



## COVER STORY

Covenant of Mayors (CoM) holds a pivotal role in achieving the targets of 20-20-20 by 2020 set by the EU Climate Action and Energy Package.

Nevertheless, due to a number of barriers, municipalities in many countries are hesitant in adhering to the CoM or preparing and implementing the necessary Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) even because respective Regional and Energy Stakeholders haven't integrated CoM in their programmes, actions and regional policies.

SEAP-PLUS, a project that started in April 2012, aims at the enhancement of the CoM results and impact in both quantitative and qualitative terms: bring more Signatories and Covenant Supporters or Coordinators in CoM, assist and help them in the preparation of more and better SEAPs, but also trigger cooperation of Local Authorities with Regional Authorities and Energy Stakeholders and cooperation between experienced and learning CoM participants.

Six pairs of regional partners will be created to facilitate direct transfer of knowledge and know-how from experienced partners to learning ones. The whole SEAP preparation and implementation process will be assessed, in view of the specific partner conditions. In addition, collaboration with the respective Energy Stakeholders, for access to reliable and localized energy data, will be cultivated through specific actions.

Local Authorities will be mobilized to participate in a large number of events and activities during the whole project and technical help will be actively offered to them by both experienced and learning partners of the project.

A broad communication strategy will bring practical results, new ideas and inspiration to key target groups: Local Authorities, Regional Authorities and National or European Decision Makers related to the Covenant of Mayors.

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## NEWS



The first round of visits was completed by the SEAP-PLUS learning partners:

- LEAP visited Genova (ARE) from July, 10 to July, 12
- AMRR visited Freiburg (ICLEI Europe) from July, 11 to July, 12
- ALESSCO traveled to Nicosia (CEA) from July, 11 to July, 13
- LEIF visited Jokkmokk (JOKKMOKK) from August, 15 to August, 17
- BSRAEM traveled to Vienna (CAA) from August, 26 to August, 29
- TCG visited Barcelona (DIBA) from August, 27 to August, 28

The objective of the visits has been the transfer of know-how and experiences from experienced to learning partners so that the latter can better support their local authorities.

The second round of visits will take place between November 2012 and January 2013.

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## GOOD PRACTICES

### **JOKKMOKK** climate strategy and energy plan

In Covenant of Mayors signatory municipality Jokkmokk, Sweden, the board of the municipal council is the steering committee for the local climate strategy and energy plan (SEAP). The SEAP has been agreed concordantly by the City Council in February 2010. Basis for this strong political commitment were

- Comprehensive awareness raising activities
- Presenting legal obligation to decision makers
- Linking the climate strategy to already agreed strategies for local development

Specific for Jokkmokk's climate activities are efforts to increase participation of young people. An example is that a Memorandum of Understanding between pupils and Mayor on the SEAP has been signed. Also important is the dialogue and collaboration with indigenous Sami people who are living in the area. Here, Jokkmokk Winter Conference (see events) is an example, where the Sami perspective is indispensable.

### **TRAINREBUILD PROJECT** Building refurbishment: Training toolkit targeting Covenant municipalities

In the framework of the IEE-financed project "TRAINREBUILD", a series of toolkits and support materials have been developed to assist property owners and Covenant of Mayors local authorities in the process of retrofitting buildings. All the training resources can be found in <http://trainrebuild.eu/tools>

**ENERGY FOR MAYORS PROJECT** presented the project's toolbox of methodologies on climate and energy for the Covenant of Mayors: <http://toolbox.climate-protection.eu/>

### **BARCELONA** Getting municipalities involved in the Covenant of Mayors: An opportunity to save energy at local level

Barcelona Provincial Council was the first Covenant Coordinator encouraging municipalities to sign up to the CoM and offering them technical and financial support for the development of Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs). On October 2012, **189 municipalities of the province of Barcelona** (61% of all municipalities), were engaged in the Covenant and **157 had yet finished their SEAP**. An analysis conducted in 152 of these SEAPs shows that it is possible to save **2,604,685tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq** with actions included in the SEAPs. Municipalities are already implementing actions (with the support of the ELENA tool) achieving significant results.

### **RARE.FR** Observation of greenhouse gas emissions at regional level

Rare (Réseau national des Agences Régionales de l'Energie et de l'Environnement) released a set of manuals for the observation of energy consumption and associated greenhouse gas emissions at regional level. The manuals offer an overview on the issues treated and a focus on the different sectors interested by the emissions of greenhouse gases. Manuals can be found in:

[http://www.rare.fr/cahiers\\_observation\\_GES/index.html](http://www.rare.fr/cahiers_observation_GES/index.html)

## VISIT SEAP-PLUS



[www.seap-plus.eu](http://www.seap-plus.eu)

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## EVENTS

### Register Now!

- Jokkmokk Winter Conference “Sustainable Energy - Sustainable Living: Planning for Action”, Jokkmokk / Sweden, February 4-7, 2013. For more info: [www.nccc.eu](http://www.nccc.eu)
- Local Renewables Conference 2012—Cities and regions explore smart grid and smart solutions, Freiburg / Germany, October 25–26, 2012. For more info: <http://www.local-renewables-conference.org/freiburg2012/home/>
- Energy for Mayors (IEE project) International Workshop targeting existing and potential Covenant Coordinators and Supporters. March 2013, Brussels: [www.energyformayors.eu](http://www.energyformayors.eu)

### SEAP-PLUS Workshop

In September 26th, SEAP-PLUS partners organized a workshop in Barcelona with the aim to identify new methodologies and emission sectors to be included in future SEAPs. *Ask for the workshop report by the end of the year!*

## MATERIAL

Find attached:

- The new *English leaflet* of SEAP-PLUS project
- *Draft programme* of the Jokkmokk Winter Conference and Seminar
- Newly published *guidelines* that explain the role of Covenant of Mayors Supporters

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