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## **1. Introduction**

The seven regions participating in the Coopenergy project have presently a regional sustainable energy action plan (SEAP) in force, with different titles, scopes and validity periods. One of the objectives of the Coopenergy project [WP3-T3.2] is to prepare a new regional SEAP or revise the one existing in each of the partner regions from a multi-level governance (MLG) perspective, i.e. taking into consideration the needs of the local authorities and considering how the collaboration between regional and local authorities can contribute to the development of a more sustainable energy system.

The purpose of this document is to report the situation of the revision of the regional SEAPs in the COOPENERGY partner regions.

## 2. Rhone Alpes

### Existing SEAP

Two separate documents are addressing sustainable energy planning at regional level, SRCAE (strategic document for the whole territory) and PCET (action plan mainly for areas under the regional council areas of responsibilities).

#### **SRCAE: Schéma Régional Climat Air Energie**

This regional plan, to be elaborated by every region, should determine the contribution of every region to the 3 main national objectives on sustainable energy and climate change, which are (i) reduction of 20% of GHG emissions, (ii) improvement of energy efficiency and (iii) 23% of renewable energy in the final energy consumption.

It is a unique and strategic document at regional level that integrates information on climate, energy and atmosphere, and defines strategic orientations and measures on air quality, reduction of greenhouse gases and atmospheric pollutants, reduction of energy demand, production of sustainable energy and mitigation to climate change. This strategic framework document is intended to be used a reference tool in energy planning for the regional and local public authorities. Compulsory local SEAPs for cities above 50,000 inhabitants (also called “PCET obligatoires”) need to comply by law with the SRCAE covering their geographical territory.

SRCAE determines the:

- strategic orientations for climate change mitigation and adaption,
- strategic orientations for atmospheric pollution prevention or reduction,
- qualitative and quantitative objectives in energy savings, GHG emission reductions and share of renewable energy by 2020 and 2050 (for GHG emissions).

#### **PCET: Plan Climat Energie Territorial**

PCET is an action plan defining all the climate protection and adaptation actions to be implemented within the areas of direct responsibility of the Regional Council as well as the policies designed by the Regional Council that will contribute to achieving the 2020 objectives.

The PCET has been adopted in March 2013. As per the SRCAE, its revision is not planned during the course of the project.

### Revision of the regional SEAP

The Rhone-Alpes SRCAE was adopted in April 2014. By law, the SRCAE needs to be re-evaluated every five years. Although the revision of the regional SEAP will not take place during the course of the project due to its revision schedule, it is still planned for Rhône-Alpes to revise its regional SEAP based on the outcomes of the COOPENERGY activities. COOPENERGY will allow Rhône-Alpes partners to set up collaborative planning processes



between the regional and local authorities within the framework of the TEPOS (Positive Energy Territories) policy which will provide crucial input for the revision of the regional SEAP. As initially planned in the Annex I document, Rhône-Alpes partners have agreed to produce a regional SEAP framework document providing recommendations that will be used as basis for the next revision of the regional SEAP.

More specifically, the Coopenergy project will directly contribute to that objective. RAEE and RCRA are implementing an action together with TEPOS Chambéry, Anneccy and PNR des Bauges. They will produce conclusions and recommendations for modifications aiming at making the plan more relevant to their needs at the local level. The TEPOS will also contribute to the development of a guide for funding energy transition. Indeed, RCRA begun to prepare a tool guiding TEPOS in the identification of suitable funding schemes. The TEPOS will review this guide and provide recommendations to adapt it to the territory practical needs.

Additionally, joint actions will be organized also with the aim to provide recommendations for future SEAPs. For example, RAEE will implement a joint action aiming at the adapting land use territorial procedures (SCOT) for sustainable energy communities. Finally, HESPUL will implement the cooperation between regional, urban and rural authorities as well as local stakeholders for the strengthening of the wood fuel supply chain.

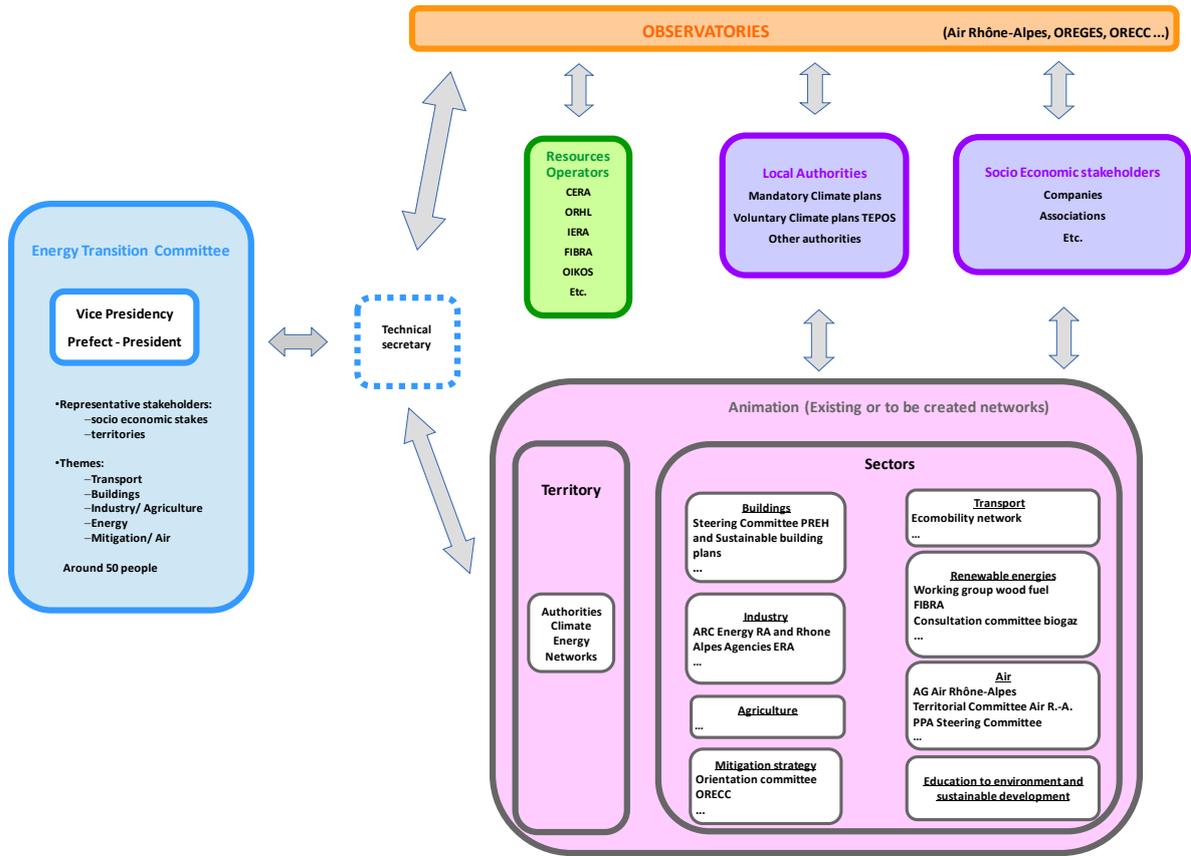
A Regional committee for energy transition was recently created. It will be an authority for debate and orientation of policies for energy transition. It will be in charge of:

- Following regional path on climate, energy, and air quality, including regarding targets specified in SRCAE.
- Evaluating the implementation of strategies and objectives of SRCAE in the light of regional policies contributing to energy transition.
- Identifying when relevant the needs of modification of those policies
- Modalities of integration from socio-economic stakeholders of SRCAE orientation in their own logic of development.
- Mobilizing for driving new actions and new solutions towards difficulties.

To support the committee for climate air and energy, the mobilisation of:

- Territories,
- Regional observatories compiling indicators and valorizing available statistics for major themes of SRCAE.
- Stakeholders networks in the framework of sectorial animation of major themes of SRCAE : transport, building renovation, land consumption and agriculture practices.

The figure below shows the different stakeholders involved in the initiative.





### **3. Kent**

#### **Existing SEAP**

In 2011 key strategic partners across Kent (including the regional authority Kent County Council, local authorities, Kent Police, Kent Fire & Rescue Service, regional leads for the national health service, regional leads for the national Environment Agency developed a strategy called the 'Kent Environment Strategy (KES)' to deliver social, economic and environmental wellbeing for Kent's communities during the next 20 years. The strategy sets out how they will achieve a high-quality Kent environment, low carbon, resilient to climate change, and that has a thriving 'green economy' at its heart. The current SEAP runs from 2013-2015 and has three themes under which are specific actions to deliver these objectives through the implementation plan.

Theme 1 – Living within our environmental limits (Lead EA). Leading Kent towards consuming resources more efficiently, eliminating waste and maximising the opportunities from the green economy

Theme 2 – Meeting the Climate Change Challenge. Working towards a low carbon Kent prepared for and resilient to the impacts of climate change

Theme 3 – Valuing our natural, historic and living environment. Optimizing the real economic and social benefits of high environmental quality while protecting and enhancing the unique natural and built-in character of Kent.

The KES implementation plan ensures the partnership can demonstrate delivery of the SEAP and monitor progress. KCC with their strategic and county role are best placed to facilitate and champion the delivery of the plan through our partners.

The plan includes a review process to monitor the progress (the midterm review was undertaken in April 2014) which has informed the SEAP review. As the County lead with the Environment Agency for the SEAP, KCC's role is to coordinate the delivery in partnership with Boroughs and districts. The SEAP is the delivery mechanism for Kent's environmental priorities enabling KCC to meet drivers and policies for example the Climate Change Act (2008) and more locally the National Adaptation Plan and the Health and Social Care Act. The plan supports other Kent plans for example Kent's plan for transport 'Growth without Gridlock'.

#### **Planning for revision or development of a new regional SEAP**

The Implementation Plan, which underpins the strategy, is monitored every 6 months and has been revised in 2013 – however there is a need to continually review and assess its relevance against local and regional needs and to monitor the delivery of the plan, which occurs every 6 months. This review should inform the next review of the strategy and the 6 monthly monitoring of the plan. A minimum of 17 local authorities involved will be involved in the review of the KES and implementation plan; however it is likely that the number will be



greater. We are currently undertaking a full stakeholder review to determine the scope of the SEAP review and the key stakeholders which should be involved – to be documented in a communications plan for the review. It is planned that the KES and implementation plan will be fully reviewed and updated by July 2015.

The review will assess whether the themes and subsequent actions are relevant for the update of the plan (covering 3-5 years). The review will see stakeholder consultation with internal and external partners to update the strategy both in terms of actions to deliver the objectives of the strategy and the indicators to measure progress.

The update needs to clearly demonstrate the priorities for Kent’s environment for the next phase and the measures of success through indicators which can hence tell the story of Kent.

Draft indicators have been agreed through the KES Executive Officers Group and the Kent Environmental Champions Group which will form part of the review. This will enable a local ‘State of the Environment’ report to be produced for Kent assisting the review

The proposed timetable is as follows;

September/ October 2014	Consultation underway
October/ November 2014	Stakeholder Workshops and sector conversations
January 2015	Draft of the updated KES
February 2015	Draft circulated and Peer Review (consultants)
April 2015	Final draft
June/ July 2015	Partner sign up

## 4. Basque Country

### Existing SEAP

The current regional SEAP in the Basque Country (Energy strategy for the Basque Country 2020 - BES2020) was approved by the Basque government in December 2011. In May 2012, the regional parliament urged to the Basque government to present in the last quarter of 2014 a revision of the plan, adapting it to the new juridical, economic and technologic frameworks. The Coopenergy project provides an opportunity to make this revision under a deeper “multi-level governance approach”, i.e., widening the collaboration with different administrative and institutional levels in order to advance in the issue of sustainable energy in a coordinated way.

The BES2020 was prepared taking into account the contribution of different groups of stakeholders through workshops and a consultation process. It consists of a series of lines of action divided up into three major areas:

- Action in **Energy-Consuming Sectors** to change energy demand by reducing consumption, using alternative sources of supply, or using demand management to optimise the energy system.
- Action in **Energy Markets and Supply** area to improve the energy offer in terms of supply security and quality, cost competitiveness and sustainability.
- Action in the **Technological and industrial development** area to bring opportunities for Basque industry to innovate in the latest energy technologies in a context of increasingly global markets.

The existing regional SEAP includes the public administration as one of the key sectors to work on. One of the initiatives included in the regional SEAP is to promote a more energy-efficient and sustainable Basque public administration. The objective is to achieve involvement by all Basque public authorities in meeting the targets of the Energy Strategy, through:

- Promoting “Near zero” energy consumption in Basque public buildings
- Promotion of ultra-low energy consumption public housing
- Commitment by Basque cities to efficiency, renewables and intelligent energy
- Investment in transport and sustainable mobility of the public sector

The progress of the regional SEAP is monitored through two annual reports, one on energy production and consumption indicators “Euskadi Energia” which is public and another summarising the progress of the actions defined in the SEAP.

### Revision of the regional SEAP

EVE has already received the mandate to revise the regional SEAP – BES2020 to adapt it to the modification of the baseline considerations with respect to the previous one in aspects like the reduction of the energy consumption in different sectors, the consequences of the financial crisis and the lack of support to renewable energy through feed in tariffs.



The regional energy planning needs to be linked with plans and programs in different sectors and administrative levels. At the national level, the renewable energy targets established at Spanish level and determined in the national renewable action plan PER2011-2020, the national energy efficiency action plan PNAEE 2011-2020 and the climate change strategy which is closely linked to the two previous strategies. The National level establishes most of the regulative body and an important part of the support schemes for renewable energy and CHP, and the rules under which the energy infrastructures should be built. In the case of renewable energy, the National authority determines the feed-in tariffs to be applied; in 2012 the feed-in tariff scheme was ruled out for new entrants.

At regional level, energy planning needs to be linked to the territorial, with transport and mobility planning, sustainable development strategy (Estrategia de Desarrollo Sostenible 2020), environment (III Programa Marco Ambiental 2011-2014), industrial competitiveness (Plan de industrialización 2014-2016) and climate change (Plan de Lucha contra el Cambio Climático). Especially relevant is the link with the climate change policies, which are based in an important part on the sustainable energy policies.

At provincial level, the three provinces that form the Basque Country have their own plans related to sustainable energy. In Alava, the plan (Plan Mugarri) covers the action plan for the promotion of renewable energy in the period 2010-2020 and it also establishes actions for improving energy efficiency through territorial planning and other sectors. Bizkaia has also its own plan approved in 2013 called Estrategia de Energía Sostenible para Bizkaia EESB 2020 which establishes actions in the field of sustainable energy. Also in 2013, Gipuzkoa approved the plan Gipuzkoa Energia 2012-2015, with different objectives in this area.

At municipal level, the municipalities have the capacity for developing activities in the field of sustainable energy in the areas of urban planning, mobility or municipal facilities, but they are limited in the industrial sector and in private buildings. An important number of municipalities work on plans related to sustainable development in the framework of Local Agenda 21 and 19 have signed the Covenant of Mayors.

EVE has already started working in the new regional SEAP and is preparing the basic documentation to start the coordination work with other administrative levels. EVE, together with the Basque Government will seek the coordination of the regional strategy with the collaboration at the provincial and municipal administrative levels through:

- Circulation of a basic document describing the general objectives of the SEAP and requesting for comments from the main stakeholders. This is foreseen in February 2015.
- Specific workshops with a selected group of municipalities to determine how the regional plan can help municipalities to define their own SEAP and progress in the implementation of the actions defined in the SEAP. The first workshop with municipalities will take place in January 2015. A workshop with provincial authorities is also planned for February-March 2015.



- After the regional SEAP is drafted, it will be subject to public consultation. This is expected by September 2015.

## 5. Liguria

### Existing SEAP

The Regional Energy and Environmental Plan of the Region of Liguria (PEAR) was implemented firstly in 2003. Through the Regional Plan, the Region promotes its strategies related to the implementation of energy efficiency, the development of green economy and awareness raising in the themes of energy sustainability through training and information.

In the first version of 2003 the PEAR set the regional energy strategy towards 2010, aimed to produce at least 7% of the energy consumption of Liguria Region through renewable sources and aimed, at the same time, to stabilize the emissions of climate-altering gases to 1990 levels, thus encouraging energy savings.

By the resolution n. 3/2009 the Regional Council approved the first update of the objectives of the PEAR which meant, in particular, a significant increase of wind energy targets, with a growing of the installed power from 8 to 120 megawatts.

According to the regional law, the revision of the PEAR is planned every 5 years: the procedure for the second revision is started in 2013 and is now ongoing. The new Regional Environmental Plan will set objectives and lines of development for the period 2014-2020, in order to contribute to achieve the energy and environmental goals set by the policies of "Europe 20-20-20". The process for the revision of the regional SEAP is in charge to the Regional Economic Development Department, which is being supported by IRE Spa.

### Revision of the regional SEAP

General strategy: The address given to the revision process currently underway is based on an energy strategy pointing to increase the regional production of RES with the goal of achieving the objectives set by the Kyoto Protocol and of meeting the requirements of the national decree 15/3/2012 about the regional "Burden Sharing" (the target set for the region of Liguria is to reach 14.1% of energy from RES by 2020).

Aim of the revised Plan is the diffusion of RES particularly among electrical and thermal, the integration in smart distribution networks and in smart grids and the promotion of energy efficiency as a tool to foster technological innovation and green economy in the regional market, especially among local companies working in the traditional sectors (such as building construction and plant engineering) which have a high potential for economic growth and employment level in the regional territory.

Revision Process: In the first version of the PEAR 2003 there was no reference to the development of a MLG regional energy strategy which, instead, is a key part of the revision process now ongoing: according to the regional law 32/2012 a collaborative model has been set up based on the integration of the bottom-up approach (inputs from the local SEAPs) and top-down approach (from regional/national law and in synergy with the energy strategy of the

new European programming period 2014 - 2020). The MLG model involves institutional actors and regional stakeholders at different levels, thus engaging in the definition of the new strategy and objectives regional authorities, public networks, Labour and Trade Unions, environmental associations and citizens representatives. The participatory process foresees different phases of stakeholders' collaboration and consultation (ex: through interviews, dedicated workshop and collection of feedbacks), starting from preparatory works, to implementation phase (i.e. for the definition of the actions of energy efficiency on public buildings, public lighting, use of RES) and to monitoring activities (step-by-step process).

Moreover, the revision of the PEAR is now associated with the implementation of the Strategic Environmental Assessment procedure in a virtuous cyclical process.



Implementation phase: The first step of the revision process is started in September 2013 with the approval of the “Plan Scheme” (milestones of the revised Plan) by the Regional Board. On this basis, a first draft of the new Plan presenting main contents and targets of the energy strategy has been shared with the regional stakeholders to collect inputs and feedbacks on which to base the implementation of the definitive Plan Scheme (4 dedicated meetings have been organized in October 2013 by IRE and the Regional Economic Development Department); the consultation phase has been closed in the fall 2014 and the pre-final Energy Plan has been approved by the Regional Board on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014 (regional decree 1517/2014).

Targets: The plan aims to reduce the gross final consumption of energy of the territory of 332 ktoe, focusing on energy efficiency in residential sector, tertiary, business and production cycles and to increase the use of RES rising the regional energy production from 146 ktoe to 373 ktoe by 2020; this target will foster the development of local RES and, in the meanwhile, safeguards the potentialities of Liguria region.

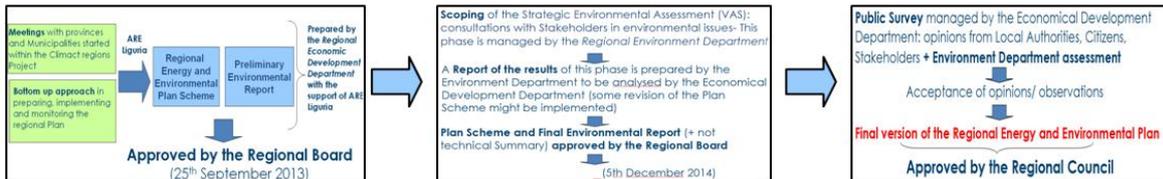
The strategy for 2014-2020 takes into consideration how the achievement of these objectives can be translated into: opportunities for the economic sector and the employment level, possibilities to enhance and protect the territory (sustaining the energy chain at all levels, from research to education) and actions for an extensive involvement of all stakeholders (business, trade associations, local authorities, schools, research centers, etc.) through a targeted communication strategy.

Moreover, through the new Energy Plan the Region of Liguria intends to adopt a document of strategic positioning supporting the European programming of 2014-2020 EU-funds in the fields of energy, rural development, training toward green economy, development of SMEs in the energy sector.

Next steps: the PEAR, as approved in December 2014, is now to be now published for the last public consultation phase, which will run in total for 90 days. After the collection and

acceptance of final feedbacks, the Energy and Environmental Plan will be submitted to the Regional Board and to the Regional Council for the definitive approval.

Due to regional political elections, scheduled in spring 2015, so far it's not possible to foresee a date for the definitive approval (the process will be finalized according to the new Regional Board once it will be in charge).



PEAR Liguria - Revision Steps

## 6. Zlín

### Existing SEAP

In 2009, The Energy agency of the Zlín Region developed an energy plan for 5 years in the Zlín region, which is actually the SEAP for the whole region. The aim of the SEAP was to detail the already existing Regional Energy Strategy elaborated in 2004 in the specified priorities and set short-term quantified objectives to the region in energy efficiency increase and renewables implementation. Target municipalities and sub-regions are selected for each of the priority actions.

Potential for improvement and potential for renewables were specified at the level of the municipalities (group of municipalities), in real measures and projects identified. A survey was carried out to create this SEAP and the respondents' priorities of this survey are included in the SEAP. Areas with major potential for increase of renewables and sectors identified for energy efficiency increase are the targets. Typical projects with high replication potential were identified in the plan.

SEAP was developed for the period of 5 years and priority projects were identified to implement the plan. The SEAP was finished in March 2009 and approved by the Council of the Zlín Region on 7. 12. 2009. This plan was a basis for annual work programme for the EAZK for the last five-year period, i.e. till 2014.

### Revision of the regional SEAP

The Regional Energy strategy of the Zlín region was updated in 2014 and the EAZK played a crucial role in this update. Due to the update of this strategy there is a strong need to update the existing regional SEAP for the period beyond 2014, which is actually being done within the Coopenergy project.

**The regional steering committee** was set up with the objective to lead and coordinate review of the regional SEAP. This steering committee was named 'Energy group of the Zlín region' and was set up under the patronage of the governor of the Zlín region.

There are several priorities of existing regional SEAP to be updated, namely:

- Support to energy efficiency in the facilities of the Zlín Region and its organisations – schools, hospitals, social services etc
- Development of energy efficiency projects in the whole area of the Zlín region across all the sectors
- Development of RES utilising projects in the whole area of the Zlín region across all the sectors
- Increasing of safety and reliability of energy supply in the Zlín Region
- Horizontal measures including educational activities and advisory for different target groups in developing and financing the concrete projects

A special focus will be attracted on the waste utilisation in the updated SEAP. A feasibility study will be developed in next year to carry out the analysis of the selection of the suitable place for development of the landfill waste incinerator in the area of the Zlín region. The analysis should focus on the impact of the traffic caused by transporting the waste there, pollution dispersion study and impact of the emissions caused by transport as well as by the incinerator.

The directives of EC No. 75/442/ES and 91/156/ES, introduced a new hierarchy in communal waste disposal. All EU member states are responsible to utilise or recycle the waste into products or energy. Only if no other option is available the rest should be removed in a safe way. Responsible authorities are expected to develop a plan for waste utilisation including kind, amount and origin of utilised waste, measurement related to specific kinds of waste, cost analysis etc.

The EC directive No.199/31/ES sets technical and security requirements about landfill localisation, their operation and waste deposition, with setting the targets till 2020.

Concerning above mentioned, the Zlín region in the cooperation with municipalities of the Zlín region will continue in Joint development plan between the Zlín region and the municipalities for increasing the energy utilization of the communal waste from the landfills in the Zlín Region. This plan will be an integral plan of the updated regional SEAP.

The timetable:

by the end of May 2015 – draft version of the updated regional SEAP

by the end of September 2015 – a final version of the regional SEAP

by the end of December 2015 – a formal approval of the updated regional SEAP of the Zlín Region by the Council of the Zlín Region

## 7. Norrbotten

### Existing SEAP

The regional SEAP has two parts: first the “Climate and energy strategy for the County of Norrbotten” which is complemented with a “Action plan for climate and energy in the County of Norrbotten”. The strategy was published in 2008. The so-called “Regional Partnership” has approved the regional SEAP. This Partnership is a formalised coordination committee between municipalities, County Council, County Administration Board and further authorities (e.g. employment office, Sami Council) and organisations (e.g. University, Association of Enterprises). The Counsellor is leading the work.

The 3 main sectors targeted by the “regional SEAP” are Sustainable Growth, Sustainable Community Planning, and Sustainable Transport. The three prioritised renewable energy sources are Wind power, Hydro power and Biomass. The regional SEAP has been developed in a comprehensive participation process, and is linked to priorities in the regional development strategy. It is

- a compilation of priorities and actions of regional stakeholders;
- a basis document for prioritising actions and projects in the future;
- a basis document for coordinating regional and local activities to reach the jointly agreed climate and energy targets, thereby contributing to the Swedish and the EU climate and energy targets.

### Revision of the regional SEAP

The Action Plan is being revised every three years, the current one is adopted for the period 2013-2015. In parallel to implementing the current Action Plan, evaluation work is done and work has started for preparing the next Action Plan, which will be cover the period 2016-2019. There is a need and a will to improve collaboration models and to develop more concrete and action oriented planning.

The County Administration Board of Norrbotten is in charge for the revision of the Action Plan. A steering group is established, and both the County Administration Board and all members of the Steering Committee have signed the COOPENERGY MoC. A continuously dialogue between the regional energy agency Nenet, the County Administration Board and the Steering Group ensures that COOPENERGY results are taken into account in the revision, and that a revised and improved MLG model will be in place by the end of the COOPENERGY project.

Improving the MLG model and ensuring a better collaboration between the local and the regional level is a priority, and is an important part within the revision of the SEAP. As a result of intensive discussions between Nenet and the regional authorities, the following measures have been implemented:



- The County Council of Norrbotten became the First Swedish Territorial Coordinator for the CoM;
- The County Council together with the fourteen municipalities in the County are the owners of Nenet. These owners decided at the ownership meeting in April 2014, to give Nenet an extended role as a Regional actor. The two dominant parts of the extension was to carry out the active part of the County Councils role as coordinator for the Covenant of Mayors and to carry out an analysis on development of regional platform for project- and business development in the clean tech sector.
- The County Administrative Board will prepare its Climate & Energy Action Plan (as above mentioned) according to the template of the Covenant of Mayors and in strong collaboration with municipalities. The Covenant of Mayors initiative can be used as a tool to create involvement and commitment for action with the municipalities, and the new role for Nenet will be to engage municipalities which not yet have joined the Covenant of Mayors. And also to help municipalities to prepare local energy action plans linked to the plan on the regional level. There will also be possibilities to assist municipalities in the implementation of actions defined in the plans.
- Nenet will do a feasibility study defining how a regional platform for energy and climate related projects and cleantech-business development can contribute to local and regional SEAP implementation. The platform could be composed by different regional and local actors for the purpose of identifying possible business ideas. The support could be for example business support, financing, finding system solutions, networks, business delegations, sustainable procurement and others. One idea is to make it easier for project developers and entrepreneurs to access and make use of project- and business expertise and financing models. The platform will be in operation during 2015.
- Interaction with a project of the Swedish Energy Agency in collaboration with County Administrative Boards in Sweden to improve collaboration / MLG models
- Start of developing and implementing an improved and formalised collaboration by including lessons learnt from the COOPENERGY project in January 2015 to revise the Action Plan for 2016-2019.

## 8. Rhine-Neckar

### Existing SEAP

The SEAP of the MRN was developed in several stages. After the identification of players in the regional energy sector and a pre-consultation in 2008, a decision of procurement was made with a public invitation to tender and launch events in 2009. Involving stakeholders in concept development via steering committees and working groups between 2010--2011 is a core characteristic of the regional SEAP: the inclusive and democratic process to ensure a great acceptance and matching needs and interests of different stakeholders. For the final decision at the association's general meeting, a final concept was presented at a regional conference in 2012. In the same year in March, the General Meeting of the Association approved the SEAP ("Regionales Energiekonzept Metropolregion Rhein-Neckar"). At the same time the Rhine-Neckar Regional Association (Verband Region Rhein-Neckar VRRN) was appointed to coordinate the implementation of the regional SEAP. Main sectors of the SEAP include topics on Energy efficiency (buildings, combined heat and power production, energy management), renewable energy (wind, solar, water, geothermal, bioenergy, and heat pump), system integration (combined heat and power production, smart grids, energy storage technologies) and mobility (private and public transport).

### Revision of the regional SEAP

There is no intention to revise the SEAP for the MRN within the following years due to the complex democratic process in which it was designed and approved. 75 projects are defined as drafts in the regional SEAP. The implementation will be coordinated by working groups e.g. "climate friendly communities", "energy round table meetings" and "sustainable mobility".

A communal level survey has been conducted to evaluate the status quo on coherence and need of the local level, a communal survey was conducted to serve as a basis for further MLS Forums, RSC meetings and to choose a MLG Model for the MoC under the Coopenergy project.

There are some activities in 2014 regarding the implementation and realization of the "Regionales Energiekonzept Metropolregion Rhein-Neckar".

Some Working Group Meetings had taken place in different contexts, for example concerning "Organization of local workshops with citizens associations willing to invest in renewables" or "Organization of a forum at the regional Conference and a Congress to present district heating related to combined heat and power generation". The participation from local authorities, companies and energy ambassadors together with the regional public authority has produced many fruitful exchanges. Because of that, we could say that the target to promote the activities was really further advanced. Additional Working Group Meetings are planned for 2015.

Two congresses on local heating network took place in the MRN in July and October 2014. The main objectives were finding options, local circumstances that are important for a network to



be feasible, and, in addition, risks, roadmaps, best practices and financing options. In 2015, the next Regional Conference, which is an annual event, are going to have one forum on local heating network, so some experts and other interested people get the opportunity to exchange information, ideas or views about the topic.

Moreover, we have visited a windmill park and had some discussions about wind power in regional planning, some experiences with wind power and energy storage. We want to foster the collaboration in the Working Group Energy Cooperative in 2015.