interview took place at Bucovăț Town Hall;  
Town of GIARMATA – 03.04.2014 – Interview took place at Giarmata Town Hall;  
Town of GIROC – 04.04.2014 – Interview took place at Giroc Town Hall;

### 3. The name of the interviewer

Town of SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN - Mr. Viorel BARA and Mr. Adrian – Vasile ENGELLMANN;  
Town of PECIU NOU – Mr. Ioan FĂRCĂLĂU and Mr. Ioan URDA;  
Town of ȘAG – Mr. Petru NIERGHEȘ and Mr. Daniel DAVID;  
Town of GHIRODA – Mr. Marcel CINCA and Mr. Eugen MIHĂIESCU;  
Town of REMETEA MARE – Mr. Ilie GULOBOV and Mr. Șerban - Liviu SAMOILĂ;  
Town of BUCOVĂȚ – Mr. Tiberiu – Ioan JIVAN;  
Town of GIARMATA – Mr. Ioan SPOEALĂ and Mr. Dan FOLOGEA;  
Town of GIROC - Mr. Iosif – Ionel TOMA and Mrs. Manuela BÎLC;

### 4. The position of the interviewer

Town of SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN - Public dignity functions: Mr. Viorel BARA, Mayor and Mr. Adrian – Vasile ENGELLMANN, Deputy Mayor;  
Town Of PECIU NOU – Public dignity functions: Mr. Ioan FĂRCĂLĂU - Mayor and Mr. Ioan URDA – Deputy Mayor  
Town of ȘAG – Executive public functions: Mr. Petru NIERGHEȘ – Town Secretary and Mr. Daniel DAVID – Town Hall Counsellor;  
Town of GHIRODA – Public dignity and executive public functions: Mr. Marcel CINCA – Deputy Mayor and Mr. Eugen MIHĂIESCU – Town Architect;  
Town of REMETEA MARE – Public dignity functions: Mr. Ilie GULOBOV – Mayor and Mr. Șerban - Liviu SAMOILĂ – Deputy Mayor;  
Town of BUCOVĂȚ – Public dignity function: Mr. Tiberiu – Ioan JIVAN – Mayor;  
Town of GIARMATA – Executive public functions: Mr. Ioan SPOEALĂ – Environment Protection Responsible and Mr. Dan FOLOGEA – Town Architect;  
Town of GIROC - Public dignity and executive public functions: Mr. Iosif – Ionel TOMA – Mayor and Mrs. Manuela BÎLC – Local development Inspector;

### 5. Short information how long the person has been working in the municipality and what are the main duties in the municipality

Town of SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN - Mr. Viorel BARA, Mayor since 2008 and Adrian – Vasile ENGELLMANN Deputy Mayor since 2012 – are coordinating all public services in the Town;  
Town of PECIU NOU – Mr. Ioan FĂRCĂLĂU since 2004 - Mayor and Mr. Ioan URDA – Deputy Mayor since 1998 - are coordinating all public services in the Town;  
Town of ȘAG – Mr. Petru NIERGHEȘ – since 2004 responsible for Legal issues in Town Hall Șag and Mr. Daniel DAVID – since 2004, responsible for environment, agriculture, cadaster activities in Town Hall;  
Town of GHIRODA – Mr. Marcel CINCA – Deputy Mayor is working in the Local Council since 2008 and as Deputy Mayor since 2012. Mr. Eugen MIHĂIESCU – Town Architect in working in this position since 2008, responsible for all the town planning aspects;  
Town of REMETEA MARE – Mr. Ilie GULOBOV – Mayor and Mr. Șerban - Liviu SAMOILĂ – Deputy Mayor – are working in the public administration of the Town since 2008 and are coordinating all public services in the Town;



Town of BUCOVĂȚ – Mr. Tiberiu – Ioan JIVAN is working in Bucovăț Town Hall since 2007. Before 2007 Mr. JIVAN was elected as Deputy Mayor in Remetea Mare Town, divided town in 2007, when Bucovat Town was formed. Mr. JIVAN is coordinating all public services from the Town Hall.

Town of GIARMATA - The main duties of Mr. Ioan SPOEALĂ are Environment Protection and civil protection and is working from 10 years and Mr. Dan FOLOGEA – Town Architect, responsible for the town planning and development from 14 years;

Town of GIROC - public dignity function – Mr. Iosif – Ionel TOMA is Mayor of GIROC Towns since 1996 and is responsible of all town hall activities as Mayor, and Mrs. Manuela BÎLC is working since 2012 in the Town Hall, being responsible for the local development and implementation of European funded projects;

6. How would you describe the willingness of your municipality to sign Covenant of Mayors (great; hard to convince etc.)? What were the main factors contributing to the signing of CoM? What did convince the mayor to sign CoM?

Town of SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN decided to sign the Covenant of Mayors after Timisoara Municipality intervention in the frame of CONURBANT Project. Timisoara Municipality Project Team offered the draft decision and specialized reports in Local Council, and support the Mayor in the Local Council to sign CoM.

Town of PECIU NOU – decided to sign the Covenant of Mayors after Timisoara Municipality intervention in the frame of CONURBANT Project. It was easy because of benefits offered from an European Programme and support from Project Implementation Unit from Timisoara.

Town of ȘAG – decided to sign the Covenant of Mayors after Timisoara Municipality intervention in the frame of CONURBANT Project. Timisoara Municipality Project Implementation Unit convinced the Mayor and Local Council to sign the adhesion form to CoM and offered the draft decision and specialized reports in Local Council. After understanding the benefits, CoM was considered as a necessity for sustainable development of the community.

Town of GHIRODA – It was easy. Signing Covenant of Mayor was easy, Timisoara Municipality initiative and contribution was decisive in this decision. CONURBANT Project team convinced us and gave us support in the decision process.

Town of REMETEA MARE – It was not difficult. It was an initiative to be taken. Timisoara Municipality CONURBANT Project team convinced us.

Town of BUCOVĂȚ – Signing the Covenant of Mayor Adhesion Form was not difficult, there is a great opening to all initiatives that contribute to the economic, social and environment welfare of the village. The decision was taken at the first meeting with the CONURBANT Project team.

Town of GIARMATA – It was easy, The decision was based on the desire of joint development and involvement in the development of the metropolitan area. The main factors were taken into account environmental and social factors. The municipality underlined the necessity of local development in parallel with the metropolitan area development.

Town of GIROC - Easy to convince. The main factors in signing Covenant of Mayors were: promoting and achieving the objectives sustainable development, using energy from RES and EE.

7. How would you define the collection of the data for energy baseline? Was it simple or very hard? What were the barriers?

Town of SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN - Collection of the data only required efforts to centralize the existing data from the Town Hall database. It was not a very difficult task. No barriers registered.

Town of PECIU NOU – Quite simple have not been encountered major difficulties. Difficulties were overcome with the help of Timisoara Municipality project Implementation Team.

Town of ȘAG – Quite complicated, difficult to corroborate data to fulfill CoM requirements. Data and information were disparate. Also there were data that was not in possession of Town Hall, owned by private companies, not willing to provide data to the local authority. For SEAP development were collected a lot of data and information never required until now (eg. number of houses with southern exposure in order to calculate the potential of installation of solar and PV panels, etc.).

Town of GHIRODA – Neither hard nor easy. No major barriers. One barrier in the BEI and SEAP development – insufficient staff in the Town hall.

Town of REMETEA MARE – Not very hard but not easy. We engaged to fulfill some obligations and we work to finalize them. Timisoara City Hall helped us. The main barrier – insufficient staff in Town Hall.

Town of BUCOVĂȚ – It was not very difficult. The internal documents and database was sufficient in data collection. No major barriers. Local Council supported the executive, because is an entity open to all good ideas and initiatives for community. Timisoara Municipality CONURBANT Project Team helped us.

Town of GIARMATA – Difficult. The collection of data was difficult because of the workload of officials and accumulated job duties.

Town of GIROC - Data Collection for Baseline Emission Inventory was acceptable, requiring data collection and from other institutions.

#### 8. What would you suggest how to improve this process in other municipalities?

SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN Town – We recommend that each municipality to achieve a centralized database, managed completely and correctly, which will be anytime a good source of information.

Town of PECIU NOU – Centralized database. Provision of data from the companies who provide energy services to be compulsory and legal means to sanction from the Romanian Energy Regulatory Authority in case the data are not provided.

Town of ȘAG – Centralized database. To create a body at county or national level where all energy data to be available. National Institute of Statistics did not provide data at the Census held in 2011, although there was a Census Form on energy issues in households. The published data of the census was not enough in our opinion.

Town of GHIRODA – We suggest to other localities to take initiative, to collaborate to develop renewable energy sources, because local budgets are not always generous, so is needed the close cooperation between localities.

Town of REMETEA MARE – We suggest other communities Mayors to sign the Covenant of Mayors initiative and to accept the CoM conditions.

Town of BUCOVĂȚ – To follow the CoM SEAP development Guide recommendations. It was very well elaborated by the initiators.

Town of GIARMATA - Centralized database at County or Metropolitan Area level.

Town of GIROC – A better and more efficient collaboration between local administration and companies that provide public services – energy supply services, in term of providing complete data and information, in time.

#### 9. How do you value energy forum organised in your municipality? Was it necessary? Will you continue with this initiative? If and what could be done different?

SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN Town - Forums for Energy were welcome. We suggest that this type of events to continue. Furthermore, we propose that these forums to be conducted in schools, the concept of sustainable development to be inoculated young generation. Energy Days will be dedicated to such actions, in order to contribute to raising awareness among citizens.

Town of PECIU NOU – Energy Forums were excellent organized by Timisoara Municipality, well conducted, full of new information. We will continue and we hope for the support of Timisoara Municipality in the future.

Town of ȘAG – Energy Forums as well as Working groups were extremely useful. We will continue with this initiative and we apply this lesson learned in the schools. We will organize energy forums in schools to educate the young generation and the parents with the help of children's.

Town of GHIRODA – The energy forum and working groups were good and very necessary. We will continue organizing energy forums at local level. We will make more publicity to the energy forums in order to have high participation level, to inform as much citizens as possible regarding what sustainable developments means, the exact actions and measures proposed, actions already implemented and the results.

Town of REMETEA MARE – The energy forums were benefic, necessary and constructive. In Remetea Mare Town will be organized forums in the future, regularly. It is proposed to present all actions and measures implemented, proposed in the future and the criteria's in selection of measures, in order to ensure the transparency of public administration actions. To involve more citizens and interested parts in the Energy forums is the local authority plan.

Town of BUCOVĂȚ – Local energy forums are a necessity and helps public authorities in making decisions. We want to broaden the working groups with internal staff from town hall and local councilors and to involve the people from the village in order to make them know about what local authority do and plan, to disseminate the information and to rise public interest about public issues.

Town of GIARMATA - Constructive and interesting through the contribution of ideas for SEAP development and implementation. We will continue with this activity in order to inform regularly the citizens and other interested stakeholders.

Town of GIROC – Energy forums were held in good conditions, with results not only transposed in SEAP but also in the village development strategy. These forums will continue in the future.

**10. How was the process for finalisation of the SEAP in your municipality? Did politicians, technicians and stakeholders have a lot of comments for the initial version of the SEAP?**

SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN Town - there have been no opposition, the process ran smoothly, debated issues in local energy forums and working groups helping to clarify all aspects.

Town of PECIU NOU – No opposition.

Town of ȘAG – No opposition from politicians, citizens or other stakeholders. All the aspects of SEAPs were discussed in the Local Energy Forums and Working Groups. Mainly the interested parts remain the same during SEAP process approval.

Town of GHIRODA – No opposition, because in the energy forums and working groups all aspects were discussed.

Town of REMETEA MARE – No opposition from politicians, citizens or other stakeholders

Town of BUCOVĂȚ – No opposition.

Town of GIARMATA - The finalization of SEAP went without major obstacles, politicians and stakeholders manifesting their interest in developing and approval of the plan.

Town of GIROC - The development and approval of SEAP went without objections being accepted as submitted by the Executive.

**11. How long it took for your municipality to approve SEAP? What were the main objections/barriers (if any)?**

SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN Town – The SEAP development approximately 2 years. Approval process approx. 2 months. Main barriers: public elections, insufficient personal in the Town Hall.

Town of PECIU NOU – SEAP development approximately 2 years. Approval process approx. 2 months. Main barriers: public elections – local and parliamentary election, insufficient personal in the Town Hall

Town of ȘAG – SEAP development approximately 2 years. Approval process approx. 1 month. Approximately 2 years. Main barriers: public elections – local and parliamentary election, insufficient personal in the Town Hall, existing staff is not motivated because of low salaries, high workload.

Town of GHIRODA – SEAP development approximately 2 years. Approval process approx. 2 months. Main barriers: two round of elections: local and parliamentary.

Town of REMETEA MARE – SEAP development approximately 2 years. Approval process approx. 2 months. Main barriers: public elections – local and parliamentary election, insufficient personal in the Town Hall.

Town of BUCOVĂȚ – SEAP development approximately 2 years. Approval process approx. 2 months. No major barriers.

Town of GIARMATA – SEAP development approximately one and a half year. Approval process approx. 2 months. Approximately 6 months. No major barriers.

Town of GIROC – Approximately 2 months. No barriers.

Timisoara Municipality comments: The data provided by towns representatives are just approximative. Timisoara Municipality Conurbation Towns sign the Adhesion Form to CoM in October – November (mostly of them) 2011 – February 2012 period. SEAP development process took a period between 18 -20 month or more, 7 towns approved their SEAPs in July-August 2013, and 1 town in November 2013. Other 8 conurbation towns are in SEAP development process, because they need further help and support from Timisoara Municipality. We suggest in the future to towns/municipalities to sign the Covenant of Mayor jus after Baseline Emission Inventory finalization.

12. What are the further needs for your municipality? Do you see that you will implement the actions written in SEAP? If not, why? If yes, which?

SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN Town – Need for external specialized consultancy for assessment and monitoring. The first project that local authority intend to implement is the public lightning system improvement, public transport infrastructure, mobility - making pedestrian and bicycle lanes. Also future projects in extension of the tram line to ensure the connection with Municipality of Timisoara and circulation on Bega Canal, using smaller boats (vaporetto) are considered the future of community projects, in cooperation with the City of Timisoara.

Town of PECIU NOU – Yes. The Town Hall will start with modernization of public lighting system, as well with the installation of Photovoltaic Panels, to produce green energy in public buildings. In the next two years, the Town Lyceum will be modernized and extended, EE measures will be included in these works. New vehicles with low fuel consumption for the local authority fleet is an option and after that raising awareness activities will be carried out. The Town Hall must act as a model for its citizens.

Town of ȘAG – Yes, we must implement SEAP actions and measures. We intend to start with Thermal rehabilitation of all public buildings, to improve the public lighting system by using the new LED technologies, to stimulate the locally produced energy from renewable sources, even that this type of investments can be realized just by the private investors companies. We will promote the solar panels in household and public application, to produce the domestic hot water.

Town of GHIRODA – Yes, the extension of the public lighting system will be based of LED technology, and year after year, rehabilitation and modernization will be realized, gradually. Solar panels for domestic hot water in public building (schools and kindergarten buildings) will be implemented and promotion for residential application will be realized.

Town of REMETEA MARE – Yes. The priorities are related to the public infrastructure, to insure the quality of life for the towns citizens. The first action included in SEAP that will be implemented is the improvement of local infrastructure. We intend to realized in 80-90% road between Remetea Mare the (made from crushed stone) and Ianova and to realize two parks – green areas – one in Remetea Mare and one in Ianova (the budgetary allocations are already dedicated for the investments – we intend to start in 1-2 months).

Town of BUCOVĂȚ – Yes, in strong correlation with the annual local budget. We are interested in renewable energy production – biogas from biomass, cogeneration, after a visit study in Germany. Such investments were realized in the similar towns in Germany. The main challenge is how to convince the owners of 2,500 / 3,000 hectares of land to contribute with the biomass to such an investment, how the realized an association of land owner and how to rise their interest.

Town of GIARMATA – Yes, the SEAP measures and actions will be implemented, in close relationship with the financial possibilities of the town. The priority actions will be: the development of local infrastructure, the public lighting with LED technology, we will start the Feasibility Studies and Technical Projects for the bicycle paths and the work for two new parks. The main objective of the town is in this moment the asphaltting of communal streets - about 15 km. in 2014 – 2015 period;

Town of GIROC – The actions included in SEAP are planned to be implemented in respect with the proposed time planning approved by Local Council. We intend to implement solar panels on the school and kindergarten roofs - to provide the domestic hot water and to develop the infrastructure by asphaltting the communal streets in the new residential areas.

13. Did you get enough support, input and ideas from the partners of the Conurbant project (municipality and/or technical partner)?

All: Yes

14. Do you think such approach when several municipalities have training, working groups and meetings together should be further applied? Have you learned something from other municipalities during these last three years? Do you have suggestions for improvements in this respect?

SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN Town - the approach is good and welcome. Exchanges of experience, contacts and workshops should be at regular intervals, the exchange of views to be more active and more

meetings to target neighboring localities. Certain activities, measures or projects need to be addressed in common.

PECIU NOU Town – the approach is good and welcome. This approach must be extended, all smaller towns to be involved in these activities. All the meeting revealed something new, lessons were learned and a good ideas or solution was shared. The best experiences were the practical study visits in the experienced similar towns from Western European Countries.

Town of ȘAG – the approach is good and welcome. All the local authorities from The Local Action Group or Timisoara Metropolitan Area Association must be involved in these activities.

Town of GHIRODA – Good approach. A lot of good ideas and solutions shared. We learn from the more experienced municipalities. In general the presence to this type of trainings, working groups is a problem, despite the efforts of the organizers. We propose a calendar of trainings or events for one year. Also, these events must be organized in a place to prevent interruptions/emergency request of participants to other activities. A good idea could be to organize the trainings in an isolated place, where participants have no possibilities to leave (outside the town hall)

Town of REMETEA MARE – Good approach. We must organize more training, to improve administration staff capacity. Is important to have these trainings during or combined with the workings groups. We learned a lot. Energy Days could be a good moment for this type of activities.

Town of BUCOVĂȚ – The approach is good and must continue. We are members of different associations and this kind of events must be organized also in the frame of associations activities. We learned a lot. We learned from Ducești Noi Town, a community committed to implement a lot of projects in RES and EE. As mayor I like to “watch the neighbor's yard” and to learn. We must be always open to learning. We can learn from experienced people as well as from those less learned people, but have met in a practical way by certain problems. Therefore the exchange of experience and opinions is important. I propose in the future study visits and mentoring activities, supported by experienced local authorities from European countries.

Town of GIARMATA - Joint meetings and working groups aimed at training is a good opportunity to exchange of opinions, case studies, which can continue to be applied successfully.

Town of GIROC – This approach is good, could be good opportunity to exchange ideas and to share experience, parts of the learning process. Regarding the co-operation to other communities, this is also good.

Common answer: Trainings and working groups are necessary. Training is a necessity to improve knowledge and skills in public administration. Personalized trainings for each type of working group is ideal.

15. What could be improved in the future in this respect? How to ensure better collaboration inside the municipality between different departments? And also how to improve collaboration between municipalities?

SÎNMIHAILU ROMÂN Town - To involve more stakeholders and departments of the municipality in implementing SEAP. The coordination by Mayor and Deputy Mayor is necessary.

Town of PECIU NOU – To involve all Town Hall departments public servants and to motivate them in SEAP implementation. Extending the working groups with citizens that can disseminate all the information among communities.

Town of ȘAG – To involve more deeply the Mayor in coordination of SEAP implementation process. Just the mayor can improve the collaboration between departments and to cooperate with surrounding local communities.

Town of GHIRODA – Improvement of human resource skills. Meetings. Good quality communication. At local level, for a good collaboration with other localities, the actual internal structure from Town Hall must be enlarged with a position responsible with communication and connection with other localities.

Town of REMETEA MARE – Organizing meetings, with participation of citizens. Collaboration with other localities could be improved by good communication.

Town of BUCOVĂȚ – Organizing common meetings. Good communication is the key of success.

Town of GIARMATA The collaboration inside the town departments and with other communities is performed in normal condition. No improvements are necessary.

Town of GIROC – The collaboration inside the town departments and with other communities is performed in normal condition.

16. How do you think it would be possible to collaborate with neighbouring municipalities also for projects, e.g. to create an energy efficiency portfolio together? Have you tried? Do you see any advantage of this? What are the barriers?

Common idea emerged regarding the need to take steps to improve cooperation with neighboring communities and to develop and implement joint projects. There are many areas in which one can implement joint projects (infrastructure, urban networks and public utilities, RES, etc.). Barriers are mainly related to the mentality of individual approach by each community of the projects. There are no examples of such an approach.

SÎNMIHAIU ROMÂN Town - Cooperation will be possible by defining The Local Development Strategy of the locality and corroboration to the strategy that will be define by the Local Action Group, which includes the neighboring localities. Of the localities of Timișoara Conurbations we must mention the surrounding communities Șag, Giroc, Moșnița Nouă, communities involved in SEAP development in the frame of CONURBANT Project. Cooperation in the development of common infrastructure, transport and mobility is considered a priority. Energy Efficiency Portofolio projects is considered a priority.

Town of PECIU NOU – Cooperation could be possible in the Local Action Group, which includes the neighboring localities. The cooperation with Municipality of Timișoara as a leader or frontrunner of local projects is important. Peciou Nou Town already tried to promote common projects with the neighboring communities, but it seems that in this moment is a lack of experience in preparing and submitting common projects by two or more local authorities.

Town of ȘAG – Cooperation could be possible in the Local Action Group, Timis County Intercommunity Development Association for Waste (A.D.I.D.), Timisoara Growth Pole, There is reluctance and mistrust in joint projects by tackling several localities. Each village is convinced it will succeed by accessing individual projects with the belief that it is the factor of success. A problem raised by the joint projects is cost sharing between communities.

Town of GHIRODA – Cooperation could be possible. There are few experiences in collaboration with neighboring towns. The advantage is to gain experience to be successful in the next funding programming period 2014-2020. The barrier is the lack of experience.

Town of REMETEA MARE – Cooperation could be possible, especially with Bucovăț Town, but is necessary to improve collaboration at larger scale, to a group of towns. There are experiences in collaboration with neighboring towns. The main barrier is the reluctance in preparation of joint project.

Town of BUCOVĂȚ – Cooperation is a necessity. Bucovăț Town experienced cooperation with Remetea Mare and Moșnița Nouă towns; in this type of cooperation was prepared one joint project application (not approved and financed). It was highlight the necessity to improve collaboration at larger scale, in Timis County Intercommunity Development Association for Waste (ADID). In this association the founding members do not receive support and new entered communities are promoted. There is a state of dissatisfaction because in this type of association, the benefits of supporting in promotion and implementation of project must be real for all members, and in particularly for the older members. Sometimes, there is a kind of political barrier, especially when top management of town halls are part of different political parties.

Town of GIARMATA - Association of the neighboring towns in order to prepare common projects for the joint development of communities. This partnership could be a very effective way to overcoming the absence of human resources (or insufficient HR) and to succeed for financial funding resource.

Town of GIROC – Elaboration each year of the planned EE and RES actions and measures to be implemented at local level and discussion sessions with the all neighboring towns, in a common meetings.

Timisoara Municipality comments: Cooperation is the success key factor, especially for the common infrastructure development Projects and EE or RES Portfolio Projects. It is important to build TRUST among Town Halls communities. In the future, Municipality of Timisoara must act as a mediator.



There has to be a strong COMMUNICATION among the towns, to overcome formal barriers and TRANSPARENCY inside and outside the Conurbation towns.

Running this collaboration is a delicate operation, requiring a person who understands and works with a dynamic situation, to adapt methods to the different needs of towns and ways of working accordingly. A strong framework of collaboration is needed but also a certain degree of flexibility is required to allow changes or adaptation.

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

There are several important conclusions to be highlighted from the evaluation process of development of SEAPs in Conurbant project area:

1. It is rather easy to involve municipalities to join Covenant of Mayors initiative if they are invited by other municipality in the same area. E.g. it took less than a month for the municipality of Salaspils to approach 4 other municipalities in close vicinity to join as conurbation towns.
2. One of the most complicated steps in the development process has been collection of the energy data. Even if at the end of the project 52 SEAPs were officially approved by local governments, in some countries like Italy, Spain, Croatia the whole process took almost whole three years. One of the main obstacles was the collection of the fuel and energy consumption data from energy suppliers and end users. These issues now are being addressed in several countries (Italy, Latvia, Cyprus) in the framework of IEE projects like Meshartility, SEAP+.
3. Cooperation between municipalities at the local level has been mentioned as one of the main drivers to develop BEIs and SEAPs. During the interviews it has been noted that without Conurbant municipalities, conurbation towns would not commit. As successful Conurbant tools have been mentioned trainings and energy forums.
4. In total 2914 GWh will be saved in 2020 in case the actions in the SEAPs are implemented. In the meantime increase of 544 GWh of renewable energy is planned in the whole project area. Planned actions will ensure reduction of almost 2 million tCO<sub>2</sub> in 2020 in the whole project area of the Conurbant partners.
5. The greatest forecasted CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction values per capita will be achieved in municipality of Arad and its conurbation municipalities (1.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>/capita in 2020). The average value for the Conurbant municipalities is 0.9 tCO<sub>2</sub> per capita in 2020.

## ANNEX 1. EXCEL TOOL FOR QUANTITATIVE INDICATORS

	NAME OF THE PARTNER <b>ALBA IULIA</b>			
		<b>Foreseen</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
	<b>Signing of CoM</b>			
1	Number of municipalities in project territories (Conurbation municipalities)	4	4	
2	Number of municipalities outside project territories (municipalities that have joined CoM due to our dissemination activities)	5	1	
	<b>Energy baselines</b>			
3	Energy baselines finalised	4	4	
4	Number of fields for which there is data missing*	-	0	
	<b>Forums</b>			
5	Number of energy forums organised	4	4	
6	Sessions organised per forum	3	4	
7	Number of participants	60	89	
8	Distribution of categories between stakeholders, %			
	<i>Policy makers and public bodies</i>	-	30%	
	<i>Public and private companies</i>	-	20%	
	<i>NGOs</i>	-	5%	
	<i>End users, society and associations</i>	-	40%	
	<i>other</i>	-	5%	
9	% of participants to the Forums involved by Trainee cities and Conurbation towns	not specified in Annex 1	100	
	<b>Finalisation of SEAPs</b>			
10	Number of SEAPs approved	4	4	
11	Number of SEAPs approved with support of the local political opposition	4	4	
12	Overall energy savings forecasted in the SEAPs, <b>GWh/year</b> in 2020		19	
13	Overall increase of RES energy forecasted in the SEAPs, <b>GWh/year</b> in 2020		6	
14	Overall CO <sub>2</sub> emission savings forecasted in the SEAPs, <b>tCO<sub>2</sub>/year</b> in 2020		6566	
	<b>Conurbation working groups</b>			
15	Number of meetings	3	3	
16	Number of participants	-	65	
17	Number of actions merged and/or integrated			
	<b>Peer-to-peer audits</b>			
18	Number of audits (visits) by the twin city	-	-	
19	Number of audits in the twin city	-	-	
20	Location of audits in the twin city		-	



21	Number of participants in the peer to peer audits (average per audit)	not specified in Annex 1		
22	Number of non-conformities noted by the auditor for your Conurbation municipalities	-	-	
23	% of participants satisfied by the audit in your Conurbation municipalities	-	-	

\* There are following sectors that can be included in SEAPs:

1. municipal buildings, equipment
2. tertiary buildings, equipment
3. residential buildings
4. municipal public lighting
5. industries (no EU ETS)
6. municipal and public transport
7. private and commercial transport
8. urban rail transport
9. other transport
10. other emission sources
11. energy production
12. other

## ANNEX 2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES

### RESUMEN (ES)

El proceso de elaboración de los PAES en Conurbant ha consistido en los siguientes pasos: firma del Pacto de los Alcaldes, inventario de emisiones, organización de los foros de energía, desarrollo y aprobación de los PAES, organización de los grupos de trabajo y actividades *peer-to-peer* (entre iguales). Al final del proyecto todas estas actividades han sido monitorizadas y evaluadas y este informe es un resumen de los principales resultados conseguidos.

La monitorización y evaluación de los principales parámetros se ha realizado en dos fases. El primer paso incluye la recogida de datos cuantitativos, por ejemplo: número de firmantes, PAES elaborados y aprobados, etc. La segunda fase consiste en entrevistas con los municipios de las conurbaciones. El principal objetivo de las entrevistas ha sido:

- Evaluar la satisfacción de los municipios con el enfoque del proyecto Conurbant;
- Identificar ventajas y desventajas de todo el proceso;
- Buscar mejoras y recomendaciones.

Con el objetivo de facilitar el proceso de evaluación, se ha desarrollado un procedimiento de monitorización y una guía para las entrevistas. Para recoger los datos cuantitativos, se ha generado una herramienta en formato Excel con la información requerida y se ha distribuido entre los socios.

En total, 60 municipios han participado en el proyecto Conurbant, lo que supondrá un ahorro de 2.914 GWh en 2020 en el caso que las acciones de los PAES sean implementadas. Al mismo tiempo, se plantea un incremento de 544 GWh de energía renovable en toda el área que abarca el proyecto. Las acciones planificadas asegurarán una reducción de al menos 2 millones de tCO<sub>2</sub> en 2020 en el área del proyecto Conurbant. La media de reducción de emisiones de CO<sub>2</sub> per cápita prevista por los municipios Conurbant es de 0,9 tCO<sub>2</sub> per cápita en 2020.

La mayoría de municipios conurbanos valoran positivamente la posibilidad de cooperar en el marco del proyecto. En algunos casos han admitido que no se hubieran comprometido a tales objetivos si no hubieran recibido la invitación para participar en el proyecto. Las actividades que han resultado de mayor valor añadido para los municipios conurbanos han sido las formaciones, los foros de energía y la asistencia en la elaboración de los inventarios de emisiones y de los PAES. Además, todos ellos están de acuerdo en que hay muchas oportunidades (y pocos obstáculos) para seguir cooperando en proyectos más amplios de eficiencia energética y energías renovables.

## РЕЗЮМЕ

Процесът на разработване на ПДУЕР в проект Conurbant се състоя от следните стъпки: подписване на Спогодбата на кметовете, енергийна инвентаризация, организиране на енергийни форуми, разработване и одобрение на ПДУЕР, организиране на работни групи и партньорски дейности. В края на проекта всички тези дейности бяха проследени и оценени, като този доклад обобщава основните постигнати резултати.

Мониторингът и оценката на основните параметри бе извършена на две фази. Първата стъпка включваше събирането на количествени данни, например брой подписали, разработените и одобрени ПДУЕР и т.н. Втората фаза предвиждаше интервюта с общините конурбации. Основната цел на интервютата бе да:

- се оцени удовлетворението на общините от подхода на Conurbant;
- се идентифицират предимствата и недостатъците на целия процес;
- се търсят по-нататъшни подобрения и препоръки.

С цел да се улесни процесът на оценяване, бяха разработени процедура за наблюдение и инструкции за интервю. С цел да се съберат количествени данни, на партньорите бе предоставен инструмент в Excel, съдържащ необходимата информация.

Общо 60 общини се присъединиха към проект Conurbant, като се очаква те да достигнат икономия от 2,914 ГВтч през 2020 г., в случай че се прилагат мерките, заложи в ПДУЕР. Междувременно, за цялата област на проекта се планира увеличение от 544 ГВтч за енергия от възобновяеми източници. Планираните мерки ще гарантират намаление с почти 2 милиона тона CO<sub>2</sub> през 2020 г. за цялата територия, обхваната от партньорите в проект Conurbant. Средното прогнозно намаление на емисиите на CO<sub>2</sub> на глава от населението за общините в Conurbant е 0,9 тона CO<sub>2</sub> на глава от населението през 2020 година.

Повечето от общините конурбации оцениха възможността да си сътрудничат в рамките на проекта. В някои случаи те признаха, че нямаше да се ангажират без тази покана. Обучения, енергийни форуми и помощ при разработването на ИБЕ-и и ПДУЕР се споменават като най-важната добавена стойност за тях. В същото време, те са съгласни, че има много възможности (и много малко пречки) да си сътрудничат по-нататък в по-големи проекти за ВЕИ и енергийна ефективност.

## SUMAR EXECUTIV

Dezvoltarea Planurilor de Acțiune pentru Energia Durabilă (PAED) în cadrul Proiectului CONURBANT a presupus parcurgerea următorilor pași: semnarea Convenției Primarilor (CoM), realizarea inventarelor energetice, organizarea de forumuri pentru energie, elaborarea și aprobarea PAED, organizarea de grupuri de lucru și activități de la egal la egal – “peer-to-peer”. La finalizarea proiectului, toate aceste activități au fost monitorizate și evaluate, iar acest raport prezintă succint principalele rezultate obținute.

Monitorizarea și evaluarea principalilor parametri s-a realizat în două etape. Primul pas a presupus colectarea de date cantitative, cum ar fi spre exemplu numărul semnatarilor, PAED-uri dezvoltate și aprobate. A doua etapă a constituit-o interviurile cu municipalitățile conurbației.

Obiectivele principale ale interviurilor au fost:

- Evaluarea satisfacției municipalităților cu modul de abordare al Proiectului CONURBANT;
- Identificarea de avantaje și dezavantaje ale întregului proces;
- Căutarea unor noi posibilități de îmbunătățire și formularea de recomandări;

În vederea facilitării procesului de evaluare, s-a dezvoltat o procedură de monitorizare și un ghid pentru realizarea interviurilor. Pentru a colecta datele cantitative, un instrument Excel a fost pus la dispoziția partenerilor, conținând informațiile necesare.

În total, un număr de 60 de municipalități și localități s-au alăturat Proiectului CONURBANT asigurând o economie de 2.914 GWh în anul 2020, în cazul în care acțiunile prevăzute în PAED vor fi implementate. În același timp, o creștere cu 544 GWh a energiei produse din surse regenerabile este planificată pe întreaga arie a proiectului. Acțiunile planificate vor asigura reducerea cu aproximativ 2 milioane tone emisii CO<sub>2</sub> pe întreaga suprafață teritorială a partenerilor Proiectului CONURBANT. Media de reducere a emisiilor de CO<sub>2</sub> prognozată pentru municipalitățile Proiectului CONURBANT este de 0,9 tone CO<sub>2</sub> pe cap de locuitor în anul 2020.

Cele mai multe municipalități ale conurbațiilor au evaluat pozitiv posibilitatea de a colabora în cadrul proiectului. În unele cazuri, acestea au recunoscut faptul că nu ar fi existat un asemenea angajament în afara invitației lansate de Proiectul CONURBANT. Sesiunile de instruire, forumurile pentru energie, asistența și suportul în dezvoltarea Inventarelor de Referință a Emisiilor (IRE) și a Planurilor de Acțiune pentru Energia Durabilă (PAED-uri) au fost menționate ca fiind valoarea adăugată cea mai importantă. În același timp, municipalitățile își manifestă acordul privind numeroasele oportunități existente (și foarte puține obstacole) de cooperare în continuare în cadrul unor proiecte de anvergură în domeniul eficienței energetice și utilizării surselor de energie regenerabilă (SER).

## SOMMARIO

Il Processo di sviluppo dei PAES in Conurbant è consistito nel seguire le seguenti fasi: firma del Patto dei Sindaci, realizzazione dell'Inventario energetico, organizzazione di forum per l'energia, sviluppo e approvazione dei PAES, organizzazione di gruppi di lavoro e ed attività di peer-to-peer. Al termine del progetto tutte queste attività sono state monitorate e valutate: questa relazione riassume i principali risultati conseguiti in proposito.

Il monitoraggio e la valutazione dei principali strumenti sopra indicati è stata effettuata in due fasi. La prima fase ha portato alla raccolta dei dati quantitativi, ad esempio, numero di firmatari, PAES elaborati e approvati ecc. La seconda fase ha comportato la realizzazione di interviste ai i comuni della conurbazione. L'obiettivo principale delle interviste era di:

17. valutare la soddisfazione dei comuni con l'approccio che ha avuto Conurbant;
18. individuare vantaggi e svantaggi di tutto il processo;
19. cercare ulteriori miglioramenti e raccogliere raccomandazioni.

Per agevolare il processo di valutazione si sono sviluppate procedure di controllo ed una guida su come condurre le interviste. Al fine di raccogliere dati quantitativi è stato fornito ai partner uno strumento excel riportante le informazioni da richiedere.

Nella totalità del progetto Conurbant sono stati coinvolti 60 comuni che messi insieme contribuiranno a conseguire un risparmio di 2.914 GWh al 2020 nel caso in cui le azioni dei loro PAES vengano correttamente implementate. Inoltre è previsto un aumento di 544 GWh di produzione di energia rinnovabile nella somma dei territori coinvolti nel progetto. Le azioni previste garantiranno - sempre nei territori di Conurbant - la riduzione di quasi 2 milioni di tonnellate di CO<sub>2</sub> entro il 2020: la riduzione di emissioni pro capite prevista per il 2020 ammonta a 0,9 tCO<sub>2</sub>.

La maggior parte dei comuni delle conurbazioni coinvolte ha valutato con favore la possibilità di cooperare nel quadro del progetto. In alcuni casi i comuni intervistati hanno confermato che non avrebbero aderito all'iniziativa del Patto dei Sindaci senza il contributo di Conurbant. I corsi di formazione, i forum dell'energia e l'assistenza allo sviluppo di IBE e PAES sono stati citati come il più importante valore aggiunto per i comuni; essi sono infine favorevoli a ragionare in modo cooperativo sulle molte opportunità per realizzare progetti di larga scala su efficienza energetica e fonti di energia rinnovabile.

## KOPSAVILKUMS

Conurbant projekta ietvaros izstrādāto Ilgtspējīgas enerģijas rīcības plānu (IERP) izstrādes gaita sastāvēja no sekojošiem soļiem: vispirms pašvaldības parakstīja Pilsētu mēru paktu, tālāk tika veikts esošās situācijas novērtējums, organizēti enerģijas forumi, izstrādāts un apstiprināts IERP, kā arī organizētas darba grupas un sadarbības pasākumi. Projekta beigās visi iepriekš minētie pasākumi tika uzraudzīti un novērtēti, un šis ziņojums apkopo galvenos rezultātus.

Galveno rādītāju uzraudzība (monitorings) un novērtējums tika veikts 2 posmos. Pirmais solis: kvantitatīvo datu apkopošana, piemēram, pašvaldības, kas parakstījušas Pilsētas mēru paktu, izstrādātie un apstiprinātie IERP. Otrais solis: intervijas ar iesaistītajām pašvaldībām. Galvenais interviju mērķis:

- novērtēt pašvaldību apmierinātību ar pieeju, kas tika izmantota Conurbant projekta ietvaros;
- noteikt gan priekšrocības, gan trūkumus visa procesa laikā;
- sniegt ieteikumus un rekomendācijas turpmākiem uzlabojumiem.

Lai monitoringa un novērtēšanas process norisinātos raitāk, tika izstrādātas vadlīnijas, kas noderēja interviju laikā. Lai apkopotu kvantitatīvos datus, projekta partneriem iepriekš tika izsūtīts 'excel' rīks, kurā jānorāda nepieciešamā informācija.

Conurbant projektā iesaistījās 60 pašvaldības, kuras līdz 2020. gadam sasniegs 2914 GWh ietaupījumu, bet ar nosacījumu, ka tiek īstenoti visi pasākumi, kas minēti IERP. Visās projektā iesaistītajās pašvaldībās tiek paredzēts atjaunojamās enerģijas pieaugums par 544 GWh. Plānotās darbības un pasākumi nodrošinās, ka CO<sub>2</sub> emisiju samazinājums līdz 2020. gadam visās Conurbant pašvaldībās būs ~ 2 milj. tonnu, un vidējais CO<sub>2</sub> emisiju samazinājums uz iedzīvotāju 0,9 t.

Vairums projektā iesaistīto pašvaldību novērtēja iespēju sadarboties, un daži pašvaldību pārstāvji atzina, ka gadījumā, ja nebūtu iesaistījušies projektā, individuāli nebūtu iesaistījušies Pilsētu mēra pakta iniciatīvā. Apmācības, enerģijas forumi un tehniskā palīdzība, kas tika sniegta, apkopojot informāciju par esošo situāciju, kā arī IERP izstrādes laikā, tika vērtēta kā lielākā pievienotā vērtība. Tajā pašā laikā iesaistītās pašvaldības atzina, ka ir vairākas iespējas (un tikai daži šķēršļi), lai sadarbība varētu turpināties arī nākotnē, piemēram, jau īstenojot lielākus projektus, kas saistīti ar energoefektivitāti vai arī atjaunojamās enerģijas izmantošanu.

## ΣΥΝΟΠΤΙΚΗ ΕΚΘΕΣΗ

Η διαδικασία υλοποίησης των Σχεδίων Δράσης Αειφόρου Ενέργειας στο έργο Conurbant αποτελείτο από τα παρακάτω βήματα: την υπογραφή του Συμφώνου των Δημάρχων, την απογραφή ενέργειας, την οργάνωση ενεργειακών φόρουμ, την ανάπτυξη και την έγκριση των ΣΔΑΕ, την οργάνωση ομάδων εργασίας και τις δραστηριότητες «ομότιμος προς ομότιμο». Στο τέλος του έργου, όλες αυτές οι δραστηριότητες αξιολογήθηκαν και η παρούσα έκθεση συνοψίζει τα αποτελέσματα που έχουν επιτευχθεί.

Η παρακολούθηση και η αξιολόγηση των βασικών παραμέτρων πραγματοποιήθηκε σε δύο στάδια. Το πρώτο στάδιο περιλάμβανε την συλλογή ποσοτικών δεδομένων, π.χ. τον αριθμό των υπογραφόντων του Συμφώνου, των ΣΔΒΑ που αναπτύχθηκαν και υλοποιήθηκαν κτλ., ενώ το δεύτερο στάδιο προέβλεπε συνεντεύξεις με τους δήμους αστικών συγκροτημάτων. Κύριος στόχος των συνεντεύξεων ήταν:

- η αξιολόγηση της ικανοποίησης των δήμων με την προσέγγιση του έργου Conurbant,
- ο εντοπισμός πλεονεκτημάτων και μειονεκτημάτων της όλης διαδικασίας,
- η αναζήτηση περαιτέρω πληροφοριών και εισηγήσεων.

Προκειμένου να διευκολυνθεί η διαδικασία αξιολόγησης, είχε αναπτυχθεί διαδικασία παρακολούθησης και οδηγός συνεντεύξεων ενώ για την συλλογή δεδομένων δόθηκε στους εταίρους ένα εργαλείο excel με όλες τις απαιτούμενες πληροφορίες.

Συνολικά, 60 δήμοι εντάχθηκαν στο έργο Conurbant οι οποίοι, με την υλοποίηση των δράσεων των ΣΔΒΑ, θα αποφέρουν μία εξοικονόμηση των 2914 GWh μέχρι το 2020. Εντωμεταξύ, έχει προγραμματιστεί μία αύξηση των 544 GWh ανανεώσιμων πηγών ενέργειας στις περιοχές του έργου. Οι προγραμματισμένες δράσεις θα εξασφαλίσουν μία μείωση περίπου των 2 εκατομμυρίων tCO<sub>2</sub> μέχρι το 2020 στις περιοχές των εταίρων του έργου Conurbant. Η μέση προβλεπόμενη κατά κεφαλή μείωση εκπομπών CO<sub>2</sub> το 2020 είναι 0.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>.

Οι περισσότεροι δήμοι αστικών κέντρων εκτίμησαν την δυνατότητα συνεργασίας τους στο πλαίσιο του έργου, και σε ορισμένες περιπτώσεις έχουν παραδεχθεί ότι δεν θα είχαν δεσμευτεί χωρίς αυτή την πρόσκληση. Οι συνεδρίες κατάρτισης, τα φόρουμ ενέργειας και η βοήθεια στην ανάπτυξη της Απογραφής Εκπομπών Διοξειδίου του Άνθρακα και των ΣΔΑΕ είχαν χαρακτηριστεί ως οι πιο σημαντικές προστιθέμενες αξίες. Παράλληλα, συμφωνούν ότι υπάρχουν πολλές ευκαιρίες (και πολύ λίγα εμπόδια) για περαιτέρω συνεργασία σε μεγαλύτερα έργα ενεργειακής απόδοσης και ΑΠΕ.

## Sažetak

Postupak izrade SEAPa u sklopu Conurbant projekta sastojao se od nekoliko koraka: potpisivanje Sporazuma gradonačelnika (Covenant of Mayors), sastavljanje osnovnog registra emisija CO<sub>2</sub>, organizacije energetske foruma, izrada SEAPa i njegovo potvrđivanje na gradskim vijećima, organizacije radnih skupina i zajedničkih aktivnosti između partnera. Po dovršetku projekta, sve su navedene aktivnosti kontrolirane i procjenjene, a ovaj izvještaj sadrži najvažnije postignute rezultate.

Kontrola i procjena najvažnijih parametara je provedena u dvije faze. Prva faza se sastojala od prikupljanja kvantitativnih podataka, npr. Broj potpisnika Sporazuma gradonačelnika, broj donešenih i potvrđenih SEAPa, itd. Drugom fazom predviđeno je provođenje intervjua s gradovima konurbacija i partnerima. Glavni ciljevi intervjua bili su slijedeći:

- Procijeniti sveukupno zadovoljstvo gradova pristupom korištenim u sklopu projekta Conurbant;
- Identificirati prednosti i mane cjelokupnog procesa;
- Utvrditi mogućnosti za napredak i poboljšanje cijelog procesa;

U svrhu olakšavanja postupka procjene, razvijeni su sustavi kontrole i obrazac intervjua. Kako bi se prikupili svi potrebni kvalitativni podatci, pripremljen je formular (Excel) i poslan partnerima na ispunjavanje potrebnim informacijama.

Ukupno 60 gradova i općina je pristupilo projektu Conurbant te će osigurati uštede energije od 2 914 GWh do 2020., ako se sve mjere određene SEAPima provedu. U međuvremenu, planirano je povećanje proizvodnje energije od 544 GWh iz obnovljivih izvora za cijelo područje provedbe projekta. Planirane aktivnosti će osigurati smanjenje emisije CO<sub>2</sub> za skoro 2 milijuna tCO<sub>2</sub> u 2020. Prosječno smanjenje emisije CO<sub>2</sub> po glavi stanovnika u gradovima partnerima projekta Conurbant iznositi će 0,9 t CO<sub>2</sub> u 2020. godini.

Većina gradova konurbacija ističe mogućnost zajedničke suradnje u sklopu projekta. U nekim slučajevima čak tvrde kako ne bi ni razmišljali o navedenom problemu da nije bilo poziva od strane partnera na ovom projektu. Treninzi, energetske forumi i asistencija u izradi registra osnovnih emisija i SEAP-a, spomenuti su kao najvažniji u smislu dodane vrijednosti. U međuvremenu, svi se slažu kako postoje brojne druge mogućnosti (i vrlo malo prepreka) budućeg zajedničkog sudjelovanja na većim projektima vezanim za energetske učinkovitost i obnovljive izvore energije.