



european energy award along the Danube acting locally for the climate

PROJECT AIM

The aim of the project »eea along the Danube« is to make the European Energy Award (eea) better known in the Danube Region and thus to promote its dissemination and application in the area.

Selected pilot regions receive individual support in establishing the eea. Additional regional, local and trans-national networks of different stakeholders are initiated and strengthened in order to share experiences, knowledge and strategies concerning the European climate goals ("Green Deal").

PROJECT ACTIVITIES



Module 1: Research & Analysis



Module 2: Information & Networking



Module 3: Preparation phase &
Capacity building



Module 4: Presentation &
Public Relations

TARGET GROUP

According to the six areas of activities within the eea: Policymakers and authorities (of the involved departments) at national, regional (municipal) and local level; energy and climate agencies; energy suppliers, NGOs and engaged citizens in the Danube Region countries.

ABOUT THE EEA

what is the eea?

The Association European Energy Award is an international non-profit organisation located in Brussels. It brings together all national eea organisations and various Gold municipalities as members.

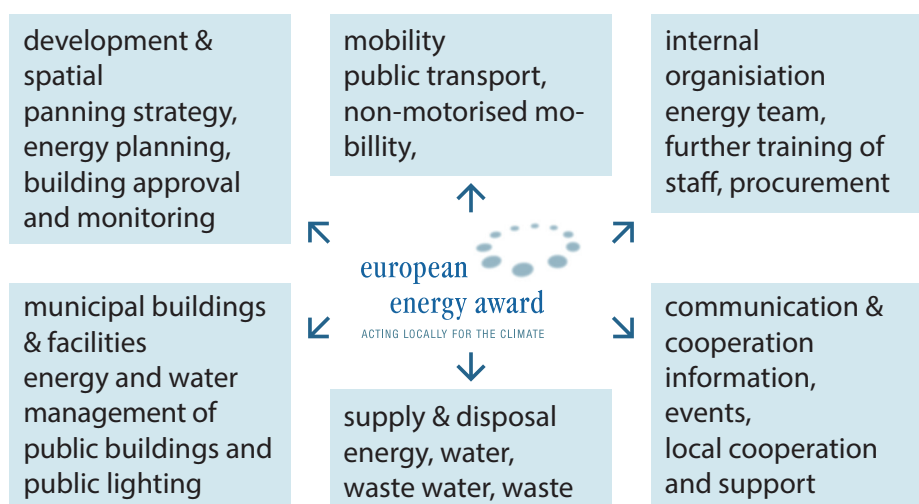
The eea serves as a quality management and awarding system for municipalities and regions. It is well established in the European reference framework.

Currently, the eea is already being applied in 18 European countries and 1700 local authorities. In the Danube Region there are two long-term countries with national programmes and six pilot countries with corresponding pilot partners and projects.

aims of eea

The aim of the eea is to accompany municipalities on their way to greenhouse gas neutrality. Through the systematic and structured approach of the eea process, effective and efficient measures towards climate neutrality are developed and implemented.

AREAS OF ACTIVITIES IN THE EEA



RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

project duration

15th February 2022 – 31st August 2024

project partners

Danube Office Ulm/Neu-Ulm GmbH



donau.büro|ulm
neu-ulm

Association European Energy Award AISBL



Climate Protection and Energy Agency

Baden-Württemberg GmbH



KEA-BW
DIE LANDESENERGIEAGENTUR

associated partners

Priority Area 2 "To Encourage More Sustainable Energy"
of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region
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project co-funded by



Baden-Württemberg

STAATSMINISTERIUM

Bosnia and Herzegovina



FACTS AND FIGURES

Population: 3'415'752
Population density: 66.7/km²
Official language(s): Bosnian, Serbian, Croatian
GDP/capita (nominal): \$7'078

Administrative units:

- Federation of BiH (FBiH): 10 cantons and 79 municipalities and cities
- Republika Srpska (RS): 64 municipalities and Brčko Dist.

Distribution of settlements by population:

- <20'000: 133
- 20'000 - 200'000: 10
- >200'000: 1



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Until 2022, there were no activities or projects within the framework of the European Energy Award in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH).

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

There are several possibilities for the participation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the European Energy Award: it is possible to start from the national / ministerial level or with pilot activities at the local level on the initiative of individual municipalities or regions. In any case, national/regional stakeholders are needed to coordinate the eea programme in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the future (e.g. adaptation of the eea instruments to national conditions, training and supervision of eea advisors and auditors) as well as municipalities who are motivated to start with the eea process.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

57 municipalities and cities signed the Covenant of Mayors (CoM) to voluntarily commit to reducing CO₂ emissions in their area above the set target of 20% by 2020 and 40% by 2030. A few of them developed a SECAP. As a showcase example Tuzla municipality implemented some energy efficiency and green energy projects in accordance with its SECAP.

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Ministry of communications and transport of BiH
- FBiH: Federal Ministry of Energy, Mining and Industry
- FBiH: Ministry Of Environment And Tourism
- RS: Ministry Energy and Mining
- RS: Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction and Ecology

at local level

- Association of Municipalities and Cities of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (CoM supporter)
- Association of Local Authorities of Republic of Srpska (CoM supporter)
- NERDA Development Association as Agency for North-East BiH

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 57 signatories, 0 coordinators, 2 supporters
- European Energy Network EnR: no members
- Climate Alliance: no members
- Energy Cities: no members
- FEDARENE: no members
- NetZeroCities: no members

ENERGY AGENCIES

- Center for Energy, Environment and Resources CENER

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- European Climate Initiative (EUKI)
- 4 Interreg Programmes: ADRION, Danube Transnational Programme, EURO-Med, IPA CBC Croatia – Bosnia and Herzegovina – Montenegro

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

development and spatial planning

- FBiH: Development and implementation of spatial planning and environmental protection policies; spatial, urban and implementation plans, including zoning; policies on construction land, local self-government unit's assets and natural resources of a local self-government unit and allocation of the profits from their use;

municipal buildings & facilities

- unknown

supply & disposal

- FBiH: Heating facilities and facilities for water supply, wastewater disposal and treatment and solid waste collection and disposal, as well as environmental protection policies;
- RS: Ensure the preservation of natural resources and the environment; improvement of air quality and publish information about the state of air quality; determine the water management requirements;

mobility

- FBiH: Management of local roads and bridges; organisation and improvement of local public transport;
- RS: Local and uncategorised roads and public transportation;

budgetary competences

Municipalities and cities are financed from different sources. Since there are several levels of government, it is necessary to determine the ways of financing each level authority, which corresponds to the competencies that that level of authority has in accordance with legal regulations. A certain level of government may have original competencies assigned to it by laws, transferred competencies, and competing competencies that another authority level has at the same time. Financing can be done through source revenues (where the local self-government determines some characteristics of income tax rate and collects an income), shared income (where the local government does not determine the characteristics and does not collect taxes) or through grants that can be conditioned for some specific activity, or general-unconditioned. Entity laws on the distribution of income (the Law on the budget system of the RS and the Law on the allocation of public revenues to FBiH) the methods of the vertical distribution of direct and indirect tax revenues are defined between different levels of government i.e., horizontally between municipalities and cities, and cantons in the Federation of BiH.

CONTACT

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FACTS AND FIGURES

Population:	10'524'167
Population density:	133.4/km ²
Official language(s):	Czech
GDP/capita (nominal):	\$27'609

Administrative units:

- 14 regions (kraje)
- 6'258 municipalities (obce)

Distribution of settlements by population:

- <20'000: 6'197
- 20'000 - 200'000: 58
- >200'000: 3



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

In 2006 – 2008, a pilot project for the introduction of the European Energy Award in the Czech Republic took place in the framework of the EU funded IEE project 'Balance'. The national project partner was the national energy agency SEVEn, two local authorities (Kněžice and Vsetín) acted as pilot countries. The eea catalogue (older version) was translated to Czech. It was planned to carry on the national eea programme in collaboration between the Ministry of Industry and Trade (through the programme 'Efekt 2008') and the Union of towns and villages. Since these activities date back some time, most of the activities for the introduction of the eea in the Czech Republic would probably have to be taken up again.

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

There are several possibilities for the participation of the Czech Republic in the European Energy Award: they may start from the national / ministerial level or through pilot activities at the local level on the initiative of individual municipalities or regions. In any case, regional/national stakeholders (e.g. energy agencies, associations of local authorities, etc.) are needed to coordinate the eea programme in the Czech Republic in the future (e.g. adaptation of the eea instruments to national conditions, training and supervision of eea advisors and auditors) as well as municipalities who are motivated to start with the eea process.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

In the context of the Project eea along the Danube the project team was not able to document current energy policy work at the local level (key activities, programmes etc.) in Czechia due to a lack of responses from the local contacts.

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Ministry of Industry and Trade with Energy Section
- Ministry of Environment (CoM coordinator)
- State Office for Nuclear Safety

at local level

- Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic (CoM supporter)

ENERGY AGENCIES

- [The Energy Efficiency Center](#), SEVEn (former eea project partner)
- [Energy Agency of the Zlín Region](#), EAZK (CoM supporter, FEDARENE member)
- [Association of Local Energy Managers](#) (CoM supporter)
- [Czech Environmental Partnership Foundation Nadace Partnerství](#) (Climate Alliance member)

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 164 signatories, 1 coordinators, 3 supporters
- European Energy Network EnR: no members
- Climate Alliance: cities of Nadace Partnerství, Postřekov and Vezovatá Pláne
- Energy Cities: city of Litoměřice and one collective member
- FEDARENE: 2 energy agencies
- NetZeroCities: city of Liberec

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- EEA and Norway Grants
- Czechia's recovery and resilience plan
- European Climate Initiative (EUKI)
- European Cohesion Fund (CF)
- European Just Transition Fund (JTF)
- 7 Interreg Programmes: Interreg Austria – Czechia, Central Europe, Interreg Czech Republic – Poland, Danube Transnational Programme, Interreg Germany/Bavaria – Czech Republic, Interreg Slovakia Czech Republic, Interact

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

development and spatial planning

- Local development;
- Environmental protection;

municipal buildings & facilities

- No information received;

supply & disposal

- gas and electricity distribution, maintenance of energy networks, urban heating;
- Waste processing, water management and treatment;
- Arranging the maintenance of cleanliness on the streets and public spaces;
- Vegetation in built-up areas and other vegetation in public places;

mobility

- Local Transport (public transport, management of local roads);

budgetary competences

Sub-national (municipalities and regions) governments' revenues are derived from local taxation, transfers and other sources, mainly fees resulting from the provision of services. In 2018 sub-national expenditure represented 11.7% of the GDP in comparison with the central government expenditure that represented 29.2% of the GDP. The municipalities' revenue is composed of 67.60% of taxation, 20.14% of transfers and 12.26% of others.

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Hungary



FACTS AND FIGURES

Population: 9'772'756
Population density: 105/km²
Official language(s): Hungarian
GDP/capita (nominal): \$18'527

Administrative units:

- 7 regions (régiók) with 19 counties (megyék)
- 197 districts (járások) with 345 towns (városok) and 2'809 municipalities (települések)

Distribution of settlements by population:

- <20'000: 3'097
- 20'000 - 200'000: 55
- >200'000: 2



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

There have been eea-activities in Hungary back in 2013. Based on a city-twinning with the European Energy Award Gold city of Lucerne (Switzerland), the pilot city of Szentgotthárd carried out an eea process and got awarded with the eea. However, there were no further activities or projects within the framework of the eea in Hungary afterwards, among others due to the ongoing municipal and territorial public administration reform.

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

There are several possibilities for the participation of Hungary in the European Energy Award: it is possible to start from the national / ministerial level or with pilot activities at the local level on the initiative of individual municipalities or regions. In any case, national/regional stakeholders (e.g., energy agencies, associations of local authorities, etc.) are needed to coordinate the eea programme in Hungary in the future (e.g., adaptation of the eea instruments to national conditions, training and supervision of eea advisors and auditors) as well as municipalities who are motivated to start with the eea process.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

Within the framework of KEHOP (Environment and Energy Efficiency Operational Programme), climate strategies for all counties have been prepared and climate platforms on county level have been established. About 5-6% of the local climate strategies have been completed (out of all municipalities). The preparation of further climate strategies and the implementation of concrete measures defined in these strategies (and/or 117 SECAPs) is ongoing and continues under the EU TOP Plus Programme. With support of the European Economic Area (EEA) and Norway Grants, additional climate strategies of local governments were planned until 2019 through programs of Energiacub and TÖOSZ cooperation. However these funds are currently not available.

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Ministry of Energy

at local level

- Hungarian National Association of Local Authorities (TÖOSZ)
- National Association of County Local Governments (MÖOSZ)
- Association of Hungarian Local Governments and Representatives (MÖSZ)
- Association of Cities with County Rank (MJVSZ)
- National Association of Small Cities (KÖÖÉSZ)
- National Association of Communes and Small Municipalities (KÖSZ)
- Hungarian Association of Villages (MFSZ)

ENERGY AGENCIES

- [Energy Agency](#) LENERG (CoM Supporter, FEDARENE member)
- [Hungarian energy and public utility regulatory authority](#) MEKH (EnR member)
- [Észak-Alföld Regional Energy Agency ENEREA](#) (CoM Supporter)
- [Independent Regional Energy Agency Nonprofit Ltd.](#) LARINEA (CoM Supporter)
- [Energiaklub](#) Climate Policy Institute and Applied Communications

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 223 signatories, 2 coordinators, 8 supporters
- European Energy Network EnR: Hungarian energy and public utility regulatory authority MEKH
- Climate Alliance: 7 full members and 12 associated members
- Energy Cities: City of Budapest
- FEDARENE: LENERG Energy Agency
- NetZeroCities: Budapest, Miskolc, Pécs
- Hungarian Climate Alliance Association
- Association of Climate Friendly Municipalities

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- Recovery and resilience plan for Hungary
- European Climate Initiative (EUKI) with the project Low-Carbon Investment in Budapest
- European Cohesion Fund (CF) with TOP Plus Programme
- European Just Transition Fund (JTF) in 3 counties as part of KEHOP Plus
- 12 Interreg Programmes: Hungary – Slovakia – Romania – Ukraine ENI CBC, Interreg Austria – Hungary, Central Europe, Danube Transnational Programme, Interreg Romania – Hungary, Interreg Slovakia – Hungary, Interreg Slovenia – Hungary, Interreg V-A Hungary-Croatia Co-operation Programme, Interreg-IPA CBC Hungary-Serbia, Europe, Interact, Urbact

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

The local authorities may undertake local public tasks that are not prescribed to the exclusive power of other bodies by the law as follows.

development and spatial planning

- Municipal and spatial development; preventing flood damages

municipal buildings & facilities

- street lighting, public cemeteries, kindergarten services, social, childcare and child-welfare services and provisions

supply & disposal

- district heating services; chimney sweeping services; protection of the local environment and nature; waste management; water management (drinking water, canalisation, wastewater)

mobility

- local public transport, local public roads and their accessories, parking spaces;

budgetary competences

Hungarian local governments have organizational, decision-making, administrative and financial autonomy for the management of own affairs. Distribution of local government revenue in 2018: Local business tax 76%; Building tax 14%; other municipal taxes 12%. Recentralization since 2010 led to a decline in budget managed by local authorities. Municipalities must cover the full costs of local services with declining state contribution.

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Montenegro



FACTS AND FIGURES

Population: 619'211
Population density: 44.83/km²
Official language(s): Montenegrin
GDP/capita (nominal): \$7'688

Administrative units:
– 24 municipalities (opština)
– 1'266 cities and towns

Distribution of settlements by population:
– <20'000: 1'264
– 20'000 - 200'000: 2
– >200'000: 0



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Until 2022, there were no activities or projects within the framework of the European Energy Award in Montenegro.

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

There are several possibilities for the participation of Montenegro in the European Energy Award: it is possible to start from the national / ministerial level or with pilot activities at the local level on the initiative of individual municipalities or regions. In any case, national/regional stakeholders are needed to coordinate the eea programme in Montenegro in the future (e.g. adaptation of the eea instruments to national conditions, training and supervision of eea advisors and auditors) as well as municipalities who are motivated to start with the eea process.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

Currently energy policy work at the local level is primarily concerned with the issues of security of supply and energy prices. In January 2023, the EU will provide grants in the amount of 30 million Euros within the energy support package for the Montenegro. The aim of this package is to mitigate the impact of high energy market prices in order to protect small businesses and vulnerable households.

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism
- Ministry of Economic Development and Tourism
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Energy and Water Regulatory Agency of Montenegro

at local level

- Union of Municipalities of Montenegro

ENERGY AGENCIES

- [Directorate for Energy Efficiency](#) under the Ministry of Economic Development and Tourism

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 8 signatories, 0 coordinators, 0 supporters
- European Energy Network EnR: no members
- Climate Alliance: no members
- Energy Cities: no members
- FEDARENE: no members
- NetZeroCities: no members
- European Energy Community

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- Montenegrin center of energy efficiency CCEE
- European Climate Initiative (EUKI)
- 5 Interreg Programmes: ADRION, Danube Transnational Programme, EURO-Med, IPA CBC Croatia – Bosnia and Herzegovina – Montenegro, Interreg IPA CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

development and spatial planning

- Local development, urban and spatial planning at local and regional level;
- Construction permitting, construction land development and management;
- Environmental protection;
- Providing efficiency measures and Implementation of the local energy plan in accordance with the Energy Development Strategy;

municipal buildings & facilities

- maintenance of communal buildings and communal order;

supply & disposal

- Water management;

mobility

- Construction, maintenance and protection of local and non-categorised roads, and streets in settlements;
- Conditions for taxi-transportation, public transport in local traffic areas and traffic regulation

budgetary competences

Generally each of the 24 municipalities has a Secretariat for Ecology and Energy Efficiency. At the end of each year, the assembly of the municipality adopts next year's work plan and financial prediction. For 2023, e.g. the Secretariat for Ecology and Energy Efficiency of Herceg Novi has 260.300 Euros available.

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Republic of Bulgaria



FACTS AND FIGURES

Population: 6'520'314
Population density: 58.7/km²
Official language(s): Bulgarian
GDP/capita (nominal): \$12'340

Administrative units:

- 6 regions
- 28 districts/provinces (области)
- 265 municipalities (Общини)

Distribution of settlements by population:

- <20'000: 227
- 20'000 - 200'000: 35
- >200'000: 3



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Bulgaria is an eea pilot country since 2020. The introduction of the eea to Bulgaria is taking place in the framework of the EU-funded Horizon 2020 project [EXCITE](#) (Sept. 2020 – Aug. 2023).

Currently, the following eea elements are available on national level:

- National eea pilot office: Center for Energy Efficiency EnEffect (EXCITE project partner)
- eea catalogue and assessment handbook in national language and adapted to national context
- National section in eea online platform
- three national eea advisors trained
- three pilot municipalities undergoing the eea process (Dobrich, Gabrovo, Sofia)

Until the end of the project the following eea elements will be developed:

- Trained national eea auditors
- First pilot municipalities awarded with the eea
- National eea name, logo and communicational material
- Business plan for a national eea programme

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Towards the end of the EXCITE project in summer 2023, suitable next steps could be defined. It is currently assumed that the implementation of the eea process in further pilot cities would be helpful to strengthen and support the ongoing activities under the EXCITE project. However, such activities are not foreseen in the eea along the Danube project and could therefore be considered in another project proposal.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

Implementation of the first three pilot eea municipalities in Bulgaria (Gabrovo, Sofia and Dobrich) is a great opportunity for bulgarian energy policies on the local level. The detailed revision and analysis of all aspects of energy matters related to eea implementation in these cities enables local partners to generate new knowledge, but is also challenging. A lot of progress has already been made and there is a lot of work that still needs to be done. The eea provides the structural basis to clarify of the general correlations between the various processes in order to constantly improve the quality and effectiveness of the energy policies on local level.

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry for Environment and Water
- National Council of Experts on Climate Change

at local level

- National Association of the Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria

ENERGY AGENCIES

- [Sustainable Energy Development Agency](#), SEDA (within the Ministry of Energy) (EnR member)
- [Center for Energy Efficiency EnEffect](#) (eea EXCITE project partner, Climate Alliance member)
- [Association of Bulgarian Energy Agencies](#), ABEA
- [Municipal Energy Efficiency Network EcoEnergy](#) (CoM Supporter)
- [Union of Bulgarian Black Sea Local Authorities and Black Sea Regional Agency for Energy Management](#) (CoM Supporter)
- [Black sea energy cluster](#) (CoM Supporter)
- [Energy Agency of Plovdiv](#) (CoM Supporter, FEDAR-ENE member)
- [Regional Energy Agency of Pazardjik](#), REAP
- [Sofia Energy Agency](#), SOFENA (CoM Supporter)

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 46 signatories, 0 coordinators, 7 supporters
- European Energy Network EnR: Sustainable Energy Development Agency, SEDA
- Climate Alliance: Center for Energy Efficiency EnEffect
- Energy Cities: EcoEnergy as collective member, representing 51 municipalities
- FEDARENE: Energy Agency of Plovdiv
- NetZeroCities: Gabrovo and Sofia

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- Energy Efficiency and Renewable Sources Fund, EERSF
- National Trust EcoFund, NTEF
- Bulgaria's recovery and resilience plan with programmes for measures for sustainable energy renovation of the multifamily and public building stock
- Regional Development Program 2021-2027
- European Climate Initiative (EUKI)
- European Cohesion Fund (CF)
- European Just Transition Fund (JTF)
- EEA and Norway Grants, Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security
- 12 Interreg Programmes: Black Sea Basin ENI CBC, Balkan – Mediterranean, Greece - Bulgaria, Romania - Bulgaria, Danube Transnational Programme, EURO-Med, 3 IPA's, Europe, Interact, Urbact

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

development and spatial planning

- Spatial development of the territory of the municipality and its settlements;
- Protection of environment, rational use of the natural resources and disaster protection;
- Maintenance, conservation and expansion of the settlement green structures;
- Development and implementation of local programmes for promotion of RES and energy efficiency;

municipal buildings & facilities

- management and energy efficiency measures of municipal buildings, hospitals and schools

supply & disposal

- Electricity and gas distribution and Investment in local energy facilities and projects;
- Determining infrastructural work required related to energy projects under national programmes
- Waste management, waste water treatment, public areas and street cleaning

mobility

- Local public transport;

budgetary competences

Municipal budgets are comparatively small and depend on its population. 2/3 of municipal budgets come from central government, while capital expenditures largely depend on EU funds. The rest are municipal revenues for taxes on real estate, vehicles, waste fees... Competences in energy issues are related to the will, vision and strategy of the local government.

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FACTS AND FIGURES

Population: 3'871'833
Population density: 68.4/km²
Official language(s): Croatian
GDP/capita (nominal): \$14'718

Administrative units:

- 20 counties (županije)
- 128 cities (gradovi)
- 428 municipalities (općine)

Distribution of settlements by population:

- <20'000: 538
- 20'000 - 200'000: 17
- >200'000: 1



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Croatia is an eea pilot county since 2018. The introduction of the eea to Croatia has taken place in the framework of the EU-funded Horizon 2020 project [IMPLEMENT](#) (Feb. 2018 – Apr. 2022). As the national project partner was from North-West Croatia, the main target region so far were the three North-Western counties Zagreb, Karlovac and Krapina-Zagorje.

The following eea elements are available on national/regional level:

- national / regional eea pilot office by REGEA
- eea catalogue and assessment handbook in the national language and adapted to the context
- national section in eea online platform
- three national eea advisors and one auditor trained
- six pilot local authorities (Ivanić-Grad, Jastrebarsko, Karlovac, Pregrada, Velika Gorica and Zaprešić) awarded with the eea
- business plan for a national eea programme

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

The following activities could be suitable next steps :

- Extension of the eea to further Croatian counties, like for example the Vukovar-Srijem County, with further pilot communities (supported by existing local eea advisors). This could lead to a better anchoring of the eea at regional level and in the medium term gives the potential for a possible pull effect for a broader application of the eea at the national level.
- Promotion of the eea programme and the already available national experiences on national/ ministerial level and further discussions on how a Croatian eea programme could be embedded in national funding schemes.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

The Covenant of Mayors (CoM), incl. the SECAPs (Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans), is currently the most recognised strategic energy and climate initiative among Croatian municipalities. Within the IMPLEMENT project, it has been shown that the eea is an ideal supplement to CoM in order to:

1. translate SECAPs into action and define clear steps on how to start implementing the SECAPs
2. support, educate and train local authorities' staff on project implementation
3. introduce the quality management approach to local energy and climate projects, which is an important aspect for investors

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Committee for intersectoral coordination for policy and measures for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change
- Ministry of Environmental Protection and Energy
- Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development

at local level

- Croatian Energy Regulatory Agency HERA
- Croatian Counties Association CCA
- Croatian Association of Cities (CoM Supporter)
- Croatian Union of Municipalities (CoM Supporter)

ENERGY AGENCIES

- [North-West Croatia Regional Energy Agency](#), REGEA (eea pilot office, CoM Supporter, FEDARENE member)
- [Regional Energy Agency North](#), REA Sjever (CoM supporter, FEDARENE and Energy Cities member)
- [Kvarner Regional Energy Agency](#), REA Kvarner (FEDARENE member)
- [Medjimurje Energy Agency](#), MENEJA (CoM supporter, FEDARENE member)
- [Istria Regional Energy Agency](#), IRENA
- Dalmatia Regional Energy Agency
- [Energy Institute Hrvoje Požar](#), EIHP (EnR member)
- [EKO-SUSTAV Ltd.](#)

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 101 signatories, 0 coordinators, 6 supporters
- European Energy Network EnR: Energy Institute Hrvoje Požar, EIHP
- Climate Alliance: City of Daruvar and City of Križevci
- Energy Cities: 8 cities and 1 collective member
- FEDARENE: 4 energy agencies
- GrowGreen: City of Zadar
- NetZeroCities: Zagreb

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- Croatian Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund
- Croatia's recovery and resilience plan
- European Climate Initiative (EUKI)
- European Cohesion Fund (CF)
- European Just Transition Fund (JTF)
- 12 Interreg Programmes: ADRION, Central Europe, Danube Transnational Programme, EURO-Med, IPA CBC Croatia – Bosnia and Herzegovina – Montenegro, IPA CBC Croatia – Serbia, Italy - Croatia, Slovenia – Croatia, V-A Hungary-Croatia Co-operation Programme, Europe, Interact, Urbact

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

development and spatial planning

- Planning and development of thermal energy distribution facilities and systems, if necessary with concessions;
- Participation in decision-making on location and construction of new power plants, energy networks, and other facilities;
- Programmes for effective energy exploitation and establishment of regional energy agencies;
- Implementation of environmental protection law with regulation, organisation, financing, promotion of activities;
- Adoption of the Environmental Protection Programme;

municipal buildings & facilities

- management of energy and water consumption with regular monitoring of energy and water consumption

supply & disposal

- Waste Management Plans for communal waste including waste disposal and waste management;
- Maintenance of public areas, parks and streets;
- Water supply and sewage systems;

mobility

- Local traffic (public transport, railways, maritime transportation, taxi, roads);

budgetary competences

- Funds are collected through various levies and taxes by regional and local governments. Budget is planned at the end of consecutive year for the next one, so projects and activities should be planned in advance.

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Republic of Moldova



FACTS AND FIGURES

Population:	3'476'000
Population density:	102.7/km ²
Official language(s):	Romanian
GDP/capita (nominal):	\$5,284

Administrative units:

- 32 districts (raions), 3 municipalities, 2 autonomous regions, Transnistria disputed
- 898 first level administrative territorial units

Distribution of settlements by population:

- <20'000: 887
- 20'000 - 200'000: 10
- >200'000: 1



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Until 2022, there were no activities or projects within the framework of the European Energy Award in the Republic of Moldova.

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

There are several possibilities for the participation of Moldova in the European Energy Award: they may start from the national / ministerial level or through pilot activities at the local level on the initiative of individual municipalities or regions. In any case, national/regional stakeholders (e.g. energy agencies, associations of local authorities, etc.) are needed to coordinate the eea programme in Moldova in the future (e.g. adaptation of the eea instruments to national conditions, training and supervision of eea advisors and auditors) as well as municipalities who are motivated to start with the eea process.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

In the context of the Project eea along the Danube the project team was not able to document current energy policy work at the local level (key activities, programmes etc.) in Moldova due to a lack of responses from the local contacts.

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development
- Ministry of Economy (CoM coordinator)
- Ministry of Environment

at local level

- Congress of Local Authorities of Moldova (CoM supporter)
- Union of County Councils of the Republic of Moldova (CoM supporter)

ENERGY AGENCIES

- [Alliance for Energy Efficiency and Renewables](#), AEER (CoM supporter)

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 87 signatories, 3 coordinators, 1 supporter
- European Energy Network EnR: no members
- Climate Alliance: no members
- Energy Cities: no members
- FEDARENE: no members
- NetZeroCities: no members

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- 3 Interreg Programmes: Black Sea Basin ENI CBC, Danube Transnational Programme, Romania-Republic of Moldova ENI CBC

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

development and spatial planning

- Co-ordination with central government in delivery of environmental policy and programmes;
- Local urban and spatial planning,
- Planning and management of urban green spaces;

municipal buildings & facilities

- No information received;

supply & disposal

- Development and management of urban gas distribution networks and thermal energy;
- Collection and management of waste, including sanitation and maintenance of land for the storage;
- Water supply, construction and maintenance of sewerage systems, water treatment plants and rainwater;
- Public street lighting;

mobility

- Construction and maintenance of streets and local public roads;
- Local public transport;

budgetary competences

- No information received

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FACTS AND FIGURES (EXCLUDING KOSOVO)

Population:	6'797'105
Population density:	88.56/km ²
Official language(s):	Serbian
GDP/capita (nominal):	\$9'560

Administrative units:

- 1 autonomous provinces (Autonomna Pokrajina)
- 19 districts (okruzi)
- 29 cities (gradovi) and 145 municipalities (opštine)

Distribution of settlements by population:

- <20'000: 132
- 20'000 - 200'000: 40
- >200'000: 2



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Since 2018, the Swiss funded project [MEEMP](#) (Jan. 2018 – June 2021) supported the implementation of the European Energy Award process in 4 Serbian pilot municipalities (Krusevac, Uzice, Paracin and Vrbas). The Serbian Ministry of Mining and Energy acted as national coordinator of the project.

Currently, the following eea elements are available on national / regional level:

- eea catalogue and assessment handbook adapted to the Serbian context
- 4 pilot local authorities

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

A suitable next step would be the development of a national Serbian eea program, including a national eea office, trained and accredited national eea advisors and auditors, the creation of a Serbian section in the eea online tool, etc. Currently, a follow-up of the MEEMP project, which could support such steps, is under discussion. In the framework of the 'eea along the Danube' project, the existing experiences with the eea could be promoted among further local, regional and/or national stakeholders. However, a separate follow-up of the MEEMP project seems to be more suitable.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

Like in many European countries, municipalities in Serbia play an important role for the implementation of energy efficiency policy. They are at the same time energy and water producers, consumers and suppliers, planners and role models. Municipalities with more than 20.000 inhabitants also have the obligation (Law on Efficient Use of Energy) to have an Energy Management System (EMS), incl. Energy Efficiency Programmes and Action Plans. The eea can support all this tasks of energy policy work on local level.

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Ministry of Mining and Energy
- Ministry of Environmental Protection
- Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure
- The Vojvodina Provincial Secretariat for Energy, Construction and Transport
- The Vojvodina Provincial Secretariat for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection
- The Vojvodina Provincial Secretariat for Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry

at local level

- Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities of Serbia (CoM supporter)

ENERGY AGENCIES

- [Regional Agency for Socio - Economic Development](#), Banat (CoM supporter)
- [Regional Development Agency Zlatibor](#) (CoM supporter)
- [Association for sustainable development](#), ASOR (CoM supporter)
- [RES Foundation](#), Partnerships for Resilience (CoM supporter)

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 18 signatories, 0 coordinators, 5 supporters
- European Energy Network EnR: no members
- Climate Alliance: no members
- Energy Cities: cities of Čačak and Niš
- FEDARENE: no members
- NetZeroCities: no members
- Serbian Mreža dobre energije / Network of good energy
- Serbian Koalicija 27 / Coalition 27
- Serbian Environment Improvement Center

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- European Climate Initiative (EUKI)
- 6 Interreg Programmes: ADRION, Danube Transnational Programme and 4 IPA CBC (Bulgaria – Serbia, Croatia – Serbia, Hungary – Serbia, Romania – Serbia)

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

development and spatial planning

- Urban planning;
- Prevention of natural and other disasters;

municipal buildings & facilities

- No information received;

supply & disposal

- Issuing energy permits for the construction of the facilities;
- Adopting tariff systems for calculating heat delivered;
- Prescribing the conditions for granting the privileged heat producer status;
- Keeping the register of privileged heat producers;
- Environmental protection;

mobility

- Construction, reconstruction, maintenance and use of local network of roads and streets;
- Regulation and provision of local transport, including railways, waterways and public transport;

budgetary competences

- Local self-government units' budgets are derived from own and shared taxation, grants and fees. The Republic is obliged to provide local authorities with adequate funds.

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created in the project eea along the Danube, February 2023

Republic of Slovenia



FACTS AND FIGURES

Population: 2'107'180
Population density: 104.0/km²
Official language(s): Slovene, Hungarian, Italian
GDP/capita (nominal): \$ 30'159

Administrative units:

- 12 regions
- 212 municipalities

Distribution of settlements by population:

- <20'000: 205
- 20'000 - 200'000: 6
- >200'000: 1



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Slovenia is an eea pilot country since 2020. The introduction of the eea to Slovenia is taking place in the framework of the EU-funded Horizon 2020 project [EXCITE](#) (Sept. 2020 – Aug. 2023).

Currently, the following eea elements are available on national level:

- National/regional eea pilot office: Energy Agency KSENA (EXCITE project partner)
- eea catalogue and assessment handbook in national language and adapted to national context
- National section in eea online platform
- three national eea advisors trained
- three pilot municipalities undergoing the eea process (Celje, Slovenj Gradec, Velenje)

Until the end of the project the following eea elements will be developed:

- Trained national eea auditors
- First pilot municipalities awarded with the eea
- National eea name, logo and communicational material
- Business plan for a national eea programme

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Towards the end of the EXCITE project in summer 2023, suitable next steps could be defined. It is currently assumed that the implementation of the eea process in further pilot cities and regions would be helpful to strengthen and support the ongoing activities under the EXCITE project in Slovenia.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

The Energy Concept (LEC) of municipalities is the long-term planned direction of the municipality in the field of energy and environmental development. It is not only a decisive step towards the preparation of but also a basis for the establishment and implementation of appropriate environmental and energy policies. The LEC therefore guides the local community and its inhabitants towards the systematic creation and maintenance of databases on energy consumption, energy renovation of buildings, low-energy and passive construction, energy management, the introduction of energy efficiency measures, increasing energy efficiency and introduction of renewable energy sources for households, industries, SMEs and public institutions.

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Ministry of Infrastructure, Energy Directorate
- Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning

at local level

- Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia (CoM supporter)
- Association of Urban Municipalities of Slovenia (CoM supporter)

ENERGY AGENCIES

- [Local Energy Agency Pomurje](#) (CoM supporter)
- [Local Energy Agency of Gorenjska](#), LEAG (CoM supporter)
- [Energy Agency of Podravje](#), ENERGAP (CoM supporter, FEDARENE member)
- [Local Energy Agency Spodnje Podravje](#), LEA Spodnje Podravje (FEDARENE member)
- [Energy Agency of Savinjska, Šaleška and Koroška Region](#), KSENA (CoM supporter, FEDARENE member, EXCITE project partner)
- [Goriška Local Energy Agency](#), GOLEA
- [Local Energy Agency Dolenjska - Posavje - Bela Krajina](#), LEAD

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 72 signatories, 0 coordinators, 7 supporters
- European Energy Network EnR: no members
- Climate Alliance: City of Lendava
- Energy Cities: no members
- FEDARENE: 4 energy agencies
- NetZeroCities: cities of Kranj, Ljubljana and Velenje

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- Slovenian Environmental Public Fund (Eco Fund)
- Slovenian Regional Development Fund
- Slovenian Podnebni sklad
- Slovenia's recovery and resilience plan
- European Climate Initiative (EUKI)
- European Cohesion Fund (CF)
- European Just Transition Fund (JTF)
- EEA and Norway Grants, Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security
- 12 Interreg Programmes: ADRIAN, Alpine Space, Central Europe, Danube Transnational Programme, EURO-Med, Italy – Slovenia, Slovenia – Hungary, Slovenia – Croatia, Slovenia – Austria, Europe, Interact, Urbact

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

development and spatial planning

- Urban and spatial planning;
- Environmental protection (air, soil, and water sources) and noise protection;

municipal buildings & facilities

- Management of municipal property, childminding facilities, rest homes, primary health care services;
- Construction and maintenance of educational facilities on primary level, sport and recreation facilities;

supply & disposal

- Construction and maintenance and regulation of municipal energy supply and water supply facilities
- Waste collection and disposal;

mobility

- Construction and maintenance of local public roads
- Regulation of traffic in the municipality including local public transport as well as development and maintenance of related infrastructure

budgetary competences

Municipalities get money from taxes (property, income, tourist taxes), grants from the national government, and revenue from municipal services such as water and waste management. They may also receive funding from other sources such as the European Union. Additionally, municipalities may generate revenue through the sale of assets or investment of funds.

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Romania



FACTS AND FIGURES

Population: 19'186'201
Population density: 80.5/km²
Official language(s): Romanian
GDP/capita (nominal): \$ 16'293

Administrative units:

- 42 counties (județe)
- 103 cities (municipii)
- 217 towns (oraș) and 2'861 communes (comune)

Distribution of settlements by population:

- <20'000: 3'089
- 20'000 - 200'000: 85
- >200'000: 8



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Romania is an eea pilot country since 2012. The introduction of the eea to Romania has been supported by the following projects:

- 2012-2015: Swiss-funded project testing the eea in four pilot cities (Arad, Brasov, Cluj, Suceava)
- 2016-2018: Swiss-funded project „Institutionalization of the eea in Romania“
- 2018-2021: EU-funded Horizon 2020 project „CoME EASY“, supporting the link eea – CoM
- 2020-2023: EU-funded Horizon 2020 project EXCITE, supporting further development / training of national eea elements

Currently, the following eea elements are available on national level:

- National eea pilot office: Romania Green Building Council RoGBC (EXCITE project partner)
- eea catalogue and assessment handbook in national language and adapted to context
- National section in eea online platform
- four national eea advisors trained
- 10 local authorities working with the eea (Alba Iulia, Cluj, Deva, Iasi, Sibiu, Sighet, Turda, Vama, Zalau, Gherla), whereof five have been awarded with the national eea award (< 50% level)
- National eea name and trademark

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Suitable next steps could be the strengthening of the national Romanian eea program, with further support of the national eea pilot office, the promotion of the project among national stakeholders and the set-up of a national fund for financing the eea process and implementation projects on local level. Currently, a follow-up of the Swiss funded project, which could support such steps, is under discussion.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

Municipal energy policies differ by city. Most cities are involved in EU projects for thermal building envelope refurbishment for apartment blocks built between 1960-1990 which consist in replacing windows and retrofit heat insulation of the outer wall. Lately some municipalities are focusing on comprehensive renovation of school buildings, including renewable energy sources, efficient lighting, smart building systems etc. Further areas of municipal energy policy work is replacement of public lighting with LED due to immediate results and simplicity. Currently many cities face challenges with district heating, as many projects for improvement did not work well and district heating has been shut down in many cities.

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests

at local level

- National Union of County Councils of Romania
- Romanian Municipalities Association AMR (CoM supporter)
- The Romanian Network of Energy Cities OER (CoM supporter, Energy Cities member)
- Association of Communes of Romania

ENERGY AGENCIES

- [Romania Green Building Council](#) (eea EXCITE project partner)
- [Center for the Promotion of Clean and Efficient Energy in Romania](#) ENERO
- [Maramures Energy Management Agency](#) (FEDARENE)
- [Timis County Energy Management Association](#) (CoM supp.)
- [Alba Local Energy Agency](#) ALEA (CoM supporter, FEDARENE)
- [Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies Agency Ploiesti-Prahova](#) (CoM supporter)
- [Bucharest Agency for Energy Efficiency and Environmental Protection](#) AEEPM (CoM supporter, FEDARENE member)
- [Agency of Brasov for the Management of Energy and Environment](#) ABMEE (CoM supporter)
- [Energy Management Agency Maramures](#) AMEMM (CoM supporter)

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 191 signatories, 3 coordinators, 10 supporters
- European Energy Network EnR: no members
- Climate Alliance: Găleşti and Târgu Mureş
- Energy Cities: 4 cities and 1 collective member
- FEDARENE: 3 energy agencies
- NetZeroCities: Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Suceava
- Alliance for Nature (CoM supporter)

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- National Anghel Saligny Plan for investments in water and gas supply, sewage and bridges
- Romania's recovery and resilience plan
- European Climate Initiative (EUKI)
- European Cohesion Fund (CF)
- European Just Transition Fund (JTF)
- EEA and Norway Grants, Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Energy Security
- 11 Interreg Programmes: Black Sea Basin, Hungary – Slovakia – Romania – Ukraine, Danube Trans-national Programme, Romania-Bulgaria, Romania-Hungary, Romania-Serbia, Romania-Ukraine, Romania-Moldova, Europe, Interact, Urbact

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

development and spatial planning

- Urban planning and urbanism (shared competence with central public administration authorities);
- Developing Strategies for Integrated Urban Development (SIDU);

municipal buildings & facilities

- Public lighting and district Heating;

supply & disposal

- network of supply of heat produced by centralised systems (shared competence with central public administration authorities);
- Water supply, sewerage and treatment of wastewater and pluvial water;

mobility

- Urban mobility plans and local public passenger transport with the target zero carbon emissions
- Management of road infrastructure of local interest, Construction and maintenance of bicycle lanes infrastructure

budgetary competences

Municipalities are financed by 30-50% from local taxes (property tax) and receive the remaining funds from the national budget (taxes on salary, profit and VAT). The funds from the national budget are based on municipality's population. The yearly range of budget varies a lot. It is divided into functioning and development, including e.g. energy efficiency measures.

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Slovak Republic



FACTS AND FIGURES

Population: 5'434'712
Population density: 110.8/km²
Official language(s): Slovak
GDP/capita (nominal): \$23'268

Administrative units:

- 8 self-governing regions (kraje)
- 79 administrative districts (okresy)
- 2'926 municipalities (obce)

Distribution of settlements by population:

- <20'000: 2'855
- 20'000 - 200'000: 34
- >200'000: 2



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Until 2022, there were no activities or projects within the framework of the European Energy Award in Slovakia.

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

There are several possibilities for the participation of Slovakia in the European Energy Award: it is possible to start from the national / ministerial level or with pilot activities at the local level on the initiative of individual municipalities or regions. In any case, national/regional stakeholders are needed to coordinate the eea programme in Slovakia in the future (e.g. adaptation of the eea instruments to national conditions, training and supervision of eea advisors and auditors) as well as municipalities who are motivated to start with the eea process.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

In the context of the Project eea along the Danube the the project team was not able to document current energy policy work at the local level (key activities, programmes etc.) in Slovakia due to a lack of responses from the local contacts.

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Ministry of the Environment
- Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic with Energy Section

at local level

- Association of Towns and Communities of Slovakia
- The Union Of Towns And Cities Of Slovakia (CoM supporter)
- Interest association of cities and municipalities for sustainable energy efficiency CITENERGO

ENERGY AGENCIES

- [Energy Centre Bratislava](#)
- [Slovak Environment Agency](#), SEA
- [Slovak Innovation and Energy Agency](#), SIEA (EnR member)

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 40 signatories, 3 coordinators, 1 supporter
- European Energy Network EnR: 1 member
- Climate Alliance: cities of Čierny Balog, Tomášov and Zábiedovo
- Energy Cities: cities of Poprad and Trnava
- FEDARENE: no members
- NetZeroCities: Bratislava and Košice

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- Action Plan for Sustainable Energy Development of the Capital City of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava
- Program of economic and social development of the Bratislava self-governing region
- Bratislava Smart City 2030
- EEA and Norway Grants
- Recovery and resilience plan for Slovakia
- European Climate Initiative (EUKI)
- European Cohesion Fund (CF)
- European Just Transition Fund (JTF)
- 8 Interreg Programmes: Hungary – Slovakia – Romania – Ukraine ENI CBC, Central Europe, Danube Transnational Programme, Interreg Slovakia – Hungary, Interreg Poland – Slovakia, Interreg Slovakia – Austria, Interreg Slovakia Czech Republic, Interact

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

development and spatial planning

- Nature conservation;
- Protection of trees, woods, and wood species;
- Protection of surface and groundwater, air, nature and landscape, flood protection;

municipal buildings & facilities

- Maintenance of municipal property, including schools and pre-school buildings and homes for the elderly
- Housing, including housing development, construction and maintenance of social housing;
- Public lightning, mowing and maintenance of public greenery, social assistance to dependent citizens;

supply & disposal

- Cleanliness in the public space besides the roads of higher category;
- Maintenance of public green spaces and replacement of plantings;

mobility

- Construction and upkeep of local roads
- Local public transport in cooperation with self-governing regions, national Railways and regional bus lines

budgetary competences

Municipalities receives funds from residents' taxes. In the case of Bratislava this is problematic because many residents and therefore also taxpayers are from elsewhere and therefore not taxable in Bratislava.

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FACTS AND FIGURES

Population:	43'649'785
Population density:	72.32/km ²
Official language(s):	Ukrainian
GDP/capita (nominal):	\$ 4'830

Administrative units:

- 24 provinces (oblasts), 1 auton. republic (Crimea)
- 136 districts (raions) and 2 cities with special status
- 1'469 municipalities (hromadas)

Distribution of settlements by population:

- <20'000: 3'089
- 20'000 - 200'000: 85
- >200'000: 32



STATUS OF THE EEA IMPLEMENTATION

eea activities on local level have taken place since 2011 in Ukraine. The continuous engagement has resulted in Ukraine being an eea pilot country since 2019. The introduction of the eea to Ukraine has been supported by the following projects:

- Swiss funded Energy Efficiency Vinnytsia Project (since 2011): introduction of the eea process to the city of Vinnytsia. Vinnytsia was the first Ukrainian municipality to be awarded with the eea in 2015.
- Swiss funded Energy Efficiency Zhytomyr Project (since 2015): introduction of the eea process to the city of Zhytomyr and since 2017, establishment of a national eea programme, incl. further pilot cities.
- EU funded H2020 project EXCITE (2020 – 2023): supporting the implementation of the eea process in further Ukrainian cities.

Currently, the following eea elements are available on national level:

- National eea name, trademark and eea pilot office (Energy Efficient Cities of Ukraine)
- eea catalogue and assessment handbook in national language and adapted to context
- six national eea advisors and three national eea auditors trained
- 12 local authorities working with the eea (Cherkasy, Chortkiv, Dolyna, Lviv, Myrhorod, Novovolynsk, Rivne, Sievierodonetsk, Sumy, Trostyanets, Vinnytsia and Zhytomyr)

NEXT STEPS OF EEA IMPLEMENTATION

Russia's current war of aggression against Ukraine poses a great challenge to the cooperation with Ukrainian municipalities within the framework of the eea. Nevertheless, the existing good work is to be built upon by making the eea known among further Ukrainian cities and municipalities. Once the situation calms down and reconstruction begins, the eea offers an opportunity for active Ukrainian energy policies at the local level.

ENERGY POLICY WORK AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

Until 2023, energy policies on local level have not been regulated in Ukraine. At the end of 2022 the Ministry for Communities and Territories Development of Ukraine (Minregion) presented a draft regulation for local authorities on energy planning. The Methodology of the Covenant of Mayors (CoM) lay the basis for this regulation. So far the CoM has been the major driver for local authorities to plan and implement local energy policies in a more sophisticated way. So far 255 Ukrainian municipalities are signatories to the CoM and voluntarily committed for reducing their energy consumption and CO₂ emissions. 79 of them have SECAPs in place which cover measures in almost all municipal sectors. Further municipalities developed SEAPs, but they expired in 2020.

RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

at national level

- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
- Ministry for Infrastructure, Communities and Territories Development of Ukraine
- State agency for Energy Efficiency

at local level

- Association of Ukrainian Cities (CoM supporter)
- Association ‚Energy Efficient Cities of Ukraine‘ EECU (national eea office in Ukraine, CoM supporter)
- Ukrainian Association of District and Regional Councils
- All-Ukrainian Association of Amalgamated Territorial Communities (CoM supporter)

ENERGY AGENCIES

- [European-Ukrainian Energy Agency](#) EUEA
- [Renewable Energy Agency](#) ABE
- [Ukrainian Nonprofit Energy Agency](#) UNEA
- [Ecoclub](#)

EXISTING OTHER NETWORKS / INITIATIVES

- Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: 279 signatories, 14 coordinators, 3 supporters
- European Energy Network EnR: no members
- Climate Alliance: city of sambir and EECU as collective member
- Energy Cities: cities of Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv and Mariupol and EECU as collective member
- FEDARENE: no members
- NetZeroCities: no members
- Mayors for economic growth
- Ukrainian association of renewables
- Association of biomass energy
- Association of energy auditors

EXISTING PROGRAMMES

- “EnergoDim” energy efficiency program and “VidnovyDim” recovery program for residential sector funded by Ukrainian Energy Efficiency Fund
- 4 Interreg Programmes: Hungary – Slovakia – Romania – Ukraine ENI CBC, Interreg Danube Transnational Programme, Romania-Ukraine ENI CBC
- EU Projects under EU „Neighbours East“ with the Topics EU4Business, EU4Energy, EU4Climate, EU4Environment etc. and initiatives/projects like Climate Innovation Vouchers by Greencubator, APENA3 etc.
- USAID: Energy Security project; DOBRE Program, HOVERLA program
- GIZ: Integrated Urban Development in Ukraine, Raising energy efficiency in Ukraine, ULEAD
- UNDP: Global Clean Technology Innovation Prog. for SMEs

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPETENCES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

development and spatial planning

- Urban development, planning and control, management of building and construction and environment;

municipal buildings & facilities

- Maintenance of municipal technical infrastructure;

supply & disposal

- Management of water, heating and sewage infrastructure;
- Waste management;

mobility

- Local transportation;

budgetary competences

Ukrainian local authorities plan and approve local budgets, including energy expenses. The city council is responsible for monitoring and approval of the budget. The main sources of funding for local budgets are Income tax and single tax of entrepreneurs, state donations, excise duty, rent of land and municipal estate, investment fee from local business as well as parking and touristic fees. The largest share of expenditures (60 - 70%) is occupied by education, medicine and social protection. The level of energy costs is 3-8% of total local budget. The average budget for small towns amounts to 3-10 million UAH in 2021.

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