

# NEWSLETTER MAR. 17

## MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER PARTNER

The main goal of the LOCARBO project is to elaborate local low-carbon economy action plans, which must be shared with the political parties that have to ensure their full and effective implementation in the specific government actions as well as the allocation of the necessary resources.

For this purpose, being in the second semester of activity, I feel it's time to start announcing some general aspects that will be considered for making LOCARBO's impacts as much efficient as expected.

Creating a powerful action plan always begins with having a clear purpose, vision or goal in mind. Developing a complete, clear and current (anticipating newly emerging opportunities and barriers) action plan helps change-makers turn their dreams into reality, words into actions, and increases efficiency and accountability.

LOCARBO's action plans will describe the way our partners' organizations will meet their objectives through detailed action steps that describe how and when these steps will be taken. They will be a way to make sure our visions are made concrete. They will

describe the way we will define and use our strategies to meet our objectives.

LOCARBO's action plans will consist of a number of action steps or changes to be brought about in our communities. Each action step or change to be sought will be based on the following principles:

- What actions or changes will occur;
- Who will carry out these changes;
- By when they will take place, and for how long;
- What resources (i.e., money, staff) are needed to carry out these changes;
- Communication (who should know what?).



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So, the preparation work will involve:

- Identifying and setting achievable & measurable objectives;
- Prioritizing our tasks effectively;
- Identifying the steps needed to achieve them;
- Ongoing monitoring ensuring continuous follow-up and reviews.

In building our action plans inclusiveness is fundamental. Social inclusion and engagement in all decision-making processes is a need and a key for success and, starting from its early conception, will be performed by involving:

- Influential people and social groups from all the parts of the community affected or influenced by the initiatives;
- People who are directly involved in the issues (members of grassroots organizations);
- Members of the various ethnic and cultural groups in the community;
- People who are interested in the problem or issue;
- Newcomers or young people in the community who are not yet involved.

Also the critical evaluation of the action-plan's appropriateness (i.e., the activities or community/system changes to be implemented) will be performed by using defined criteria such as:

- Completeness, clarity, sufficiency: if all that is proposed were accomplished, would it meet the mission and objectives? If not, what additional changes need to be planned and implemented?
- Resources (for example: financial, staff, skills, etc.) needed/available;
- Currency: does the action plan reflect the current work and situation?

- Flexibility: as the plan unfolds, is it flexible enough to respond to new opportunities, barriers, and changes in the community? Can it be modified as objectives are accomplished or goals adjusted?
- Ongoing Follow-up and Review: as the implementation proceeds and the objectives are accomplished or conditions change, does the plan need any adjustment?

Those are the relevant guiding principles that will be followed for making our actions more concrete and feasible.

I would conclude my LP's message with an inspiring aphorism by a famous baseball player and coach: "You've got to be very careful if you don't know where you are going because you might not get there" (Lawrence Peter "Yogi" Berra).

Enjoy the reading!

Alessandro Attolico

Lead Partner PM Coordinator



## INTRODUCING THE PARTNERSHIP REGIONS

### Province of Potenza Track-record on sustainable projects

The Province of Potenza is one of the two provinces of the Basilicata Region with a population of 387,195 inhabitants, a demographic density of 59 inhabitants/sqm and a territorial extension of 6,587.74 sqm.

Potenza acts as a coordinating body between regional policies and urban planning policies and has a large

experience in territorial analysis, designing and implementing eco-sustainable territorial management systems. It also acts as a supporting structure of the Covenant of Mayors not only at local level but also at regional scale, which led to Potenza recognition as the 'Best Practice Province 2011' in Italy due to its successful implementation of projects linked to renewable energy sources (RES) and energy efficiency (EE) at community level.

Alongside with other municipal and regional projects, the Province of Potenza is working on boosting intensive transnational cooperation that involves cities and territories. The aim is to export and import know-how and innovative experiences on sustainable development, disaster resilience and climate change, in order to develop local actions in support of its Municipalities and Communities.

Between 2012 and 2014, the Province of Potenza has been the Lead Partner of the INTERREG IVC RENERGY project, focused on improving energy efficiency and the optimal utilization of renewable energy sources by offering an innovative model for creating sustainable urban environments.

During 2013-2015, the Province of Potenza was one of the partners of the MED PROGRAMME REMIDA project aiming at developing new EE and RES solutions in Mediterranean cities, through the strengthening of the local energy policy and strategy and the promotion of a smart management of energy supply and demand. In particular, REMIDA intended to test and implement new schemes of private-public-people partnerships (PPPPs) to encourage the demand for EE and RES and the development of smart energy chains and communities.



In 2016, Potenza takes the leadership of INTERREG Europe LOCARBO project in order to influence the implementation of territorial cooperation policies (TCP) at territorial level by connecting sectorial policies promoted at municipal/intermunicipal scale to the overall framework of Regional Development Strategies.

The Province is responsible for TCP implementation covering the core thematic areas of LOCARBO: energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, sustainability and climate change adaptation. The core subject of this project is Community Involvement. Thus, Potenza intends to share with the other partners its vision towards stakeholder's involvement. Its approach, defined as multi-stakeholder connection, was promoted and experimented in the framework of "Making Cities Resilient Campaign" by UNISDR.

The #we Resilient strategy was outlined for pursuing territorial development through a structural combination of environmental sustainability, territorial safety and climate change contrasting policies.

Based on the results of some EU co-funded projects carried out and the policy expressed in the Provincial Structural Plan (PSP), in 2015 the Province of Potenza adopted its Strategic Framework for Contrasting Climate Changes. On October 13<sup>th</sup> 2015, the UNISDR awarded the Province of Potenza as a "Champion Community for Disaster Risk Reduction", ranking among the eight world communities, thus being a significant recognition for the municipal and regional efforts conducted so far.

## Basilicata Region – Towards a Sustainable Region

Basilicata is a very small region, in demographic and economic terms. On the one hand, its population, of about 573,700 inhabitants, represents only 0.9% of the national population. Its surface, on the



other hand, is quite vast: with its 9,995 sqrd. kms, Basilicata is the 14<sup>th</sup> Italian region, and its surface represents 3.3% of the overall Italian surface. The disequilibrium between population and surface is shown by the very low value of the demographic density (59 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>) which is the second lowest density for the 20 Italian regions.

Even if macroeconomic data shows that Basilicata has a very poor weight in national economy, the region has the largest onshore oil reserves of the country, and its production satisfies 10% of the national energetic demand.

In this context, the region intends to promote the production and use of renewable energy sources and stimulate activities to promote energy savings. In this sense, Basilicata region has been involved in recent years on the deployment of sustainable development policies within its territory.

The Basilicata Energy Strategy was structured on national and European priorities. Coherently with the "National Energy Strategy: For a more energy competitive and sustainable 2013" its relevant priorities are energy efficiency and sustainable development of renewable energy.

During the period 2014-2020, the Region will assess the impacts of the huge investments developed during the past period in the framework of Structural Funds programming and local/national policies. The



assessment will “inform” the ongoing process and will allow completing the sustainable energy chains already started at local level integrating public investments, private ones and market development.

During 2007-2013, the Basilicata Region was one of the partners of the following international projects in the energy and general environment protection sectors:

- ORIENTGATE - A structured network for integration of climate knowledge into policy and territorial planning. The main results of the project included six pilot studies on specific sites to adapt to climate change, a data platform connected to the EU clearing house on climate change adaptation, improving skills seminars and workshops, and an entire partnership working between the hydro-meteorological offices in SEE countries.
- MARIE – Mediterranean Building Rethinking for Energy Efficiency Improvement. Promoting the energy efficiency of buildings (EE) and exploiting the opportunities offered by the policy and directives on EE in EU buildings, taking into account the distinctive features of the MED space and the creation of most appropriate technical and financial leverage capacity, assembled the strategic vision of MARIE project.
- PIMMS CAPITAL - Capitalising on Partner Initiatives in Mobility Management Services. The project has helped stimulate a modal shift to nine forms of sustainable transport, through the implementation of high quality mobility management techniques and policies in European regions.
- PAYS MED URBAN - High quality of landscape as a key to sustainability and competitiveness of Mediterranean urban area. The project main focus was to develop pilot actions and awareness-raising activities on landscape issues

which play an important role in the attractiveness and competitive capacity of urban areas.

The Basilicata region is currently involved in the following international projects:

- GPPbest – Best practices exchange and strategic tools for GPP (Green Public Procurement). The project intends to improve GPP already implemented in some Italian regions and to develop a system of tools and knowledge that encourage the adoption of green procurement including the provision of centralized procurement actions.
- CRE:HUB - The overall objective is to improve eight programmes for Investment for Growth and Jobs to support creation and development of new SMEs in cultural and creative (CC) sector at regional and national level, thanks to fruitful cooperation among regions with different level of capacities and experiences in CCIs supporting policies.
- INSIDE OUT - The project aims to foster the internationalisation of SMEs by means of entering the virtuous triangle “collaboration-innovation-internationalisation”. The proposed interregional cooperation will involve public authorities, Structural Funds Managing Authorities and relevant key agents who will work together to deepen into the aspects to be developed in each region with special emphasis on SME cooperation and new innovative methods.
- NIGHT LIGHT - A satellite image of night-time Europe shows a continent that is covered in light. The project will introduce packages of regional policy measures for each of the partner regions that will result in a lasting reduction of light pollution, the designation of nature areas where dark skies are protected and the introduction of new services and facilities to attract ecotourism to these dark sky areas.

## THE LAUNCH CONFERENCE



### **Durham (UK) hosts the LOCARBO Launch Event**

Durham City Council (UK) was the hosting organisation of the LOCARBO launch event and 2<sup>nd</sup> Thematic Working Team (TWT) meeting, which was held in 18-19 October, joining several participants from 5 European countries: United Kingdom, Italy, Portugal, Lithuania, and Hungary.

The intensive agenda was divided in three main moments: the launching conference and model stakeholder café, the site visits, and the TWT meeting linked to the Steering Committee meeting.

The Launching conference was officially opened by the Chairman of Durham County Council and the representative of the Province of Potenza. It was followed by a sequence of presentations addressing the LOCARBO project overview, the policy instruments and the established thematic

pillars (supplementary services and products offered by regional and local authorities; innovative cooperation models; and innovative smart technologies).

The 1<sup>st</sup> day ended with a set of three site visits linked to supplementary services and products offered by regional and local authorities (Thematic Pillar 1). The selected visits were the Thorn Lighting Ltd, the Brandon Primary School, and the Framwellgate Moor Community Centre.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> day-event was entirely dedicated to the Thematic Working Team (TWT) and the internal Steering Committee meetings, with the objective of setting the next steps of the project financial and communication management, and also a roundtable discussion for the Analysis & Ambition info sheet, and the Action Plan Guide template structure.

## REGIONAL AND EUROPEAN NEWS



### **A new step towards the EU Emissions Trading System**

The European Parliament has adopted on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2017 a major step in supporting the revision of the Emissions Trading System (ETS) Directive for the period after 2021.

EU Parliament voted in favour of changes to strengthen the market stability reserve to more quickly reduce the current oversupply of allowances on the carbon market.

This step provides a clear outcome on climate change struggle in the upcoming years, and concludes a year of intensive discussions in EU Parliament, led by the committee for Environment, and taking due account of opinions of the Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) and the Development (DEVE) committees.

Now the EU ETS revision is on the Council's table and arises a new expectation for a quickly

agreement to accelerate the negotiations towards low carbon measures in all sectors of the European economy, proposing binding greenhouse gas emission targets for Member States from 2021-2030 for the transport, buildings, agriculture, waste, and land-use and forestry sectors.

For more information:

[https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/ets/revision\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/ets/revision_en)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Group and TWT meeting in Kaunas – 13-14 March



The City of Kaunas (LT) will host the 3<sup>rd</sup> project event on 13-14 March.

The 2-day event programme will include the following parts: the 2<sup>nd</sup> site visit, the 2<sup>nd</sup> stakeholder café with local stakeholders, a good practices fair and roundtable discussion, and the TWT meeting linked to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee meeting.

The 1<sup>st</sup> day will cover a guided site visit to a renovated living apartment building and a renovated residential quarter, and also a site visit to the Kaunas University pole. Then, a stakeholder café with local stakeholders, a roundtable discussion of good practices related

with TP 2 “Innovative Cooperation Models”, and the presentations of the main findings of the partners’ regional analysis, will conclude the 1<sup>st</sup> day schedule.

For more information:

<http://www.interregeurope.eu/locarbo/events/event/530/3rd-steering-group-and-twt-meeting/>

**Resilient Cities Congress . 4 - 6 May**  
Bonn, Germany

**Climate Summit of Local and Regional Leaders at COP23 . 12 November**  
Bonn, Germany

**LOCARBO**  
Interreg Europe



European Union  
European Regional  
Development Fund