



INTENSIFY
Interreg Europe



An interregional cooperation project for improving low-carbon economy policies.

INTENSIFY innovatively addresses a key challenge for European cities and regions in how to energise citizens and communities to achieve more carbon reduction. The project's objective is to reduce carbon emissions from all sectors by empowering local communities.

www.interregeurope.eu/intensify



Low-carbon
economy



1.74 M
ERDF



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European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



WELCOME

...to the **Interreg Europe Intensify Project's** fifth newsletter.

This newsletter highlights the collection of good practices shared by the project partners during the project.

In this issue, good practices from each partner are illuminated to share inspiring solutions in reducing greenhouse gas emissions through community engagement and to improve our regional policy instruments.

The project partners have been busy sharing twenty-six good practices on the project website with thirteen successfully published on the Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform good practice database. Policymakers around Europe are now able to consult the thirteen good practices online and contact them through the Policy Learning Platform for further exchange of experiences.

We also welcome a new partner in the project, the Local Energy Agency of Podravje (Energap). Energap has fifteen years of experience providing services and information on sustainable energy use as well as the regional centre of knowledge and ideas.



Centro de Estudios Ambientales

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AGENEAL
Local Energy Management Agency of Almada





GOOD PRACTICES

Local Energy Management Agency of Almada, AGENEAL MultiAdapt – Multifunction adaptation as a tool to address different hazards

MultiAdapt is a cross-cutting tool that harnesses the multiple benefits of urban green infrastructure as an adaptation and resilience solution to climate change. The project offers to improve Almada's flood control capacity by creating four urban vegetable gardens designed to act as a filtration area by absorbing water runoff in the flood plains after a storm.

It is not limited to just one benefit; the additional green space will mitigate the urban heat effect, improve the urban water cycle, and boost community interaction and social resilience. It empowers the local community as cultivation will be developed by estimated 360 families and contributes to food security in the area and offers a low-carbon alternative for local consumers.



Learn more about AGENEAL's good practices here:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/10755/local-climate-platform-for-almada/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/9933/multidapt-offers-low-carbon-alternative-to-citizens/>



CORK CITY COUNCIL

University College Cork Green Campus

The university piloted the green flag programme to drive environmentally sustainable changes and influence behaviour led by the student body. This requires the commitment and engagement of all stakeholders and establishing a framework to implement a seven-step programme of continual improvement across several themes.



The level of engagement from the student body through the years is truly inspiring and played a key role in leading the green transformation on campus. According to UCC Sustainability Officer Dr Maria Kirrane, “we’ve had a complete institutional transformation over the last twelve years which was completely inspired by the students and enabled by leadership.”

Learn more about Cork City Council’s good practices here:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/11087/ucc-students-lead-the-green-transformation/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/11033/25th-anniversary-of-cork-environmental-forum/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/11303/shep-earth-aware-educates-the-community/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/9912/good-practice-creates-sustainable-energy-communities/>



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ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES CENTRE (CEA) IN VITORIA-GASTEIZ

New smart network of secure parking for bicycles in Vitoria-Gasteiz

Parking facilities were added in strategic locations requested by the community throughout the city that are easily accessible via the cycling network. All network facilities located in frequented public spaces have an automatic door with security systems, smart access control and video recording for bicycles and cargo bikes.



A Policy Learning Platform thematic expert praises the good practice, "Bicycle theft is a problem in many European cities and can discourage citizen investment in cycling. This practice provides secure parking spaces for bikes, with integrated ICT systems for payment and access to the service."

Learn more about Vitoria-Gasteiz's e-mobility initiatives here:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/11265/vitoria-gasteiz-is-a-cycling-city-haven/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/10180/vitoria-gasteiz-launches-e-bike-campaigns/>

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

The Milton Keynes Electric Vehicle Experience Centre



The Milton Keynes Electric Vehicle (EV) Experience Centre provides independent advice and test drive opportunities to help citizens choose an electric vehicle. The public can be targeted to learn more about electric vehicles and as a result be motivated to invest in electric vehicles in preference to other forms of transport.

The combination of the staff that are well-trained in providing independent advice and the offers of test drives of up to a week of different makes and models of EV's significantly builds trust from the public in e-vehicles and help citizens make informed choices.

Learn more about Milton Keynes Council's e-mobility initiatives here:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/10864/milton-keynes-launches-e-cargo-bikes/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/10185/milton-keynes-trials-first-electric-waste-vehicle/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/10153/milton-keynes-council-s-green-transport-initiatives/>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/6851/delivery-robots-in-use-in-milton-keynes/>

PROVINCE OF TREVISO

Energy Performance Integrated Contract

The energy performance contracting for the public building stock of schools and institutions of the Province of Treviso involves a multi-service procurement. This targets the improvement of maintenance standards, overcoming the critical issues such as technical aspects, the reduction of energy costs and lastly a better use of spaces and resources.

The energy efficiency measures from the innovative contracting will not only result in creating critical mass but also bringing down the relative transaction costs per asset. It will reduce carbon emissions from the building stock and encourage communal behavioural changes.



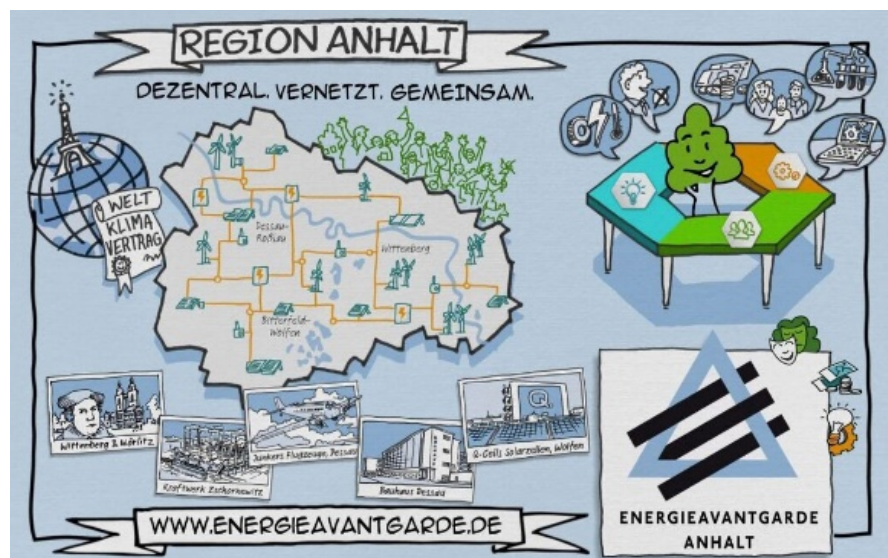
Learn more about the Province of Treviso's community engagement initiatives to reduce GHG emissions with schools here:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/11246/five-lessons-on-energy-efficiency/>

ENERGIEAVANTGARDE ANHALT

StEmp Tool – Stakeholder-Empowerment-Tool

A tool to get an overview of land use and energy system in the real laboratory Anhalt. The StEmp aims to identify the interests of regional stakeholders, cooperate with regional stakeholders in co-shaping the energy transition in the region, improve the understanding of relationships between energy management, ecological and cultural landscape systems, encourage the participation of the public in the planning process and in the use of renewable energy systems, facilitate regional energy transition, enable holistic planning and approval of renewable energy plants and provide data and source code to facilitate the implementation of similar tools.



Learn more about Energieavangarde Anhalt's other good practice here:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/5888/germany-s-energy-transition-role-playing-game/>



CITY OF ZADAR

FIESTA

The Family Intelligent Energy Saving Targeted Action (FIESTA) project aims to lead families with children to save energy at home, acting both on their energy consumption behaviour and on their purchasing decisions. This project supports European consumers to adopt more sustainable consumption behaviour in their daily life focusing on cooling and heating solutions which offer significant domestic saving potential.

The project featured having an ambassador as a community engagement tool to build public trust and established an Energy Help Desk in Zadar as a designated contact point for all families to learn more about the project and receive advices on technical and financial matters. FIESTA lotteries were also launched as a financial incentive for more families to join the project and win rewards in domestic appliances and discounts. Finally, a Local Consumers Group was established to promote local interest in the project with the involvement of local retailers offering discounts on installations and appliances.



FIESTA

FAMILIES INTELLIGENT ENERGY
SAVING TARGETED ACTION

Learn more about the City of Zadar's good practice here:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/10632/city-of-zadar-held-study-visit-on-fiesta/>

Innovative Design of Educational Approach for Preschool Children

We are delighted to introduce a new partner in the project, the Local Energy Agency of Podravje (Energap). Energap has fifteen years of experience providing services and information on sustainable energy use as well as the regional centre of knowledge and ideas in Maribor, Slovenia. Their activities expanded to facilitate workshops for schools and developed an impressive range of educational materials such as booklets, best practice guidance, games, animations, puppet shows, solar-powered models of cars and windmills, and an electricity producing bicycle model.

This good practice encourages preschool children to think about environmental issues through the use of stimulating games, homemade tools and Slovene folk fairy tales. To engage preschool children with the topic of environmental issues, in particular energy conservation, it is vital to communicate in a simple way which speaks to them. A well-known Slovenian folk fairy tale was selected as an educational tool for delivering themes of saving energy and encouraging early behavioural change.

A Policy Learning Platform thematic expert praises the good practice, “fairy tales have long been used to transfer moral and behavioural lessons to children. This approach converts a traditional tale into a lesson on energy efficiency, tapping into a well-known story and characters to educate on small day-to-day actions and changes that could be implemented easily. Such approaches can not only lead to impactful actions, but also to long-term behaviour change, with habits gained in childhood continuing for life.”



Learn more about Energap's good practices here:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/10563/energap-study-visit-on-collaboration-with-janitors>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/10469/energap-s-study-visit-on-sustainability-workshops>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/10357/energy-efficiency-workshops-engage-with-students>

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/news/news-article/10217/kindergartens-engaged-in-sustainable-mobility>

THE FULL COLLECTION OF GOOD PRACTICES CAN BE FOUND HERE:

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/intensify/good-practices>

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