

# Capacity-Building Programme for cities and regions

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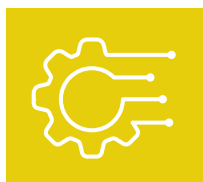
## From Learning to Action



The PROSPECT+ project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101023271.



[www.h2020prospect.eu](http://www.h2020prospect.eu)



# About this report

PROSPECT+	Project & Deliverable Profile
Project Acronym and Full Name:	PROSPECT+ Capacity building for cities and regions - from learning to action!
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Funding Type:	CSA - Coordination and support action
Project URL	<a href="https://h2020prospect.eu">https://h2020prospect.eu</a>
EU Project Officer	Cristina Mestre Martinez
Project Coordinator	Institute for European Energy and Climate Policy (IEECP)
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# Preface

PROSPECT+, building on the previous H2020 project PROSPECT, will enable capacity building in regional and local authorities in order to finance and implement effective and efficient sustainable energy plans, including their proper monitoring and verification and also ensuring that such plans are using synergies from other local plans. The learning programme will advance through 5 learning modules covering public buildings, private buildings, public lighting, transport, and cross-sectoral topics.

PROSPECT+ will focus on improving decision-making of cities in project selection for financing and assessment to ensure that their projects are finance ready. The ambition is to ensure that over 200 EU cities in at least 20 EU MS will improve their capacities when it comes to implementing projects from sustainable energy and climate plans (SECAPs) and similar sustainable plans.

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# The PROSPECT+ consortium



	Participant Name	Short Name	Country	Logo
1	Institute for European Energy and Climate Policy Stichting	IEECP	NL	
2	European Federation of Agencies and Regions for Energy and the Environment	FEDARENE	BE	
3	EUROCITIES ASBL	EUROCITIES	BE	
4	Energy Cities/Energie-cites Association	ENC	FR	
5	University of Piraeus Research Center	UPRC	GR	
6	OÖ Energiesparverband	ESV	AT	
7	Energy and Climate Agency of Podravje	ENERGAP	SI	
8	Tipperary Energy Agency	TEA	IE	
9	Ayuntamiento de Valladolid	INNOLID	ES	
10	Association of Energy Managers of Towns and Regions of the Czech Republic	SEMMO	CZ	
11	Adelphi research gemeinnützige GmbH	adelphi	DE	

# CONTENT

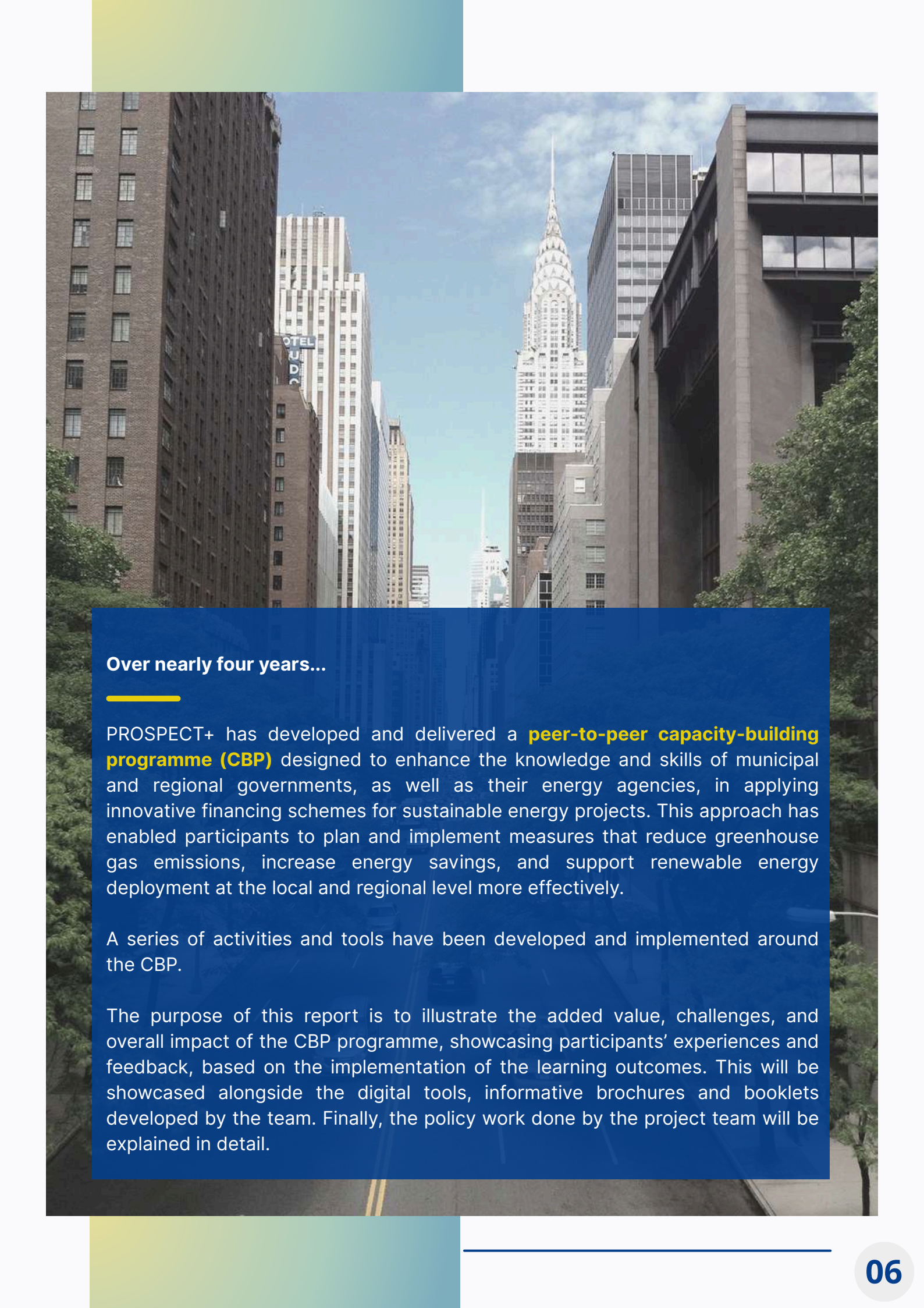
About this report .....	1
Preface .....	2
The PROSPECT+ consortium .....	3
<b>1</b>	
<b>About PROSPECT+ and this report .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2</b>	
<b>The PROSPECT+ capacity building programme .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3</b>	
<b>The PROSPECT+ in figures .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>4</b>	
<b>The PROSPECT+ mentors .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>5</b>	
<b>The PROSPECT+ capacity building in practice: Some succesful stories .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>6</b>	
<b>The PROSPECT+ tools and resources .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>7</b>	
<b>Policy work .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>8</b>	
<b>Communication and dissemination .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>9</b>	
<b>Reflection on the PROSPECT+ capacity-building journey .....</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>10</b>	
<b>What's next? .....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>11</b>	
<b>The PROSPECT+ team .....</b>	<b>34</b>

# About PROSPECT+ and this report

Local and regional authorities (LRAs) play a vital role in the fight against climate change<sup>[1]</sup>.

- While they are significant contributors to greenhouse gas emissions, they also hold considerable potential to drive emissions reductions and spearhead the transition to a low-carbon economy.
- They can lead by example, implementing innovative green investment models and launching ambitious programmes to promote renewable energy, energy communities, sustainable mobility, and more.
- LRAs are directly responsible for enabling and/or enforcing the implementation of national and European (EU) legislation into practice as they directly and indirectly control the development of their territories.
- Their essential role has been increasingly recognised in EU legislation, reaching its peak with the [EU Green Deal](#), the European Commission's ambitious plan to achieve EU climate neutrality by 2050, aligning with the [Paris Agreement](#) goals.
- To comply with these requirements, however, investments between the period 2021-2030 should increase to €396 billion per year compared to current figures ([2023 EIB report](#)) with **public funding able to cover only between 60% and 75%** ([see more here](#)).
- Therefore, despite this potential, LRAs, and particularly smaller municipalities, often face challenges beyond **limited financial resources**.
- Moreover, other barriers to their energy transition include, inter alia, the **lack of internal capacity and expertise** needed to identify, access, and deploy the most suitable and cost-effective financing tools and mechanisms, and implementation strategies for sustainable energy and climate projects.
- This capacity gap can hinder their ability to fully leverage available funding and deliver impactful climate action at the local and regional levels.
- In response to these challenges, building on the achievements of its predecessor PROSPECT project, the H2020 funded project PROSPECT+ (2021–2025), **has empowered more than 200 cities and regions** across Europe, helping them to advance their local energy and climate strategies using innovative financing mechanisms.

<sup>[1]</sup> The Paris agreement for the first time recognised the role of non-Party stakeholders in addressing climate change, including cities, other subnational authorities, civil society, the private sector, and others.



## Over nearly four years...

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PROSPECT+ has developed and delivered a **peer-to-peer capacity-building programme (CBP)** designed to enhance the knowledge and skills of municipal and regional governments, as well as their energy agencies, in applying innovative financing schemes for sustainable energy projects. This approach has enabled participants to plan and implement measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy savings, and support renewable energy deployment at the local and regional level more effectively.

A series of activities and tools have been developed and implemented around the CBP.

The purpose of this report is to illustrate the added value, challenges, and overall impact of the CBP programme, showcasing participants' experiences and feedback, based on the implementation of the learning outcomes. This will be showcased alongside the digital tools, informative brochures and booklets developed by the team. Finally, the policy work done by the project team will be explained in detail.

# The PROSPECT+ Capacity-building programme

## 2.1 What is it?

In order to best support LRAs, PROSPECT and PROSPECT+ reviewed and enhanced an easy and replicable **peer-to-peer learning programme** to introduce them to **innovative financing schemes** which could be used to implement and finance their sustainable energy and climate actions. This was done using a **peer-learning approach**, which consists in **sharing of knowledge, skills, competencies, and experience among matched peers**.

Within the project duration we organised **four Learning Cycles (LCs)** – periods of time in which the exchange amongst peers could take place. In each LC a series of groups were organised – based on the **financing scheme** (see box [Innovative Financing Schemes](#)) and on the **thematic area** of the sustainable energy project.



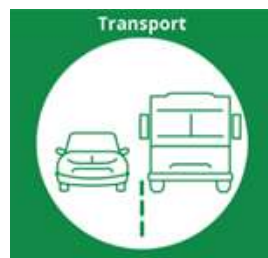
## Thematic Areas



**Public Buildings:** Covers buildings and facilities owned, managed or controlled by public authorities. Facilities refer to energy-consuming entities that are not buildings, such as wastewater treatment plants.



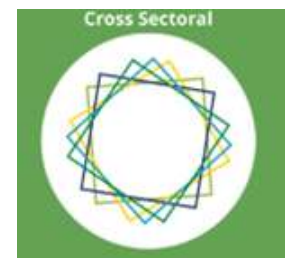
**Private Buildings:** Covers buildings owned, managed or controlled by private individuals or entities, including primarily those in the tertiary sector (for example companies, banks, retail, hospitals) and residential buildings, like social housing.



**Transport:** Covers the provision and management of mass transit systems by public authorities, as well as private transport.



**Public Lighting:** Covers the provision of public lighting (e.g. street lighting and traffic lights) owned or operated by public authorities. Non-municipal public lighting is under the private buildings thematic area.



**Cross Sectoral:** Covers interventions spanning multiple areas, including climate adaptation, local electricity production (e.g. wind, hydro, solar), and heat/cold production (e.g. combined heat and power and district heating plant).

# Innovative financing schemes

The main innovative financing schemes covered in PROSPECT+ (often used together with grants or other forms of subsidies – process known as “blending”) are:

**Energy Performance Contracting (EPC)** is a financing model where an Energy Service Company (ESCO) covers the upfront cost of energy efficiency improvements. The investment is repaid through the guaranteed savings achieved over time, making it ideal for clients with limited funds or technical capacity.

**Citizens Finance** is a scheme where individuals or communities pool their funds to support projects serving their own common good. It can take various forms, such as crowdfunding, cooperatives, or community initiatives.

**Internal Contracting** (intracting) involves booking saved electricity or heating costs from energy improvement measures to a separate account to reinvest in further measures. With an initial investment, a self-reinforcing financial resource cycle is set up.

**Third-party financing** refers to debt financing. As the term suggests, project financing comes from a third-party, such as a financial institution or an investment fund. Soft loans are a type of third-party financing with significantly more favourable than standard market loans.

**Revolving Funds** refer to a pool of capital replenished by the cost-savings from energy efficiency and renewable energy projects or by the interests paid by the sustainability measures financed by the fund. These cost-savings or interest revenues continuously finance new investments in similar projects, resulting in a sustainable funding cycle.

**Green bonds** are bonds in which proceeds are exclusively applied to finance or re-finance, in part or completely, new or already existing green projects. As any bonds, green bonds are financial assets used for raising capital from investors through debit capital markets. The difference between green bonds and other regular bonds is the label “green”, which assures the bonds will exclusively finance projects that result in environmental benefits. Green bonds can be issued by city governments, utilities companies (water, transport, energy, etc), corporations or states or development banks.

**Guarantee Funds** are a type of collective investment scheme that ensures the payback of a pre-determined percentage of the invested capital on a specific date in the future. In this scheme, loans are provided to the borrower by a commercial lender or financial institution. Should the loans default or the borrower fail to meet the payment under the established conditions, another entity – the guarantor - absorbs the credit risk and/or covers the loss. Guarantee funds are, therefore, a way of transferring the credit risk from a creditor to another entity.



## 2.2 Participants and roles

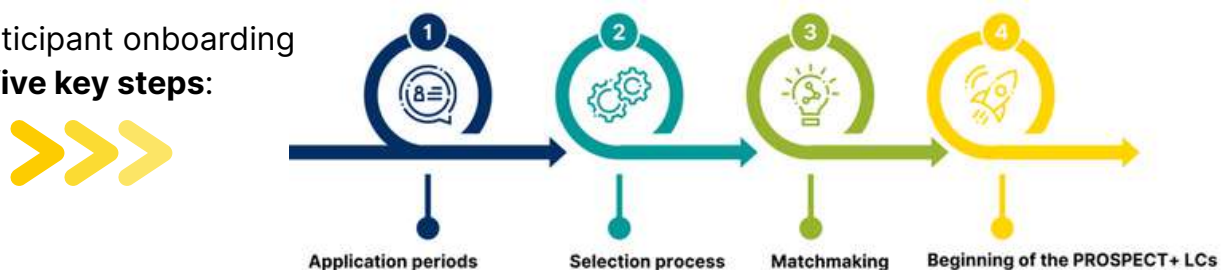
Each group in each LC included the following key actors:

- **Mentor:** an individual representing a local or regional authority having direct experience with or specific expertise in financing a sustainable energy and climate action through an innovative scheme and is willing to share insights to a mentee. Mentors can either be internal – part of the project team – or external
- **Mentee:** an individual representing a local or regional authority who wants to learn from an experienced or expert peer on financing a sustainable energy project using an innovative scheme and is interested to apply what they learned in their own context.
- **Facilitator:** a member of the project consortium assigned to support the learning interactions between the mentor and mentee(s) of a specific learning group. Internal mentors act also as facilitators, therefore facilitators were needed only in case of external mentors.

## 2.3 Engagement, selection and matchmaking

For each LC, an engagement campaign was launched at a European level, where mentors and mentees could register informing the consortium about their preferred learning module(s) and financing scheme(s) to be covered in the learning programme.

The final participant onboarding unfolded in **five key steps**:



*Facilitating our own groups is very efficient since we have the entire process of the learning programme in our hands (as internal mentor, expert, and facilitator). However, tasks attributed to the facilitation require a lot of time, particularly maintaining continued communication and the engagement of the group.*

**Megan Gignac. Linz, Austria (facilitator and internal mentor from OÖ Energiesparverband)**

PROSPECT+ focused on **three learning methods** for achieving its peer-to-peer learning objectives.



- **Peer mentoring:** One-to-one relationship between a mentor and a mentee enabling counselling, deep learning exchanges, and joint problem solving.



- **Study visit:** A group of mentees (between 2 and 7) learning from one mentor how the latter implemented his/her project and getting first-hand insights and recommendations.



- **Local mentoring:** Similar to study visit but happening in the same country (or group of neighbouring countries with same language) in a national language. It can focus on specific national challenges.

## 2.5 Learning approach

All three learning methodologies and activities are organised into a **four-step learning process** replicated within each of the four Learning Cycles. In every cycle, participants follow a structured sequence of **up to six steps**, with activities delivered through a mix of both online and physical meetings.

### The PROSPECT+ CBP steps

The different steps of the PROSPECT+ CBP include:

- At least **3 online meetings** (Steps 1, 2, and 4).

- **One in-person meeting** of 2 days (Step 3).

- 30 of the most advanced mentees are selected and invited for a **bi-annual Masterclass**, an in-person workshop in Brussels, Belgium (Bonus step).





## Why peer-to-peer learning?

Peer-to-peer (P2P) learning in the PROSPECT+ project is a deliberate strategy designed to empower local and regional authorities by facilitating the exchange of knowledge, experiences, and best practices in sustainable energy and climate investment planning.

Since cities and regions face different legal, cultural, and economic contexts, the PROSPECT+ approach ensures that **local knowledge** is at the core of the exchange. Further, as local staff and policymakers often lack access to formal training in innovative financing, the project's P2P learning approach has proven to help building this capacity in a **more accessible and engaging way**, empowering LRAs to actively participate, gaining **hands-on experience** through study visits with mentors, and learning from **concrete case studies**, local experts and other stakeholders.

Building **trust**, further **collaboration** and **network** opportunities are other benefits of the approach, not less important than the above to accelerate the replication of good practices across cities and regions.

PROSPECT+ at the core leverages on existing expertise and adopts a P2P approach to integrate, transfer, expand and replicate that very experience into **wider practical impact**.

## 3.1 Achievements of the PROSPECT+ CBP

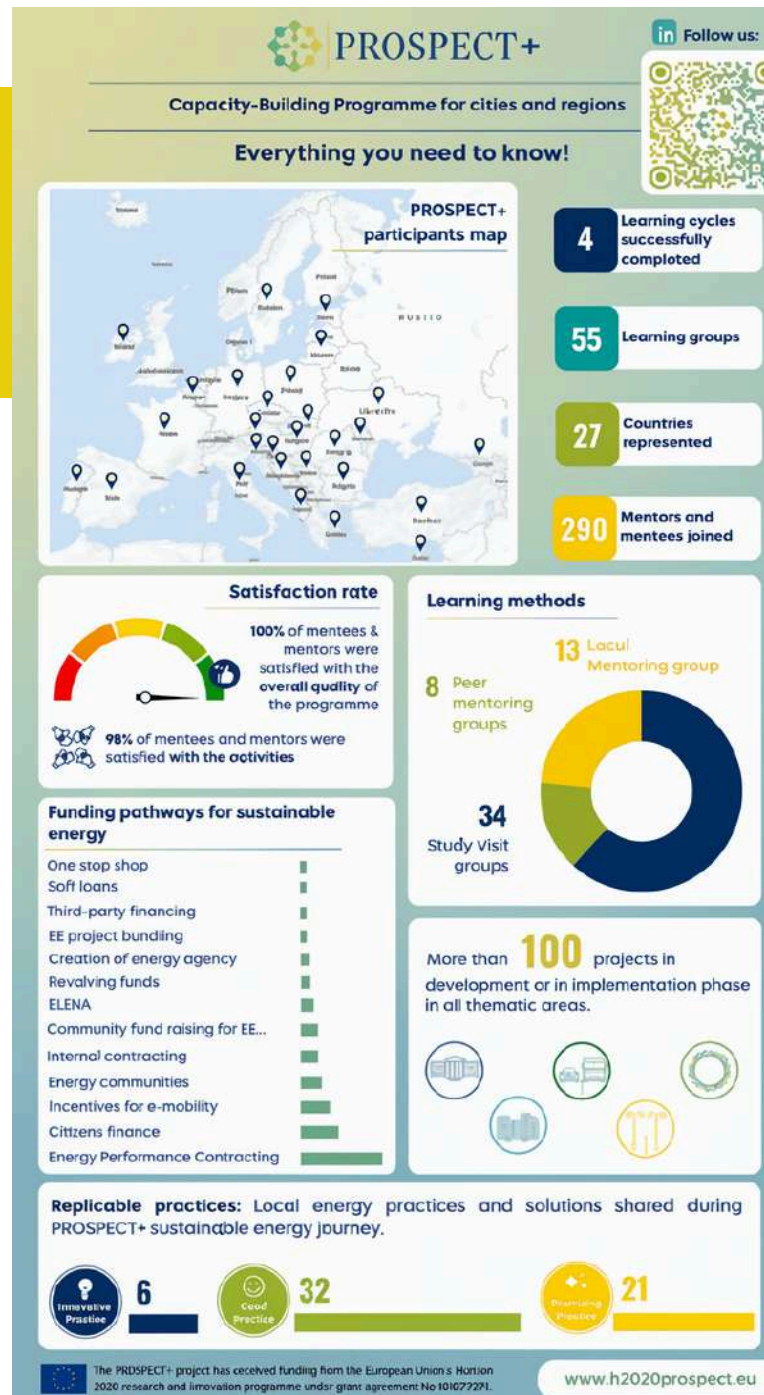
Over the course of its four LCs, the PROSPECT+ CBP proved **highly effective** in expanding its outreach through **well-designed engagement activities, meeting participant expectations, and strengthening cities' capacity-building** through meaningful **peer-to-peer learning**.

Locally-focused engagement campaigns, multilingual communication material and accessible application processes reached **over 290 public authorities** from **30 different European countries**.

In all, **55 learning groups** were formed and **219 public authorities** from **27 different European countries** successfully completed the programme, extending its reach to **over 1,000 public officers and stakeholders** through its impactful learning and replication activities.

**All five PROSPECT+ thematic areas** -public buildings, private buildings, transport, public lighting, and cross-sectoral- were addressed through the learning groups and activities.

Participating public authorities explored a total of **13 innovative financing schemes and mechanisms**, with 6 new options being introduced from LC2 onward.



## Highlights

Among the innovative financing schemes covered, EPC, featured in 18 learning groups, led the way, followed by citizen finance, e-mobility incentives, and energy communities.

Interest in other schemes was evenly distributed, with Community Fundraising, Internal Contracting, and ELENA also standing out.

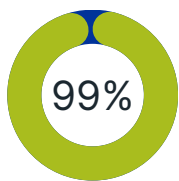
**Over 100 sustainable energy projects** identified among the participating public authorities, showcasing stand-out practices -**6 innovative, 32 good, and 21 promising**- by the end of the programme.

The performance of the PROSPECT+ CBP was rigorously monitored through a **mixed evaluation framework**, which combined **quantitative data**, such as participation rates, completion figures, thematic coverage and regional spread, with **qualitative insights** from the participant survey, testimonials and facilitators' observations.

The **participant satisfaction survey** was designed around the key components of the PROSPECT+ CBP, assessing how the capacity-building activities, the learning resources, and the mentorship offered throughout contributed to its overarching goal, **from the participants' perceptions**.

As part of the process, **a total of 183 survey responses** were received from the programme's mentees, mentors and facilitators, with mentees accounting for 139 of them (around 80%).

### Highlights

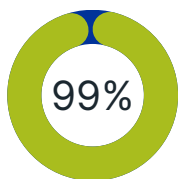
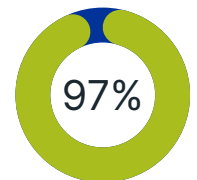


#### Participants' satisfaction with the overall quality of the PROSPECT+ CBP

PROSPECT+ CBP received outstanding feedback, with 99% of participants expressing satisfaction with its overall quality.

#### Participants' satisfaction with the learning outcomes

97% of participants reported enhanced knowledge of innovative financing mechanisms through their involvement in the PROSPECT+ CBP.

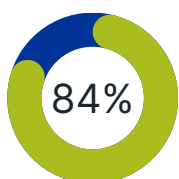


#### Participants' satisfaction with the matchmaking and mentorship

Learning groups were formed through a refined matchmaking process, with 99% of mentees feeling well-matched with their peers and mentors.

#### Participants' satisfaction with the partnership opportunities

Well-matched groups enabled 99% of mentees to build connections with at least three new cities, strengthening cross-city learning and networking.

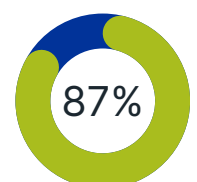


#### Implementation potential

84% of mentees expressed their intention to apply the financing schemes learned to actual projects, reflecting the practical value of PROSPECT+ CBP.

#### Extending learning beyond PROSPECT+ CBP

87% of mentees indicated plans to transfer the knowledge acquired to colleagues within their institutions, extending the programme's impact.



The full monitoring and evaluation report of PROSPECT+ CBP is available [here](#).

### 3.3 The PROSPECT+ SWOT analysis

PROSPECT+ leveraged the opportunity to work closely with numerous EU local and regional authorities (LRAs) to carry out a **SWOT** (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis, uncovering **key barriers and enablers** affecting the implementation of sustainable energy projects **across the five PROSPECT+ thematic areas**.

The analysis combined a structured literature review with **empirical data collected from 193 PROSPECT+ mentors and mentees** from the capacity-building programme, using **an online survey**.

The survey explored the **significance of key factors influencing project implementation** across **five dimensions**:

- economic and financial,
- knowledge and informational,
- social, cultural and behavioural,
- policy and regulatory,
- institutional/organisational, and
- technical and technological.

The results were analysed both **thematically** and **sectorally**.

## Key findings

**Across all areas**, technical know-how, access to information, and awareness were consistently rated among the **most significant strengths**, while high initial investment costs, procedural complexity, and limited organisational resources emerged as **key weaknesses**.

On the **external side**, high energy prices, supportive regulations and sustainability vision from the side the local authorities were identified as **strong opportunities**, while limited financial incentives and bureaucratic barriers were frequently cited as **major threats**.

**Sector-specific insights** revealed that:

- **Public buildings** suffer from high upfront costs and administrative burdens but benefit from anticipated energy savings and technical and non-technical expertise.
- **Private buildings** face financial constraints and behavioural resistance, although comfort gains and savings act as motivators.
- **Public lighting** is enabled by effective monitoring systems but hindered by capital investment needs.
- **Transport** continues to struggle with infrastructure gaps despite existing technical capacity.
- **Cross-sectoral projects** are challenged by coordination and resources yet can benefit from anticipated savings and boosting information.

For the complete PROSPECT+ SWOT analysis along with the key findings and insights, see the full report available [here](#).

# Key policy insights from the PROSPECT+ SWOT findings



The SWOT analysis presented a clear mandate: strengthening the enabling environment is critical to advancing local action on climate and sustainable energy. Real progress demands bold, concerted efforts and sustained support across all levels of governance, beginning with **four key policy priorities**.

*The **implications of the SWOT analysis** offer a valuable foundation for informing future support mechanisms and enhancing the effectiveness of local-level climate and sustainable energy action. **Looking forward**, they point the way toward more targeted and scalable approaches that could unlock the full potential of European cities and regions not only to act, but to lead the energy transition with confidence.*



## Top 4 SWOT-informed policy priorities to accelerate local climate action

### 01.

**Strengthening local institutional capacity** through targeted training, the creation of specialised energy units, and tailored support especially for small and medium municipalities.

### 02.

**Improving access to finance** through streamlined funding procedures and the promotion of innovative financing schemes such as energy performance contracts, green bonds, and citizen financing.

### 03.

**Enhancing regulatory stability and coherence** by aligning national frameworks with local needs and realities, minimising bureaucracy, and introducing greater regulatory flexibility.

### 04.

**Fostering knowledge transfer and awareness** through peer learning actions, exchange of best practices across cities and public engagement campaigns.



Read more in the full SWOT analysis report available [here](#).

# The PROSPECT+ mentors

## 4.1 Internal mentors



**Christiane Eggers,**  
ESV, Upper-Austria



**Megan Gignac,**  
ESV, Upper-Austria



**Alicia Villazán Cabero,**  
IdeVa, Spain



**Angela Rivada Rodríguez,**  
IdeVa, Spain



**Lisa Vaughan,**  
TEA, Ireland



**Dr Sukanya Saikia,**  
TEA, Ireland



**Tereza McLaughlin Váňová,**  
SEMMO, Czech Republic



**Jaroslav Klusák,** SEMMO,  
Czech Republic



**Dr Vlasta Krmelj,**  
ENERGAP, Slovenia



Go to the project website [here](#)  
to meet the PROSPECT+ internal mentors.

## 4.2 External Mentors

**Applying Energy Performance Contracting and soft loans in cities!**

Mentor from the first learning cycle.



Learn more about the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme here!

Learn from your future mentor :  
Miguel A. García-Fuentes (CARTIF Technology Center, Spain)

Join the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme as a mentee!

Private Buildings

PROSPECT+ [www.h2020prospect.eu](http://www.h2020prospect.eu)

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**Interested in learning how to start and run an intracting fund in your municipality ?**



Learn from your future mentor :  
Sandrine Deternay, (City of Albertville, France)

Join the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme as a mentee!


Cross Sectoral Public Buildings

PROSPECT+ [www.h2020prospect.eu](http://www.h2020prospect.eu)

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**Applying Energy Performance Contracting in cities!**

Mentor from the first learning cycle.



Learn more about the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme here!

Learn from your future mentor :  
Robert Vodopic (City of Karlovac, Croatia)

Join the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme as a mentee!

Public Lighting

PROSPECT+ [www.h2020prospect.eu](http://www.h2020prospect.eu)

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**Applying Energy Performance Contracting and third party financing in cities!**

Mentor from the first learning cycle.



Learn more about the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme here!

Learn from your future mentor :  
Ina Karova (Energy Agency of Plovdiv, Bulgaria)

Join the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme as a mentee!

Public Buildings Private Buildings

PROSPECT+ [www.h2020prospect.eu](http://www.h2020prospect.eu)

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**Interested in Energy Performance Contracting for your public lighting?**



Learn from your future mentor :  
Rogério Ivan, (Oeste Sustentável, Portugal)

Join the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme as a mentee!

Public Lighting

PROSPECT+ [www.h2020prospect.eu](http://www.h2020prospect.eu)

The project PROSPECT+ has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101023271.

**Mobilize citizen finance for your energy community!**



Learn from your future mentor :  
Sanela Mikulečić Šantić, (KLIK, energy cooperative, Croatia)

Join the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme as a mentee!

Cross Sectoral Public Buildings

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**Interested in learning how to start and run an intracting fund in your municipality ?**



Learn from your future mentor :  
Dorine MESTRE, (Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Regional Energy Environment Agency (AURA-EE), France)

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Cross Sectoral

PROSPECT+ [www.h2020prospect.eu](http://www.h2020prospect.eu)

The project PROSPECT+ has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101023271.

**Interested in energy efficiency and renewable energy investments ?**



Learn from your future mentor :  
Velnimir Segon (Deputy Managing Director REGA, North-West Croatia Regional Energy and Climate Agency, Croatia)

Join the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme as a mentee!

Public Buildings

PROSPECT+ [www.h2020prospect.eu](http://www.h2020prospect.eu)

The project PROSPECT+ has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101023271.

**Empower your energy community and enhance your city's renewable energy future!**



Learn from your future mentor:  
Marco Costa (Agenzia per l'Energia e lo Sviluppo Sostenibile-AESS, Italy)

Join the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme and the Italian local group as a mentee!

Cross Sectoral

PROSPECT+ [www.h2020prospect.eu](http://www.h2020prospect.eu)

The project PROSPECT+ has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101023271.

**Engage your citizens, activate your energy community and make your city's renewable energy projects a shared mission!**



Learn from your future mentor:  
Gianluca Avella (Agenzia per l'Energia e lo Sviluppo Sostenibile-AESS, Italy)

Join the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme and the Italian local group as a mentee!

Cross Sectoral

PROSPECT+ [www.h2020prospect.eu](http://www.h2020prospect.eu)

The project PROSPECT+ has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101023271.

Go to the project website [here](#)



to meet the PROSPECT+ external mentors.

# The PROSPECT+ CBP in practice: Some successful stories

05

## Incentives for e-mobility - IDEVA

In this learning group, **Valladolid's Innovation and Economic Development Agency (IDEVA)** served as both facilitator and internal mentor, leveraging its expertise in financial mechanisms -especially guarantee funds for sustainable mobility- gained through years of EU project involvement.

Mentoring drew on **Valladolid's leading strategies**, such as its SECAP, the INNOLID 2020+ strategy, and its participation in the Green City Accord.

Valladolid's role as **one of the seven Spanish cities** selected for the **EU Mission "100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030"** added visibility and impact to the learning process.

A study visit hosted by IDEVA offered practical insights and peer exchange, helping mentees identify transferable solutions and enhance project replicability.

The group welcomed mentees from **Fyli (Greece)**, **Cantemir (Moldova)**, and **Soria (Spain)**, each bringing forward strong project ideas:

- Fyli advanced an e-bike project (€317,830).
- Soria planned a smart city app (€328,000) and solar bus installations (€3.45 billion).
- Cantemir progressed a €2 billion electric minibus project to the feasibility stage.



*The study visit in Valladolid was very organised. We had a very productive agenda. All the presentations during the 2 days were full of examples and now I can say that after seeing the organisation of Ecological transport it is possible to implement in Cantemir.*

**Learning group on Transport (C1\_Trans1).  
Mentee from Cantemir Municipality (Moldova), "Ecological transport for the Cantemir Eco town" project.  
Tatiana Puica, Public servant**

## Intracting – AURA-EE and Albertville (facilitated by ENC)

Under the guidance of the **City of Albertville** and with support from **AURA-EE** (the regional energy and environment agency of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region in France), **Cerema**, the **ACTEE programme**, and **Energy Cities**, five French local authorities - the municipalities of **Grenoble**, **Rive-de-Gier**, **Nevers**, **ALEC MVE** (the local energy agency of Montreuil and Vincennes) and **SIGERLy** (the Lyon region's energy management syndicate)- explored how to successfully implement **intracting** (internal performance contracting) to finance local energy efficiency actions.

From December 2023 to May 2024, mentees deepened their understanding of the model and applied it to develop energy plans and internal financing tools. Notably:

- Rive-de-Gier planned a €300,000 intracting fund for 2024.
- Ville de Grenoble announced the launch of its own fund.
- Nevers shared its experience working on intracting-based equity capital to support its ecological transition efforts.



The capacity-building group meeting in Albertville in April 2024.

More cases can be found in the report on experiences and showcases of successfully implemented learning groups ([here](#)), which presents the results of the feedback from PROSPECT+ participants, especially (internal/external) mentors and facilitators, to explore the perceived added value, challenges, and overall impact as well as replication potential of the PROSPECT+ CBP.





# 06

## PROSPECT+ tools and resources

Over its four-year duration (2021–2025), the PROSPECT+ project supported local and regional authorities in implementing their energy and climate action plans by **unlocking access to innovative financing mechanisms**. Beyond its successful peer-learning programme, the project produced a rich **suite of practical tools, booklets and resources** to guide and empower municipalities in their sustainable energy journey.

### 6.1 Web-based tools

#### SYNERGISE+

SYNERGISE+ is an innovative and practical Excel-based tool designed to help decision-makers prioritize actions from Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs). The tool helps in aligning local goals and preferences with climate resilience objectives. SYNERGISE+ facilitates qualitative analysis of mitigation and adaptation actions with the information cities already have on all the actions. There is also a guide providing a framework for objective decision-making, involving stakeholders, and understanding various alternatives and benefits. Together, the tool and the guide empower cities to make, and effectively implement, informed decisions.

- Access the tool [here](#).
- Access the presentation video [here](#).
- Access the guide [here](#).

#### Project Finance Readiness Tool

The Project Finance Readiness Tool is designed to help local authorities assess the financial maturity of their planned sustainable energy projects. It serves as a self-assessment tool to evaluate how ready a project is to seek funding for implementation. In addition, it offers guidance on the essential elements needed to develop a high-quality proposal for potential financiers.

The tool focuses on several critical areas, including information about the local authority, the scope and expected impact of the project, the roles of project promoters and stakeholders, as well as key legal considerations. These areas are essential to ensure that a project aligns with the requirements of financial institutions, thereby increasing its chances of securing funding.

- Access the tool [here](#).
- Access the guide [here](#).

## Recommendations - Decision Matrix Tool

The Recommendations-Decision Matrix tool is specifically designed to assist local government organisations navigate through a wide range of innovative financing schemes for urban climate planning and determine which one will be the most suitable to be adopted based on project-specific characteristics and the general framework conditions. It takes the form of a dynamic self-assessment tool with a set of 31 questions covering the 5 areas of the project.

- Access the tool [here](#).
- Access the guide [here](#).

## 6.2 Other resources

### Learning handbooks (Thematic booklets)

A series of 6 thematic handbooks offering practical guidance, real-life case studies, and financing tips for sustainable energy projects in the five thematic areas of the project. An additional booklet with focus on citizen Finance is also available.

Each handbook combines lessons from mentees and mentors and includes implementation checklists and local success stories.

- Access the handbooks [here](#).

### Glossary of financial terms

The glossary is a resource developed to assist local and regional authorities in understanding key financial concepts related to sustainable energy and climate projects. It provides clear definitions and explanations of financial terms, facilitating better comprehension and application of innovative financing mechanisms.

- The glossary is accessible [here](#).



### Replicable practices

PROSPECT+ has curated a comprehensive collection of replicable practices to assist local and regional authorities in implementing sustainable energy and climate initiatives.

These practices are categorized into thematic areas and are labeled based on their maturity and replicability. They are divided into three categories:

- ◆ **Promising Practices:** Innovative approaches not yet widely implemented but showing significant potential.
- ◆ **Good Practices:** Established methods that have been successfully applied and can be replicated in similar contexts.
- ◆ **Innovative Practices:** New creative solutions that have demonstrated effectiveness in achieving energy and climate goals.

- Access the full repository [here](#).

### PROSPECT + Wrap Up videos

IEECP developed short clips from the PROSPECT + webinars which had an average duration of 2h-2h30, and shortened them into a 30 minute video material, highlighting the key points from the webinars. The aim of these Wrap Ups was to make the recordings more accessible and concise to the audiences.

The Wrap Ups can be found on:

- YouTube, [here](#).
- IEECP's website, [here](#).

# Policy Work

07

As part of its commitment to advancing innovative financing for local energy and climate action, the PROSPECT+ project carried out an integrated programme of policy work. This included two high-level Policy Dialogue events (online and in-person), running the Community of Practice as part of replication measures, and an extensive stakeholder consultation across more than 20 countries, which resulted in a comprehensive report on the findings and recommendations for the EU, national and local levels. The results have been shared extensively, including with the European Commission (CINEA, DG REGIO, DG ENER), the Community of the Regions, the European Investment Bank, the NetZeroCities programme, among others.



These activities aimed to connect local-level practice with national and European policy development, supporting the creation of more enabling frameworks for sustainable investment beyond traditional subsidies.

This work aimed to identify systemic challenges and opportunities in using financial instruments such as energy performance contracting (EPC), green bonds, revolving funds, blended finance and citizen finance mechanisms. By facilitating structured exchange between cities, national authorities, financial institutions and European policymakers, PROSPECT+ contributed to the development of informed, practical policy recommendations that respond to the real conditions on the ground.

## The Community of Practice

The PROSPECT+ Community of Practice (CoP) is a collaborative platform created to connect local and regional authorities, mentors, mentees, and other stakeholders in sustainable energy and climate financing -including those outside the PROSPECT+ CBP. It offers a space for peer-to-peer learning, sharing best practices, and seeking practical advice, while supporting ongoing dialogue and long-term engagement and relationships beyond formal learning cycles.

Its key features were:

- Access to a network of experienced municipalities and practitioners;
- Access to dedicated webinars and exchanges with P+ mentors;
- Discussion forums and thematic exchanges;
- Updates on tools, case studies, and new financing models;
- Support for applying the knowledge gained in real-world projects.

## 7.1 First Policy Dialogue Webinar (November 2023)

The first Policy Dialogue was held online on 15 November 2023, drawing 114 participants from across Europe, including representatives of local authorities, EU institutions, energy agencies, and the private sector.

Taking place after the second LC, the event marked a mid-term milestone, highlighting lessons from participating cities and launching policy-oriented discussions on transitioning away from subsidy-based financing.

The session explored evolving approaches to municipal energy and climate investment, with 11 expert speakers presenting practical experiences and highlighting the need for greater support, cooperation and policy alignment.

Key topics included:

- Findings from the initial phase of the PROSPECT+ stakeholder consultations, which identified barriers and needs related to the adoption of innovative financing instruments.
- Case studies from cities in Spain, Croatia and France, illustrating successful financing models implemented with reduced reliance on grants.
- Recommendations from municipal officials on how to improve the accessibility of financial instruments, particularly for smaller and medium-sized cities.
- Insights from EU-level institutions, including DG ENER, DG REGIO and CINEA, on current support programmes and potential regulatory improvements.

Participants represented a broad geographic spread and institutional mix, with the highest attendance from Spain, Belgium, Germany, Poland, and Italy. Most were affiliated with local authorities, NGOs, academia, and municipal energy agencies.

The event concluded with a strong call for greater regulatory clarity, technical assistance and multilevel collaboration to enable cities to implement financially viable climate strategies.



The second Policy Dialogue was held in person in Brussels on 11 March 2025, as the final event of the project. It brought together around 80 stakeholders from local and regional governments, the European Commission, the Committee of the Regions, financial institutions, and international organisations, on top of the project team.

The event featured two high-level panel discussions focused on translating peer-learning experiences into concrete policy messages. Panelists addressed persistent challenges facing local governments, including the complexity of EU funding mechanisms, inconsistent national regulatory frameworks, and the limited availability of technical advisory services.



Specific themes included:

- The need for long-term capacity-building on financial literacy and instrument design at the local level
- Stronger coordination across governance levels to ensure local needs are reflected in national and EU-level financial frameworks.
- More flexible and bundled funding options to support integrated climate investments.
- Support for aggregation models and regional cooperation to improve access to private capital.
- Expansion of advisory services such as ELENA and fi-compass to guide project structuring and implementation.



The session reinforced the value of structured policy dialogues in bridging the gap between EU policy and local implementation. It confirmed that cities are motivated to reduce their dependency on subsidies but face a range of institutional and administrative barriers that require coordinated policy responses.



Alongside the events, a stakeholder consultation engaged **over 200 actors** from **20 European countries** -including public authorities, energy agencies, and intermediaries- via **surveys** and **in-person workshops** in April 2024, to gather evidence on the **practical use of innovative financing instruments at the local level**.

Data was gathered through:

- Structured surveys and qualitative inputs on nine innovative financing instruments
- A co-creation workshop with over 40 participating cities in April 2024.
- Additional feedback from policy dialogues.

The goal was to capture real-life experiences with innovative financing and identify key barriers, enablers, and policy recommendations.

## Main findings

### 01. Systemic Barriers Persist

Local authorities face a mix of regulatory, institutional, and cultural obstacles to moving beyond subsidies, including restrictive laws, limited capacity, legal uncertainty, risk aversion, and challenges in engaging private investors.

### 02. Low Familiarity with Key Instruments

Many municipalities lack familiarity with tools like green bonds, guarantee funds, and revolving funds, though experience is growing with energy performance contracting and citizen finance, such as energy cooperatives.

### 03. Uneven Readiness and Access

There is high geographic disparity across the EU in readiness and access to innovative financing, with smaller municipalities particularly disadvantaged due to limited staff, legal expertise, and advisor access.

### 04. Institutional Silos

A major issue is the disconnection between technical departments and municipal finance units, leading to missed opportunities and weak coordination.

### 05. Cultural and Political Resistance

Strong cultural subsidy preferences and fear of backlash over private sector involvement hinder innovation, especially in smaller or cautious administrations.

### 06. Role of Intermediaries Is Crucial

Local and regional energy agencies and one-stop shops are key facilitators but often lack funding and national support, putting their long-term viability at risk.

### 07. Need for Localised, Practical Support

Cities do not need more theory, but actionable tools, editable templates, national legal alignment, and mentoring from peers. Demand is strong for ready-to-use materials that are localised to legal and administrative contexts.

## 8.1 Noteworthy events

### Session at the Smart City Expo World Congress (SCEWC) in Barcelona

In addition to the main Policy Dialogue events and consultations, PROSPECT+ also hosted a dedicated session at the Smart City Expo World Congress (SCEWC) in Barcelona on November 6, 2024. This session brought the discussion on innovative financing to a global audience, emphasising the urgency of moving beyond traditional subsidies to meet the growing demands of local climate and energy action. The panel, featuring representatives from the City of Warsaw, the European Commission (DG ENER), and Bankers Without Boundaries, highlighted both the opportunities and persistent barriers cities face in accessing alternative finance. Discussions focused on bridging the gap between public authorities and investors, improving access to support in local languages, and addressing regulatory obstacles such as municipal debt caps and unclear rules around financial instruments. The session also underlined the importance of City Climate Contracts as tools for long-term planning and investment alignment. Preliminary results from PROSPECT+ policy consultations were presented, revealing cities' strong interest in innovative instruments like green bonds and EPCs, but also the urgent need for national regulatory reforms, enhanced technical assistance, and clearer guidance to enable real uptake.

### The 2023 European Week of Regions and Cities

On 12 October 2023, PROSPECT+ hosted a collaborative lab on "Access to finance for the local energy transition: how to move away from subsidies?", with over 20 public authority representatives from across Europe. Featuring contributions from the European Commission, DG ENER on the growing role of private finance in meeting climate goals, alongside insights from Eurocities, Bankers without Boundaries, and case studies from Spain, France, and Croatia, the session explored practical investment strategies, the importance of transparency, and overcoming non-financial barriers, emphasising the need for regulatory alignment, and multi-level collaboration to drive innovative, subsidy-independent financing for the energy transition.

### Covenant of Mayors Investment Forum 2022

PROSPECT+ was presented as the successor to the successful Horizon 2020 PROSPECT project, expanding support for local and regional authorities in financing and implementing sustainable energy and climate actions. While PROSPECT engaged 195 participants from 160 cities in 29 Member States, PROSPECT+ aims to reach 200+ cities in at least 20 countries. Through its 5 thematic areas (learning modules), it aims to promote innovative financing and practical SECAP or similar strategies implementation. The projected impact includes support for 6% of Covenant signatories, enabling 4,000+ actions, 20,057 GWh/year in savings, and €2.048 billion in additional investments.

## Masterclass



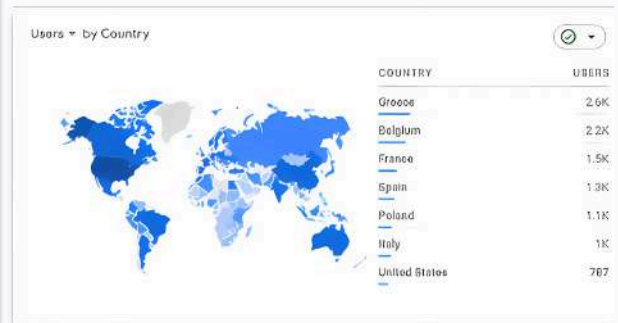
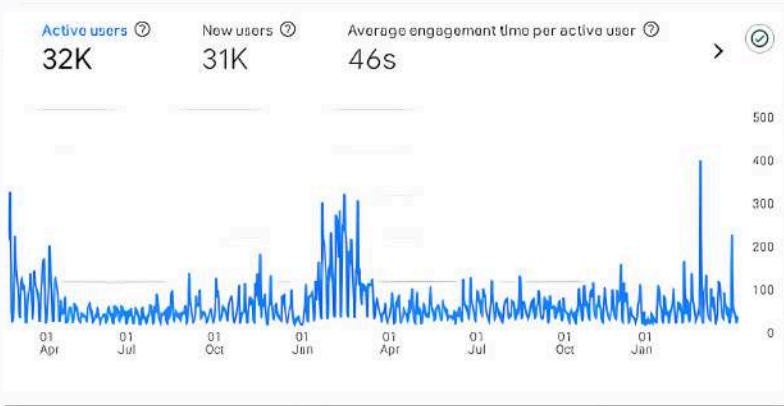
## EWRC session





## Website stats

At the end of the project period, the [PROSPECT+ website](#) attracted 32K unique users from different countries, with a significant proportion actively interacting with available content, navigating across subpages and accessing information about the PROSPECT+ CBP.



## Social Media presence



### Presence on LinkedIn

PROSPECT+ created a dedicated LinkedIn page called [Capacity building for cities and regions | PROSPECT+](#). The page, launched on October 2021 (project Month 2), was consistently updated with an average of two posts per week throughout the project duration. As of March 31, 2025, it had reached 1,521 followers.

### Presence on X and Facebook

The hashtag #H2020PROSPECT+ significantly exceeded the target of 100 mentions per year. Between September 1, 2021 and February 27, 2025, it was mentioned 462 times on X and Facebook. Posts using the hashtag generated 2,118 interactions (likes, comments, reposts) and reached an estimated 1.2 million people -based on the follower count of accounts using the hashtag and typical platform visibility rates.

### Presence on YouTube

PROSPECT+ produced more than 15 videos and video snippets including webinars recordings, the final policy event, Success Stories from the replication webinars, and a video explaining the SYNERGISE+ tool hosted on the [IEECP's YouTube channel](#).

# Social Media Performance

## LinkedIn stats

Plot a date range and period:

Days

Weeks

Months



2021-09-01 - 2025-01-15



Latest Menions

### Summary

MENTIONS

**461**

+461 (+100%)

SM REACH

**1.2 M**

+1.2 M (+100%)

INTERACTIONS

**2118**

+2118 (+100%)

POSITIVE

**72**

+22 (+100%)

NEGATIVE

**1**

+1 (+100%)

### Mentions



# Reflection on the PROSPECT+ capacity building journey

09

Through targeted peer learning, hands-on tools, strategic matchmaking, and a proven methodology, the PROSPECT+ CBP enabled the participating local and regional authorities to further plan and/or implement innovative financing solutions in support of their sustainable energy plans. Its success offers a strong blueprint for future initiatives aiming to strengthen local capacities in sustainable energy planning and implementation.

## Key lessons that made a difference

**01.**

**Adaptable and region-specific communication and engagement strategies** facilitated greater participation across varying local contexts.

**03.**

**Local mentoring** boosted retention and peer collaboration by easing language and communication challenges, and enabling the transfer of context-specific, actionable knowledge.

**05.**

**Ongoing engagement** through additional replication activities sustained participant interest and facilitated active involvement throughout each learning cycle.

**07.**

**Grounded in meaningful peer exchange and real-life projects** the programme fostered knowledge transfer and empowered participants to initiate finance-ready actions aligned with their local energy and climate objectives.

**02.**

**Tailored mentor-mentee matching**, following a mentee-first recruitment approach combined with interest-based group formation, ensured strong alignment of learning goals and improved learning outcomes.

**04.**

**Following a modular, multi-method approach**, featuring a structured step-by-step learning format, thematic flexibility, and a wide range of innovative financing instruments- the programme catered to diverse institutional priorities.

**06.**

**Backed by practical and easy-to-access learning materials and tools**, the programme enabled public authorities to achieve their objectives and retain the knowledge gained.

**08.**

**Systematic monitoring ensured** consistent tracking of progress, relevance, and satisfaction, maintaining high quality across all learning cycles.

# From Knowledge to Action! How PROSPECT+ Fueled Local Energy Transition Plans?

PROSPECT+ was designed to break down barriers to sustainable energy implementation by equipping local and regional authorities with knowledge on innovative financing instruments.

Across its four-year timeline (2021–2025), the project actively supported **219 public authorities** that successfully joined and completed the PROSPECT+ CBP, helping them develop and advance their energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

In doing so, PROSPECT+ not only met but exceeded its original long-term goals, clearly demonstrating how **structured knowledge exchange among peers** can accelerate the development and implementation of local energy transition plans.

The overarching aim was to **accelerate energy savings, increase investments in energy efficiency, and boost renewable energy production**, all contributing to **CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions**. These outcomes were shaped by the PROSPECT+ CBP participants' learning priorities and aligned with their local policy needs and plans.

A robust verification methodology applied throughout the project's lifetime played a key role in capturing the expected impact of the PROSPECT+ activities.

In total, **152 participants** shared concrete insights into their sustainable energy actions, enabling the project to identify approximately **1,120 measures influenced by PROSPECT+**.

Data was collected through the CBP participants' real Action Plans during their learning cycles, and further enriched by post-cycle updates received via an EUSurvey and email follow ups.

Of these, **262 were directly linked** to the actual efforts of the participating mentors and mentees during PROSPECT+, while the remaining measures reflected broader ripple effects on local planning, monitoring practices, and financing capacity of the participating local and regional authorities.

## Key achievements

Project Performance Indicator	Expected impact within the project	Achieved impact within the project
Primary energy savings triggered by the sustainable project investments within its duration	32.427 GWh/year	65,512.65 GWh/year circa
	2.208 Million EUR	1.06 Billion EUR circa
Renewable Energy production triggered by the project investments within its duration	195 GWh/year	11,012.73 GWh/year circa
	4,45 Million EUR	251.43 Million EUR circa
Yearly CO <sub>2</sub> reduction (tCO <sub>2</sub> /a) triggered by the project investments within its duration	No specific target defined	7,420,510.50 tCO <sub>2</sub> /year circa (or 7,420.51 MtCO <sub>2</sub> /year circa)



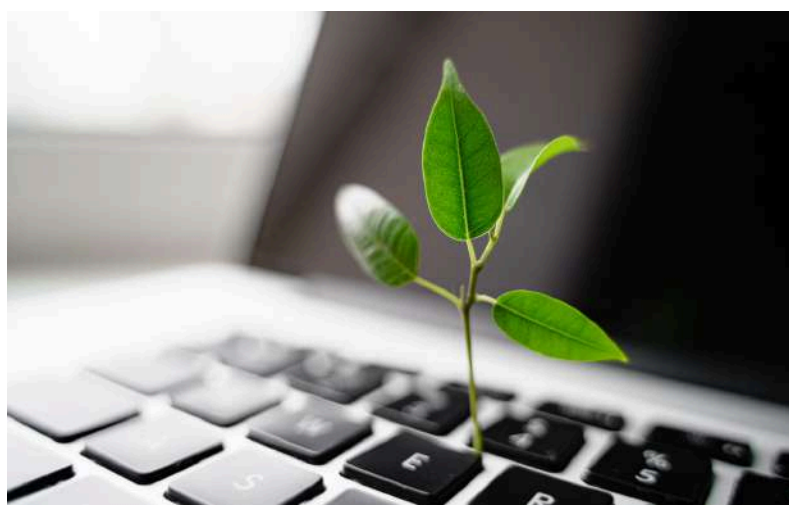
Read more in the impact analysis full report available [here](#).

# Looking ahead...

...PROSPECT+ calls for regionally anchored peer mentoring, supported by practical learning tools to strengthen informed decision making and finance readiness in local authorities.

Embedded within long term networks like the project's Community of Practice (CoP), these efforts can drive continuous knowledge exchange, enable replication of effective practices, and advance local climate and sustainable energy action.

Alignment with national and EU policies would need to scale their impact, thus accelerating the transition at the city and regional levels.



## The PROSPECT journey from learning to action doesn't stop here - far from it!

As the PROSPECT+ Capacity Building Programme continues to evolve, our team is already looking ahead to the next exciting chapter. **Starting in 2026**, local and regional authorities across Europe will once again have the opportunity to engage in a new wave of peer learning and capacity building activities.

What's more, these future activities will be powered by a **brand-new Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)**. The VLE will become the go-to learning platform for the next iterations participants! Hosted by Energy Cities through their Local Transitions Learning Centre, the VLE will bring the programme's signature approach to capacity building into a dynamic, user-friendly online space. **New AI-powered tools** and **fresh content** will be added to keep the experience relevant, practical, and impactful.

Participants will be able to:

- ✦ Access a growing library of open-source learning materials
- ✦ Connect and collaborate with peers from across the EU
- ✦ Track their learning journey and self-assess their progress
- ✦ Dive into innovative financing schemes and explore practical enablers like energy agencies and community cooperatives.

So, what's next? **Stay tuned.** The team will be sharing more announcements soon. Until then, keep an eye on the **PROSPECT+ community**, access existing resources and tools, and get ready to be part of the next wave of local peers on clean energy transition in Europe.

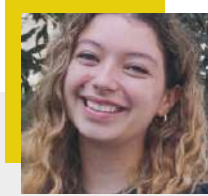


11

# The PROSPECT+ team



**Giulia Pizzini,**  
Senior Expert Energy Policy



**Axelle Gallerand,**  
Expert Communications

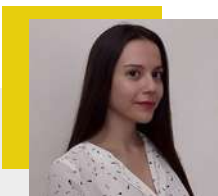


**Giulia Viero,**  
Expert Energy & Climate Policy

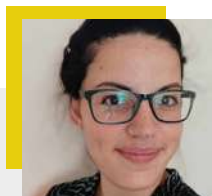


**Jen Heemann,**  
Senior Expert Energy & Climate Policy

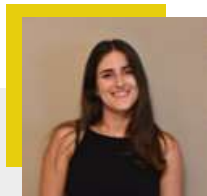
The [Institute for European Energy and Climate Policy \(IEECP\)](#) is a not-for-profit, independent research foundation working, since 2015, on science-based climate change mitigation, energy efficiency and renewable energy policy. We work closely with EU institutions, international organisations, national, regional and local governments, think tanks, NGOs, academics and the business world to lead the transition to climate neutrality and a sustainable energy future for various sectors. We build valued partnerships with renowned organisations from across Europe as we believe collaboration and creating a community helps carrying our ideas and results further, to shape, together, a low-emissions, resilient future.



**Danai Sofia Exintaveloni,**  
Research Associate



**Sophia Theodoropoulou,**  
Communications Project Officer



**Dimitra Aglamisi**  
Communication & Dissemination Expert



**Prof. Alexandros Flamos,**  
Director of TEESlab, Full Professor at the University of Piraeus



The **University of Piraeus Research Center (UPRC)** provides administration and technological support to European and National projects carried out by the staff of the University of Piraeus (UNIPI). The [Technoeconomics of Energy Systems laboratory \(TEESlab\)](#) that was part of the PROSPECT+ consortium is the energy modelling, strategy and policy analysis laboratory of UNIPI, that focuses on transitions pathways towards a low-carbon economy. TEESlab employs transdisciplinary approaches, methods and tools for the quantitative and qualitative assessment of critical issues governing the future evolution of the energy system and the transition to climate neutrality. It has been contributing to international research on technoeconomic analysis and evaluation of energy systems, energy market modelling, etc.



**Sylwia Słomiak,**  
Senior Climate Finance Advisor

**Eurocities** is a network of over 200 of Europe's largest cities representing over 150 million residents across 38 countries. European cities have been building Europe's future through Eurocities since 1986. We help cities inspire each other in the areas of culture, digitalisation, environment, economic development, mobility, social affairs and cross-cutting issues. Hundreds of cities have already committed to bringing carbon emissions down to zero, welcoming migrants and refugees, and governing through dialogue with their residents. Eurocities brings these local governments, which are really there, on the ground with the citizens and residents, into direct dialogue with the EU as essential partners for turning EU policies and ambitions into reality.



**Francisco Goncalvez,**  
Project manager



**Blandine Pidoux,**  
Project Manager



**Anke Mollers,**  
Project manager

**Energy Cities** is a network of 1,000 local governments in 30 countries. We believe the energy transition is about more than renewable energy or great technologies: it is about a wise use of resources while strengthening local participation and well-being in a democratic Europe. We want a radical transformation of the energy systems and policies, giving citizens the power to shape a decentralised and renewable energy future. We trigger a trustful dialogue between citizens, local leaders and EU & national institutions to accelerate the energy transition in Europe.



**Diana Bosfy,**  
Senior Project Officer



**Elodie Bossio,**  
Deputy Director

**FEDARENE**, the European Federation of Agencies and Regions for Energy and the Environment, is the collective voice of local and regional authorities and energy agencies in the transition to a low-carbon future. Established in 1990, it unites over 80 members from 24 EU countries as a leading partner, initiator of ideas, forum for co-operation and centre of expertise. Through thematic working groups, capacity-building workshops, an online repository of solutions, social media channels, a bimonthly bulletin and a range of publications, the federation promotes the exchange of best practice and fosters innovation in areas such as energy communities, renovation services, financing mechanisms and sustainable energy policies.



**Carolina Borges,**  
Project Manager



**Carolin Anders,**  
Senior Project Manager

**adelphi** is Europe's leading independent think-tank and public policy consultancy on climate, environment, and sustainable development. With a head office in Berlin, and offices in Brussels, Munich, Madrid, and Bangkok, adelphi is committed to supporting global governance and cooperation through international research, dialogue, and consultation. Since its establishment in 2001, adelphi has successfully implemented over 1,500 projects worldwide for prestigious clients such as the European Commission, GIZ, KfW, and the World Bank. With more than 350 bright minds, we bring extensive in-house expertise across all fields pertaining to this project, such as Climate, Energy, Diplomacy, Circular Economy and Sustainable Finance, etc. As a leader in its field, adelphi has successfully implemented a variety of projects, including in the realm of renewables and energy efficiency.



**Christiane Egger,**  
Deputy Manager



**Megan Gignac,**  
Project Manager



**Christine Öhlinger,**  
Head of Sector  
International Tasks



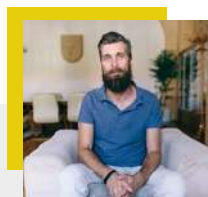
**Karin Danner,**  
Project Manager



The **OÖ Energiesparverband (ESV)**, the energy agency of Upper Austria, has been driving the clean energy transition in the region since the 1990s. It promotes energy efficiency, renewables and e-mobility to households, businesses of all sizes and municipalities. For over 15 years, ESV has managed the regional facilitation service for energy contracting (the "ECP Energie-Contracting Programme"). More than 350 EPC projects have been successfully implemented in the public sector and industry. Upper Austria is home to 1.5 million inhabitants living in 438 municipalities.



**Tereza McLaughlin Váňová**  
Project Manager



**Jaroslav Klusák,**  
Chairman



**Monika Čapková**  
Finance Manager



**Adriana Koblischke**  
Admin Assistant

The **Association of Local Energy Managers (SEMMO)** is a Czech Association of Local Energy Managers of towns and municipalities. Based in Prague, it gathers 25 cities with strong interest in sustainable energy, energy efficiency and community projects. The aim of the association is to support its members in energy transition towards modern cities and municipalities with lower energy consumption and long-term sustainable energy policy.



**Alicia Villazán Cabero,**  
Innovation Officer



**Angela Rivada Rodríguez,**  
Coordinator of Economic  
Development, EU Programmes



**Isabel Sanchez Iniguez  
De la Torre,**  
Architect, EU Programmes



**Francisco Benito Sánchez,**  
Engineer,  
EU Programmes

The **Valladolid City Council** is a local government public entity responsible for the provision and management of a number of different public services and utilities for the municipality. The City Council has a workforce of 3000 employees and an annual budget of more than 346 million of euros (2020). Valladolid is the capital city of the autonomous region of Castilla and Leon, the biggest region in Europe. Valladolid is an innovative city in which sustainable urban development, smart mobility and governance and social innovation configure a holistic approach of what a smart city means. Through its Agency for Innovation and Economic Development (Innolid now IdeVa) benchmarks existing economic and innovation opportunities in the city, boosts job creation and employability, and leads the development of projects of innovative character. The Agency for Innovation and Economic Development has carried out several European innovative projects in the fields of energy efficiency, sustainable mobility, circular economy, and nature-based solutions.



**Dr Sukanya Saikia,**  
Climate Action Engagement,  
Communication Specialist



**Lisa Vaughan,**  
CEO



The **Tipperary Energy Agency (TEA)** works with local government, public agencies and communities advising, educating and providing engineering services in energy efficiency projects and renewable energy plans and actions. In 2021 the agency spun off a domestic retrofit one stop shop which now operates as separate commercial entity in partnership with the Electricity Supply Board of Ireland.



**Simona Borko** (third from the left, far back row), Adviser, Expert in legal documents in the field of energy and climate in Slovenia and the EU, specialist in public-private partnerships

**Dr Vlasta Krmelj** (at the front), Director, Senior energy expert for strategical planning and financing of climate related projects and has the degree of European energy manager




The **Energy and Climate Agency of Podravje (ENERGAP)** is managing the preparation and implementation of energy and climate action plans for more than 20 municipalities in the region. It provides information, advice and training on energy and climate management issues; support for the implementation of local/regional energy and climate plans; energy audits of public and private buildings; raising awareness on energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, adaptation and mitigation issues. ENERGAP has experience in capacity building projects involving local authorities, and is dedicated to two main services: (i) Managing the implementation of energy and climate action plan and (ii) Preparation of investment plans including different financial options like EPC, Cohesion and other funds. ENERGAP has over 15 years of experience in EU projects and financing energy and climate related projects including energy performance contracting. All other ENERGAP team members are experts in sustainable energy and climate issues.




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## Thank you



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