



Co-funded by the Intelligent Energy Europe Programme of the European Union

Project Title: Regional and Local public Authorities cooperating in sustainable energy planning through effective multi-level governance models

Acronym: COOPENERGY

Grant Agreement Number: IEE/12/703/

Deliverable	D. 4. 1-a Progress report of Joint Actions
Associated WP	WP4
Associated Task	Task 4.1
Due Date	M 16
Date Delivered	October 2014
Prepared by (Lead Partner)	IRE Lig
Partners Involved	All partners except UBIEFE and FEDARENE
Dissemination Level	

© European Communities, 2013

The information and views set out in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the European Communities. Neither the European Union institutions and bodies nor any person acting on their behalf may be held responsible for the use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Table of contents

1. Introduction	2
2. Implementation of Joint Actions and Local Working Groups in the partners' regions	2
3. Feedbacks and lessons learned so far	13

1. Introduction

The objective of WP4 is to implement concrete joint actions in sustainable energy planning between the technical staff of both regional and local authorities for the successful implementation of the measures defined in the regional and local SEAPs, together with the involvement of key regional and local stakeholders.

The joint actions will address the 3 cross cutting pillars of MLG models defined within the project which are:

Pillar 1: Financial Instruments

Pillar 2: Modelling, planning and monitoring tools for decision makers

Pillar 3: Awareness raising and stakeholders involvement instruments

Target of the project is to implement 12 joint actions, at least 1 per region, which will be developed by the partners in coordination with the multi-level stakeholders, that will be involved in the implementation and monitoring of the activities through the Local Working Groups, which will meet several times during the life of the project (4 meetings to be scheduled per LWG).

2. Implementation of Joint Actions and Local Working Groups in the partners' regions

At the beginning of the project all partners have proposed possible joint actions to be implemented in the framework of Coopenergy (see Table in section 4.2 of Annex I). During the reporting period the list of Joint Actions has been revised by the partners according to the specific needs of their territories and a final version has been confirmed: 19 Joint Actions have been now identified, this means that, in general, more than one per partner region (from 2 to 4 according to the table below).

Partner	Action	Pilar
RCRA	Promotion of the Regional fund to support local public investment toward territories,	1&3
RCRA	Accompany a "Positive energy territory" to develop financial instrument to raise the implementation of renewable energy infrastructure	1
RAEE	Collaboration in adapting land use territorial procedures (SCOT) for sustainable energy communities	2&3
HESPUL	Cooperation between regional, urban and rural authorities as well as local stakeholders for the strengthening of the wood fuel supply chain.	3
KCC	Collaboration in implementing the KENT Green Deal partnership and financial mechanism	1&3
KCC	Development of joint approach to supporting community renewable energy installations.	2&3
IRE Liguria	JA1:Collaboration in BEI data supply and performance monitoring for municipalities: building regulation	2
IRE Liguria	JA2:Joint procurement process and collaboration in public lighting and other frequent energy issues for municipalities	1
NENET	Joint Action 1 - Jokkmokk: Creating a meeting place and MLG model on Sustainable energy and transport infrastructure / land use planning.	2&3
NENET	Joint Action 2 - City of Pitea: creating a meeting place to foster renewable energy entrepreneurship; adapting local SEAP	3
EAZK	JA1: Joint development plan between the Zlin region and the municipalities for increasing the energy utilisation of the communal waste from the landfills in the Zlin region	1&2
EAZK	JA2:Joint development process between the Zlin region and the municipalities for purchasing bulk energy and providing energy efficiency services	1
EVE	JA1:AP200. A Joint Plan for public lighting renovation in municipalities under 200 inhabitants in the Basque Country.	1
EVE	JA2:Collaboration among Economic and Competitiveness Department of the Basque Government and the Basque municipalities to foster, promote and develop the competitiveness, sustainability and innovation in the primary sector (agriculture, livestock, fisheries and forestry).	1
MAES	Set up of a regional GHG emissions observatory that provides statistical data to regional and local public authorities for the development SEAPs	2
MRN	Organization of stakeholder meetings to explore bioenergy potential	3
MRN	Organization of local workshops with citizens associations willing to invest in renewables	3
MRN	Mobile exhibition to support local workshops and to raise awareness	3
MRN	Organization of a forum at the regional Conference and a Congress to present district heating related to combined heat and power generation and events	3

During the reporting period the partners have carried out preparatory activities needed for the implementation of the Joint Actions and the setting-up the Local Working Groups (like collection of energy data, implementation of surveys and first feasibility studies, research for possible funding, identification of stakeholders with continuous involvement and commitment of new participants and creation of partnerships) and at general level the progress of the JAs is in line with the initial activity plans; in several cases the outcomes from the actions are already obtaining first joint results.

So far over 50 meetings of the LWG have taken place among the partners' regions - most partners have done 3 or 4 meetings per LWG, over 6 in Kent, Zlin and Basque Regions - which

have involved participants at local and regional level more than initially foreseen, this positively affecting the implementation of the Joint Activities.

Over 100 institutions representatives of the public sector (local administrations, county councils, regional authorities at technical/political level) out of an initial target of 36 and around 120 participants (initial target was 100) representing stakeholders associated with the implementation of the JAs (professionals, consortia, representatives of energy companies and suppliers – facilities, distributors – citizens, managers for schools/hospitals/utilities) are taking part in the LWG meetings and in the works in progress. The proactive approach ongoing in the LWGs is being an important support to the partners, especially when specific challenges or delays may occur in the implementation of the activities. Moreover, LWGs have been an occasion to promote MLG models and replication of best practices from partners' experience.

Kent County Council

The Kent County Council is working on 2 joint actions.

JA1: Collaborating to implement housing retrofit across Kent and Medway

Aim of the action is centred around delivering the housing retrofit programme across Kent and Medway through the implementation of activities among the multi-level stakeholders from the public and private sector involved in the initiative of housing retrofit. This partnership programme has been called "Warm Homes" and has focused on delivering retrofit through grant funding from central government (ECO) whilst still promoting the loan funding from central government (Green Deal) as another attractive financial mechanism for residents to make home energy improvements.

During the period August 2013 – September 2014 6 meetings of the LWG have been organized by KCC in order to plan, discuss and implement activities related to:

- How to bid for the Community funding;
- Selecting, implementing and monitoring the delivering of domestic retrofit work in Kent and Medway from the enterprises;
- Competing ECO offers;
- Enabling employment opportunities for SMEs in the retrofit programme;
- Accreditation of landlords and vulnerable residents and management of expectations of residents.

The LWG has involved so far 12 local authorities, plus the Kent County Council, and over 15 technical partners/stakeholders associated with the Joint Action.

Several barriers have been challenged by the partnership for the implementation of the retrofit interventions, mostly due to the complexity to manage the fund schemes together with the need to involve several residents moreover, since 2014, main problems came from the lack of resources due to unexpected changes occurred in the fund program (ECO) and leading to the closure of the fund. Despite these problems, which caused some delays in the implementations of activities and needed to re-schedule specific interventions, the Project Board meeting has been able to find alternative solutions in order to continue on providing the retrofitting measures (which have involved also the contractors) and in March 2014 has decided to change the name of the partnership to "Kent and Medway Sustainable Energy Partnership".

- Results indicators so far (former “Warm Homes” partnership/2013): 968 properties improved and 1.013 measures installed (2900 carbon tonnes saved and approximate cash savings worth £280,000 to residents.)

In the meanwhile, the new partnership (KMGDP) has implemented a contingency plan on remaining funds and in April 2014 has decided to develop a tender for a new procurement framework to deliver retrofit works across Kent and Medway. Activities are now ongoing (latest LWG meeting was organized in September 2014).

JA2: Development of joint approach to supporting community renewable energy installations through the implementation of energy workshops in Kent (location: Sheppey)

6 meetings of the LWG have been organized between October 2013 – September 2014, which are involving 3 public authorities and several representatives of the communities. Aim of the meetings has been to highlight the types of renewables available in the Sheppey territory (Solar, Marine, Biomass and Wind) and the possible sites that might be suitable for interventions (both buildings and lands have been considered) and to held consultations with the communities about the most important joint benefits. Therefore, the communities have been engaged in the assessment of the possibilities for RES installation and in the process about how to overcome the technical and administrative barriers to the implementation of the interventions. At this step, a challenging barrier was met due to the lack of an established organisation to work with renewable energy developers / evaluate feasibility studies and take forward the community to renewable energy projects. Through the activities of the LWG the barrier has been overcome since a “Community Energy Trust” has been created and is now set up. Next step is to arrange feasibility studies and develop business costs with the support of Council institutions and professional /technicians involved in the action.

Norbotten Region

NENET is working on 2 Join actions, dedicated to **creating a meeting place, one in Pitea and the other in Jokkmokk, to foster renewable energy entrepreneurship. The permanent meeting places, involving local administrations and professionals, will be then an important resource to give a hand on support for adapting and revising the local SEAPs of the Municipalities.**

The development of the meeting places is a necessity and a key opportunity in the Norbotten framework: Norbotten County is sparsely populated (100.000 km² = 25% of the total area of Sweden, but only 250.000 inhabitants) and there are only 14 municipalities, most of them small. As a result, the number of people who are actively working with energy and climate issues is limited, so are also resources. Long distances make that a lot of time and money has to be spent on travelling. Therefore, as resulted from the analysis carried out by Nenet and through the feedbacks collected from the participants of the LWG meetings organized so far, concrete meeting places a need to provide support to administrations engaged for energy efficiency , to promote inspiration at regional level and to facilitate networking on best cases and possible solutions among the municipalities: indeed, learning from each other would strongly help the municipalities to overcome the administrative and technical barriers existing in the implementation of their energy action plans. At general level activities on energy efficiency and CO₂ reduction are ongoing among the municipalities but initiatives related to the CoM are not

widespread in the region and few municipalities are involved; most of all, activities related to energy and CO₂ monitoring are quite late in the whole region, due to a poor quality of energy data available at local level, which is a big issue for many administrations (while the national data-basis on energy use offer high quality data, on local and municipal levels the available data from national statistics are imprecise and failure range is 5 - 30 %).

Since early 2013 5 meetings have been organized by Nenet among the representatives of Pitea and Jokkmokk Municipalities with several experts in the field of energy efficiency and renewables sources, in order to analyse the benefits and dis-benefits of creating the meeting places as well as implementing a collaboration process in sustainable energy planning between the regional and local levels, to find out recommendations to overcome most common barriers (lack of resources, lack of collaboration/alignment among regional and local institutions, lack of data) and to identify potential conflicts or inconsistencies that could prevent a coherent development between the local and regional SEAPs.

- In Jokkmokk the Joint Action has been delayed due to the fact that no representatives of the regional authority could join the 2 meetings of the LWGs and due to the lack of information for the implementation of the MLG model. NENET is already working to find specific solutions and to avoid that these problems could affect the whole implementation of the action: new meetings have been scheduled and the LWG in Jokkmokk will re-start in 2015.
- In Pitea the activities are going on with a positive and constructive approach among the participants involved in the joint action through the LWG, which has resulted in the identification and development of a shared middle- and long-term strategy of cooperation:
 - Meeting Place: a joint event among 3 European projects (Coopenergy, Data4Action and Seap plus) has been organized on 23rd September 2014 as kick-off, which have involved almost 50 representatives among Local Administrations of the Norbotten region, regional authorities, professionals and other international stakeholders.
 - SEAP revision: a check on the methodology for energy data collection has been done among the regional authority, Nenet and the City of Piteå. The Municipality of Pitea has also allocated dedicated resources for this action. The Templates for CoM monitoring have been revised and the development of a regional BEI to support collaboration between County/Region and CoM municipalities is started.

Next steps: further interaction and collaboration within energy planning between local and regional actors. Re-starting of the JA in Jokkmokk and further development of the role of Pitea as leading guide in collaboration with the County Administration Board, the County Council and Nenet to promote the CoM (Pitea has been the first Municipality of Norbotten region which has committed to the CoM), to promote the networking activities among the municipalities and to improve the regional energy data observatory (Energy Loupe) in order to be a stronger support tool for the local administrations.

Region of Zlin

EAZK is working on 2 Joint Actions.

JA1 is dedicated to the development of a joint plan for increasing the energy utilisation of the communal waste from the landfills.

The core of the action is based on the directives of EC No. 75/442/ES and 91/156/ES, which introduced a new hierarchy in communal waste disposal according to which all EU member states are responsible to utilise or recycle the waste into products or energy. Only if no other option is available the rest should be removed in a safe way. Responsible authorities are therefore expected to develop a plan for waste utilisation including amount and origin of utilised waste, measurement related to specific kinds of waste, cost analysis etc. Moreover, the EC directive No.199/31/ES sets technical and security requirements about landfill localisation, their operation and waste deposition, with setting the targets till 2020.

Steps undertaken so far: the Zlín regional authority is cooperating with the municipalities of the region for the development of a joint plan for increasing the energy utilization of the communal waste from the landfills. An initial meeting with the Local administrations was held on 08/04/2014 in Zlín where the current situation was introduced.

According to a survey carried out by EAZK in the regional territory, so far there are 8 landfills situated in the area of the Zlín Region with the following characteristics:

Landfill (place/operator)	planned capacity (m ³)	Free capacity (m ³)	Projected capacity (m ³)
Zdounky operator DEPOZ, spol. s.r.o.	370 000	81 000	82 000
Bystřice pod Hostýnem operator .A.S.A. Bystřice pod Hostýnem, s.r.o.	720 000	380 000	720 000
Prakšická – Uherský Brod operator RUMPOLD UHB, s.r.o.	367 868	50 487	418 355
Suchý Důl, Zlín provozovatel TS Zlín, spol. s.r.o.	935 320	604 427	935 320
Slavičín – Radašovy operator Skládky odpadů Slavičín, s.r.o.	76 000	60 000	76 200
Smolina – Valašské Klobouky provozovatel Valašskokloboucké služby s.r.o.	400 000	269 817	400 000
Březová operator EKO-UNIBAU a.s. Praha	210 000	66 750	210 000
Kvítkovice operator Moravská skládková a.s.	1 653 820	110 000	1 224 075
Total	4 733 008	1 622 481	4 065 950

Plans for the next year (2015): the municipalities are willing to cooperate on searching for a shared solution, which must be realised in a complex way in cooperation with as many municipalities as possible. A questionnaire was developed by EAZK to investigate the situation with waste management in municipalities of the Zlín Region (questionnaires are currently circulating).

On the basis of the survey and the results of the next meetings to be organized for the LWG (further municipalities are being involved) a feasibility study will be developed during next year (2015) to carry out the analysis of the selection of the suitable place for the development of the landfill waste incinerator in the area of the Zlín region. The analysis should focus on the impact of the traffic caused by transporting the waste there, pollution dispersion study and impact of the emissions caused by transport as well as by the incinerator.

JA 2: Joint development process between the Zlín region and the municipalities for purchasing bulk energy and providing energy efficiency services

Aim of the action is to set up a joint process among the Municipalities for the procurement of bulk energy. During the reporting period the activities of the Joint Action have started and several meetings have been organized with the local administrators: so far 14 municipalities have been actively involved in the implementation of the joint action and some more are expected to join in 2015.

In order to realize the procurement process between the Zlín region and the municipalities several technical steps need to be undertaken in coordination with EAZK including:

- Documentation preparation (updated data about energy consumption through establishing of energy management activities and checking if each take-off point has a suitable circuit breaker (linked to the selection of a right tariff) for electricity);
- The good timing – continuous monitoring of the average market price on commodity exchanges in Prague and in Leipzig, monitoring of exchange rate EUR / CZK, cooperation with traders and their willingness to participate in the contest, meetings with responsible departments of the Regional Office, setting up a maximum acceptable price for 1 MWh;
- Termination of contracts with current energy suppliers (the conditions are variable from case to case).

The several steps of the process are being carried out with each municipality separately, in order to be more effective. According to the technical needs of the municipalities and their administrative framework first results are expected in late 2014 and most of them then during 2015 and 2016.

Basque Region

EVE is working on 2 Joint Actions.

JA1: Development of a joint plan for public lighting renovation for little municipalities with less than 5.000 inhabitants.

This Joint action, shortly named “AP 200”, is being implemented in 6 Municipalities:

- Arakaldo Municipality (action AP 200 Bizkaia)
- Kripan Municipality and Añana Municipality (action AP 200 – Araba)
- Gipuzkoa Municipality, Baliarran Municipality and Orexa Municipality (action AP 200 – Gipuzkoa)

From the spring 2013 onwards over 10 meetings have been organized among the Municipalities, the Basque region - with the support of the structure “IDEA” - and 2 professional stakeholders (SEMANTEC and SETALDE). Up to date 75% of the activities have been carried out.

EVE has set up an activity plan with the Municipalities and during these meetings has worked to finalize collaboration agreements among all the involved participants in order to define specific role and tasks in the framework of the Joint Action; main aspects analysed included:

- General review of the current situation of urban illumination in the municipalities, modifications to be implemented, estimated cost, ..
- Decisions to be taken by municipal responsables
- Creation of the working groups
- Agreements signature /MOU adoption by the municipalities in plenary session

During the LWG meetings several issues have raised about possible barriers to the implementation of the action, first of all dealing with funding and contracting constraints for the public authorities. This problem has forced all the actors involved to find out a shared solution to the need of procurement of technical equipments and to the implementation of Energy Audit Contracts. Moreover, the new legislation on electric network fulfilment (Reglamento electrotécnico de baja Tensión (RD 842/2002)) implies that the municipalities involved in the activities will be requested an even further commitment since the application of the new legislation has caused an increase in the cost of urban lighting renovation process. Solutions identified so far have been 2:

-Pre-financing of part of activities by EVE
- availability of the Municipalities to direct commitment, thus supporting these procurements with their own resources.

The first phase for the definition of agreements is now concluded in all the Municipalities and since February 2014 the second phase of the action, dedicated to the implementation of the procurements, has started for Joint action “AP 200 Bizkaia” and “AP 200 Araba”.

During this second phase of the collaboration the meetings with the Municipalities are tackling these aspects:

- Equipment analysis and tendering process
- Implementation of the purchasement
- Reception of quotations, awarding of the tenders and approval of the procedure

The second phase is requesting EVE to provide even stronger coordination activities because Municipalities have to be ready to start with the implementation phase as soon as the equipment is received in site, this means that lines and other adaptations/modification have to be ready on time.

JA2 : multi level collaboration to foster competitiveness, sustainability and innovation in the primary sector, shortly “EVE – HAZI”.

The joint action is involving 2 Municipalities of the Basque region: Municipality of Labastida And Municipality of Amurrio

Since early 2014 EVE, with the technical support of a consulting structure (HAZI), is promoting the construction of a district heating in the territory of the Basque region. Goal of the Joint Action is to finalize a joint MLG procedure in order to obtain the commitment of the Municipalities (a joint decision will be taken by the local administrations) to realize the district heating (and an even more ambitious objective is to start the works for the implementation of the district heating by the end of Coopenergy project). 2 meetings of the LWG have been organized so far and, in both municipalities, the MLG procedure is in the central stage of its implementation.

- In January 2014 HAZI has presented to the Amurrio Municipality the outcomes of a biomass resources analysis (Biomass Resources, Energy needs, Energy audit for target sites) and the participants of the LWG have discussed about projects and funding possibilities (including ESCO solution) and about the identification of the possible constitution site within the Amurrio Municipality boundaries (2 possible sites selected: analysis ongoing).

- The meeting with the Municipality of Labastida has been organized in June 2014, which at technical level has revealed interesting possibilities for the implementation of the Joint action: the Municipality is open to the possibility of moving the energy consumption of the whole village from GLP to Biomass, including municipal building. Discussions were held about the substitution of current GLP fuel into biomass based DH and about the area, devoted to wine production, owning Biomass Resources coming from wine yards cuttings. Technical aspects such as location of Biomass Boilers and pipeline installation were defined and agreed. Financing aspects are still pending in the sense of who is facing the financing of the project (equipment or infrastructure) and ESCO Solution has been analysed.

Region of Malopolska

MAES has identified one Joint Action.

In the framework of the project reporting period MAES has carried out preliminary activities aimed to set up the LWG (identification of possible stakeholders) and during the reporting period has carried out some of the preparatory work for the development of the Joint action dedicated to **set up of a regional GHG emissions observatory as a supporting tool for SEAPs**. To overcome the barriers affecting the existing energy and planning monitoring GHG tool (lack of data) MAES started to identify new possible providers of energy data for the improvement of the observatory but due to problems occurred to the agency and its foreseen closure the LWG meetings planned in the framework of the Joint Actions have not been organized and the Joint Action will not be further implemented in the Region of Malopolska.

Rhein-Neckar Region

At the initial stage of the WP4 activities MNR has made a review on the main topic for the Joint actions and has identified 4 key activities to be developed in the framework of the Coopenergy project.

During the reporting period 3 out of the 4 JAs have started their activities and so far, they have reached a level of implementation from 60 – 80%. 2 meetings of the LWGs have been organized for each joint action. Main results of the activities and outcomes of the KWG are:

- **JA1:** Based on the regional SEAP, promotion is one aspect that needs to be implemented. MNR has appointed bioenergy ambassadors inside its structure with function as spokesman to citizens and local Authorities (many of the ambassadors are former mayors). To identify and mobilize bioenergy potential in the region, one idea was to access privately owned forests and mobilize the potential energy wood. On this purpose, the Region, Counties, Forest Departments, Local Authorities and citizens (owners of forests) need to be engaged. This is a great example of an MLG approach that helps to achieve the goals in the regional SEAP in close cooperation with local authorities.

- **JA2:** Citizens energy cooperatives have an important part in the process of the energy turnaround. In order to support local initiatives of energy cooperatives investing in RES and energy efficiency, a working group was founded in October 2013 and will meet once or twice a year with the participation of specific experts, best practice cases to be displayed, site visits and exchange of experiences to take place. Additionally, a GIS based map showing the activities of the energy cooperatives within the MRN was drawn up.

- **JA3:** Local Heating Networks can be a good way to secure local heating supply and keep the money in the region. In order to raise awareness on this theme, risks, road maps and local circumstances need to be taken in consideration: on this purpose 2 local congress were organized to inform interested stakeholders. A follow up at the regional conference in Summer 2015 might already show some results (options are being further discussed to see relevance of this approach).

New meetings for the 3 JA are scheduled in the fall 2014.

Decisions about the implementation of the 4th joint action (Mobile Exhibition of a Biogas-plant to raise awareness) will be taken in the next reporting period.

Liguria Region

IRE Liguria is implementing 2 Joint Actions.

JA1: Collaboration in BEI data supply and performance monitoring for municipalities – focus on Building Codes regulation

JA2: Joint procurement processes and collaboration in public lighting and other frequent energy issues for the local Administrations.

In Liguria the Steering Committee of the Memorandum of Cooperation will represent the instrument to design and set up the Local Working Groups: in fact, the participants to the SC, together to other stakeholders and technical and financial experts, will compose the LWGs to be involved in the implementation of the Joint Actions.

IRE Liguria, due to its institutional role for the promotion and implementation of activities related to local energy planning, is already in contact with Municipalities from all the 4 Provinces, as well as with regional/local stakeholders, and is working actively with Local administrators involved in the Covenant of Mayors initiative.

Thanks to the work implemented so far through these collaborations and the contacts with the Municipalities that have committed to the MoC, despite the delay in the organization of the LWG meetings (due to the postponement of the Steering Committee of the MoC), IRE has already implemented the work on which to base the Joint actions and has started to involve the Municipalities in the implementation of the activities at different levels.

In particular, IRE has focused its work so far on the implementation of JA1 - "Municipal Building Regulations", which is a strategic activity in the framework of the Region. Aim of Joint Action is to help Municipalities to reach their CO₂ reduction targets through the identification of specific interventions on residential sector to be enclosed in their SEAP and to provide them with joint recommendations and guidelines that can be used by all Local Administrations involved in the revision of their building regulation code. Indeed, the analysis on energy consumptions in the Region of Liguria (baseline of the regional SEAP) have revealed that 50% of energy consumptions in Liguria is due to the civil sector, where 32% is related to the residential sector. This means that, in order to promote effective interventions for energy and CO₂ savings in our region, it is important to implement activities dedicated to energy efficiency in the building sector.

On this purpose, IRE has worked to test and improve a specific software aimed to analyse the energy requirements of buildings and provide models for energy consumptions.

The software, which is a tool that was elaborated and now owned by IRE, has been tested through the simulation and elaboration of several scenarios of interventions and through the use of energy data, consumptions and indicators collected from the Municipalities of our region that IRE was supporting in the preparation of their SEAPs, most of all Municipalities from the Province of Savona and Province of Imperia.

The work implemented through this modeling tool has allowed IRE to analyze all the possibilities for technical interventions in the residential sector and to evaluate the results in terms of energy saving and CO₂ reduction that can be obtained from each action.

Following the results of this analysis, IRE has supported the Municipalities in the identification of the potential for interventions in their territory and a specific action for implementation of energy efficiency through the improvement of the Building regulation Codes have been inserted in all the SEAPs of these Municipalities (31 municipalities in the Province of Savona, where 15 SEAPs have already been approved by the Municipal Councils and the other are now ongoing, and 5 Municipalities in the Province of Imperia, which have submitted their SEAP with the support of IRE in the framework of the project SEAP- Plus.)

Indeed, at general level, taking into consideration a SEAP with a reduction on CO₂ targeted to an overall objective of 20% measures to be implemented through the action on Building Codes can contribute to the CO₂ reduction for around 5%.

The results of this testing phase of the software for the identification of key interventions on the residential sector are now ready to be shared with all the Municipalities and multi-level stakeholders of the region through the Steering Committee Meetings of the "Memorandum of Cooperation for the management of the CoM" (so far 40 public authorities from all the 4 provinces of our region have signed the MOC in the framework of Coopenergy). Results

obtained through the application of the modelling tool will be further elaborated with the inputs coming from all the Municipalities participating in the MOC so that, on this basis, joint guidelines and recommendations on how to put in practice the implementation of the Municipal Building codes will be provided to all Local Administrators of our region.

Region Rhone Alpes

In the Region of Rhone Alpes 4 Joint actions are being implemented, two managed by RCRA and two coordinated by RAEE, also with the support of HESPUL. The project partners have created Local Working Groups for each of the 4 Joint action and so far 2 meetings have been organized among the participants of each LWG.

JA - RCRA

JA2: aim of the action is the **promotion of a Regional fund to support local public investment toward territories**. Activities of RAEE have focused on the collaboration with the Communauté de Communes du Val de Drôme (CCVD) in order to provide regional support to the implementation of a specific tool, set up by the Community of the municipalities, aimed at financing Energy projects through a semi-public company.

In July 2014 a meeting was organized by RCRA in order to provide an overview about the regional tools and local fund currently available, to identify priorities and needs for the implementation of the action (from the fund but also needs of technical support from CCVD) and to set up a strategy about potential actions to work on through Coopenergy and through the regional tools. A new LWG meeting was organized on November 4th and a new one is scheduled by the end of the same month.

(JA1: updates will be provided in the next period)

JA RAEE - HESPUL

The 2 joint actions are based on MLG models implemented in collaboration with the regional and local authorities to support the regional SEAP. They concern respectively Coopenergy's pillars 2 and 1+3 (The achievements toward targets are assessed as of November 2014).

RAEE : Pillar 2: climate friendly spatial planning tool at sub regional level:

The goal of the joint action is to review existing spatial planning tool at sub regional level within the territory of Pays de Romans (3 municipalities) located within Rhône-Alpes, identify gaps and barriers that will hamper the implementation of local SEAPs and propose recommendations as far as possible changes to spatial planning documents. This joint action will be implemented in a collaborative manner with the involvement of key regional and local stakeholders including:

- Regional council
- 3 local municipalities (elected persons and technical staff)
- Other administrative level
- Spatial planning agency (CAUE Drome)
- Local energy agency in relation with CAUE

In order to successfully implement the joint action, the regional and local stakeholders will implement the following activities:

- 1- setting up the local working group
- 2- reviewing the SCOT and PCET, respectively spatial planning and local SEAP documents, identifying gaps and barriers in a participative manner
- 3- proposing solutions for addressing gaps and barriers
- 4- organizing one regional info day in relation with climate friendly spatial planning procedures to promote the joint action

As of today, the status is the following:

- The local working group has been set up. Since elections have recently taken place, the local working group will need to be further updated.
- 2 local working group meetings were held so far reviewing the local documents and discussing the content of the regional conference. 2 more meetings are planned in 2015 during which solutions for addressing gaps and barriers will be discussed.
- One regional info day was organized in 2014 that gathered more than 80 persons. This meeting was the occasion to reinforce the need to promote collective work and identify in a participative manner the barriers to climate friendly procedures. It will be followed by another info day in 2015 during which solutions will be presented based on the joint action with Pays de Romans.

HESPUL: (Pillars 1 and 3) - Joint action between regional, urban and rural authorities as well as local stakeholders to strengthen the wood fuel supply chain.

The goal of the joint action is to strengthen the wood fuel supply chain within the Rhône territory and identify possible options for the implementation of urban-rural solidarity mechanisms. This joint action is triggered by the significant needs in wood energy resources by the Grand Lyon to implement its SEAP and by the great potential in wood energy resources within rural territories located within the Rhône district.

This joint action will be implemented in a collaborative manner with the involvement of key regional and local stakeholders including:

- Regional council
- Département Rhône
- Grand Lyon
- Local energy agency
- Wood energy suppliers association

In order to successfully implement the joint action, the regional and local stakeholders will implement the following activities:

- 1- Setting up the local working group
- 2- Reviewing the Grand Lyon's wood energy needs and available resources within the Rhône district
- 3- Discussing potential solidarity mechanisms and proposing one scheme supporting the development of the wood fuel supply chains

As of today, the status is the following:

- The local working group has been set up.

- 2 local working group meetings were held so far. 2 more meetings are planned in 2015 during which solutions will be elaborated and discussed.

3. Feedbacks and lessons learned so far

The level of implementation of the Joint actions in the different regions vary according to the peculiarity of the territories under the administrative/ legal point of view and, naturally, follows the different time schedule needed according to the times for the implementation of the technical activities (see table of indicators of JAs in the dashboard) but the general feedback coming from the stakeholders involved in LWGs so far is that participants, both from the public and private level, are willing to cooperate in the development of the joint actions and, despite specific problems or delays that may occur, the LWGs are considered occasions to promote fruitful and effective partnerships. The high level of participation and interest from multi level participants is confirmed also by project indicators so far (see table of indicators of LWGs in the dashboard).

At general level some problems have been faced by the partners in the management of the LWGs and in the implementation of specific phases of the Joint Actions but solutions have been identified or are now being searched to overcome all the possible barriers.

At general level, some situations have revealed to be a common challenge for many partners in the implementation of the Joint Actions:

- Complexity to coordinate many participants:
 - several needs/ different level of engagement
 - different time availability
- Lack of funding for implementation of specific activities planned at the beginning or unforeseen changes in national funding programmes or legislation: this usually causes uncertainty at general level and some delays in the implementation of the activities.
- Implementation of actions involving public authorities through direct commitment in procurement strongly depends on specific issues that may occur at administrative level like complexity of public procurement procedures and previous contracts ongoing (ex: need to wait for termination of contracts with current energy suppliers before changing to green procurement) or difficulties due to administrative barriers in data collection.

Some solutions/corrective actions have, as well, revealed to be effective in most cases:

- Maintaining regular communication and updates among participants of the LWG is essential to keep an active engagement in the programme, particularly when some participants are unable to send their own representative to the meetings.
- Close partnership and involvement of a wide range of stakeholders usually allows to find alternative solutions to specific problems; being open-minded in problem solving is a key strategy to ensure that participants of a LWG remain engaged despite challenges/barriers.

New LWG meetings are scheduled to take place in Autumn 2014 for all the Joint Actions ongoing.