



## **RESPONDET European Webinar**

### **“Social economy as a partner for the design and implementation of local action plans for green transition”**

**14 September 2023**

Out of 62 registered participants (from 12 EU Member States), 38 persons took part in the final webinar of the RESPONDET project; two others had asked for a recording of the meeting. Participants represented cities, regions, social economy, academics and civil society from 10 EU Member States as well as European organisations of the social economy, the European Commission and the European Committee of the Regions.

The webinar was divided in two parts which corresponded to the two thematic priorities of RESPONDET: The first part focused on circular economy and related local action plans, the second on community energy initiatives.

The event was opened by Roser Hernandez, Deputy Director for Social and Solidarity Economy and Cooperatives, Catalonia Region – the project leader. Hernandez highlighted the important opportunity the project presented for her region to deepen work specifically on the topic of community energy initiatives and to bring together different stakeholders, including different social economy realities, in order to jointly develop and/or deepen policies and initiatives in the field.

Erdmuthe Klaer, European Network of Cities and Regions for the Social Economy, provided participants with a short overview on objectives, partners and activities of the RESPONDET project which aims to strengthen the capacity of local/regional policy-makers, administration, social economy and civil society to jointly develop policies that would empower local communities as active players of green transition.

## RESPONDET – Main activities



### Circular Economy

Małopolska Region, Region of Wallonia and the City of Turin presented their context, priorities and planned actions in the field of circular economy.

Central elements in Małopolska's action plan are, amongst others, awareness-raising and education measures, including coaching of social economy enterprises in their transition to more circular practices and/or circular economy-related activities. Other priorities relate to the creation of a regional online platform and diverse applications devoted to social economy-based circular economy or to a strengthening of green and social public procurement. Recommendations by Małopolska to policy-makers at different level refer to the need to create databases with best practices or the necessity to *strengthen* and *raise the visibility* of small initiatives.

Focus areas of the recommendation plan<sup>1</sup> developed by Wallonia Region are, for example, a desirable prioritization of the access to certain circular economy activities (e.g. in the field of textile collection) for social economy enterprises through public procurement, the development of appropriate capacity-building opportunities for various stakeholders, or the promotion of cooperation between social-circular economy enterprises and other type of players (e.g. private companies, citizens, local authorities). A better cooperation and coordination between various public administrations at different level (local, regional, federal, European...) or in charge of different topics (e.g. sustainable development, energy, enterprises...) is considered a main key of success for policies that are supposed to strengthen social-circular economy.

The City of Torino is one of a 100 European cities that committed to significantly reduce emissions by 2030 and to become a "Mission City", i.e. a hub for experimentation and innovation in the field of

<sup>1</sup> The Region of Wallonia decided to focus efforts on the development of an action plan regarding the promotion of community energy initiatives. However, it also published *recommendations* concerning policies related to social economy-driven circular economy initiatives.

climate, a virtuous example for all other European cities. Measures developed by the city of Torino in its RESPONDET Action Plan regarding the circular economy put emphasis in particular on the creation of links to other (emerging) initiatives such as the National Competence Centre on Social Innovation in Torino. Moreover, through a specific Community of Practice on Circular Economy the city and its partners hope to stimulate new forms of networking and cooperation between the social economy and other type of actors.

All local/regional action plans can be found [here](#).

The presentation of the local action plans was followed by a panel discussion with Margit Perko, Policy Officer at DG EMPL, and Simone Schirru, Policy Officer in Social and Economic Policies at RREUSE, the European network of reuse, repair and recycling social enterprises active in the circular economy.

Are current public policies and practices going into the right direction? Do we have to change the narrative? With these first questions the moderator referred to observations of RESPONDET partners and others which include the increasing consideration of circular (economy) practices as opportunities for economic growth, a strong focus of public circular economy-related policies addressing above all mainstream enterprises and social economy enterprises facing increasing competition by large companies/multinationals becoming active in the circular economy field for profit reasons mainly.

In the current context the question for **Margit Perko** is whether to try and change the logic of the existing (economic) system or, as the latter might take a long time, to become more sustainable within this logic. She perceives a number of possibilities and increasing political willingness to push for a social green transition. Perko referred, for example, to the recent Degrowth conference, organized by Members of the European Parliament from different political groups. She also points to important opportunities in the framework of the current work on the Commission Proposal for a Council Recommendation on Developing Social Economy Framework Conditions which now has to be discussed in and by the EU Member States. At local level, individual persons working in local governments and public administration have to be convinced to apply green and social criteria in public procurement. Finally, Perko expressed herself in favour of pushing for circular economy at a larger scale. Moreover, in her opinion, much more has to be done and more activities have to be developed at the very beginning of the circle, in the design phase – here, there is according to Perko a need to also work with larger players and mainstream companies. It might make no sense to try and stop these enterprises from doing greenwashing – they rather have to be pushed to improve the quality of their actions to a degree that won't be greenwashing anymore – possibly in cooperation with the social economy. However, the latter remains a challenge and choices have to be made by policy-makers. Perko also mentioned training courses the European Commission has carried out on possibilities to create a better environment for the social economy in the framework of state aid rules – possibilities Member States still rather hesitate to exploit.

According to **Simone Schirru** it is also the lack of data on best practices from the social economy which leads to ignorance for example of civil servants regarding the added value the social economy is generating in the circular economy. Moreover, from existing practices of cooperation between larger enterprises and social economy enterprises experienced by RREUSE members – e.g. a larger enterprise putting unsold products at the disposal of the social economy or a supermarket accepting containers for social circular economy enterprises - he also perceives opportunities for the social economy.

Both Perko and Schirru agreed on the fact that citizens should be made more aware of the added social value of social economy enterprises active in the circular economy. In Perko's view, special events and

visits, or messages delivered *through* or *by* local/regional media might sometimes have more effect than written information. In this regard she also mentions the “Social Economy Voices” Campaign and related videos or the Social Economy Gateway that – though not focusing on social circular economy exclusively – might represent a means to convey to people the concept and added value of social economy acting in the circular economy. Fundamental in her view is cooperation among different kind of stakeholders when it comes to awareness-raising.

Schirru highlighted the importance of citizens receiving the right information. He pointed to the positive impact campaigns such as the Green Friday Campaign can have also in terms of awareness-raising. Even though also labels can be useful, their increasing number nowadays might not always help creating more clarity and might sometimes hide less responsible and less sustainable behaviour of certain enterprises.

More should be done, in Schirru’s view, to make citizens aware of the distinction between recycling and reuse.

With regard to the topic of skills development Simone Schirru highlighted the strong potential of the social economy and related organisations in the circular economy to *work with* and *involve* disadvantaged groups. A number of persons working in social economy organisations in the circular economy field also already dispose of important digital skills regarding processes and/or instruments that help disadvantaged persons to be active. Social circular enterprises and organisations also convey strong cognitive skills related to aspects such as team work and others. Here, the social economy is in a position to teach other type of enterprises, but is often not (yet) recognized as a skills provider.

On the other hand and nevertheless, other type of digital skills, for example, need to be further enhanced within social circular enterprises. This is the case, amongst others, with regard to the capacity of social circular enterprises to become more active in the second-hand e-commerce, etc.

Schirru stresses the importance of providing opportunities to acquire and further develop all the aforementioned kind of skills in more flexible, targeted training pathways providing possibilities for formal, but also informal education *and* work-based learning – depending on the needs and profile of the person.

Finally, Margit Perko informed participants of upcoming Commission initiatives in the framework of which also projects related to circular economy topics could be supported. She mentioned a new call in the framework of the Social Economy Mission Initiative, which will be launched in the end of September 2023 and which will focus on the scale-up of social economy enterprises in rural areas. Possibilities for exchange between regions are also provided in the framework of the European Social Economy Regions initiative. Another call with the objective to explore possibilities to develop the circular value chain between the social economy and other type of enterprises will be published in 2024 (moment to be confirmed).

### **Community Energy Initiatives**

In the second part of the webinar RESPONDET partner regions/city presented the action plans they developed, together with local stakeholders, with regard to the promotion of community energy initiatives.

A main element in the plan of the Region of Catalonia, developed in cooperation with the Federation of Catalan Cooperatives and other stakeholders, is the promotion of inter-cooperation between different stakeholders, including different parts of the cooperative world and the social economy. Other objectives and related measures – to name just a few – are, for example, a better coordination

of support for community energy initiatives at political and administrative level, also through the promotion of a new political transversal agreement, an improvement of the local electricity distribution grid, or the further development of training and tools to professionalise community energy initiatives.

Core elements of the local action plan elaborated by the Region of Wallonia in cooperation with ConcertES and other stakeholders are, next to the improvement of the legislative framework and of financial support measures, also the promotion of inter-cooperation between various type of actors and a better coordination between different public authorities. Another topic highlighted is experimentation, through the support of pilot projects, applied research, and the development of social or technological innovation.

The local action plan developed by the city of Turin and the Turin Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with stakeholders puts much emphasis on the creation of local eco-systems, local alliances and networks. The latter are supposed to bring together a diversity of players able to support the development of community energy initiatives through knowledge and know-how, financial resources, infrastructure, etc. Moreover, city and Chamber of Commerce also hope to stimulate more interaction and coordination between authorities at different level (local, regional, national...).

Małopolska Region, in which community energy initiatives are still less present, has the objective to work with local self-governments encouraging the latter to engage more strongly in the creation and support of community energy initiative, energy cooperatives and energy clusters. Beyond this, the region plans to improve awareness-raising and green competence development measures addressing a range of players, including the social economy itself, but also citizens, public administration, etc.

All local/regional action plans can be found [here](#).

During their presentation, partners had also referred to a number of challenges (such as an incomplete transposition of EU directives) and recommendations. Participants had the opportunity to discuss these – and a number of additional topics which were raised in discussions throughout the RESPONDET project – with a panel of speakers including Achille Hannoset, Policy Officer at DG Energy; Kata Tüttö, Member of the Committee of the Regions and Deputy Mayor of Budapest; Myriam Boveda, DG REGIO and Giacomo Pinaffo, Coordinator of the GRAPE initiative and Secretary General of Messina Community Foundation.

Asked about the state of the art of the transposition of the Renewable Energy Directive, **Achille Hannoset** informed participants that so far 22 EU Member States have transposed the directive. In other five Member States the process has so far not been completed. Hannoset listed different reasons for a *lack of or difficulties with* the transposition of the directive: transposition issues and the need for secondary legislation, a refinement of rules, but also limited experiences with energy communities. The latter shows once again the importance of pilot experiences and related feedback policy-makers need to understand challenges and opportunities of energy communities, and to create the appropriate legal framework.

Moreover, the European Commission – not at least through the inclusion of a REPowerEU Chapter in the Recovery and Resilience Plans – is asking Member States to increase their ambitions regarding the framework for energy communities and provides a number of services and instruments accompanying Member States. In this context, Hannoset mentioned also ongoing work on a Commission Staff

Working Paper on consumer empowerment which will provide informal guidance for Member States, including information on good practices and barriers for energy communities.

Focusing specifically on social economy-driven community energy initiatives, Hannoset underlined the usefulness of integrated one-stop-shops also at national level (to promote pilot projects, provide technical assistance and feedback possibilities also regarding legislation, and to create networks of actors...), but also possibilities linked to social public procurement and the need for more clarity and awareness concerning the latter. With regard to the Commission Proposal for a Council Recommendation on Developing Social Economy Framework Conditions Hannoset encouraged participants to push national governments and therewith the Council to be more explicit on what could be done in the context of renewable energy and social economy-driven energy communities. He also pointed to the existence of the Rural Energy Community Advisory Hub as well as to the Energy Community Repository, as well as to a guidance document introduced by the Advisory Hub – a document which aims to encourage local authorities to *get involved in* and *support* energy communities. Moreover, the LIFE programme offers a number of opportunities for projects regarding capacity-building for energy communities.

As for the promotion specifically of cooperatives and social economy in EU policies and programmes relating to energy communities, Hannoset reminds participants of the fact that a majority of renewable energy initiatives has chosen the cooperative as a legal form. The Clean Energy Package gives clear directions to Member States on how to conceptualise energy communities and how to facilitate their participation in the energy market. The concept of renewable energy communities/citizen energy communities such as it is defined in the Clean Energy Package is, in Hannoset's view, a frontrunner for social enterprises in the energy and other sectors.

Face to the criticism of public policies for energy communities which support mainly larger initiatives at the expense of smaller projects, Hannoset expressed a certain understanding for public authorities wishing to reach economies of scale and to involve the largest possible number of persons and actors. However, he also referred to the (recent) development and/or application of innovative financing schemes for smaller projects such as revolving funds which are based on a loan-to-grant model (if the project fails support will turn into a grant; if the project is successful it will pay interests and funding will go back to the fund and be available for other projects). With such type of investment support projects may have better access also to banks. According to Hannoset there is a need to also design appropriate bank products supporting this type of social enterprise and therewith helping them access private financing at reasonable conditions.

Recently developed state aid guidelines include possibilities to exempt Renewable Energy Communities from auctions linked to operational support or to ease participation requirements.

Hannoset also informed participants about the start, in 2024, of the Energy Communities Facility, which will amongst others provide seed funding for renewable energy initiatives enabling the latter to procure support services on the market.

Asked about possibilities to better involve disadvantaged parts of the population in community energy initiatives **Kata Tüttő**, Deputy Mayor of Budapest and CoR member, referred to the pilot project "Budapest cares" which focuses on the renovation of homes of most vulnerable groups of citizens. Together with the Climate agency the city has established, and based on a broad cooperation with the city districts, civil society, businesses and banks, the city has launched initiatives aiming amongst others to *mobilise* disadvantaged groups of the population *for* and *include them in* projects such as community energy initiatives. City officials are currently meeting citizens in their direct surroundings, enquiring about the different profiles, socio-economic backgrounds and needs of the latter.

Tüttö reminded participants of the fact that it is the responsibility of cities/municipalities to involve the most vulnerable. Yet, in order to be able to do this, cities and municipalities need to be strengthened.

In addition, what is important in this context according to Tüttö, is to share experiences among cities on what works and what does not work.

As for the need to interlink green and social transition Tüttö referred to the Covenant of Mayors which is in her view an important instrument for the development of integrated policies and strategies, including a mainstreaming of social inclusion-related topics in other policy fields.

Tüttö reminded participants of the important role cities and municipalities are playing in promoting green and social transition. To her it is therefore also of utmost importance to create broader channels allowing for a transfer of finance “from big budgets to small budgets”, including better access for example to Cohesion Policy Funds for cities and municipalities.

**Myriam Boveda**, Teamleader for Sustainable Growth at DG REGIO, provided participants with an overview of Cohesion Policy-related instruments and investments that can directly or indirectly support energy communities and facilitate capacity-building. Direct funding opportunities exist in particular in programmes under Policy Objectives 2 and 5. Also instruments such as Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI) or CLLD might help community energy initiatives to emerge. In addition, Boveda reminded participants of the fact that a part of the different programmes under EU Cohesion Policy can be used for technical assistance: Several Member States for instance have set up specific assistance for energy investments, for example in form of a one-stop shop or in form of energy agencies in this framework.

The Community of Practice “C4T - Cohesion for Transitions” – bringing together Managing Authorities and different stakeholders - might provide additional help. C4T Groups meet regularly. A specific forum will be organized on 21 November 2023. C4T Groundwork – direct technical assistance – was set up to help beneficiaries of funds to accelerate implementation of different kind of actions. It has also been used already by local and regional authorities wishing to set up for example energy agencies. A new call will be launched in the next months – the type of support it will focus on is currently being defined. C4T and other relevant instruments and measures will be presented during the European Week of Regions and Cities in October 2023 in Brussels.

Several documents on the topic are shared on the website of DG REGIO (see slides).

Finally, also programmes such as INTERREG might help fostering capacity-building and exchange between regions.

Boveda reminded participants once again of the fact that Cohesion Policy works on the base of shared management – cities/regions wishing to benefit for example from technical assistance need to contact Member States and their managing authorities. However, C4T Groundwork is managed directly by the European Commission.

**Giacomo Pinaffo**, Secretary-General of the Messina Community Foundation, is currently coordinating the GRAPE project, a COSME-SMP-funded project focusing on the development of local action plans for social green transition in small and peripheral territories. These action plans have now been finalised by the project partners - four municipalities from Italy, Greece and Spain - in cooperation with

social economy organisations and civil society. Depending on the specific local context, the plans include topics such as energy (community energy initiatives), sustainable agriculture, water management or sustainable tourism and culture.

Responding to the question of specific needs of small and peripheral territories wishing to more strongly promote the creation of social economy-based community energy initiatives Pinaffo mentioned two main elements : the lack of competences and (human) resources to apply for funding and the lack of competences and know-how in general also when it comes to the concrete establishment of community energy initiatives. In this respect Pinaffo highlighted the importance for these territories and their citizens to network. With regard to the question of how to make community energy initiatives better accessible *also* and *especially* to vulnerable citizens, Pinaffo shared an experience his own foundation is currently experimenting in the framework of a community energy initiative it has set up : An algorithm is supposed to help redistributing public funding/subsidies taking into account those most in need. Fundamental here are according to Pinaffo clear redistribution rules within community energy initiatives.

Ana Umbelino, Deputy Mayor of Torres Vedras (PT) and REVES President closed the webinar thanking project partners for their work and all speakers and participants for their contribution. In her closing words Umbelino stressed the need for small-scale experiments to exist, if successful, to be transformed into public policies. According to Umbelino, visibility needs to be given to these small scale projects which often provide interesting alternatives to mainstream systems. Citizens need to keep their faith in the fact that they can change reality. This however, won't be possible without co-responsibility, commitment and a mutualisation of resources.

#### Annexes:

- Programme
- Presentations



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## **“Social economy as a partner for the design and implementation of local action plans for green transition: Practices, opportunities and challenges”**

### **RESPONDET Final Webinar**

**14 September, 9.30 am-1 pm (CET)**

During more than a year, regions and cities from four EU Member States have been working on ways to improve the capacity of local and regional policy-makers, public administration, social economy and civil society to jointly develop (policy) initiatives which would strengthen social economy-driven *community* management of resources. This work resulted in the preparation of regional/local plans for green transition which build on the potential of the social economy and social-economy related community initiatives. The consortium focused in particular on community energy initiatives and on circular economy.

This webinar has the objective to:

- *present the RESPONDET local/regional action plans;*
- *provide an occasion to exchange with local/regional authorities and their social economy partners on opportunities and challenges they encountered when drafting their local/regional action plans for green transition in a participatory way;*
- *discuss recommendations to policy-makers at different level with EU policy-makers and representatives of other European organisations and initiatives.*

#### **9.30 Welcome by Catalonia Region**

Roser Hernandez, Deputy Director for Social and Solidarity Economy and Cooperatives, Catalonia Region

#### **9.40 Short presentation of the RESPONDET project**

Erdmuthe Klaer, European Network of Cities and Regions for the Social Economy (REVES aisbl)

#### **9.50 Circular Economy**

##### *Presentation of Local/Regional Action Plans*

- Maria Kucińska, Region of Małopolska
- Catherine Bolly, ConcertES
- Valeria Vacchiano, City of Turin

Q&A

*Panel discussion on policy recommendations with the participation of*

- Margit Perko, Policy Officer, DG Employment, European Commission
- Simone Schirru, RREUSE

11.00 Break

### **11.15 Community Energy Initiatives**

*Presentation of Local/Regional Action Plans by*

- Elena Bernet, Confederation of Cooperatives of Catalonia
- Maria Kucińska, Region of Małopolska
- Catherine Bolly, ConcertES
- Raffaella Scalisi, Turin Chamber of Commerce/Torino Social Impact

Q&A

*Panel discussion on policy recommendations with the participation of*

- Achille Hannoset, DG Energy
- Myriam Boveda, DG REGIO
- Kata Tüttö, Deputy Mayor of Budapest and Member of the Committee of the Regions (Vice-Chair ENVE Commission)
- Giacomo Pinaffo, GRAPE project (Local Social Green Resilience Action Plans for Small and Peripheral Territories)

### **12.50 Concluding remarks**

Ana Umbelino, Deputy Mayor of Torres Vedras (PT) and REVES President





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REGIONAL SOCIAL ECONOMY POLICIES  
FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY-DRIVEN  
ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSITION -

**“Social economy as a partner  
for the design and  
implementation of local action  
plans for green transition”**

**RESPONDET Final Webinar**

**14 September 2023**



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# The RESPONDET project

## Objective:

**improve the capacity of local/regional policy-makers, public administration, social economy and civil society to jointly develop policy initiatives which would strengthen social economy-driven community management of resources**

## Focus topics:

- Community Energy Initiatives
- Circular Economy

## Main elements:

- Harnessing the potential of local communities
- Building on the principles of social economy and its mobilising force
- Multi-Stakeholder partnerships and co-design of policies

**Duration:** May 2022 - October 2023



# The RESPONDET CONSORTIUM

- Generalitat de Catalunya – Business and Labour Department (Leader)
- Confederation of Coopératives of Catalunya
- European Network of Cities and Regions for the Social Economy (REVES aisbl)
- Service Public de Wallonie
- Concertation des organisations représentatives de l'économie sociale – ConcertES
- Municipality of Turin
- Chamber of Commerce of Turin
- Malopolska Voivodship – Regional Centre for Social Policy



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# RESPONDET – Main activities



## Peer learning missions

- 1: Community energy initiatives (Catalunya)
- 2: Circular economy (Wallonia)
- 3: Capacity-building (Małopolska)
- 4: New forms of cooperation/governance (Torino)



## Elaboration of local/regional action plans



## Policy recommendations

Based on:

- Local Action Plans
- Inputs by (local) stakeholders
- European Webinar and Policy Lab

Involvement of (local) stakeholders



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# Action Plan for the development of Energy Communities in Catalonia

RESPONDET final  
webinar

14th of September 2023



# 1. Process and methodology

## Participatory process for the elaboration of the action plan



## Process and methodology

- 4 missions
- 4 theme webinars
- 1 final webinar
- 1 final presentation

More than 50 stakeholders

## 2. Context

Energy Communities promoted by the SSE are committed to a **renewable, inclusive and democratic model**.

In Spain, a **total transposition** has not yet been carried out of the European directives.

There are **numerous EC** that are starting or are already in operation throughout the Catalan territory.



### 3. Measures (1 – 4)

#### 1. Position at a political and strategic level the model of EC.

- ☐ Creation of a cooperativisme energy lobby.
- ☐ New political transversal agreement .
- ☐ Promotion of public administration commitment.

#### 2. Facilitate development, articulation and network between the ecosystem of Energy Communities.

- ☐ Agree on a single and clear definition of EC.
- ☐ Promote intercooperation and the creation of new operators.

#### 3. Develop a favorable regulatory framework.

- ☐ Clear definition of the legal framework to simplify legislative dispersion and to overcoming barriers to the development of EC.

#### 4. Adapt the regulation and infrastructures of the Electricity sector to favour the implementation of energy services.

- ☐ Promotion of improvements to the local electricity distribution grid for  
Implement a decentralized power generation model.

### 3. Measures (5–7)

#### 5. Generate a model of economically and financially sustainable activity of Energy Communities.

- ❑ Generation of economies of scale to reduce the costs of structures of the SSE Energy Communities.

#### 6. Develop financing tools adapted to the needs of Energy Communities.

- ❑ Adequacy of existing subsidies to the needs of the EC.
- ❑ Creation of new subsidies adapted to the needs.

#### 7. Develop a training strategy for professionalize the equipment of the Energy Communities.

- ❑ Creation of training options for participants in the EC (start-up, operation and management).
- ❑ Development of digital tools to promote the professionalization.



### 3. Measures (8 – 10)

#### 8. Generate knowledge about the models of Energy Communities.

- ❑ Through the intercooperation of key agents.
- ❑ To encourage replication of models of EC in cooperative form.

#### 9. Strengthen and diversify the social base of the Energy Communities generating accessible and inclusive models

- ❑ Raising awareness about the EC model of the economy social to build trust and adherence.
- ❑ Increased sense of belonging to Energy Communities.

#### 10. Diversify and scale the model through innovative projects.

- ❑ Definition of EC models adapted to diversity sectoral, territorial and forms of access to housing.

## 4. UE recommendations

1. Creation of a lobbying group focused on Energy Communities at the level regional within REVES, the European Network of Cities and Regions for The Social Economy.
2. Promote a European meeting focused on Energy Communities







# Green transition and resilience in the social economy

1. Recommendation plan on the circular economy
2. Action plan on renewable and citizen energy



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**Main target:** The Walloon public authorities

**Authors :**

**ConcertES** – The consultation platform for organizations representing the social economy in the French-speaking part of Belgium

**SPW / Direction de l'Économie Sociale** – The Social Economy Department of the Walloon Public Service



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# Objectives of the Walloon plans

## The Walloon political context in the social economy

- The Alternativ'ES Wallonia strategy (2019-2024).
- The 2008 Walloon Decree : legitimacy and legal basis given to the social economy.
- Brussels and Wallonia in 2021 : about 12,000 social enterprises and 255,000 jobs.

## Aim of the action and recommendation plans

- To raise local politicians' awareness of the green transition challenges in the Walloon Region.
- To encourage them to implement actions in the fields of the social economy, the circular economy, and renewable energies.
- To provide them with a solid working basis to feed into political programs and government agreements (see Belgian elections in 2024).

## Deliverable

- 1 action plan about social-economy based initiatives in renewable **energy** (9 actions).
- 1 recommendation plan about social-economy based initiatives in the **circular economy** (8 recommendations).
- 1 recommendation plan about the **social economy** in green transition (16 cross-sectorial recommendations).



# 1. Recommendation plan on the circular economy

## Walloon context: social-economy based initiatives in circular economy

- **Social & circular enterprises:** a long common history (cf. the RESSOURCES Federation : since 1999, 80 active members).
- **2 official waste management systems (under review):** the “Reuse in the social economy” approval, and the extended producer responsibilities (e.g. Recupel, Bebat).
- **The Walloon Waste-Resources Plan** (2018, March 22): incorporation of the principles of the circular economy.
- **Walloon Parliament Resolution** (2019, May 3): support to the development of the circular economy in Wallonia.
- Crossing the political bridges with the **Circular Wallonia strategy** (2021, February 4): social, economic & ecological mission.



## PARTIE II

### Plan de recommandations sur l'économie circulaire en économie sociale



# Recommendation plan synthesis: circular economy

## II. Recommendation plan on the circular economy in the social economy

### Axis 1: Awareness-raising, training, and communication

**Recommendation 1.** Development of training opportunities and capacity-building for stakeholders in the circular economy, particularly in the social economy

**Recommendation 2.** Increased support for training and integration of disadvantaged people in circular economy professions

**Recommendation 3.** Improving communication about existing support for the circular economy

### Axis 2: Legislation and political framework

**Recommendation 4.** Reinforcement of regional approvals for social economy enterprises active in the circular economy

**Recommendation 5.** Integrating the principles of the social economy into the circular economy through public policies

**Recommendation 6.** Prioritization of access to certain circular economy activities for social economy enterprises, and fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships

### Axis 3: Financing and management

**Recommendation 7.** Maintain existing financial support mechanisms for social economy enterprises in the circular economy

**Recommendation 8.** Simplified recognition procedures for circular economy professions

# Recommendation n°1: Development of training opportunities and capacity-building for stakeholders in the circular economy, particularly in the social economy

## Issue

- Shortage of training courses in the field of the circular economy.
- Lack of visibility for the few recognized courses.
- Complexity: specialized technical skills specific to each sector (e.g. construction, textiles, etc.).

## Proposal

- Development of capacity building for the various stakeholders involved in the circular economy (awareness-raising and training initiatives) based on existing training courses (FOREM, Institut Eco-conseil).

## Innovative solutions

- Complementing the training path of municipal eco-counsellors with specific knowledge and skills in social economy (currently present over 73 municipalities, supported by the SPW Environment).
- Developing at the first-place awareness-raising campaigns on a local scale (since social and circular economy businesses are highly territorialized).



# Recommendation n°6: Prioritization of access to certain circular economy activities for social economy enterprises, and fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships

## Issue

- Due to growing competition in the reuse and recycling market, today's circular economy companies have to contend with companies whose aim is neither green transition nor social inclusion (esp. in the textile sector).

## Proposal

- To maintain a regulatory framework that is favorable to social economy companies and give to social economy enterprises a greater access to certain activities in the field of circular economy (e.g. textile collecting). This could counter the risks of greenwashing and socialwashing by “classic” economy companies.

## Innovative solutions

- Prioritization could be stressed by using social and ethical clauses in public procurement contracts.
- Encouraging collaboration between social-circular economy companies and other types of partners (e.g. private companies, local authorities and citizens).



## 2. Action plan on renewable and citizen energy

### Walloon context: social-economy based initiatives in renewable energy

- Citizens' **cooperatives** for renewable energy (cf. the RESCoop model).
- European Directives about **Citizen Energy and Renewable Energy Communities**: Walloon "Market Design" law (2022, May 5) and its implementation (2023, March 17, pending publication).
- The **Pax Eolienica** (2018, reviewed in 2022).



### PARTIE I

#### Plan d'action sur l'énergie renouvelable et citoyenne en économie sociale



## 2. Action plan on renewable and citizen energy

### Walloon context: social-economy based initiatives in renewable energy

- Citizens' **cooperatives** for renewable energy (cf. the RESCoop model).
- European Directives about **Citizen Energy and Renewable Energy Communities**: Walloon "Market Design" law (2022, May 5) and its implementation (2023, March 17, pending publication).
- The **Pax Eolienica** (2018, reviewed in 2022).
- **Estimated budget** for the actions (partly) supported by the **social economy** department:

Axes/Actions	Amount
Axis 1 Awareness-raising, training, and communication	257,000 €
Axis 3 Financing and management	200,000 €
Action 9 Pilot projects	2,400,000 €
<b>In charge of Social Economy Dept</b>	<b>2,857,000 €</b>





# Action plan synthesis: community energy

## I. Action plan on renewable and citizen energy in the social economy

<b>Axis 1: Awareness-raising, training, and communication</b>	<b>Action 1.</b> Organizing education, training and awareness-raising activities, based on existing training resources <b>Action 2.</b> Development of communication and dissemination tools, and of internal communication skills
<b>Axis 2: Legislation and political framework</b>	<b>Action 3.</b> Improving the legislative framework and its implementation to foster recognition of energy communities from the social economy
<b>Axis 3: Financing and management</b>	<b>Action 4.</b> Providing (sustainable) financial support for social economy-based energy communities and federations <b>Action 5.</b> Development/dissemination of management tools, providing administrative and technical assistance to social economy federations and energy communities
<b>Axis 4: Cooperation, network, and ecosystem</b>	<b>Action 6.</b> Strengthening of transversality, exchanges, and cooperation between players in the social economy (horizontal level) <b>Action 7.</b> Strengthening of cross-functionality, exchanges, and cooperation between public authority representatives (horizontal level) <b>Action 8.</b> Strengthening of exchanges and cooperation between public authorities, social economy players, and citizens (vertical level)
<b>Axis 5: Research, innovation, and experimentation</b>	<b>Action 9.</b> Support for the launch of pilot projects, applied research, and the development of social or technological innovations



	Relevance	Importance	Feasibility
<b>Axis 1: Awareness-raising, training, and communication</b>			
<b>Action 1.</b> Organizing education, training and awareness-raising activities, based on existing training resources	+	+	+
<b>Action 2.</b> Development of communication and dissemination tools, and of internal communication skills	+	+	+
<b>Axis 2: Legislation and political framework</b>			
<b>Action 3.</b> Improving the legislative framework and its implementation to foster recognition of energy communities from the social economy	+	+	+
<b>Axis 3: Financing and management</b>			
<b>Action 4.</b> Providing (sustainable) financial support for social economy-based energy communities and federations	+	+	+
<b>Action 5.</b> Development/dissemination of management tools, providing administrative and technical assistance to social economy federations and energy communities	+	+	+
<b>Axis 4: Cooperation, network, and ecosystem</b>			
<b>Action 6.</b> Strengthening of transversality, exchanges, and cooperation between players in the social economy (horizontal level)	+	+	+
<b>Action 7.</b> Strengthening of cross-functionality, exchanges, and cooperation between public authority representatives (horizontal level)	+	+	+
<b>Action 8.</b> Strengthening of exchanges and cooperation between public authorities, social economy players, and citizens (vertical level)	+	+	+
<b>Axis 5: Research, innovation, and experimentation</b>			
<b>Action 9.</b> Support for the launch of pilot projects, applied research, and the development of social or technological innovations	+	+	+

	Relevance	Importance	Feasibility
<b>Axis 1: Awareness-raising, training, and communication</b>			
<b>Action 1.</b> Organizing education, training and awareness-raising activities, based on existing training resources	+	+	+
<b>Action 2.</b> Development of communication and dissemination tools, and of internal communication skills	+	+	+
<b>Axis 2: Legislation and political framework</b>			
<b>Action 3.</b> Improving the legislative framework and its implementation to foster recognition of energy communities from the social economy	+	+	+
<b>Axis 3: Financing and management</b>			
<b>Action 4.</b> Providing (sustainable) financial support for social economy-based energy communities and federations	+	+	+
<b>Action 5.</b> Development/dissemination of management tools, providing administrative and technical assistance to social economy federations and energy communities	+	+	+
<b>Axis 4: Cooperation, network, and ecosystem</b>			
<b>Action 6.</b> Strengthening of transversality, exchanges, and cooperation between players in the social economy (horizontal level)	+	+	+
<b>Action 7.</b> Strengthening of cross-functionality, exchanges, and cooperation between public authority representatives (horizontal level)	+	+	+
<b>Action 8.</b> Strengthening of exchanges and cooperation between public authorities, social economy players, and citizens (vertical level)	+	+	+
<b>Axis 5: Research, innovation, and experimentation</b>			
<b>Action 9.</b> Support for the launch of pilot projects, applied research, and the development of social or technological innovations	+	+	+

# Action n°7: Strengthening of cross-functionality, exchanges, and cooperation between public authority representatives (horizontal level)

## Context: political silo logic

- The energy sector in Belgium is complex: competences in electricity and gas are divided between the federal and the regional level.
- The renewable energy topic is at the intersection of several fields, supported by various ministerial cabinets and public administrations : energy, environment, social economy, and sustainable development.
- Inconsistencies in administrative processes are slowing down the development of projects in community energy.

## Proposal

- Action needs to be taken to improve communication and cross-functional cooperation between the various public administrations (regional, federal and European) in charge of the (social) economy, the environment, sustainable development, and energy.

## Innovative solutions

- Joint ministerial post at regional level or thematic kern, to work on issues of common interest in the field.
- Peer-to-peer activities to strengthen inter-knowledge between policy-makers and public authorities.



	Relevance	Importance	Feasibility
<b>Axis 1: Awareness-raising, training, and communication</b>			
<b>Action 1.</b> Organizing education, training and awareness-raising activities, based on existing training resources	+	+	+
<b>Action 2.</b> Development of communication and dissemination tools, and of internal communication skills	+	+	+
<b>Axis 2: Legislation and political framework</b>			
<b>Action 3.</b> Improving the legislative framework and its implementation to foster recognition of energy communities from the social economy	+	+	+
<b>Axis 3: Financing and management</b>			
<b>Action 4.</b> Providing (sustainable) financial support for social economy-based energy communities and federations	+	+	+
<b>Action 5.</b> Development/dissemination of management tools, providing administrative and technical assistance to social economy federations and energy communities	+	+	+
<b>Axis 4: Cooperation, network, and ecosystem</b>			
<b>Action 6.</b> Strengthening of transversality, exchanges, and cooperation between players in the social economy (horizontal level)	+	+	+
<b>Action 7.</b> Strengthening of cross-functionality, exchanges, and cooperation between public authority representatives (horizontal level)	+	+	+
<b>Action 8.</b> Strengthening of exchanges and cooperation between public authorities, social economy players, and citizens (vertical level)	+	+	+
<b>Axis 5: Research, innovation, and experimentation</b>			
<b>Action 9.</b> Support for the launch of pilot projects, applied research, and the development of social or technological innovations	+	+	+

## **Action n°7: Strengthening of cross-functionality, exchanges, and cooperation between public authority representatives (horizontal level)**

### **Prior action, but not so easily feasible**

- The less obvious feasibility of this action reflects the way in which political bodies operate, that is according to a silo logic (regional/federal, and by type of ministerial competence).
- Creation of a joint kern or joint Minister seem unrealistic.

### **Adaptation proposed**

- Important to go on with the involvement of the public administrations in a transversal way, by organizing (at least) consultations and participation in projects at the intersection of several competencies.

**Cross-disciplinary initiatives are a real way of moving the lines in terms of cooperation between public authorities, as they enable specific, complementary expertise to come together!**



# Cocreating in Wallonia to foster green transition

## Added value

- The entire Walloon ecosystem is concerned : politicians, administrations, funders, SE actors, civil society
- The identified challenges are conveyed with a single voice through SE umbrella federations
- The defended vision supports a collaborative way of working between the various ministerial offices and public administrations (mutual expertise)
- The plans were drawn up in close collaboration with key players in the field and public authorities together (relevance and realist view of implementation)

## Main contributors

- Public administrations : SPW Environment, SPW Sustainable Development, Circular Wallonia (transversal unit)
- Funding body: W.ALTER
- Renewable energy facilitator (Brussels area): Energie Commune
- Social economy federations: RESCoop and RESSOURCES

And also CLEF cooperative, Crédal, Digital Wallonia, Groupe Terre asbl, Initiatives, RepairTogether, Step Entreprendre, and USCOP.

**Thanks to all of them !**





RESPONDET

REGIONAL SOCIAL ECONOMY POLICIES  
FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY-DRIVEN  
ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSITION -

***LOCAL ACTION PLAN FOR  
MALOPOLSKA'S GREEN  
TRANSITION WITH THE  
PARTICIPATION OF SOCIAL  
ECONOMY ENTITIES.***



Co-funded by  
the European Union



# MALOPOLSKA REGION - CHARACTERISTICS



- **1** of the **16** regional self-governments in Poland.
- **3,4** mln inhabitants, growing population, but the society is getting older.
- A region of rich historic, turistic, scientific and educational values.







# LOCAL ACTION PLAN



ELABORATED BY ROPS IN CRACOW ON THE BASIS OF:

- INFORMATION ACQUIRED DURING RESPONDET PROJECT (IN THIS MISSIONS);
- EUROPEAN, NATIONAL, REGIONAL LEGISLATION DEVOTED TO ENERGY COMMUNITIES AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY;
- REGIONAL AND FOREIGN BEST PRACTICES;
- PARTICIPATION IN VARIOUS MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS DEDICATED TO GREEN TRANSITION.



# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## XIII CHAPTERS:

- I. BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE RESPONDET PROJECT
- II. LEGISLATION
- III. ENERGY COMMUNITIES – ANALYSIS OF CURRENT EXPERIENCE/BEST PRACTICES FROM RESPONDET PARTNER REGIONS
- IV. CIRCULAR ECONOMY - ANALYSIS OF CURRENT EXPERIENCE/BEST PRACTICES FROM RESPONDET PARTNER REGIONS
- V. SWOT ANALYSIS
- VI. SE POTENTIAL IN TERMS OF ITS INCLUSION IN GREEN TRANSITION PROCESS
- VII. OBJECTIVES, INTERVENTIONS, ACTIONS, EFFECTS
- VIII. TIMELINE OF THE LAP IMPLEMENTATION
- IX. POTENTIAL FINANCIAL RESSOURCES
- X. COOPERATION WITH REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS
- XI. MONITORING OF PLANNED ACTIVITIES
- XII. LAP IMPLEMENTATION
- XIII. COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION

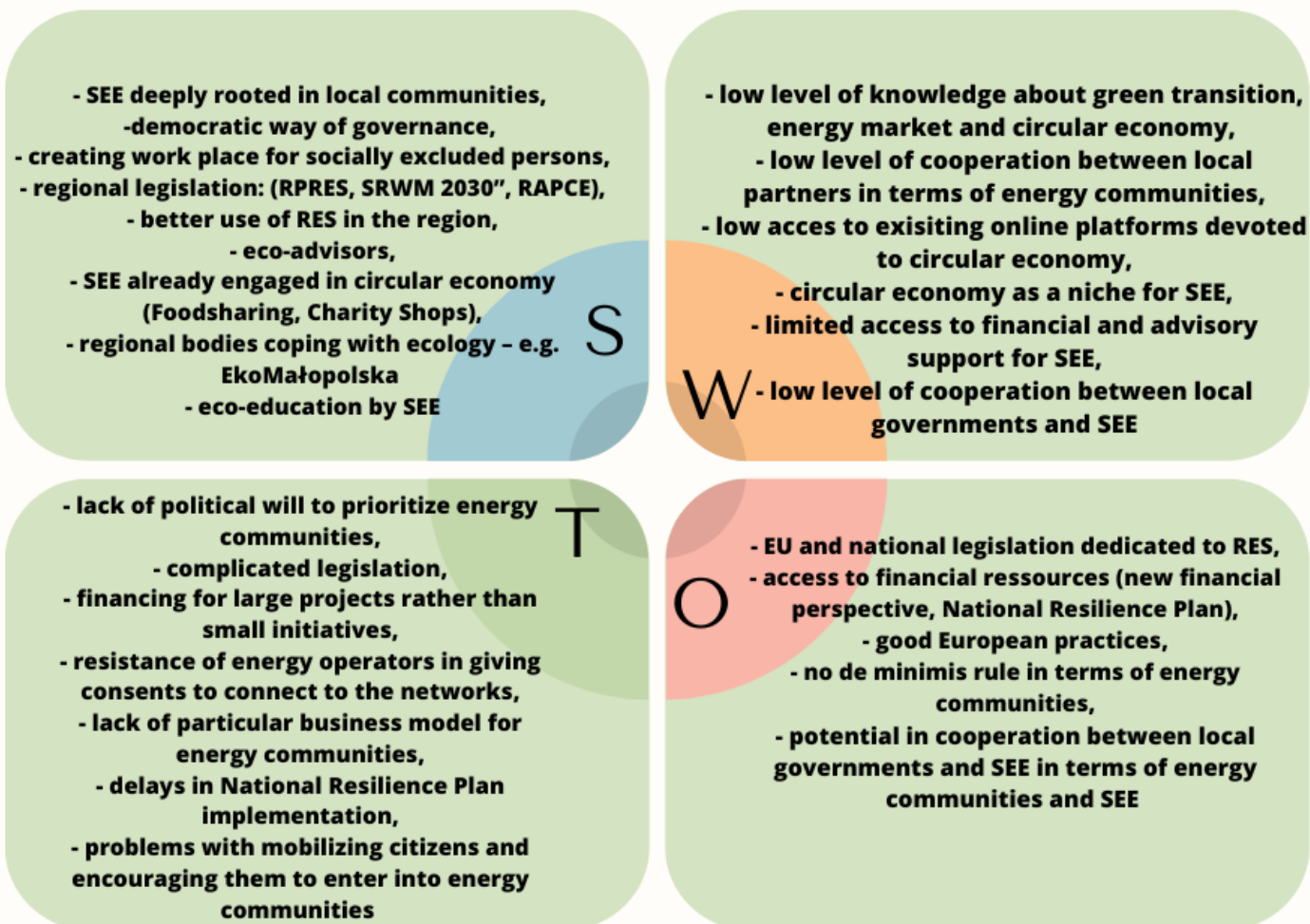


## LOCAL ACTION PLAN

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY



# LOCAL ACTION PLAN





# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## MAIN OBJECTIVE

*SOCIAL ECONOMY SECTOR IN THE MALOPOLSKA REGION PLAYS A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THE SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND TERRITORIAL DIMENSIONS*



# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE II. BIGGER ROLE OF SEE IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

### INTERVENTION I. MORE SEE ENGAGEMENT IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY

ACTIVITIES	RESULTS+INDICATORS	OPERATORS	TIMELINE
CREATING PREFERENCES FOR WORK PLACES' CREATION IN SOCIAL ENTERPRISES USING CIRCULAR ECONOMY IDEAS	THE NUMBER OF WORK PLACES IN SEE THAT OPERATE IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY - 50	SE	2024-2028
SEE ENGAGEMENT IN FOODSHARING ACTIONS, EXCHANGE OF SECOND-HAND CLOTHES, REUSE, REPAIR AND EXCHANGE OF USED THINGS, REPAIR POINTS, PROJECTS PROMOTING POSITIVE CONSUMER HABITS	THE NUMBER OF ACTIONS IN WHICH SEE HAVE ENGAGED - 10	SEE	2024-2030
COMMISSIONING TASKS IN TERMS OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY BY LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENTS USING PREFERENCES FOR SEE – GREEN AND SOCIAL PUBLIC PROCUREMENT	THE NUMBER OF SEE UNDERTAKING CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR SELF-GOVERNMENTS - 10	LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, SEE	2024-2030
ADDITIONAL CATEGORIES CONCERNING CIRCULAR ECONOMY ACTIONS IN REGIONAL CONTESTS DEDICATED TO SEE, SUCH AS E.G. KRYSZTAŁY SOLI OR MAŁOPOLSKA'S SOCIAL ENTERPRISES LEADER.	THE NUMBER OF REGIONAL CONTESTS HONOURING SEE ACTIONS IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY - 2	REGIONAL GOVERNMENT, ROPS	2024-2030
EXPANDING SESC'S SCOPE OF TASKS IN TERMS OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY	THE NUMBER OF SESC THAT HAVE EXPANDED SCOPE OF TASKS IN TERMS OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY - 2	SESC	2023-2024
INTRODUCING GRANTING SYSTEM FOR ACTIONS IN THE FIELD OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY	THE NUMBER OF GRANTS FOR SEE IN THE FIELD OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY - 2	SESC, ROPS	2024-2025



# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE II. BIGGER ROLE OF SEE IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

### INTERVENTION II. RAISING AWARENESS IN TERMS OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY. DISSEMINATION AND EDUCATION.

ACTIVITIES	RESULTS+INDICATORS	OPERATORS	TIMELINE
CAMPAIGNS PROMOTING 6XR WASTE AND RESSOURCES MANAGEMENT, WISE AND RESPONSIBLE SALES AND PURCHASE, NOT WASTING FOOD	THE NUMBER OF SEE ENGAGED IN PROMOTION CAMPAIGNS, CREATING PLATFORMS AND ON-LINE APPLICATIONS – 5	SEE	2025-2027
CREATING PLATFORMS AND ONLINE APPLICATIONS DEVOTED TO CIRCULAR ECONOMY	THE NUMBER OF REGIONAL PLATFORMS DEVOTED TO CIRCULAR ECONOMY - 1	REGIONAL GOVERNMENT, SEE	2024-2025
EXPERIENCES FROM OTHER EUROPEAN REGIONS	THE NUMBER OF SEE THAT HAVE TAKEN EXPERIENCES FROM EUROPEAN REGIONS - 5	SEE	2024-2030
EDUCATION, IN THIS CONSULTING FOR ENTREPRENEURS, IN TERMS OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY	THE NUMBER OF CONSULTED SOCIAL ENTERPRISES IN TERMS OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY - 30	SE	2025-2030
ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION PROJECTS REALIZED BY SEE	THE NUMBER OF SEE ENGAGED IN EDUCATION ACTIVITIES CONCERNING CIRCULAR ECONOMY - 30	SEE	2025-2030
LOCAL LEADERS' EDUCATION BY SEE IN TERMS OF CIRCULAR ECONOMY	THE NUMBER OF ADULTS, ESPECIALLY DECISION-MAKERS, ENGAGED IN EDUCATION ACTIVITIES IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY – 1000	SEE	2024-2026





# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## FINANCING

### NATIONAL LEVEL

- EUROPEAN FUNDS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE, CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT 2021-2027
- EUROPEAN FUNDS FOR MODERN ECONOMY 2021-2027
- EUROPEAN FUNDS FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
- NATIONAL RESILIENCE PLAN

### REGIONAL LEVEL

- EUROPEAN FUNDS FOR MALOPOLSKA 2021-2027



# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REGIONAL/ LOCAL DECISION-MAKERS

- BETTER ACCESS TO INFORMATION, TRAININGS RAISING KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CIRCULAR ECONOMY
- CREATING PARTNERSHIPS AND COOPERATION WITH LOCAL ENTREPRENEURS
- DATA BASES WITH BEST PRACTICES
- CREATING SE FEDERATIONS
- PROMOTING AND RAISING VISIBILITY OF SMALL INITIATIVES
- INTRODUCING CIRCULAR ECONOMY MATTERS INTO PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AS A PRIORITY
- INCLUDING SE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY MATTERS INTO LOCAL STRATEGIES
- EDUCATING ABOUT AND PROMOTING CIRCULAR ECONOMY TOGETHER BY DECISION-MAKERS, SOCIAL PARTNERS, MEDIA

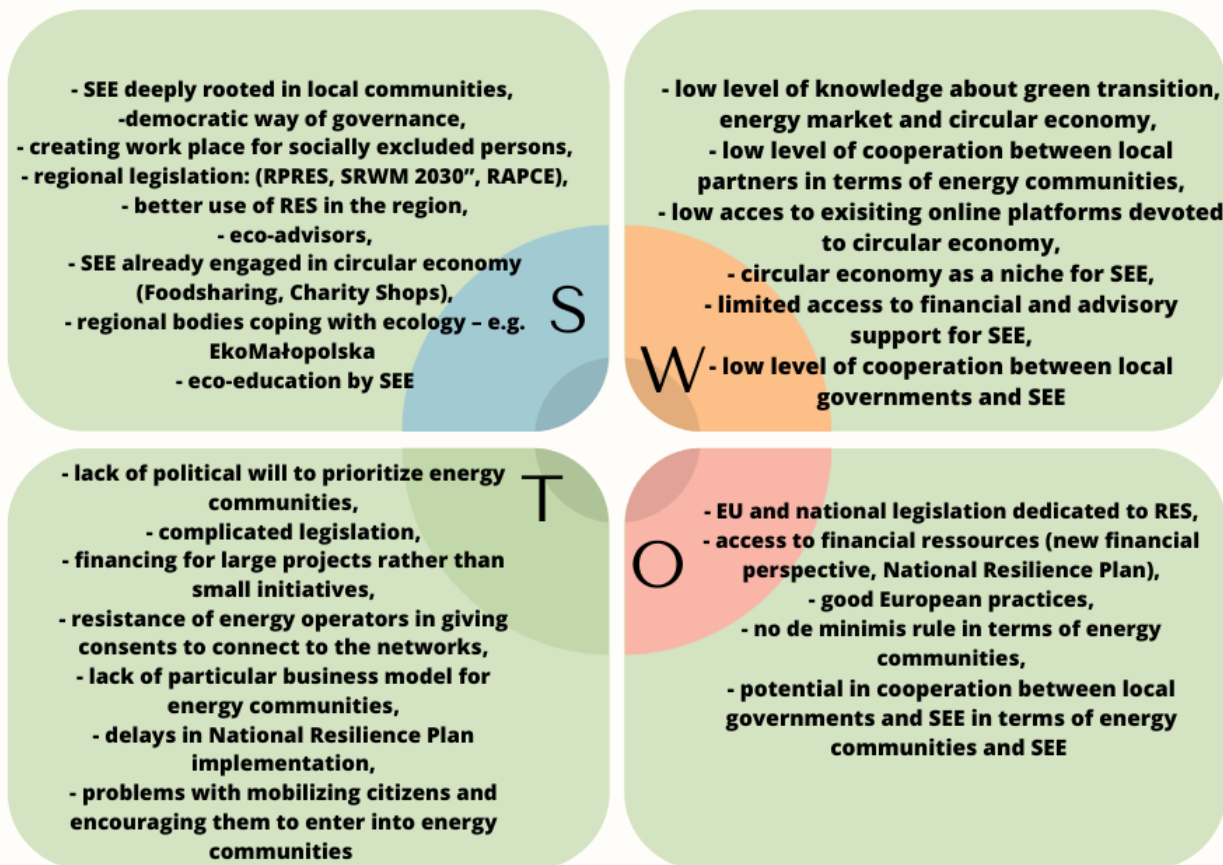


## LOCAL ACTION PLAN

# ENERGY COMMUNITIES



# LOCAL ACTION PLAN



# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## SOCIAL ECONOMY POTENTIAL MUST HAVE

SOCIAL ECONOMY ENTITIES SHOULD HAVE SUCH COMPETENCES AS:

- TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL (CONCERNING SETTING UP AND MANAGING RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS)
- BUSINESS (FINANCING, ACQUIRING FUNDS)
- GOVERNANCE
- SOCIAL
- INNOVATIVE



# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## SOCIAL ECONOMY POTENTIAL IN MALOPOLSKA

- BODIES COORDINATING SOCIAL ECONOMY IN THE REGION – ROPS
- REGIONAL LEGISLATION DEDICATED TO SOCIAL ECONOMY INCLUDING GREEN TRANSITION TRENDS
- REGIONAL SOCIAL ECONOMY COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT





# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE I. STRENGTHENING SE POTENTIAL FOR GREEN TRANSITION OF THE REGION

### INTERVENTION I. SOCIAL ENTERPRISES TRANSITION IN TERMS OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY WITH THE USE OF RES

ACTIVITY	RESULTS+INDICATORS	OPERATORS	TIMELINE
EDUCATION, INFORMATION AND PROMOTION FOR SEE IN TERMS OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY	THE NUMBER OF SEE ENGAGED IN EDUCATION ACTIVITIES CONNECTED WITH GREEN TRANSITION, IN THIS ENERGY TRANSITION, COMMISSIONED BY SELF-GOVERNMENTS - 20	SEE	2024-2030
ENSURING FINANCIAL RESSOURCES FOR SEE TO: - PROJECTS DEVOTED TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY - PROJECTS DEVOTED TO ZERO AND LOW- EMISSION SOLUTIONS	THE NUMBER OF SEE'S CO-FINANCED INITAITVES FOR GREEN TRANSITION - 200	SEE	2024-2027
CREATING "GREEN WORK PLACES" – PRIORITY FOR SEE CREATING „GREEN WORK PLACES"	THE NUMBER OF NEW „GREEN WORK PLACES" IN SOCIAL ENTERPRISES-100	SE	2024-2027
DEVELOPMENT OF NEW BUSINESS MODELS. INCREASEMENT IN THE USE OF RES.	THE NUMBER OF SOCIAL ENTERPRISES THAT INCREASED ENERGY EFFICIENCY – 30	SE	2024-2030
COOPERATION WITH SELF-GOVERNMENTS IN TERMS OF CREATING LOCAL ENERGY COMMUNITIES, ENERGY COOPERATIVES, ENERGY CLUSTERS	THE NUMBER OF SEE ENGAGED IN CREATING CLUSTERS, ENERGY COMMUNITIES, ENERGY COOPERATIVES- 40	SEE, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS	2024-2030



# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE I. STRENGTHENING SE POTENTIAL FOR GREEN TRANSITION OF THE REGION

### INTERVENTION II. EDUCATION AND BUILDING AWARENESS IN TERMS OF ENERGY TRANSITION AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGES

ACTIVITIES	RESULTS+INDICATORS	OPERATORS	TIMELINE
SEE AND SESC' SUPPORT IN TERMS OF DEVELOPING „GREEN COMPETENCES”	THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES OF SEE AND SESC WHO HAVE IMPROVED THEIR „GREEN COMPETENCES” - 80	SEE, SE, SESC, ROPS	2024-2030
RAISING AWARENESS IN TERMS OF ADVANTAGES DERIVING FROM IMPLEMENTING ECO-INNOVATIONS AND RES	THE NUMBER OF ECO-ADVISORS ON A DISTRICT LEVEL UNDERTAKING AWARENESS RAISING CAMPAIGNS AMONG THE CITIZENS IN TERMS OF ECO-INNOVATIONS AND RES - 19		2024-2029
ADAPTATION ACTIVITIES OF SEE IN THE GREEN TRANSITION PROCESS	THE NUMBER OF SEE THAT HAVE UNDERTAKEN ADAPTATION ACTIVITIES IN THE GREEN TRANSITION PROCESS - 50	SEE	2024-2030
ELABORATION OF ECO-GUIDES (ALONG WITH TECHNICAL RESTRICTIONS CONCERNING PARTICIPATION TO ENERGY COMMUNITIES), INFORMATION MATERIALS ABOUT RES DEDICATED TO VARIED INSTITUTIONS	THE NUMBER OF ELABORATED ECO-GUIDES AND INFORMATION MATERIALS - 2	SEE	2024-2025



# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## FINANCING

### NATIONAL LEVEL

- EUROPEAN FUNDS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE, CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT 2021-2027
- EUROPEAN FUNDS FOR MODERN ECONOMY 2021-2027
- EUROPEAN FUNDS FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
- NATIONAL RESILIENCE PLAN

### REGIONAL LEVEL

- EUROPEAN FUNDS FOR MALOPOLSKA 2021-2027



# LOCAL ACTION PLAN

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REGIONAL/ LOCAL DECISION-MAKERS

- INCLUDING SOCIAL ECONOMY AND GREEN TRANSITION PROCESS MATTERS INTO LOCAL STRATEGIES
- EDUCATING ABOUT AND PROMOTING ENERGY COMMUNITIES TOGETHER BY DECISION-MAKERS, SOCIAL PARTNERS, MEDIA
- BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH VARIED PUBLIC AND PRIVATE STAKEHOLDERS
- LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENTS' SUPPORT ENSURING FINANCING, ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT OR TRAININGS



# CHALLENGES FOR THE FOLLOWING YEARS



- CONSTANT SOCIAL ECONOMY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT, SO IT BECOMES A RELEVANT PART OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMY.
- IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL ECONOMY TILL 2030 IN TERMS OF SOCIAL ECONOMY POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS SOCIAL SERVICES AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY.
- IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ACTIONS IN THE GREEN ENERGY AREA (AS A CONSEQUENCE OF WORKS IN RESPONDET PROJECT) WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF OUR REGIONAL PARTNERS.



Thank you for your attention!

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RESPONDET  
REGIONAL SOCIAL ECONOMY POLICIES  
FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY-DRIVEN  
ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSITION



# Presentation LOCAL ACTION PLAN CIRCULAR ECONOMY

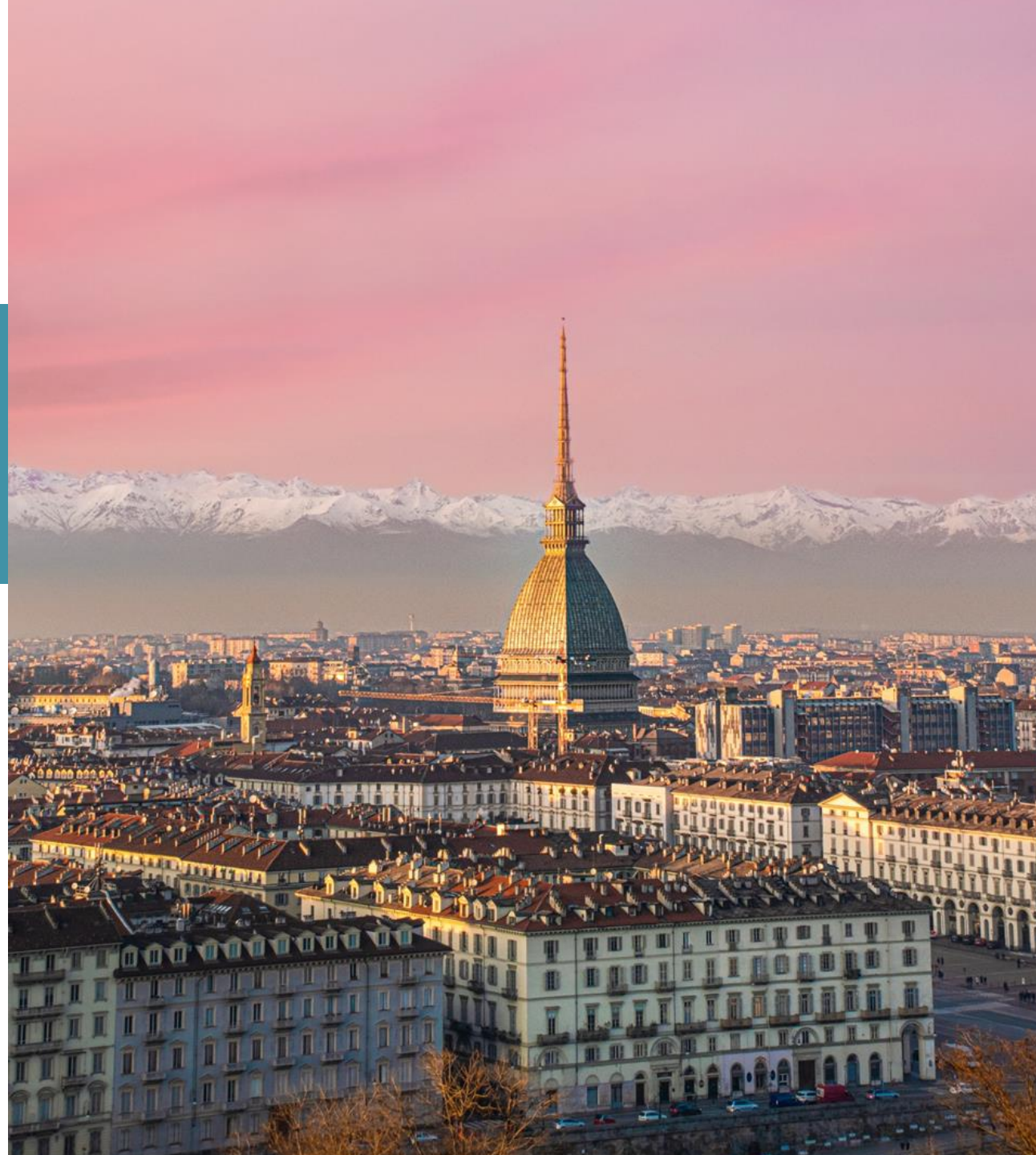
City of Torino, Chamber of Commerce Torino, Torino Social Impact

14th of September 2023



Co-financed by the  
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## Implementing subjects

The preparation activities of the Local Action Plan were managed by the European Funds and Innovation Department of the City of Turin and by the Turin Chamber of Commerce as part of the Torino Social Impact activities, with the technical support of Mercato Circolare.



CITTA' DI TORINO

e



CAMERA DI COMMERCIO  
INDUSTRIA ARTIGIANATO E AGRICOLTURA  
DI TORINO



Con il supporto tecnico di



Other Departments of the City of Torino were also directly involved in the round table for the definition of the Local Action Plan, such as:

- the Department of Environment and Ecological Transition
- the Central Services, Procurement and Economic Department - Energy Management Office

Also involved were:

- the Innovation and Tender Sector of the Torino Chamber of Commerce
- the Research Sector of the Torino Chamber of Commerce



## Connections between the Local Action Plan and the Climate City Contract



The City of Torino is one of a 100 European cities that will commit to reducing emissions by 2030, as well as becoming a “Mission City”, which is a hub for experimentation and innovation in the field of climate, a virtuous example for all other European cities.

The current Local Action Plan is inserted in line with this challenge, which, through a systemic, holistic, multilevel and inclusive approach, allows the local administration, together with some local stakeholders involved in the process, to review the policies and strategies existing in the areas of interest, connected to the circular economy and Community Based Energy Initiatives, and to integrate them with clear and coherent actions.

The Climate City Contract and the Local Action Plan, together with other projects, are excellent tools for implementing the sustainability actions that will lead the City of Torino towards climate neutrality in 2030.



## Methods and phases of work

Phase

1



Context Analysis

2



3



During the first phase, the working group (Municipality of Torino, TSI and Mercato Circolare) set up an analysis of the context of the two themes respectively through the SWOT analysis method, investigating ongoing experiments, current legislation and possible financial resources.



Strengths



Weaknesses



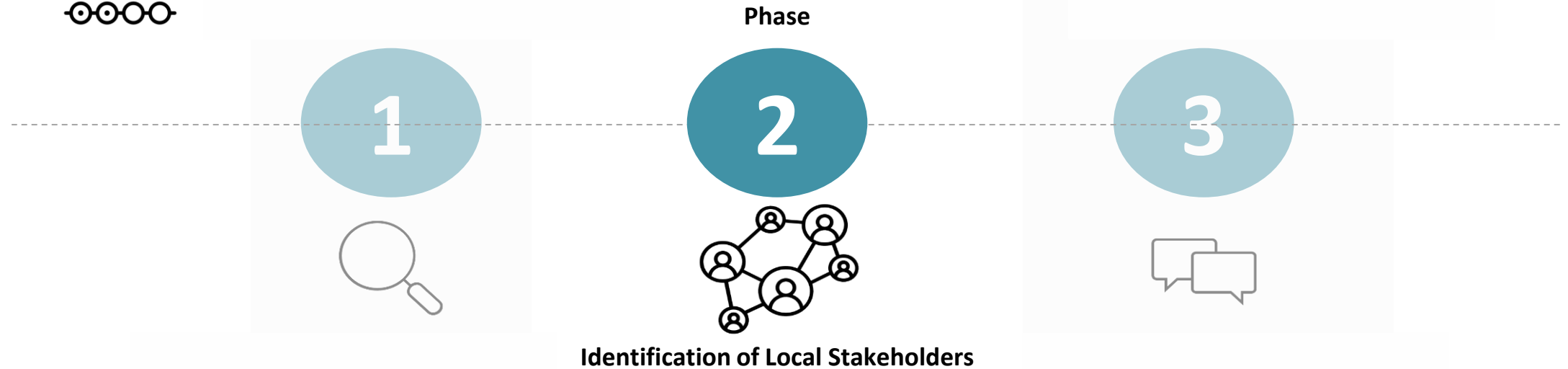
Opportunities



Threats



## Methods and phases of work



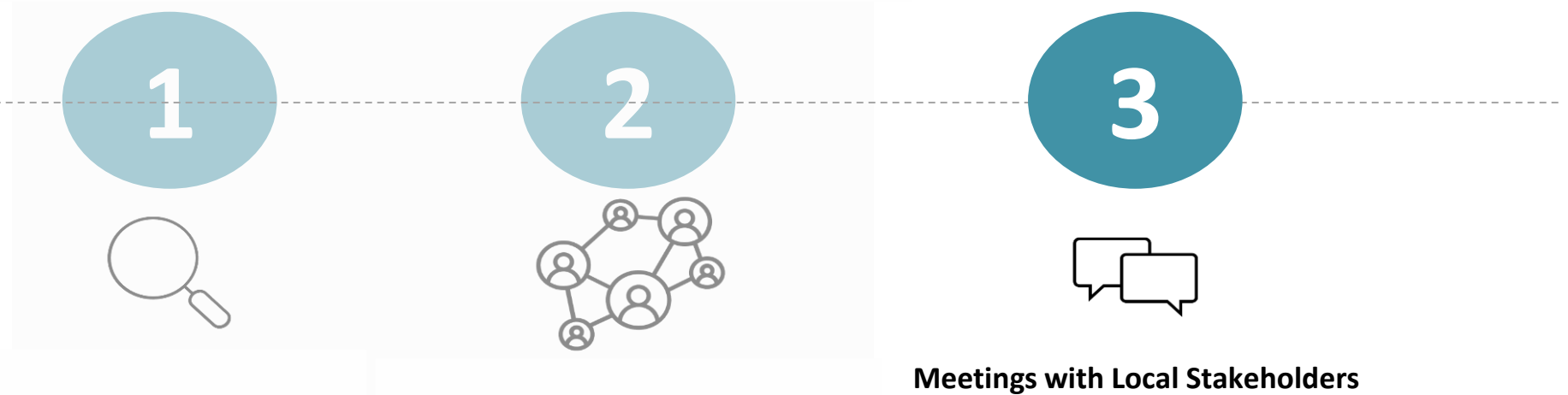
In the second phase, the local stakeholders were identified, through a mapping by Torino Social Impact, the City of Torino and Mercato Circolare, with a view to co-planning this LAP.







## Methods and phases of work



In the third phase, a moment of discussion was held with local stakeholders with the aim of:

- share and discuss the SWOT analysis
- listen to and gather the needs and requests
- define a final list of priority areas and actions



## Stakeholders involvement steps for drafting Local Action Plan



**23rd of March 2023**

Theatrical journey as part of the Biennale Democrazia on the Circular Economy



**17th of April 2023**

Internal training meeting on Circular Economy



**4th of May and 1st of June 2023**

Workshops on the Circular Economy with local social economy entities



**20th of September 2023**

Presentation of the Local Action Plan to the City



**20th to the 24th of November 2023**

Dissemination on the occasion of the European Week for Waste Reduction



**21th to the 24th of November 2023**

Dissemination on the occasion of the EVPA Impact Week

# Trajectory and actions

Main actions carried out by the City of Torino



## Towards the territory

### Action CE #1

From June 2023

Setting up of the National Competence Center on Social Innovation (CCSI) - connections and synergies with the circular economy.



### Action CE #2

From Autumn 2023  
2.000.000 €

Start the procedures for the launch of public tenders resulting from the Metro Plus PN Measures dedicated to the circular economy.



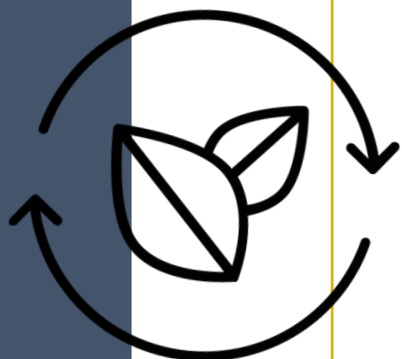
### Action CE #4

September 2023 - 2029  
1.024.375 €

Systematic implementation of actions and planning, on a circular economy theme, foreseen by other European tenders won/in progress.



#SME4GREEN



# Trajectory and actions

## Main actions carried out by the Chamber of Commerce



### Towards the territory

#### Action CE #11

From June 2023

**Community of Practice on Circular Economy:**  
It involves the activation of working groups on different topics of the circular and social economy, drawing on the skills of the network partners to collectively experiment with forms of networking, training, mutual exchange of knowledge and innovative solutions for socio-economic development.



#### Action CE #12

From June 2023

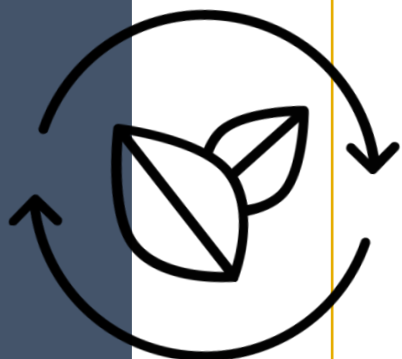
**Up2Circ Project:**  
It aims to accelerate and scale the transition of European SMEs towards a circular economy, through the development and implementation of measures adapted to the specific needs of each company.



#### Action CE #13

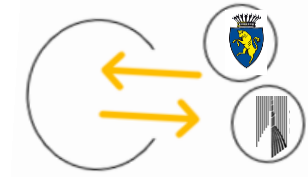
From October 2021

**Assessment for corporate sustainability:**  
a free support service for companies interested in improving their sustainability.



# Trajectory and actions

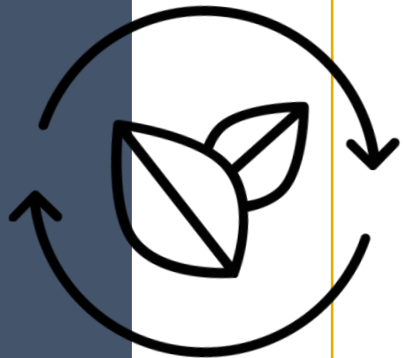
In synergy with other actors



In synergy with other actors

## Action CE #15

Activate communication strategies effective for improving the dissemination of information, knowledge of initiatives and projects and mutual exchange between public bodies and citizens on the issues of the circular economy.







# Presentation LOCAL ACTION PLAN

City of Torino, Chamber of commerce Torino - Torino Social Impact

14 september 2023

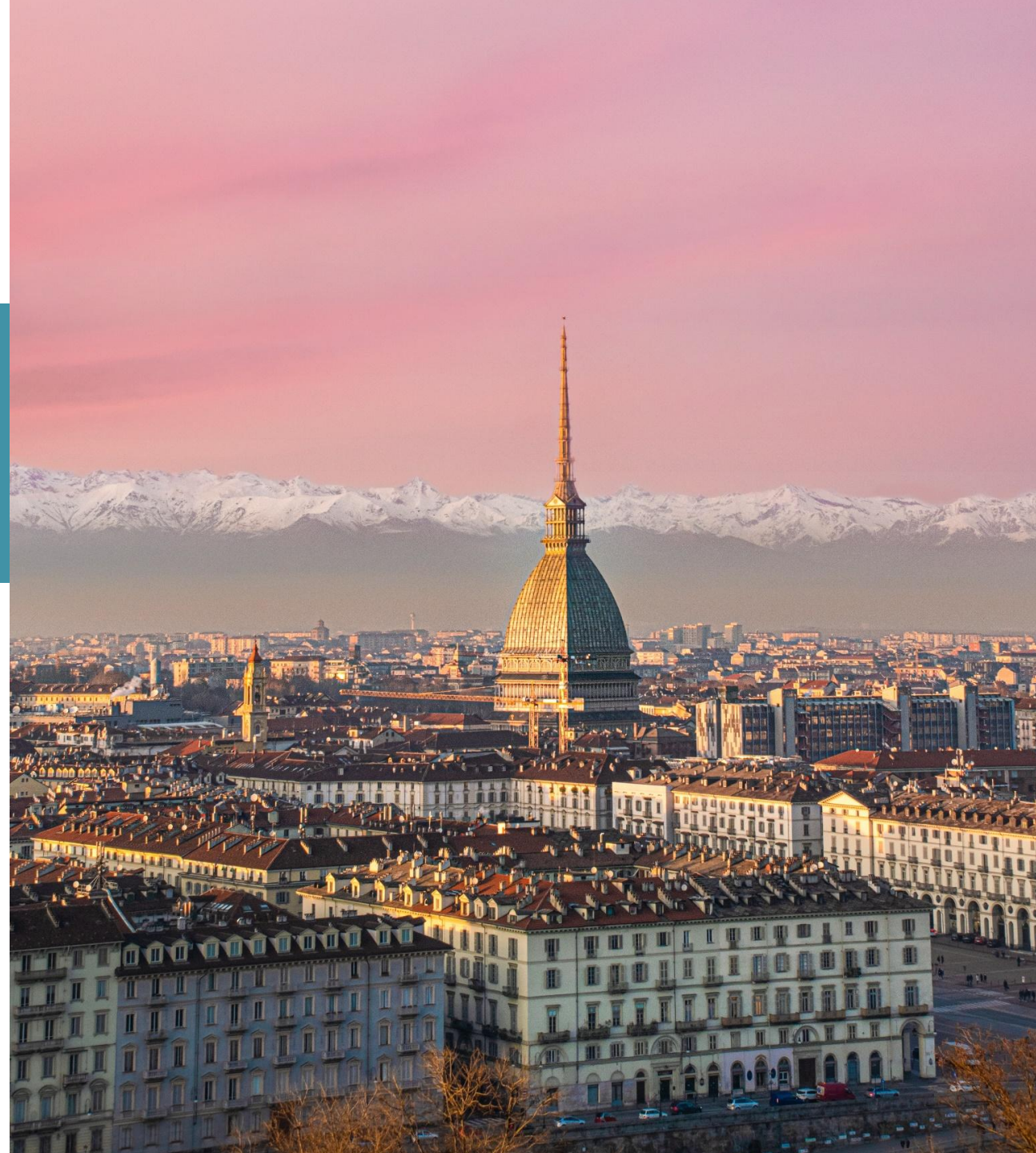


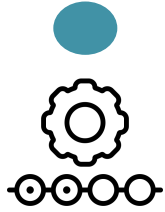
RESPONDET  
REGIONAL SOCIAL ECONOMY POLICIES  
FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY-DRIVEN  
ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSITION -



Cofinanziato  
dall'Unione europea

I punti di vista e le opinioni espresse in questo documento sono quelle degli autori e non riflettono necessariamente quelle dell'Unione Europea o dell'EISMEA che non possono esserne ritenute responsabili.





## Method and work phases

In order to draft the Local Action Plan, a similar method and work plan was set up for the both following topics: renewable energy communities and circular economy.

Phase

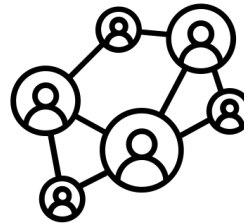
1



Context SWOT analysis

Phase

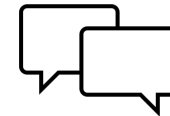
2



Identification of local stakeholders  
(universities, research centers, banking  
foundations, energy managers, public  
administration)

Phase

3



Meeting with local stakeholders  
April 13, 2023

- share and discuss the SWOT analysis
- listen to and gather the needs and requests
- define a final list of priority areas and actions



# Trajectory and actions

## Main actions carried out by the City of Turin



### Support



#### CER Action #1

from autumn 2023

Budget 300.000 €

#### PN Metro Plus.

Within the PN Metro Plus framework, the City of Turin commits to: support the creation of energy communities; initiate accompaniment and training paths; organize services to support the development and strengthening of renewable energy communities (whether established or already established) within the metropolitan territory.



# Trajectory and actions

## Main actions carried out by the City of Turin



### Support

CER Action #2  
from June 2023

100 Cities/Pilot Experiment: Let'Gov.  
The City of Turin will work on energy issues, with the aim to understanding how the city can support the energy communities that will be born in the territory and what role to assume. It will also seek to survey all the local entities that wish to start/be involved in an energy community.



# Trajectory and actions

Main actions carried out by the City of Turin and the Chamber of commerce of Turin



## Coordination

Systematization of interlocutions initiated by the municipality with the different actors that, in various ways, deal with Energy Communities.

CER Action #3  
from autumn 2023



Universities

IREN

Other energy managers

Regione Piemonte

Camera di commercio

Banking Foundations

Associations and civil society

# Trajectory and actions

## Main actions carried out by the Chamber of commerce



### Pilot actions



#### CER Action #4 from July 2023

#### CERTo Project:

##### Renewable Energy Communities

for the coordination of the energy transition processes within the metropolitan areas and the regional areas.

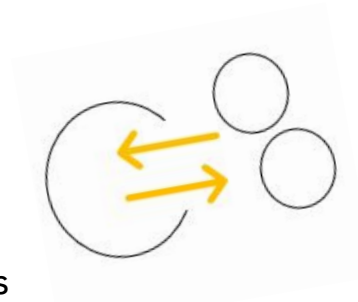
Goal: develop an Energy Community model through the launch of two pilot CER in the Turin area with the following characteristics:

- replicability;
- involvement of both citizen and business dimensions;
- activation of a model of "participatory" governance of energy communities.



# Trajectory and actions

## Synergy among actors



Towards common strategy and models



**CER Action #5**  
from autumn 2023

Co-define common strategies for the development of Renewable Energy Communities together with the financing and technical actors in the area.



**CER Action #6**  
from autumn 2023

Promote alliances and collaborations with renewable energy producers.





# Delivering the energy transition with cohesion policy

Myriam Bovéda

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate General Regional and Urban policy  
REGIO G1 – Team Leader “Sustainable Growth”

# Support to energy communities with ERDF/CF

- Possible investments in direct or indirect support to the development of energy communities
- Use of 'mainstream' funding in programmes under priority objectives 2 or 5
- Use of territorial cooperation programmes (Interreg) for instance for cross-border energy communities
- Use of territorial tools: Integrated Territorial Investments (ITI's) & Community Led Local Development (CLLD)
- Use of Technical Assistance support under CP programmes
- Cohesion 4 Transitions Community of practice



# More information

- **C4T community of practice** : see [this link](#) in DG REGIO website
- European Week of Regions and Cities 12 October 2023 :
- <https://europa.eu/regions-and-cities/programme/2023/sessions/6055>
- Projects and guidance :
  - [Smart Villages and Renewable Energy Communities](#)
  - [Interreg Baltic Sea project - policy recommendations for renewable energy communities development](#)
  - <https://www.interregeurope.eu/policy-learning-platform>
  - <https://www.nweurope.eu/projects/project-search/cvpp-community-based-virtual-power-plant/>
  - <https://www.ecco-oss.eu/>
  - <https://projects2014-2020.interregeurope.eu/coalescce/>

**THANK YOU!**