

ITHR0400244

CO-MAY

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A - Project identification

A.1 Project identification

Project id (automatically created)	ITHR0400244
Name of the lead partner organisation	Comune di Mesagne
Name of the lead partner organisation in English	Municipality of Mesagne
Project title	Supporting local authorities to adopt measures to properly commit with the Covenant of Mayors
Project acronym	CO-MAY
Programme priority	Integrated governance for stronger cooperation
Specific objective	5.1: Other actions to support a better cooperation governance
Project duration in months	18

A.2 Project summary

Please give a short overview of the project and describe:

- the common challenge of the programme area you are jointly tackling in your project;
- the overall objective of the project and the expected change your project will make to the current situation;
- the main outputs you will produce and those who will benefit from them;
- the approach you plan to take and why a cross-border/transnational/inter-regional approach is needed;
- what is new/original about the project.

The EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy brings together thousands of local governments that want to secure a better future for their citizens. The Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (CoM), which has been launched in 2008, represent the mainstream European voluntary movement involving local authorities in the development and implementation of sustainable energy and climate governance policies. Covenant of Mayors represents then an instrument useful to increase the sustainable governance policies of the territories involved in CO-MAY project proposal. The project overall objective is the to develop a joint collaboration process enhancing the institutional and strategic capacities of the three through the exchange of good practices, the support of less experienced cities, the building and upgrade of their skills on their sustainable governance policies of the partners in line with commitments requested by the Covenant of Mayors. In line with the project main objective, CO-MAY intends to realise a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and to produce the revision and the upgrade of the three project partners' Covenant of Mayors action plans. The project methodology approach emphasizes the cross-border nature of the project: it is based on a strong cooperation dimension, ensuring synergies and competencies of partners with particular

regards to the exchange of experiences/best practices and the mutual and cross-border support according to the level of knowledge of the partners. Particularly, less experienced local authorities (Municipality of Mesagne and Municipality of Pietracatella) will be supported by Municipality of Labin building the needed skills to easily adapt the commitments requested by the CoM. This cross-border collaboration acts for the needed approach to achieve project goals, and at the same time represents the main innovative aspect as thanks to the project there will be an increase of governance policy capacities connected with the Covenant of Mayors.

A.3 Project budget overview

Programme funding			Contribution					Tatalonaisat
Funding source	Funding amount	Co-financing rate (%)	Automatic public contribution	Other public contribution	Total public contribution	Private contribution	Total contribution	Total project budget
ERDF	199,795.20	80.00 %	31,878.80	18,070.00	49,948.80	0.00	49,948.80	249,744.00
Total EU funds	199,795.20	80.00 %	31,878.80	18,070.00	49,948.80	0.00	49,948.80	249,744.00
Total project budget	199,795.20	80.00 %	31,878.80	18,070.00	49,948.80	0.00	49,948.80	249,744.00

A.4 Project outputs and result overview

Programme Output Indicator	Aggregated value per Programme output indicator	Measureme nt Unit	Ou tp ut	Output Title	Outpu t target value	Programme result indicator	B a s el in e	Result indicator target value	Meas urem ent unit
Organisations cooperating across borders	3.00	organisation s	Ou tp ut 1.	Upgrade or revision of project partners' Covenant of Mayors action plans	3.00				
Joint administrative or legal agreements signed	1.00	legal or adm inistrative agreement	Ou tp ut 1.	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)	1.00				
						Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion	0. 0 0	3.00	organ isatio ns

B - Project partners

Partners overview

Number	Status	Name of the organisation in english	Country	Organisation abbreviation	Partner role	Partner total eligible budget
1	Active	Municipality of Mesagne	Italia (IT)	Mesagne	LP	113,794.00
2	Active	Municipality of Labin	Hrvatska (HR)	Labin	PP	90,350.00
3	Active	Municipality of Pietracatella	Italia (IT)	Pietracatella	PP	45,600.00

B.1 Lead partner				
Partner number	1			
Partner role	LP			
Name of the organisation in original language	Comune di Mesagne			
Name of the organisation in english	Municipality of Mesagne			
Organisation abbreviation	Mesagne			
Department / unit / division	Not available			
Partner main address				
Country	Italia (IT)			
NUTS 2	Puglia (ITF4)			
NUTS 3	Brindisi (ITF44)			
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Via Roma 4 72023 Mesagne			
Homepage	https://www.comune.mesagne.br.it/			
Address of department / unit / division (if application)	ıble)			
Country	Italia (IT)			
NUTS 2	Puglia (ITF4)			
NUTS 3	Brindisi (ITF44)			
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Via Roma 4 72023 Mesagne			
Legal and financial information				
Type of partner	Local public authority			
Subtype of partner				
Legal status	Public			
Sector of activity at NACE group level	0.84.11			
VAT number (if applicable)	00081030744			
Is your organisation entitled to recover VAT based on national legislation for the activities implemented in the project?	No			

Legal and financial information				
Tax number	00081030744			
PEC address	info@pec.comune.mesagne.br.it			
PIC (from EC Participant Register)				

Contact

Legal representative	Mr. Antonio Matarrelli
Contact person	Mr. Paride Santoro
Email	paride.santoro@comune.mesagne.br.it
Telephone no.	+39 0831 732111

Motivation

Which of the organisation's thematic competences and experiences are relevant for the project?

According to the Constitution of the Italian Republic, the Municipality of Mesagne is an autonomous local body that represents its community in relations with the European Union, the Italian State, the Puglia Region, the Province of Brindisi and towards the international community. It takes care of its interests and promotes its development and favors the integral growth of the human person and the value of social solidarity in first place towards the weakest subjects; promotes the socio-cultural progress of their community inspiring its action to the principle of equal opportunities.

The competences on the project topic are declared in the Municipality Statute, in particular:

- The conservation and enhancement of natural, environmental, historical, cultural and local traditions;
- The promotion of economic activities to protect the environment and the historical and artistic heritage.

The Body has a long experience in the management and implementation of EU founded projects and its financial capacity results adequate to cover the cash flow needs of an INTERREG.

What is the role (contribution and main activities) of your organisation in the project?

The City of Mesagne will act as a lead partner. Together with other partners, will participate in the implementation of the work package and project activities ensuring the coordination of all activities. The municipality will be in charge of organizing the project's activities with the aim of strengthening the cross-border cooperation among project partners through visits, exchange of best practices, data sharing and signature of a Memorandum of understanding (MoU).

The municipality of Mesagne, supported particularly by the Municipality of Labin, will also plan and put into practice the exchange of best practices activities which will be fundamental to raise the project partners acknowledge of the CoM, explaining also which are the needed skills to commit with it. As lead partner it will favor the development of joint collaboration schemes valorizing the added-value of the cross-border cooperation, strengthening and updating the CoM's commitment plan of partners. Moreover, the municipality of Mesagne will support the municipality of Labin in its effort to strengthen and update their own SEAP's plan and the municipality of Pietracatella in the implementation of its transnational workshop and the revision of the CoM of PP3.

These are the activities that Mesagne will conduct as LP of the project:

- Coordination, management and financial reporting;
- Organization of the kick of meeting (KOM);
- Workshop with exchange of best practices;
- Signature of a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) in occasion of the final project meeting;
- Realization of the CoM's action plan of the Municipality of Mesagne
- Organization of a workshop with the Mesagne local community;
- Coordination of the communication and dissemination strategy;
- Coordination of social media and information channels management together with the media campaign;
- Production of communication materials to be used for project events (posters, roll-up, folders).

If applicable, describe the organisation's experience in participating in and/or managing EU cofinanced projects or other international projects.

The Municipality of Mesagne has a good experience in management and implementation of cross border cooperation projects. The following projects are the ones already funded by the EU:

1. Interreg Programme 2007 - 2013 Adriatic IPA CBC (IT-SI-EL-HR-BA-ME-AL-RS) Role in the project: lead partner

The project, named "InteGRATEd actions to promote sustainable ToURist development - TUR.GRATE 2", on a renewed EU Tourism Policy, aims at improving promotion, valorization and best fruition of cultural, agro-food and natural cross-border resources and, consequently, at reinforcing, in a sustainable way, the competitiveness of the involved Adriatic tourist destinations, belonging to the different areas of Italian, Albanian, Montenegrin and Greek Countries.

2. Interreg Programme 2000 - 2006 Greece - Italy (EL-IT)

Role in the project: lead partner but in the framework of a consortium composed by several Apulian municipalities

The Hydro.NET project envisages the creation of a network for the exchange of information at a territorial and cross-border level for the definition of shared procedures and methodologies in the prevention and forecasting phases of hydraulic and hydrogeological risk, and the application of these scientific and technical approaches through pilot actions carried out in the target territories. The project will create a transnational Observatory on hydrogeological risk, which will make use of two territorial offices in Italy and Greece, and will be supported throughout its operations by a transnational Technical-Scientific Committee.

The above mentioned project has been closed with a high level of certified expenditures proving the good performance of the municipality of Mesagne in terms of EU funds management.

Co-financing		
Source	Amount	Percentage
ERDF	91,035.20	80.00 %
Partner contribution	22,758.80	20.00 %
Partner total eligible budget	113,794.00	100.00 %

Source of contribution	Legal status of contribu	tion Amount	% of total partner budge
Mesagne	Public	0.00	0.00 %
FDR	FdR	22,758.80	20.00 %
Total			
Sub-total public contribut	tion	0.	.00 0.00 %
Sub-total automatic publi	ic contribution	22,758.	.80 20.00 %
Sub-total private contribu	ution	0.	.00 0.00 %
Total		22,758.	.80 20.00 %
State Aid			
State aid criteria self-che	ck		
Criterium I: Is the partner	involved in economic activi	ties through the project?	?
1. Will the project applica activities and/or offer gowhich a market exists?	-	o For this partner no this project propo	o state aid are foreseen for sal
2. Are there activities/gocould have been undertal with the view to making pnot the applicant's intention	cen by an operator profit (even if this is	lo For this partner no this project propo	o state aid are foreseen for esal
Criterium II: Does the part	ner receive an undue advar	ntage in the framework o	of the project?
1. Does the project application the economic activities of select an external service procurement procedures	n its own i.e. not to provider via public	o For this partner no this project propo	o state aid are foreseen for esal
2. Will the project applica not included in the project or the target audience gaits project economic activities normal course of bus received in the absence of through the project)?	t as a project partner in any benefits from vities, not received in iness (i.e. not	lo For this partner no this project propo	o state aid are foreseen for isal
Result of State aid criteria	a self-check: N	o risk of state aid	
State aid relevant activiti			

GBER scheme / de minimis

B.1 Project Partner 2	
Partner number	2
Partner role	PP
Name of the organisation in original language	Grad Labin
Name of the organisation in english	Municipality of Labin
Organisation abbreviation	Labin
Department / unit / division	Administrative Department for the economy and EU projects
Partner main address	
Country	Hrvatska (HR)
NUTS 2	Jadranska Hrvatska (HR03)
NUTS 3	Istarska županija (HR036)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Titov trg 11 52220 Labin
Homepage	www.labin.hr
Address of department / unit / division (if application)	able)
Country	Hrvatska (HR)
NUTS 2	Jadranska Hrvatska (HR03)
NUTS 3	Istarska županija (HR036)
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Titov trg 11 52220 Labin
Legal and financial information	
Type of partner	Local public authority
Subtype of partner	
Legal status	Public
Sector of activity at NACE group level	
VAT number (if applicable)	19041331726
Is your organisation entitled to recover VAT based on national legislation for the activities implemented in the project?	No

Legal and financial information				
Tax number	19041331726			
PEC address				
PIC (from EC Participant Register)				
Contact				
Legal representative	Mr. Valter Glavičić			
Contact person	Mr. Robert Mohorovic			
Email	gradonacelnik@labin.hr			
Telephone no.	+385 (0)52 852 078			

Which of the organisation's thematic competences and experiences are relevant for the project?

In order to reduce the impacts of the potential adverse effects of climate change on urban regions, cities and settlements, their infrastructure and environment, as well as on people and all other forms of the living world, which are directly related to the aforementioned systems, it is necessary to establish long-term mitigation policies and adaptation to climate change at the local level. Aware of this, The City of Labin is a signatory of the Energy Charter, a signatory of the new covenant of mayors agreement with the developed SEAP, one of the leading cities in the Republic of Croatia in terms of energy renewal and environmental protection, winner of the title of smart city - smarter energy. In 2020 has also been named among the 3 best cities in Europe for the waste reduction campaign. The City of Labin wants to position itself as a leader in the implementation of sustainable development activities gathered under the name Green Plus, a project that will unite and develop sustainable lifestyles in Labin. As part of the Green Plus project, in 2021 the City participated in the Living Streets initiative. This initiative aims to initiate social interactions with significantly reduced vehicle traffic in order to adopt better urban policies towards urban development, and encourage sustainable and healthier mobility, but also other green habits of citizens towards sustainable development. One of the most important tasks of the Green plus initiative is to find solutions in the field of transport that affects health and the environment on a daily basis, all with the aim of finding adequate solutions and ultimately contributing to the fight against climate change. Through the Labin without Plastics initiative, the Labin Market became the first plastic-free market in Croatia, and the City of Labin is co-financing the development of project documentation for the installation of solar power plants on the roofs of family houses. Green Plus also raises the importance of protecting drinking water.

What is the role (contribution and main activities) of your organisation in the project?

The City of Labin will act as a project partner. Together with the lead partner, will participate in the work package and project activities. One of the key tasks of the City of Labin will be the transfer of knowledge and experience regarding climate changes, given that it is the City of Labin has already adopted a Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SEAP) and is already a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors. Given that the City of Labin's Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) is valid until the end of 2023, City of Labin will need to define, establish and expand new long-term local policies for mitigating and adapting to climate change, encouraging the development of green

infrastructure and circular management of space and buildings, and achieving transition towards a climate-neutral economy.

The municipality of Labin will coordinate the following activities:

- organization of the final project meeting in Croatia;
- revision of the CoM's action plan (SEAP) of the Municipality of Labin;
- organization of a series of workshops with the Labin local community (based on living streets concept);
- development of the strategy of green urban renewal for the Municipality of Labin;
- organization of the final dissemination event.

PP3 will ensure also the correct implementation of the due communication activities according to the indication of the LP.

If applicable, describe the organisation's experience in participating in and/or managing EU cofinanced projects or other international projects.

The city has so far participated in numerous projects financed from structural funds, Union programs, territorial cooperation programs and national public calls.

Selected projects financed from grants:

- MINE TOUR (Active protection and valorization of the natural and cultural heritage of mines and mining for the development of sustainable tourism) in the role of the lead partner, financed from the cross-border cooperation program Interreg Slovenia Croatia;
- RECOLOR (Reviving and enhancing artworks and landscapes of the Adriatic), in the role of a project partner, financed by the cross-border cooperation program Interreg Italy Croatia;
- ATRIUM (Architecture of the Totalitarian Regimes of the XX. Century in Urban Management), in the role of a project partner, financed from the transnational cooperation program of Southeastern Europe;
- ATRIUM PLUS (Architecture of the Totalitarian Regimes of the XX. Century in Urban Management plus), in the role of a project partner, financed from the cross-border cooperation program Interreg Italy Croatia:
- BEGIN (Boost Environmental Guadianship for Inclusion), in the role of a project partner, financed from the Adriatic-Ionian transnational cooperation program;
- LIFE Sec Adapt (Improving Self-Sustainable Energy Communities through the Covenant of Mayors initiative by planning a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy), in the role of a project partner, financed from the Life program;
- Energy renovation of the Primary School "Ivo Lola Ribar", Regional School Kature, Labin, in the role of the lead partner, financed from the European Fund for Regional Development;
- Energy renovation of the Center Liče Faraguna, in the role of the lead partner, financed from the European Fund for Regional Development;
- Green habits for sustainable Labin area implementation of the Program of educational and informative activities on sustainable waste management, in the role of the lead partner, financed from the Cohesion Fund.

The great experience in management of EU funded project testify the quality of the approach of this partner in the implementation in the CO-MAY's activities including the adequate financial capacity to face financial project needs.

Co financina			
Co-financing Source		Amount	Percentag
ERDF		72,280.00	80.00
Partner contribution		18,070.00	20.00
Partner total eligible budg	et	90,350.00	100.00
Origin of partner contribu	tion		
Source of contribution	Legal status of contribu	tion Amount	% of total partner budge
Labin	Public	18,070.00	20.00
Total			
Sub-total public contribut	ion	18,070.0	0 20.00
Sub-total automatic public	c contribution	0.0	0.00
Sub-total private contribu	tion	0.0	0.00
Total		18,070.0	0 20.00
State Aid	<u>'</u>		
State aid criteria self-che	ck		
Criterium I: Is the partner i	nvolved in economic activi	ties through the project?	
1. Will the project applical activities and/or offer goo which a market exists?	-	lo For this partner no this project propos	state aid are foreseen for al
2. Are there activities/goo could have been undertak with the view to making p not the applicant's intention	en by an operator rofit (even if this is	lo For this partner no this project proposa	state aid are foreseen for al
Criterium II: Does the parti	ner receive an undue advar	ntage in the framework of	the project?
1. Does the project applic the economic activities or select an external service procurement procedures	n its own i.e. not to provider via public	lo For this partner no this project propos	state aid are foreseen for al
2. Will the project application not included in the project or the target audience gai its project economic activity.	t as a project partner n any benefits from	lo For this partner no this project propos	state aid are foreseen for al

Criterium II: Does the partner receive an undue ac	dvantage in the framework of the project?
the normal course of business (i.e. not received in the absence of funding granted through the project)?	
Result of State aid criteria self-check:	No risk of state aid
State aid relevant activities	
GBER scheme / de minimis	

B.1 Project Partner 3		
Partner number	3	
Partner role	PP	
Name of the organisation in original language	Comune di Pietracatella	
Name of the organisation in english	Municipality of Pietracatella	
Organisation abbreviation	Pietracatella	
Department / unit / division	not available	
Partner main address		
Country	Italia (IT)	
NUTS 2	Molise (ITF2)	
NUTS 3	Campobasso (ITF22)	
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Via Cavatoio snc 86040 Municipality of Pietracatella (CB)	
Homepage	https://www.comune.pietracatella.cb.it/hh/index.php	
Address of department / unit / division (if applicable)		
Country	Italia (IT)	
NUTS 2	Molise (ITF2)	
NUTS 3	Campobasso (ITF22)	
Street, House number, Postal code, City	Via Cavatoio snc 86040 Municipality of Pietracatella	
Legal and financial information		
Type of partner	Local public authority	
Subtype of partner		
Legal status	Public	
Sector of activity at NACE group level		
VAT number (if applicable)	00195810700	
Is your organisation entitled to recover VAT based on national legislation for the activities implemented in the project?	No	

Legal and financial information	
Tax number	00195810700
PEC address	comune.pietracatella@pec.it
PIC (from EC Participant Register)	
Contact	

Legal representative	Mr. Antonio Tomassone
Contact person	Mr. Antonio Tomassone
Email	info@comune.pietracatella.cb.it
Telephone no.	+39 3282293113

Which of the organisation's thematic competences and experiences are relevant for the project?

Municipality of Pietracatella is in the national Convenant of Majors since 2011. The municipality has a particular interest in sustainability, energy efficiency policies and reduction of emissions. It is currently working for the realization of an energy community. It has a system of door to door separate collection of waste which has reached 54,4% of recycled waste in 2021, percentage that is increasing every year. Thanks to a 30 years collaboration with the Ngo Legambiente and its local section (Legambiente - Circolo Fortore-Occhito), Pietracatella every year take part in most of relevant national campaigns aimed at raising awareness among citizens about climate change and sustainable behaviors (i.e. campaigns as "Let's clean up the world" and "M'illumino di meno").

Pietracatella is currently partner of the project of Legambiente Onlus "BeCome - From villages to energy communities", which was created to inform, train and assist small municipalities in the process of creating energy communities. The project aims to accompany the villages to take a leap forward in environmental sustainability, but also in terms of joint community and innovative energy and social practices.

Pietracatella also aims to promote the wind farm in the Fortore area of Molise, in particular through the realization of a touristic bike tour which has been included in the national touristic guide "Parchi del Vento".

This partner will provide its experience in the support of the organization of the project events and will be supported by Labin and Mesagne in order to increase their institutional capacity in terms of cooperation governance.

What is the role (contribution and main activities) of your organisation in the project?

The City of Pietracatella will act as a project partner. Together with other partners, will participate in the package and project activities. The municipality will be in charge of organizing the activities listed below, taking part in the signature of a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) and participating in all the project events and meetings.

The municipality of Pietracatella will conduct the following actions:

- organization of 1 transnational workshop in Pietracatella based on the topic of the energy communities;

- revision of the CoM's action plan of the municipality of Pietracatella;
- realization of 3 workshops with Pietracatella's local community, in particular focused on:
- 1. workshop on the topic of door to door separate collection of waste (Target: school), which will include an event organized with the collaboration of various environmental groups to clean up an area of the village;
- 2. workshop dedicated to urban forestry and to the reduction of emissions (Target: adults and school);
- 3. workshop dedicated to the raising of awareness on virtuous individual behaviours for the reduction of climate change and awareness about carbon accounting (Target: adults and schools).

PP3 will ensure also the correct implementation of the due communication activities according to the indication of the LP.

If applicable, describe the organisation's experience in participating in and/or managing EU cofinanced projects or other international projects.

The Municipality of Pietracatella has a previous experience in management and implementation of cross border cooperation projects. The following project is the one already funded by the EU:

Programme: C.E.R.V (Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values)

Lead partner: Municipality of Pietracatella

Project: TEAM "Trails of Europe and Awareness in the Memory" which brings together the municipalities

of

Pietracatella (IT) and Porec (HR) to foster awareness and knowledge about their common European cultural identity. This project, involving municipalities, experts, schools and associations, created a cooperation model to find out some practical solutions for the maintenance, improvement and valorization of these tracks as way to improve mutual understanding.

The role of LP, in the above mentioned project, allowed the learning of the correct notions on the management of projects funded by the European Union for the Municipality of Pietracatella. Moreover, as public administration it has the proper financial capacities to implement Interreg projects.

Co-financing			
Source		Amount	Percentage
ERDF		36,480.00	80.00 %
Partner contribution		9,120.00	20.00 %
Partner total eligible budget		45,600.00	100.00 %
Origin of partner contribut	tion		
Source of contribution	Legal status of contribution	Amount	% of total partner budget
Pietracatella	Public	0.00	0.00 %
FDR	FdR	9,120.00	20.00 %

Total		
Sub-total public contribution	(0.00 0.00
Sub-total automatic public contribution	9,120	0.00 20.00
Sub-total private contribution	(0.00
Total	9,120	0.00 20.00
State Aid		
State aid criteria self-check		
Criterium I: Is the partner involved in economic ac	ivities through the proje	ect?
Will the project applicant implement activities and/or offer goods/services for which a market exists?	No For this partner this project pro	r no state aid are foreseen foi oposal
2. Are there activities/goods/services that could have been undertaken by an operator with the view to making profit (even if this is not the applicant's intention)?	No For this partner this project pro	r no state aid are foreseen for posal
Criterium II: Does the partner receive an undue ac	rantage in the framewor	rk of the project?
1. Does the project applicant plan to carry out the economic activities on its own i.e. not to select an external service provider via public procurement procedures for example?	No For this partner no state aid are foreseen fo this project proposal	
2. Will the project applicant, any other operator not included in the project as a project partner or the target audience gain any benefits from its project economic activities, not received in the normal course of business (i.e. not received in the absence of funding granted through the project)?	this project proposal	
Result of State aid criteria self-check:	No risk of state aid	
State aid relevant activities		
GBER scheme / de minimis		

C - Project description

C.1 Project overall objective

Below, you can see the Programme priority specific objective your project will contribute to (chosen in section A.1.).

5.1: Other actions to support a better cooperation governance

Project overall objective

Now think about your main objective – what do you aim to achieve by the end of your project? Remember your project needs to contribute to the programme's objective. Your objective should:

- be realistic and achievable by the end of the project, or shortly after;
- specify who needs project results and in which territory;
- be measurable indicate the change you are aiming for.

CO-MAY aims to develop a joint collaboration valorizing the added-value of the cross-border cooperation governance. CO-MAY will enhance the institutional and strategic capacities of the involved local authorities in Italy and Croatia through the exchange of good practices, supporting less experienced cities increasing their sustainable governance policies, also considering the commitments requested by the Covenant of Mayors. CO-MAY is in line with the cross-cutting theme of the circular economy.

C.2 Project relevance and context

C.2.1 What are the common territorial challenge(s) that will be tackled by the project?

Please describe why your project is needed in the programme area and the relevance of your project for the programme area, in terms of common challenges and opportunities addressed.

The energy governance policies are taking a central place in the context of sustainable development, as widespread energy production systems are among the main culprits of climate instability. Climate change is happening and is one of the greatest global challenges of our time, requiring immediate action and cooperation between local, regional and national authorities around the world. In this context, at the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. The agreement sets out a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well below 2°C and pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.

Following the Paris climate conference, Europe has defined two important directives related to the climate changes:

- 1. the Energy Efficiency Directive 2018/2002/EU62, which built on the 20% energy efficiency target for 2020 and set a 2030 headline target of at least 32,5%;
- 2. the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010/31/EU, which aimed at the promotion of constructing "nearly zero-energy buildings". The nearly zero or very low amount of energy required should be covered to a significant extent by energy from renewable sources, including energy from renewable sources produced on site or nearby".

Moreover, Europe in more recent years defined the European Green Deal that set the aim to reduce 55% greenhouse emissions by 2030 and become climate-resilient by 2050.

CO-MAY builds on these previous directives and strategies and focus on the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (CoM) which has been launched in 2008 and represent the mainstream European voluntary movement involving local authorities in the development and implementation of sustainable energy and climate governance policies. Starting with just few signatory municipalities it has progressively grown up becoming a worldwide city movement, extending first to Eastern and Southern Europe and then also to Sub-Saharan Africa.

In 2017, the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy and Compact of Mayors merged into the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM), an international alliance of local governments with a shared long-term vision of supporting voluntary action to combat climate change and move to a low-emission and resilient society.

Local authorities signing the CoM decide to commit to a series of steps, actions and plan, accept to report and be monitored on their governance actions. They formally undertake to:

- develop adequate administrative structures, including allocation of sufficient human resources, in order to undertake the necessary actions;
- prepare a Baseline Emission Inventory;
- submit a Sustainable Energy Action Plan within the year following the official adhesion to the Covenant of Mayors initiative, and including concrete measures for the reduction of CO2 emissions;
- submit an implementation report at least every second year after submission of their Sustainable Energy Action Plan for evaluation, monitoring and verification purposes.

CO-MAY will then contribute to increase the capacities of public administrations, belonging to the Programme area, related to governance skills closed to the Covenant of mayors' challenges, and at the same time to match with the UN Agenda 2030 and European Green deal vision.

C.2.2 How does the project tackle identified common challenges and/or opportunities and what is new about the approach the project takes?

Please describe new solutions that will be developed during the project and/or existing solutions that will be adopted and implemented during the project lifetime. Describe also in what way the approach goes beyond existing practice in the sector/programme area/participating countries.

Local authorities signing up for the CoM commit to developing and implementing actions at local level to contribute to the climate challenge and the sustainability of their territories. This formal commitment is translated into concrete measures and projects by the implementation of the Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP), which includes the strategies and the key actions local authorities intend to undertake.

Local governments must therefore become leading actors for implementing sustainable governance policies, and must be recognized and supported in their effort. The project, aware of the efforts and steps that local authorities have to perform to implement climate change mitigating measures, want to support project partners in this process, improving their governance capacities.

This project is characterized by a cross-border collaboration between local authorities that signed the Covenant of Mayors more than 10 years ago (2011 or 2012) and which are really interested in sharing positive results of their activities as well as problems and criticalities to achieve CoM's goals. CO-MAY aims also to reinforce the cross-border cooperation between the Italian and Croatian local authorities and through the exchange of good practices (especially related to CoM and SEAP) to strengthen the partner's capacity to cooperate and actively participate in the Programme.

CO-MAY will use a smart approach, in order to:

- -identify the common problems and critical issues of the areas of intervention and the goals to be achieved (CoM and SECAP)
- -establish outputs, achievable and measurable results, consistent with the indicators provided by the Programme;
- -verify the extent of the objectives and results through the identification of concrete actions, built on the basis of the capabilities, resources and tools available in the partners;
- -verify the concrete nature of the project's objective, in line with the overall objectives set out in the Programme;
- -plan individual project phases that will achieve project goals within a given time.

The collaborative approach will be used at all stages of the project in order to achieve an efficient cross-border exchange of governance skills, good practices in the energy efficiency sector, reducing inequalities in know-how and increasing the capacity of the public sector to improve governance measures and carbon footprint decreasing solutions.

C.2.3 Why is cross-border/transnational/inter-regional cooperation needed to achieve the project's objectives and result?

Please explain why the project objectives cannot be efficiently reached acting only on a national/regional /local level and/or describe what benefits the project partners/target groups/ project area/programme area gain in taking a cross-border/transnational/inter-regional approach.

The achievement of sustainability objectives imposed by the European Union and international conventions on energy and climate change is global and requires a strong collaborative approach. In Europe, the Covenant of Mayors was launched for the climate and energy which is the most important urban initiative on climate and energy, which involves thousands of local and regional

authorities involved on a voluntary basis to reach their territory, EU targets for energy and climate. With their commitment, the signatories of the pact aim to reduce CO2 emissions by at least 40% by 2030 and to adopt an integrated approach to tackle mitigation and adaptation to climate change. On 1 January 2017, the Global Covenant of Mayors was launched - which drew on the experience gained in Europe over the last eight years by developing the key factors for the success of this initiative: its bottom-up governance, its level of multi-cooperation level and the context-based model to define the actions to be taken.

In this context, the CO-MAY project, adhering to the vision of the Covenant of Mayors and EU Directive 2018/2001, aims to implement concrete and innovative governance actions in the energy saving sector, necessarily using a cross-border approach. The environmental problem related to energy and climate change in the Mediterranean must be tackled with an approach through the involvement of all the countries that face it. Finally, a cross-border approach can be more effective in reducing inequalities of know-how between project partners and creating a permanent network to promote the exchange of good practices, data and information on energy efficiency.

The project aims to support aware local authorities performing activities and plans related the CoM commitment in order to implement climate change mitigating measures. In particular, the cross-border cooperation between the public bodies involved within the project is essential to develop a joint collaboration scheme to share data and best practices. Each partner will show and explain their approach and work done in relation to the CoM implementation. Moreover, more experienced partners will transfer know-how and knowledge about the implementation of the Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP).

In particular, more experienced partners will support less experienced partners complying with the CoM's commitments and to properly approach the Sustainable Energy Action Plan. This cross-border collaborative approach will raise the project partners acknowledge of the CoM, creating a clearer and more extensive knowledge basis thanks to the experience and know-how of the SEAP's skilled partners that will be shared within the project.

The added-value of this cooperation will be valorized through a workshop (at the beginning of the project) with exchange of good practices and officialised with the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between local authorities participating.

Moreover, CO-MAY, will follow the SEAP's aim (see the list below) organizing several workshops to raise communities and citizens awareness and expanding public participation in the renewable energy transition and the broader functioning of the energy sector.

The project aims supporting SEAP's signatories' partners to comply with the commitments related to the crucial necessity of mobilizing local stakeholders in the development of the Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAP). In particular:

- share experience and know-how with other local authorities;
- organize Local Energy Days to raise citizens awareness of sustainable development and energy efficiency;
- attend or contribute to the Covenant of Mayors annual ceremony, thematic workshops and discussion group meetings;
- spread the message of the Covenant in the appropriate fora and, in particular, encourage other mayors to join the Covenant.

In this frame, the identified project's target groups represent virtuous stakeholders that will reverberate the results of CO-MAY project increasing the awareness on the project's topic, helping project partners to spread the positive messages of energy emissions reduction and fight against climate change.

C.2.4 Who will benefit from your project outputs?

In the first column of each row, please select one of the pre-defined target groups from the drop-down list. In the second column explain in more detail exactly who will benefit from your project. For example, if you choose the category education, you need to explain which specific schools or groups of schools and in which territory.

Target Group	Specification
Local public authority	CO-MAY will provide an essential support to the municipalities involved within the project in terms of: - administrative and institutional capacities improvements; - Covenant of mayors' know-how and skills enhancement; - SEAP's best practices and strategy implementation; - revision of the partners' action plans for the correct implementation of the activities foreseen by the CoM; - development of the strategy of green urban renewal (for the Municipality of Labin). The activities and results of the project will be communicated/disseminated and made available for interested municipalities and other organizations. In particular the action plans and strategies related to CoM and SEAP may help other public bodies to: - improve their energy governance policies; - learn about positive green and sustainable practices (workshops) - ameliorate their knowledge or commitment to the Covenant of Mayors; - enhance their knowledge about SEAP and implementation strategies.
General public	CO-MAY will have a lasting effect over time thanks to the involvement of citizens and stakeholders, that will be the addressees of the several workshops that will be organized within the project and that will involve the participation of the municipalities' local communities. This group targets citizens and particularly the young generation (high school students and pupils). They will have the chance to learn more about: - good practices to make the city more green and sustainable; - door to door practices to separate and collect waste; - urban forestry and how reduce emissions; - virtuous individual behaviors for the reduction of climate change; - good experiences based on energy communities. Also the local community will directly participate and undirectly benefit from the project activities. Estimated minimum number to be reached through project activities and communication is 3.000.
Interest groups including NGOs	CO-MAY activities will involved interested groups and associations operating in the field of environmental protection, energy efficiency, green urban development. The project plans to engage representatives from at least 5 NGOs and assosiations.
Education/training center and school	Thanks to the CO-MAY project activities, schools will be involved also during the implementation of several actions such as workshops and dissemination activities in order to ensure the rise of awareness also among youths. The project plans to engage representatives from at least 3 schools.

C.2.5 How does the project contribute to wider strategies and policies?

Please indicate to which strategies and policies your project will contribute. Then describe in what way you will contribute.

Strategy	Contribution
EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region Strategy	CO-MAY is in accordance with the 2nd EUSAIR's pillar "Connecting the Region", in particular with the 3rd topic "Energy networks" concerning energy system in the Adriatic-Ionian Region that encourage better transport and energy connections for the development of macro-region. The project, in fact, aims to improve the connectivity and the energy efficiency plans between Italy and Croatia. The revision of the partners' CoM action plans is in line with the overall
	project objective to enhance the institutional and strategic capacities of local authorities through the exchange of good practices, supporting less experienced cities building skills to adapt the commitments requested by the Covenant of Mayors. CO-MAY will favor, also, the increase of energy efficiency and renewable energy use in the program area through the implementation of the SEAP and their actions.
European Green Deal Strategy	CO-MAY contributes to the Green deal pillar "Net Zero Emissions by 2050 Scenario" that shows a pathway for the global energy sector to achieve net zero CO2 emissions by 2050.
	In particular this Green Deal specific objective aim to reduce CO2 emissions in the transport sector (trucks, city buses, and long-distance buses) which are responsible for over 6% of total EU greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The CO-MAY project partners, through this project, will improve their knowledge and skills in order to adapt their energy governance and policies in order make their cities more green and sustainable reducing deeply their emissions.
Other Strategy	The project contributes positively to the international and national strategies of the Paris agreement with concrete actions that increase the amount of energy produced from renewable sources.
	CO-MAY builds on an essential European Directive issued in the domain of energy efficiency: • The Energy Efficiency Directive 2018/2002/EU62, which built on the 20% energy efficiency target for 2020 and set a 2030 headline target of at least 32,5% of the target for the overall share of energy from renewable sources in the final consumption of the Union in 2030.
Other Strategy	CO-MAY builds on several goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular: - goal n° 7 "ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all"; - goal n° 11"make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable;
	- goal n° 13 "take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts".

C.2.6 Which synergies with past or current EU and other projects or initiatives will the project make use of?

Project or Initiative	Synergy
Programme 2014 - 2020 Interreg Europe - project acronym: SUPPORT	Focused on the Covenant of mayors and the SEAP, this project aims to improve the coordination and performance of policy instruments intended to implement national and regional energy efficiency programmes at local level. To contribute to achieve EU objectives on energy efficiency, SUPPORT combines different kinds of interregional learning activities, to foster exchange among partners and between partners and stakeholders. Partners working both separately and jointly analyzed their regional backgrounds in the field of energy policies, identifying and exchanging good practices as well as defining action plans to improve the performance of their energy policy instruments.
Programme 2014 - 2020 INTERREG VB Northern Periphery and Arctic - project acronym: e- Lighthouse	The e-Lighthouse project, in the framework of the Covenant of mayors, tackle the growing problem of global warming and increasing emissions by bringing added value to the Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAP) of the partner towns and regions. e-Lighthouse will raise awareness of energy efficiency and encourage most stakeholders in the regions to use best practices gathered. This project improved local and regional monitoring methodologies and practices enhancing the effectiveness of the SEAP already developed. The e-Lighthouse project developed methods/recommendations for actions to increase energy efficiency governance and published a strategy document called "How to act as a good CoM/SEAP organization". e-Lighthouse partners encouraged other local and regional organizations to sign the new joint Covenant of Mayors, to commit to energy saving at the political decision-making level.
INTERREG IPA CBC ITALY- ALBANIA- MONTENEGRO PROGRAMME - project acronym: CO- CLEAN	COCLEAN project, adhering to the vision of the Covenant of Mayors and EU Directive 2018/2001, aims to implement concrete and innovative actions in the energy saving sector, using a cross-border approach and increasing the governance policies on energy for the involved partners. The project aims to face the environmental problem related to energy and climate change in the Mediterranean area through a cross-border approach to reduce inequalities of know-how between project partners and creating a permanent network to promote the exchange of good practices, data and information on energy efficiency. In particular, taking advantage of the experience matured by Italian municipalities involved in CO-CLEAN, that have already developed a series of good practices in the field of energy saving and energy efficiency of public buildings.

C.2.7 How does the project build on available knowledge?

Please describe the experiences/lessons learned that the project draws on, and other available knowledge the project capitalises on.

CO-MAY builds on the available knowledge of the project partners, each one offering its own capacities and experience, and capitalize their know-how related to energy governance policies and activities.

In particular:

LP: the Municipality of Mesagne has a good experience in the management and implementation of EU founded projects, including Interreg projects. The municipality will capitalize the previous experience of the Hydro.NET where, acting as LP, managed and coordinated the creation of a network for the exchange of information at a territorial and cross-border level for the definition of shared procedures and methodologies in the prevention and forecasting phases of hydraulic and hydrogeological risk.

LP will ensure the day-to-day coordination of the project implementation, being in contact with partner's project managers that are in charge of the achievement of the planned deliverables, moreover LP will be in charge to ensure, the general relationships among the partners, the reporting activities, and the communication with JS and the Managing Authority. LP will take care of the communication plan of the project and will lead the creation and implementation of the editorial plan of CO-MAY as well as coordinating the use of social media channels to guarantee an efficient communication and dissemination of the project's activities and results. In this regard LP will also produce a e-book with the aim of reinforcing the dissemination of the project.

PP2: the city of Labin will act as a project partner. Together with the lead partner, will participate in all project activities. One of the key tasks of the City of Labin will be the transfer of knowledge and experience regarding climate changes, given that it is the City of Labin has already adopted a Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SEAP) and is already a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors.

The City of Labin is a signatory of the Energy Charter, and of the Covenant of Mayors agreement, having also developed its Sustainable Energy Plan. PP2 is one of the leading cities in the Republic of Croatia in terms of energy renewal and environmental protection, winner of the title of smart city smarter energy. In 2020 has also been named among the 3 best cities in Europe for the waste reduction campaign. The City of Labin wants to position itself as a leader in the implementation of sustainable development activities gathered under the name Green Plus, a project that will unite and develop sustainable lifestyles in Labin. As part of the Green Plus project, in 2021 the City participated in the Living Streets initiative. This initiative aims to initiate social interactions with significantly reduced vehicle traffic in order to adopt better urban policies towards urban development, and encourage sustainable and healthier mobility, but also other green habits of citizens towards sustainable development. One of the most important tasks of the Green plus initiative is to find solutions in the field of transport that affects health and the environment on a daily basis, all with the aim of finding adequate solutions and ultimately contributing to the fight against climate change. Through the Labin without Plastics initiative, the Labin Market became the first plastic-free market in Croatia, and the City of Labin is co-financing the development of project documentation for the installation of solar power plants on the roofs of family houses.

PP3: the Municipality of Pietracatella is part of the Convenant of Majors since 2011. The municipality has a particular interest in sustainability, energy efficiency policies and reduction of emissions. It is currently working for the realization of an energy community. It has a system of door to door separate collection of waste which has reached 54,4% of recycled waste in 2021, data which is increasing every year.

Thanks to a 30 years collaboration with the Ngo Legambiente, Pietracatella every year joins the most relevant national campaigns aimed at raising awareness among citizens about climate change and sustainable behaviors (i.e. let's clean up the world, m'illumino di meno).

Pietracatella is currently partner of the project of Legambiente Onlus "BeCome - From villages to energy communities", which was created to inform, train and assist small municipalities in the process of creating energy communities.

C.3 Project partnership

Describe the structure of your partnership and explain why these partners are needed to implement the project and to achieve project objectives. What is the contribution of each partner to the project?

The partnership of CO-MAY project represents the ideal combination of well experienced local body (PP2) and less experienced bodies (LP and PP3) the latter which can be supported in the adaptation process of building skills of the commitments requested by the Covenant of Mayors. On the other hand the city of Labin (PP2) will be sustained in the upgrade of its SEAP's plan, ensuring then a cross-border participation in all project activities.

Moreover, it is important to consider the fact that Municipality of Mesagne and Municipality of Pietracatella are newcomers in Italy-Croatia Interreg Programme.

In general, the partnership involves partners already committed with the Covenant of mayors (since 2011 and 2012) and it has been built in order to properly achieve project goals: each partner, will offer its own expertise (in different fields) in order to generate a positive exchange of best practices adopting a win-win approach.

Here below are explained the partners' main skills and their contribution within the project. The Municipality of Mesagne (LP): will act as a lead partner being in charge of organizing the project's activities with the aim of strengthening the cross-border cooperation among project partners through visits, exchange of best practices, data sharing and coordination of the Memorandum of understanding (MoU).

LP will ensure the day-to-day coordination of the project implementation, being in contact with partners' project managers that are in charge of the achievement of the planned deliverables. Mesagne will lead the implementation of WP1 and at same time will be responsible for the overall coordination, communication, reporting and financial management of CO-MAY, with the support of PP2 and PP3.

The Municipality of Labin (PP2): is a signatory of the Energy Charter, and of the Covenant of Mayors (CoM) agreement. PP2 is one of the leading cities in the Republic of Croatia in terms of energy renewal and environmental protection, winner of the title of smart city - smarter energy. In 2020 has also been named among the 3 best cities in Europe for the waste reduction campaign. The City of Labin wants to position itself as a leader in the implementation of sustainable development activities gathered under the name Green Plus, a project that will unite and develop sustainable lifestyles in Labin

One of the key tasks of the City of Labin will be the transfer of knowledge and experience regarding climate changes (within the best practices exchange workshop) and governance policies capacities in a common cross-border learning and organizing process.

The experience of the Municipality of Labin, in the framework of both CoM and SEAP will be fundamental to raise the project partners acknowledge of the CoM, explaining also which are the needed skills to commit with it.

Municipality of Pietracatella (PP3): is signatory partner of the Convenant of Majors since 2011and it has a particular interest in themes as sustainability, energy efficiency policies and reduction of emissions. It is currently working for the realization of an energy community.

PP3 will lead the transnational workshop on the topic of the energy communities that will see the participation of project partners and other interested stakeholders.

According to the above mentioned features the partnership thus composed represents a valid group to overcome the project's objectives and to participate in the project and Programme goals, starting from solid basis already acquired by each partner.

C.4 Project work plan

Number	Work package name
1	Enhance the cross-border cooperation and partners awareness, knowledge and skills of the CoM

Work package 1

Work package title

Enhance the cross-border cooperation and partners awareness, knowledge and skills of the CoM

Objectives

Your objectives should be:

- realistic and achievable by the end of the project;
- specific (who needs project outputs delivered in this work package, and in which territory);
- measurable indicate the change you are aiming for.

Define one project specific objective that will be achieved when all activities in this work package are implemented and outputs delivered.

CO-MAY will raise the PP's acknowledge of the CoM, strengthening the governance capacities of less experienced partners (LP and PP3) through the implementation of best practices exchange actions that will be put in practice thanks to the experience and know-how of the SEAP's skilled partner (PP2). In addition, also skilled partners will take advantage of the cross border cooperation building their strategy on green urban renewal.

The operative objective foresees the revision and upgrade of all the CoM's commitment strategies and action plans of involved partners; particularly they will obtain the practical skills to properly adopt the CoM requested measures, considering their own state of the art and experience at the beginning of the project.

Moreover CO-MAY will increase the local communities knowledge and awareness about the energy efficiency and emissions reduction' innovative practices through the participation in several workshops that will be organized within the project.

Think about the communication objective that will contribute to the achievement of the specific objective. Communication objectives aim at changes in a target audience's behaviour, knowledge or belief.

The following are the target's audience communication objectives:

- 1. facilitate the exchange and increase knowledge about energy efficiency and renewable energies among local authorities;
- 2. incentivate other local authorities to sign the CoM;
- 3. generate a positive change in the behavior of citizens and stakeholders on the rational and sustainable use of energy sources and on issues of CO2 emissions growth and climate change;
- 4. raise awareness among stakeholders on climate change issues and the adverse effects of increased CO2 and greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

The above mentioned communication objectives will be achieved thanks to the specific communication activities aimed to promote project events and, more in general through the Editorial Plan (acting as main communication's tool) with the aim of coordinating the diffusion of project results and activities through the use of social media channels and the e-book.

Activities

Activity 1.1	
Title	Strengthening the cross-border cooperation between the public bodies
Start period	Period 1, 1 - 6
End period	Period 3, 13 - 18
Description	With this activity the project aims to reinforce the cross border cooperation among the municipalities involved, with the ambition to raise their knowledge and awareness about the correct strategy to comply with the Covenant of Mayors commitments and for the implementation of the Sustainable Energy Action Plan. The project, aware of the efforts and steps that local authorities have to perform to implement climate change mitigating measures, want to support project partners in this process of increasing their governance policies. The activity 1.1, led by LP, foresees the organization of n°1 workshop with exchange of best practices (D. 1.1.1) that will be organized by LP and held in Mesagne in concomitance with the Kick of meeting of the project (KOM will be organized the day before or the day after the workshop). The idea of this workshop is to: - raise the partners awareness about the needed skills to participate and commit within the Covenant of Mayors; - promote data sharing and the exchange of best practices among project partners, especially from partners that already implemented the SEAP to the unexperienced counterpart; - provide partners with examples and suggestions to better implement actions, plans and activities requested by the CoM and the Sustainable Energy Action Plans. In order to strengthen the cross-border cooperation between the public bodies, this activity also envisage the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the local authorities involved in the project in occasion of the final project meeting (D.1.1.2) that will be held in Labin during the last period. This agreement, signed by all

Deliverables 1.1			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
D.1.1.1	Workshop for the exchange of best practices	LP will organize in Puglia a workshop involving all project partners in order to analyze the state of the art of partners' commitment with the CoM/SEAP and promote a positive exchange of know how and best practices among partners. These activities will be properly communicated	Period 1 , 1 - 6
D.1.1.2	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between	Project partners, leaded by LP, will sign a Memorandum of Understanding that officially expresses the convergence of will between the parties, indicating a common line of action	Period 3 , 13 - 18

Deliverables 1.1			
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period
	local authorities involved in the project	in relation to CoM activities and the implementation of the Sustainable energy Plan. MoU will be properly promoted	
D.1.1.3	Production of e- book for the dissemination of activities/results	LP will produce a project e-book as instrument for the dissemination of the activities and results of CO-MAY	Period 3 , 13 - 18

Activity 1.2	
Title	Implementation of plans and activities related to CoM
Start period	Period 1, 1 - 6
End period	Period 3, 13 - 18
Description	The activity 1.2, led by LP, is strictly connected with the first one and represents the implementation and put in practice of suggestions, examples and shared strategies emerged from the exchange of best practices session. This activity, in line with DNSH, principle foresees: - the realization of the CoM's action plan for the Municipality of Mesagne (D.1.2.1) that will realize an action plan for the correct implementation of the activities and plans foreseen by the CoM; - the revision of the CoM's action plan for the Municipality of Pietracatella (D.1.2.2.) will revise their own action plan in order to upgrade and ameliorate the implementation of the activities and plans foreseen by the CoM; - the revision of the CoM's action plan (SEAP) for the Municipality of Labin (D.1.2.3) will revise their own CoM's action plan in order to upgrade and ameliorate the implementation of the activities and
	plans foreseen by the CoM. In particular, in relation to its SEAP;
	- the organization of a series of workshops (D.1.2.4) with the Labin local community in order to raise

Activity 1.2 knowledge and awareness about good practices to make the city more green and sustainable (based on living streets concept); - the organization of 1 workshop (D.1.2.5) with the Mesagne local community. LP will organize a specific workshop based on the green procurement. The community will be involved with the aim of improving citizens awareness of environmentally friendly products and services that have a less negative effects on human health and the environment: - the organization of 3 workshops with Pietracatella's local community (D.1.2.6) based on: 1) door to door separate collection of waste; 2) urban forestry and to the reduction of emissions; 3) virtuous individual behaviors for the reduction of climate change and awareness about carbon accounting. - the organization of 1 transnational workshop in Pietracatella (D.1.2.7) that will organize and hold an important transnational workshop focused on energy communities. organize and hold an important transnational workshop focused on energy communities. - the development of the strategy of green urban renewal (D.1.2.8) for the Municipality of Labin for the recovery and redevelopment of urban spaces with special attention to generating lower environmental impact, creating beneficial effects for the communities that use these spaces. The common methodology of assessment of objectives and results foreseen in CoM action plans made by all three partners jointly will become a useful process of monitoring replicable in other areas. LP with the support of project partners will be carry out several communication activities that will allow the correct promotion and dissemination of action realized. Particularly, the results will be inserted in the dissemination e-book and, more in general, a proper adequate promotion and communication of workshops and action plans will be made through news, press releases, social media posts etc.

Activity 1.2	
Partner(s) involved	Mesagne, Labin, Pietracatella

Deliverables 1.2				
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period	
D.1.2.1	Realization of the CoM's action plan - Municipality of Mesagne	LP, following the exchange of know-how and best practices session, will realize an action plan for the correct implementation of the activities and plans foreseen by the Covenant of mayors. The plan will be communicated and disseminated through the channels foreseen by the editorial plan.	Period 3 , 13 - 18	
D.1.2.2	Revision of the CoM's action plan - Municipality of Pietracatella	PP3 following the exchange of know-how and best practices session, will revise their own action plan in order to upgrade and ameliorate the implementation of the activities and plans foreseen by the Covenant of mayors. The plan will be disseminated through the channels foreseen by the editorial plan.	Period 3 , 13 - 18	
D.1.2.3	Revision of the CoM's action plan (SECAP) – Municipality of Labin	PP2, following the exchange of know-how and best practices session, will revise their own CoM's action plan in order to upgrade and ameliorate the implementation of the activities and plans foreseen by the Covenant of mayors. In particular, in relation to their Sustainable Energy Action Plan	Period 3 , 13 - 18	
D.1.2.4	Organization of a series of workshops with Labin local community (based on living streets concept)	PP2 will organize a series of workshop with their local community in order to raise knowledge and awareness about good practices to make the city more green and sustainable. The workshops will be communicated and disseminated through the channels foreseen by the editorial plan.	Period 3 , 13 - 18	
D.1.2.5	Organization of 1 workshop with the Mesagne local community (topic green procurement)	The municipality of Mesagne will organize a specific workshop based on the green procurement. The local community will be involved with the aim of improving citizens awareness of environmentally friendly products and services that have a less negative effects on human health and the environment.	Period 3 , 13 - 18	
D.1.2.6	Organization of 3 workshops with Pietracatella's local community	PP3 will organize 3 workshop with their own local community on: • door to door separate collection of waste; • urban forestry and to the reduction of emissions;	Period 3 , 13 - 18	

Deliverables 1.2				
Running number	Deliverable title	Description	Delivery period	
		 virtuous individual behaviors for the reduction of climate change and awareness about carbon accounting. Communication activities as D124 		
D.1.2.7	Organization of 1 transnational workshop in Pietracatella (topic: energy communities)	The municipality of Pietracatella will organize and hold an important transnational workshop focused on energy communities. This transnational workshop will be communicated and disseminated through the channels foreseen by the editorial plan.	Period 3 , 13 - 18	
D.1.2.8 Development of the strategy of green urban renewal		The municipality of Labin will build their strategy based on the green urban renewal for the recovery and redevelopment of urban spaces with special attention to generating lower environmental impact, creating beneficial effects for the communities that use these spaces. Communication actions as D124	Period 2 , 7 - 12	

Outputs

Output 1.1		
Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)		
RC086_5.1: Joint administrative or legal agreements signed		
legal or administrative agreement		
1.00		
Period 3, 13 - 18		
The signature of the memorandum of understanding will valorize and promote the added-value of cooperation for Italy-Croatia area in order to establish a cooperation in the key area of energy efficiency, emission reduction and environment. The MoU will be signed by the legal representative of the project partners		
Upgrade or revision of project partners' Covenant of Mayors action plans		
RCO87_5.1: Organisations cooperating across		

Output 1.2	
	borders
Measurement Unit	organisations
Target Value	3.00
Delivery period	Period 3, 13 - 18
Output Description	This output will reinforce the institutional capacity of partners involved through the implementation of the project partners CoM's action plans.

C.5 Project Results

What do you expect to change because of the activities you plan to implement and the outputs you plan to deliver? Please take a look at the programme result indicators and select those that you will contribute to.

Result 1		
Programme result indicator	RCR84_5.1: Organisations cooperating across borders after project completion	
Measurement unit	organisations	
Baseline	0.00	
Target value	3.00	
Delivery period	Period 3, 13 - 18	
Result description	The implementation of the project's activities and outputs will allow the involvement of three organizations cooperating across borders, particularly the municipality of Mesagne, Labin and Pietracatella. This involvement will be put in practice through the realization of the Memorandum of understanding that represents itself one of the project main outputs and secondly, through the implementation of a transnational cross-border workshop among partners for the exchange of best practices related to the revision of the Covenant of mayors' plans and the implementation of the SEAP. All these activities represent the essence of the cooperation among involved organizations. It is important to underline how the target value may further increase thanks to the involvement of other interested local administrations in addition to project partners in the process of signature of the Mou.	

C.6 Project Time Plan

	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	After End
WP1 Enhance the cross-border coopera	tion and…			
Al.1 Strengthening the cross-bor	der coop… D1.1.1		D1.1.2	
			D1.1.3	
A1.2 Implementation of plans and	activit…	D1.2.8	D1.2.1	
			D1.2.2	
			D1.2.3	
			D1.2.4	
			D1.2.5	
			D1.2.6	
			D1.2.7	
RC086_5.1			01.1	
RC087_5.1			01.2	
Result indicator				
RCR84_5.1			R1	

C.7 Project management

In addition to the thematic work you will do in your project, you will need time and resources for coordination and internal communication. Please describe below how you plan to organise yourself to ensure the project work runs smoothly.

C.7.1 How will you coordinate your project?

Who will be responsible for coordination? Will you have any other management structures (e.g., thematic groups, WP managers)? How will the internal communication work?

The management structure will be set up to coordinate the full implementation of the activities of the project. It will allow a continuous monitoring of the project at different levels, to guarantee optimization of the involved skills and expertise, ensuring that activities and actions performed comply with the objectives of the project. LP will ensure the day-to-day coordination of the project implementation, being in contact with partners. Each partner will manage their specific project activities to ensure the implementation of the project according to agreements made during project. The Coordination and management Group or Steering Committee (StC) will be composed by at least one or more representative per partner. Each Partner'StC member will ensure the project management, the project reporting and financial management and secretary according to the project coordination realised by LP. If necessary, a devoted Technical Management Group (TMG) leaded by LP will be instituted in order to coordinate the implementation of technical activities of WP1 of the project.

The implementation of management activities will be ensured throughout the duration of the project. Steering Committee meetings will be periodically organized to check the development of the planned activities to reach the intermediate and final objectives. Particularly, CO-MAY project has an already mature process of coordination and management of its activities. The kick off meeting (KoM) is planned to be held in presence in Mesagne at the beginning of the project, during which general rules of cooperation will be defined and shared. Moreover, at least 2 online meetings are scheduled to verify the implementation level of the project activities, also in financial terms and, in addition, a final project meeting is planned in presence in Labin. In this way, a constant process of project progress evaluation is ensured.

Moreover, LP will guarantee the quality of the internal communication organising, if necessary, bilateral or project meetings to solve eventual problems and to make the state of the art of the project.

Moreover, each project partner will identify a Communication Manager that will ensure the correct level of contacts between partners, stakeholders and the implementation of communication activities foreseen in CO-MAY.

Furthermore, LP will lead the reporting process activities (preparation of intermediate Project Progress Reports and final Project reports) and the financial management of CO-MAY ensuring a constant monitoring of expenses level according to the budget, implementing at the same time a gap analysis. Partners will allow this reporting phase through the realization of their partner progress reports for project periods.

C.7.2 Which measures will you take to ensure quality in your project?

Describe specific approaches and processes and responsible partners. If you plan to have any type of project evaluation, please describe its purpose and scope here.

The project methodology approach will emphasize the cross-border nature of the project. It will be based on a strong cooperation dimension, ensuring synergies and competencies of partners in line with project objectives and involving a diversified mix of innovative stakeholders and on the implementation of innovative sustainable energy governance solutions between Italy and Croatia. A strong activity of coordination will take place with the contribution of the whole partnership headed by Municipality of Mesagne. In addition to physical meetings (KOM, dissemination events and final meeting), periodical online meeting will be held to monitor project progresses and to identify criticalities arisen during the activity's deployment. Municipality of Mesagne as Lead Partner and WP1 leader, will ensure the complete execution of all tasks required to attain the desired standard, especially for technical, communication, administration, and financial activities during the whole duration of the project. Reporting of the project progress will be also effectively realized by coordination of the partners towards Management Authority and Joint Secretariat of the Programme. In order to ensure that the realization of all deliverables and outputs foreseen in the project is correct and free of defects and focus on quality from the beginning to the end of the project, an analysis of variances and gaps will be made by LP with the contribution of PP2 and PP3. Starting from the beginning, this will allow the identification and correction of eventual defects saving time for the implementation of activities. This phase will also ensure a process of identification of potential project risks (LP will prepare a risk log document to highlight opportunities and threats) in order to emphasize or mitigate them with proper on time solutions.

Finally, a document on lessons learned after project phases and at the completion of the project will be realized by LP together with PPs: this document will evaluate the consortium's processes and 'bake' all the improvements into the project blueprint and translate them to future projects with particular regards to the next call for proposal for ordinary project of Italy-Croatia Programme.

C.7.3 What will be the general approach you will follow to communicate about your project?

Who will coordinate project communication and how will he/she ensure the involvement of all partners? How will the communication function contribute to transfer your project results? Please note that all communication activities should be included in the work packages, as an integral part of your project. There is no need to repeat this information here.

The overall communication strategy of CO-MAY will be planned through the realization of an Editorial Plan, focused to the aim of the project, the characteristic of the actions expected and of the different targeted groups. This plan will be led by the Communication Manager of the LP together with the PPs counterpart to guarantee the coherence of the whole communication aspects and to keep the whole strategy and activities attractive to the stakeholders.

Each PP is equally responsible to ensure the adequate promotion of the project. The target audience will differ depending on the nature of the message to be communicated and appropriate tools will be used to reach and engage each audience: local public administrations, media and opinion makers, policy makers, environmental organisations, NGOs/associations and general public.

The promotional and dissemination measures, and more in general all communication activities of CO-MAY, will be in line with indication of the editorial plan and will use project logo provided by the Programme.

Considering the higher impact of social media and digital technologies, special attention will be given to these means of communication instead of printed materials, that will be used wisely and if necessary, in order to respect nature and the environment. Particular importance will be given to the use of the project website (provided and hosted by the Programme) for which partners will create various contents in terms of news or other uploadable material useful to spread project results. A CO-MAY project Facebook will be also created (it will work in synergy with the project website), and it will allow a further spread of project activities and letting stakeholders to be kept up with project progress. Each project partner will prepare and send their contributes in order to homogenize the whole communication strategy in line with the editorial plan.

In general, all project activities and events (such as meetings, workshops, etc.) will be also properly communicated thanks to specific communication activities detailed in the WP1 sections.

C.7.4 How do you foresee the financial management of the project and reporting procedures for activities and budget (within the partnership and towards the programme)?

Define responsibilities, deadlines in financial flows, reporting flows, project related transfers, reclaims, etc.

CO-MAY, through the experience of the LP aims to ensure a sound management and coordination of the project concerning both the overall project management and all the aspects linked to the reporting and financial management.

In particular, the financial and administrative management of the project (expenses management, payment management, budget monitoring management, reimbursements procedure, public procurement documents preparation, preparation of statement of Expenditure reporting on the costs incurred, preparation of supporting documents) will be lead and ensured by the appointed financial manager of the LP with the support of PP's financial managers that will work in constant collaboration with the project management and with the StC.

A periodic analysis of the financial progress of the project will be made by the LP with specific internal monitoring tool aimed to avoid overbudget situations. Moreover, LP will provide a previous check of the partner's reported expenditures before the related submission to the FLC to verify the correct allocation of costs in the related budget lines.

In general, at reporting level, partners will prepare their partner reports duly on time in order to give the possibility to merge all information and to prepare the Project Progress Report in line with Programme deadlines and then also collaborating closely with the first level controllers.

As Municipality of Mesagne acting as LP of CO-MAY project and being the Italian partner with the highest budget, it will ensure the proper transfer in time of ERDF which corresponds to each PP, including the national co-financing (Fondo di Rotazione) for the Italian PPs entitled to it. Mesagne will make sure that no amount will be deducted or withheld and no specific charge or other charge with equivalent effect will be levied, avoiding the risk of reduction the due amounts for the PPs.

The fact that all the partnership is composed of public bodies, partners will have the adequate financial capacity to guarantee the correct implementation of project activities at expenditures level since any pre-financing amounts are transferred at the beginning of the project. In consequence, any lack of cash flow will obstacle the proper start of project activities.

Finally, eventual reclaims from partners will be solved with the coordination of the LP that, in any case, will ensure the correct level of communication with the proper Programme institutional bodies (Joint Secretariat).

C.7.5 Cooperation criteria

Please select all cooperation criteria that apply to your project and describe how you will fulfil them.

Cooperation criteria		Description
Joint development	Yes	CO-MAY is designed thought the participation of all project partners, each involved stakeholders are integrated with the project idea and there is a common systematic combination of ideas, priorities, actions and results.
Joint implementation	Yes	All partners will contribute to the implementation of the project according to the indications and suggestions of LP and following a joint common spirit. Planned actions will be implement by steps avoiding a run in parallel of same activities and involving PP's reference people.
Joint staffing	Yes	Representatives of each PP will be engaged as members of single project team within the same project in a common vision granted a smooth and easy cooperation between partners. There are not duplication of functions and PP's will work to improve the quality of life of involved territory's citizens.
Joint financing	Yes	CO-MAY's budget is divided between partners according to the activities carried out by each member. The LP is responsible for administration and distribution of reimbursement coming after reporting and certification procedures.

C.7.6 Horizontal principles

Please indicate which type of contribution to horizontal principles applies to the project, and justify your choice.

Horizontal principles	Type of contribution	Description of contribution
Sustainable development	positive effects	The overall objective of the project is to increase sustainable governance policies in the Programme area through the implementation of concrete actions (exchange of good practices, data sharing), and awareness-raising activities. The project will enhance the governance capacities of local authorities through the exchange of good practices, supporting less experienced cities building skills to adapt the commitments requested by the CoM. The project will develop joint collaboration schemes valorizing the added-value of the cross-border cooperation, updating the partner's CoM's commitment plan. The project has a strong positive impact on governance in the areas involved in the project and more generally in the area of the program, as it aims to reduce local authorities' energy consumption and CO2 and other emissions. A direct impact of the project is expected in the increase of citizens awareness about the energy efficiency and greenhouse emissions in order to influence also their own daily behaviors.
Equal opportunities and non- discrimination	positive effects	The project will offer the same opportunities for wider benefit without discrimination in gender, sex, religion, political opinions safeguarding the principle to provide free access and easy accessibility of the disabled persons to the main results of the project. Moreover, CO-MAY respects the European Union Disability Strategy (EC Communication of 20 December 1996) on equality of opportunity for people with disabilities with the aim of removing barriers on fruition of the sharing in the project results.
Equality between men and women	positive effects	CO-MAY builds on the principles of the Strategic Engagement for Gender Equality 2016-2019 of the European Union promoting gender balance and the participation of women and men in all project phases to include expertise and competences without prejudice.

C.8 Long-term plans

As a programme, we would like to support projects that have a long-lasting effect in the territory and those who will benefit from them. Please describe below what you will do to ensure this.

C.8.1 Ownership

Please describe who will ensure the financial and institutional support for the outputs/deliverables developed by the project (e.g., tools), and explain how these outputs/deliverables will be integrated in the work of the institutions.

CO-MAY project implementation will generate a reinforced cooperation with high implication of the partners in the realization of a solid and continuous partnership that will be able to influence public authorities and governance policies even after the finalization of the project, learning by the best practices they have implemented in the respective countries and shared during the project activities. In this frame, all partners will ensure the proper financial and institutional support for the deliverables and output produced by CO-MAY avoiding any kind of interruption of effects of this project after its completion.

The signature of the Memorandum of Understanding in CO-MAY project represents the first important tool to support institutionally the project. In fact, thanks to this document, partners will agree to maintain the cooperation relationship generated through this project ensuring a further connection about Covenant of Mayors and more in general sustainable energy governance topic after the project end date, strengthen this commitment even more.

Furthermore, the revision of PP's CoM action plans will be formally integrated by the three local public authorities composing the partnership through devoted acts of acknowledgment approved by each municipal council.

Even though the stability of the political system of the involved partners can not be anticipated for the years to come after the approval of MoU and Actions CoM, the measures included in the above mentioned documents will be so broadly agreed, thanks to the involvement of local stakeholders, that it could be realistically foreseen that they will be mostly implemented, ensuring then the eventual necessary financial support to be further developed.

Participation of various stakeholders in the exchange of best practices and in the upgrade of the CoM Action Plans development will enhance ownership over project results and provide more support for implementation within their institutions. Participation in the process will increase capacity and experience of competent institutions, and their engagement to work more in future on the efficiency of surveillance and enforcement.

C.8.2 Durability

Some outputs/deliverables should be used by relevant groups (project partners or others) after the project's lifetime, in order to have a lasting effect on the territory and the population. For example, new practices in urban transport need to be used by local authorities to have cleaner air in the city, and the whole population will benefit from this. Please describe how your outputs/deliverables will be used after the project ends and by whom.

Project partners will create the basis for further developments, in investments for concrete implementation environmental governance solutions. The project implementation will generate a reinforced cooperation with high implication of the partners in the realization of a solid and continuous partnership that will be able to influence public authorities and policies even after the finalization of the project, learning by the best practices they have implemented in the respective countries and shared during the project activities.

The project has been planned and structured in order to assure the longevity of its results and outputs. In particular, the local authorities involved in CO-MAY will guarantee the constant upgrade of the staff's skills and technical knowledge during and, also particularly, after the end of the project with the results of CoM upgrade and exchange of best practices. The constant exchange of knowhow and best practices during the project will be kept continuous even after the project to continue reducing the knowledge governance capacities gap between partners in the cross-border countries involved. Increasing and keep upgrade the local authorities' is a necessary condition to guarantee the duration of the positive effect of the actions of the project.

CO-MAY aims to have a lasting effect over time also thanks to the involvement of citizens and stakeholders, that will be the addressees of the several workshops that will be organized within the project and that will involve the participation of the municipalities' local communities. All the project's outcomes and results will be made available for local bodies interested in the CoM commitment or for those signatory partners that have already signed the CoM but haven't developed their own SEAP representing then a further motivation to unstop the durability of CO-MAY.

A vital element for the sustainability of the project will be the involvement of key stakeholders (other local public authorities, NGOs and associations, citizens, etc.) in project activities (upgrade of CoM action plans and exchange of best practices process). The communication and dissemination actions carried out within WP1 (dissemination events, e-book, promotion of activities, etc.) will contribute to increase the awareness of local authorities on sustainable governance skills to be used that will produce positive effects on inhabitants of the involved areas.

C.8.3 Transferability

Some outputs/deliverables that you will deliver could be adapted or further developed to be used by other target groups or in other territories. What will you do to make sure that relevant groups are aware of your outputs/deliverables and are able to use them?

The project is expected to ensure that outputs and results will be replicable even by other Regions. In this term, a crucial function is ensured by the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that will expresses a convergence of intents between the parties, indicating a common line of action in relation with the Covenant of mayors (CoM) commitments. This agreement will standardize the procedures and methodologies useful for the application of the principles of good governance related to the sustainable environmental measures.

Also the upgrade of CoM action plans represent an output that could be adopted and replicated by other territories.

The project will provide useful tools and examples to build and maintain good practices among local authorities improving partners awareness about the needed skills and effort to comply with the Covenant of Mayors' commitments as well as regarding the implementation of the Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP).

The common methodology of assessment of objectives and results foreseen in CoM action plans made by all three partners jointly will become a useful process of monitoring replicable in other areas. By developing methods for the assessment of a set of criteria for the applicability of specific solutions in particular situations, relevant at a broader Adriatic scale but also at local scale, on which the most appropriate management approaches will be developed, it will pave the way for the implementation of reducing existing disparities and creating the opportunity to implement innovative solutions to the identified challenges in the field of environmental governance process of public authorities.

All further transferability is ensured by the involvement of local stakeholders, and the replicability that successful approaches boost in neighboring territories. Communication and dissemination activities, as well as have been planned to guarantee the information and further transferability through the addressed target groups.