

**Thematic area**

Testing and developing strategy and policy concepts for the increase of the application of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) to the energy production in the urban context and preparing the framework to encouraging investments

**Partners****Local and regional authorities**

City of Warsaw (Lead Partner)  
City of Klagenfurt  
Province of Ravenna  
Province of Turin

**Expert Institutions**

Conservation Foundation (PL)  
Ecopower Stock Exchange Salzburg (AT)  
Research Studios Austria (AT)  
Local Agenda 21 for Dresden (DE)  
Environment Park Turin (IT)

**Associated partners:**

City of Dresden  
City of Salzburg  
Saxon Energy Agency (Saena)  
Vattenfall Heat Poland

**Duration**

July 2011 - June 2014

**Budget**

2 335 020 EUR

ERDF Financial Contribution: 78,49%

**Project Title**

Cities on Power (CoP)

**Programme Area**

Central Europe Programme (European Regional Development Fund)

**Project Description**

“Cities on Power” is in its core a network of public authorities and expert institutions seeking the local answers to the global challenge climate change. The project is deeply rooted in the local activities of the involved public authorities and expert institutions aimed at the promotion of sustainable development. Turin, Ravenna and Warsaw as members of the Covenant of Mayors have committed themselves to elaborate and implement the Sustainable Energy Action Plans. The involved expert institutions Energy Conservation Foundation (PL), Ecopower Stock Exchange Salzburg (AT), Research Studios Austria (AT), Local Agenda 21 Dresden (DE) and Environment Park Turin (IT) have been set up to explicitly promote the sustainable development and foster the application of renewable energy.

**General Objectives**

- 1) to test and develop strategy and policy concepts for the increase of the application of renewable sources to the energy production in the urban context
- 2) to prepare the framework to encourage the investments in the renewable energy.

**Specific Objectives**

- 1) to develop and endorse of the local Action Plans for Renewable Energy to steer the application of the renewable energy in a coordinated manner
- 2) to establish a joint approach of the analysis of the potential of renewable energy and to perform the analysis on the local level in the involved public authorities and develop the web-based databases gathering the data analysis
- 3) to promote the transfer of expertise with respect to the innovative financial and organizational tools encouraging the investments in renewable energy in the urban context
- 4) to investigate the feasibility of application of renewable energy on the selected facilities
- 5) to prepare investments (documents, studies, tender documentation) in the renewable energy in the urban context in Turin, Warsaw, Ravenna and Klagenfurt.

These objectives put emphasis the local, implementation-oriented dimension of the project that is expected to trigger off concrete investments.

## **Contact persons**

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## **Activities**

The project activities will be performed in three phases:

- 1) planning and assessment
- 2) testing and modeling
- 3) capitalization and political endorsement.

The **1<sup>st</sup> phase** starts with the elaboration of the joint methodologies for: the assessment of the technical framework and environmental potential of renewable energy, for the assessment of the financial and organizational tools applicable to the encouraging the investments in the renewable energy under the consideration of the stakeholder groups in the urban context and for the evaluation of the legal framework and development of Local Action Plans for Renewable Energy. The assessment task of the factors relevant is subsequently carried out in a programmatic manner. It comprises the analysis of the technical and environmental aspects, i.e. quality and adequacy of the grid for the installation of renewable energy, structure of energy supply and demand, environmental potential of the renewable energy sources.

In addition a comparative SWOT-analysis of the innovative financial and organizational tools of promoting the installation of renewable energy facilities will be carried out. This holds also true to the legislative framework and the relevant urban policies. This result of this phase will be a comprehensive set of technical and environmental data integrated into the joint IT-tool, a SWOT-analysis on the effectiveness of the local policy instruments as well as financial and organizational schemes supporting investments.

In the **2<sup>nd</sup> phase** the project partners will elaborate the strategic reference documents that constitute the joint basis for the local implementation, i.e. Joint Strategy for Renewable Energy and the participatory concept for attracting the investments in the renewable energy. Based on the results of the assessment phase the public authorities will perform the pilot projects on the selected number of public facilities.

The pilot projects should measure the energy production from renewable energy and the expected economic gains under the consideration of the innovative financial schemes. The results will feed the pre-investment measures for the selected public infrastructure identified as a result of the environmental and technical analysis. In the modeling phase the results of the work will be integrated with the web-based IT-tools customized to the needs of the public authorities to ensure their utilization beyond the project duration.

In the **3<sup>rd</sup> phase** the Local Action Plans for Renewable Energy will be finalized, consulted with the relevant stakeholders and citizens and finally endorsed by the public authorities (Warsaw, Ravenna, Turin, Klagenfurt). The local Action Plans will be widely disseminated in the participating regions.

## **Results**

The project will elaborate strategic reference documents for the preparation of the local Action Plans for Renewable Energy in the urban context (Renewable Energy Joint Strategy, participatory concept for the application and IT-toolbox for the technical assessment) under consideration of the technological, environmental and economic aspects. The documents consider the peculiarities of the urban centers (ownership and settlement structure, restriction to the urban planning, quality of the grid, interests of the investors etc.) and outline the approach to the analysis of the potential of renewable energy as well as the financial and organizational tools to the effective application in the urban context. These documents will be transferable beyond the scope of the project and will be disseminated within the relevant networks (Covenant of Mayors, EUROCITIES, EUREGIA). The project will empower the cities of the Central Europe Programme with tools for the elaboration of the local concepts.

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## **Benefits**

1. The project will aim at increasing the production of energy from renewable sources and thereby help to meet the CO2 reduction goal as well as the target for an increased use of renewable energy. By heading for a divers and sustain basis for the urban energy supply the project is in line with the strategic goals of the Community in the field of energy.

2. CoP contributes to strengthening the territorial cohesion by providing strategic reference strategies and concepts for the promotion and application of renewable energy in the urban context that is transferable and can be applied beyond the scope of the project. The Joint Renewable Energy Strategy will be elaborated under the consideration of different national and local policies promoting the use of renewable energy and on the basis of the examination of innovative financial and organizational instruments engaged to support the effective application of renewable energy. The involvement of the public authorities as target group of the project and expert institution guarantees the appropriate consideration of the needs of the cities.

3. The project supports a framework favourable to the application of the innovative environment-friendly technologies of energy production from renewable sources. This establishes additional business opportunities for the innovative enterprises operating in the field of renewable energy. In addition with the project activities Cities on Power sets ground for sustainable energy supply at affordable prices. This brings competitive advantages to the businesses operating in the cities. The project puts emphasis on the cluster of renewable energy and strengthens the local and establishes the international network for the cooperation of the relevant stakeholders with respect to the use of renewable energy.