

2ND ISSUE



WHAT IS 50000&1 SEAPs? The 50000&1 SEAPs project provides a coherent approach to integrating Energy Management Systems (EnMS) with Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) according to energy management standard such as ISO 50001 and European Energy Award, as quality management certification system for municipalities committed to sustainable energy planning. It aims to help municipalities overcome the barriers blocking institutionalisation of their action plans and reinforce internal structures and procedures for high-quality, long-term, energy policy and planning. This ensures that sustainable approaches to local energy policy and planning are spread and strengthened further across Europe. 50000&1 SEAPs is a three-year project co-funded by Intelligent Energy Europe, which runs until February 2017.

[› 50001seaps.eu](http://50001seaps.eu)



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NEWS

CITY LEADERS DEBATE THE CASE FOR INVESTING IN THE ENERGY UNION



The EU's Energy Union aims to make a single energy market in Europe a reality, ensuring a secure supply of sustainably sourced energy for all Europeans. As the

transition will occur at the local level, city and regional governments are the primary actors in achieving the EU's sustainable energy goals. Local and regional governments, however, are often stymied in their attempts to enact ambitious climate and energy policies by a lack of funding and by unclear legal rules.

A debate held in the context of the European Union's [Open Days for Regions and Cities](#) in Brussels (Belgium) on 14 October saw local-level leaders

LANDMARK PARIS AGREEMENT SETS AMBITIOUS CLIMATE TARGET

The unanimously approved Paris Agreement, which was achieved at COP 21 in December, strives to limit global warming, with the intent to pursue a target of a maximum of a 1.5-degree increase. Through this Agreement, local and subnational governments are recognised as essential actors in fast tracking transformative action in the urban world.

The Paris Agreement states that nations will review, every five years, their commitments to keep greenhouse gas emissions trajectories well below 2 degrees Celsius. This process of accountability will safeguard, in particular, the most vulnerable populations and small island nations that suffer from the impacts of climate change they have not caused.



Through this Agreement, nations have yet to provide an ambitious response to end a fossil-dependent era, despite the unstoppable transformation into an urban development model based on 100 percent renewables. It is hoped that national governments will signal to the business sector that the era of fossil fuels is coming to a close. 50000&1 SEAPs was present at COP 21, hosting an information stand inside the [TAP Pavilion](#) in partnership with the [CO-POWER](#) and [Mayors in Action](#) projects. At the stand experts discussed and exchanged with visitors on sustainable energy action planning and implementation.

ROMANIAN FORUMS AIM TO INCREASE LOCAL KNOWLEDGE ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY

GUEST PROJECTS

INTRODUCING: OPTIMUS

Through increasing the energy efficiency of public buildings, the OPTIMUS smart city project is helping cities shift toward cleaner, more sustainable urban environments. The OPTIMUS Decision Support System (DSS) is an integrated web-platform that utilises real-time data to seek out the most fitting energy saving opportunities available for public buildings.

Mindful of the EU 2020 targets, three cities are participating in the piloting of the new online platform: Savona (Italy), Sant Cugat del Vallès (Spain) and Zaanstad (The Netherlands). The aim is to design, develop and deliver a platform that will collect and structure open data sets from five domains: weather conditions, social mining, buildings' energy profiles, energy prices, and energy production. Each section will be demonstrative of the best energy saving opportunities available in public buildings.

OPTIMUS DSS is constructed in a way that it is easily adapted to cities with differing characteristics.

discuss the financial ramifications of moving to a single energy market in Europe, as well as look at how local and regional governments can use sustainable energy to create projects that yield a return on investment. Participants debated how Structural and Cohesion Funds can be coupled with innovative financing models to ensure that sufficient capital is raised to implement renewable energy projects. Employment opportunities stemming from the local level implementation of the Energy Union was also hotly discussed.

Eugenio Leanza of the European Investment Bank said: "Planning for sustainability and resilience is an exercise that needs to be reviewed in consideration of the evolving situation of the economy and has to be realised by all stakeholders in a cooperative way [...] The EIB is reflecting on the utilisation of new financial instruments to improve the performance of European cities, while reinforcing the resilience of their job markets." The session was jointly organised by [50000&1 SEAPs](#) and [MAYORS in ACTION](#).

For more information, visit the [event listing](#).

50000&1 SEAPs LAUNCHES CALL FOR PARTICIPATION IN COACHING SCHEME



Municipalities, regions, Covenant of Mayors supporters and coordinators, and public and private stakeholders are invited to take part in a coaching scheme run by the 50000&1 SEAPs project. The tailor-made programme on integrating Energy Management Systems (EnMS) and Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) according to the ISO 50001 energy management standard will help municipalities achieve high-quality energy policy and planning for the long-term. Participants will be able to use the project's tools and methodologies and will receive up to two days of training.

The main goal of the coaching programme is to share knowledge and provide hands-on support to the set up and implementation of the EnMS and SEAP approach. These tailor made peer-to-peer activities and trainings (both online and in person) will take place until February 2017.

The 50000&1 SEAPs approach has a range of benefits, as it helps participants to develop policies for more efficient energy use, fix targets and objectives to carry out these policies, and identify corrective measures and potential improvements for SEAP planning. The project particularly encourages participation from new and Mediterranean member states in the coaching scheme. To find out how to take part, download the [open call](#).

For more information, contact 50001seaps@iclei.org

TOOLS AND SOLUTIONS HANDBOOK PROVIDES PRACTICAL ADVICE ON IMPLEMENTING SEAPs



Combining the best resources from the [Toolbox of Methodologies on Climate and Energy](#) with the experiences of the partners of the Mayors in Action project consortium, the [Handbook for Covenant Supporters and Coordinators \(C&S\)](#) provides ste

Information forums were held to present the 50000&1 SEAPs project in the Romanian cities of Resita and Ineu, providing useful information and a better insight into the benefits the project has brought to the municipalities involved. As well as outlining 50000&1 SEAPs, the forum aimed to collect ideas for new projects that would tackle efficiency in energy intensive sectors, such as residential and industrial buildings, energy production, and transport.

A wide cross-section of stakeholders were in attendance at the forums, with representatives from local utility companies, universities, private businesses, housing associations, and local road transport operators engaging in the discussions.

Best practice examples on increasing energy efficiency were presented, each capable of being replicated in Romanian municipalities. The measures needed to realise a CO2 emissions inventory were also outlined – a necessary step to accurately track the reduction in energy consumption. The meeting ended with a discussion session that looked at future steps for improving energy efficiency.

For more information, visit <http://www.ziuainvest.ro/actualitate/54912-municipiul-resita-a-gazduit-forumul-local-pentru-eficienta-energetica>

THE FIRST PEER-TO-PEER VISIT BETWEEN BULGARIA AND SPAIN

Advice, best practices, and tools were shared during the first peer-to-peer visit between Bulgaria and Spain, which took place as part of the 50000&1 SEAPs project on 29 September 2015. The meeting was organised by the Bulgarian consulting firm ECQ and was attended by the Spanish public body Deputacion Ourense and their technical partner, the consulting firm Albea.

One of the main goals of the visit was for ECQ to provide technical support to Deputacion Ourense on integrating Energy Management Systems (EnMS) into Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs). By doing so, local authorities are given an overview of energy consumption, enabling them to pinpoint the source of energy wastage.

The exchange focused on practical steps, delving into such topics as adaptation of city structures; internal institutionalisation; allocation of human and financial resources; and the signing of the Covenant of Mayors.

The successful meeting will result in close collaboration between ECQ, Deputacion Ourense and Albea throughout the lifetime of the project.

LOCAL FORUMS IN POLAND GET CITIZENS TALKING ABOUT ENERGY

Aware that the involvement of citizens and local stakeholders is essential for the successful development and implementation of a sustainable energy action plan (SEAP), the municipalities of Słupsk and Sztum (Poland) organised local energy forums to discuss the current energy situation and ways of improving it. The forums took place in November 2015 and gathered representatives of different institutions, including the municipal administration, energy

EVENTS

[ENERGY UNION: WHAT LOCAL LEADERSHIP CAN TELL US ABOUT ENERGY TRANSITION](#)

June 15, 2016 – European Sustainable Energy Week - Brussels, Belgium

[2ND OPEN TRAINING SESSION @EUSEW 2016: ENERGY MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE ACTION PLANS](#)

June 16, 2016 – European Sustainable Energy Week - Brussels, Belgium

[WORKSHOP ON LOCAL DATA ENERGY COLLECTION FOR SEAP DEVELOPMENT](#)

June 17, 2016 – European Sustainable Energy Week - Brussels, Belgium

[NEW COVENANT OF MAYORS: COMPARING EXPERIENCES](#)

June 17, 2016 – European Sustainable Energy Week - Venice, Italy

[LOCAL RENEWABLES 2016 - ENERGISING THE SMART CITY AND REGION](#)

26 - 28 October 2016 - Freiburg ,Germany & Basel, Switzerland



by step guidance, useful tools, and good practices on implementing sustainable energy actions and measures.

This detailed compendium outlines how to set objectives, gain stakeholders involvement, and finance selected actions, all while offering examples of best practice in the fields of rolling out information campaigns, stimulating energy retrofitting in residential buildings, bolstering Renewable Energy, and fostering integrated energy actions, among others.

Of particular interest to followers of the 50000&1 SEAPS project is the chapter on Energy Management Systems (EnMS), which provides guidelines for public administrations who wish to adopt an EnMS according to the international standard ISO 50001. The chapter outlines the steps required, the resources and tools needed, and the financial considerations to keep in mind.

The annexes to the Handbook provide relevant case studies, giving an in-depth look at how actions have been implemented across Europe.

To download the handbook, click [here](#).



utilities, water utilities, transport companies, housing cooperatives, local companies and the media.

In Słupsk, there was also a delegation from Ukraine, whose members were interested in the green solutions implemented in the city.

Participants of both meetings learned about the ambitious targets their cities are pursuing, set in part thanks to involvement in the Covenant of Mayors and 50000&1 SEAPs. In Słupsk the city's recently-adopted SEAP was also presented, outlining the city's long-term sustainable energy development strategy. The main actions planned by Słupsk include thermal retrofitting of public buildings, development and modernisation of cycling infrastructure, connecting new buildings to the district heating network, construction of a co-generation unit, and the implementation of green public procurement.

In Sztum, participants learned about their city's planned actions in the field of sustainable energy, as well as the results of the Baseline Emission Inventory conducted as a basis for the SEAP. The presentations were followed by discussions on the local energy situation and the strengths and weaknesses of local energy policy.

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