Bulgarian Municipalities Working Together to Improve Air Quality

LIFE Programme of the European Union
LIFE17 IPE/BG/000012 - LIFE IP CLEAN AIR
Project location: Bulgaria
Total amount: 16 666 266 EUR
% EC Co-funding: 60%
Duration: 02/10/2018 - 02/10/2024
Coordinating Beneficiary: Sofia Municipality
Associated Beneficiaries: The municipalities of Burgas, Ruse, Stara Zagora, Veliko Tarnovo and Montana, and the NGO Club „Economika 2000“
MAIN PROJECT OBJECTIVES

• Improvement of the air quality in the municipalities of Sofia, Burgas, Veliko Tarnovo, Montana, Ruse and Stara Zagora

• Building and improving the capacity of the administration of the six municipalities to:
  • implement the measures, included in the AQPs
  • carry out overall monitoring and control, ensuring the air quality
  • use different sources of financing for implementation of air quality measures
  • elaborate AQPs for the next programming period
MAIN PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- **Raising the awareness** and creating a well-informed community of citizens and NGOs

- **Increasing the capacity of all municipalities** in Bulgaria with **poor air quality** in the matters relating to air quality management

- **Improving the transfer of know-how and experience** in the field of air quality through networking with other EU municipalities, responsible institutions, similar projects, etc.
EXPECTED IMPACT

- **Main project impact** – reduction of $PM_{10}$ pollution in the 6 municipalities

- **Now**: $PM_{10}$ pollution – 10 526 t/y

- **$PM_{10}$ pollution reduction by the end of the project**:  
  - 160 t/y by IP actions and  
  - 3 700 t/y by Complementary actions
PROJECT PHASES

2 Oct 2018

PHASE 1

15 months

2 Oct 2024

PHASE 2

15 months

PHASE 3

42 months
PHASE 1 Preparatory

- Action A1. Analysis of AQPs and collection of additional information
- Action A2. Assessment of household heating as a source of air pollution
- Action A3. Alternatives for household heating and market research
- Action A4. Analysis of the Target Energy Assistance Program of Bulgaria
- Action A5. Design of a Scheme for transition towards alternative forms of household heating
- Action A6. Capacity building
PHASE 2

- **Pilot testing** of the Scheme for transition to alternative forms of heating - 500 households in the 6 municipalities

- **Assessment** of implementation mechanism and changes if needed
PHASE 3

- Full implementation of the Scheme - 10 000 households
- Assessment of its implementation
- Proposal for replication of the Scheme via the National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria

**Horizontal actions** – capacity building, awareness/dissemination, project management, project monitoring and impact assessment
PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN PHASE 1

- AQPs assessment completed - **sufficiency and reliability** of the information, and **recommendations** to overcome the identified gaps, collection of additional information
- **Selected contractor** to supply 12 monitoring stations – expected contract signature
- Elaborated **specific plan for replication**
PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN PHASE 1

- Carried out *sociological surveys* in the IP municipalities
- Identified and prioritized *IP intervention regions/areas*
PROGRESS ACHIEVED in PHASE 1

- **Market research** for the alternative options for household heating and identification of manufacturers
- **Face-to-face survey** of 8 producers/importers
- **Summary report** on the applicable options in each IP municipality
PROGRESS ACHIEVED in PHASE 1

- Draft concept for a Scheme for transition towards alternative forms of household heating in each IP municipality

- Available at the project web site and the sites of all municipalities for public consultations

- Public discussions in each municipality

- Final concept for a Scheme
**PROGRESS ACHIEVED in PHASE 1**

- Online calculator on the IP project web site
PROGRESS ACHIEVED in PHASE 1

- Building the capacity of the CB, the AB and stakeholders
  - Hired air quality experts
  - General training in administrative and financial issues
  - Specialized trainings in public relations, AQP assessment, modelling emission sources, energy efficiency, team work, sociological surveys, monitoring and assessment, project management
PROGRESS ACHIEVED

- Building the capacity of the CB, the AB and stakeholders
  - Created and maintained FTP server for information exchange among the project partners
- Network for cooperation in the AQ area
  - consultations with the National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria
  - letters sent to all municipalities in Bulgaria
  - 14 municipalities have joined the network so far
PROGRESS ACHIEVED

- Elaborated *Communication strategy* for the entire duration of the IP with action plan
- Created and updated *project website*. *New design available*
- Created and updated *profiles* in the social media
- Carried out national and local *press conferences*
- Established *local information centers*
- Elaborated *information boards and banners*
- *Information materials (leaflets, pens, flash drives, folders, etc.)* – public procurement, expected contract signature
Project website

Created and launched in March 2019 - www.lifeipcleanair.eu
Project website

- In compliance with the Grant Agreement
- Bilingual - in Bulgarian and English
- Regularly updated
- The websites of all project beneficiaries contain a link to the project website
- Project logo
Redesigned project web site

Demo version:
http://lifeipcleanair.dotmedia.bg/

Not launched yet – considered as a risk during the period of application for participation in the Scheme
Profiles in social media

- FACEBOOK - Page: LIFE Integrated Project Clean Air
- TWITTER - https://twitter.com/clean_ip
- INSTAGRAM - https://www.instagram.com/life_ip_clean_air/
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!