



## ROEEC, Regional Observatory for Energy, Environment and Climate – Plovdiv [BG]

### Key Achievements

- Regional Observatory for Energy, Environment and Climate established in 2015
- 3 MEI prepared
- 2 Air Quality Action Plans prepared
- Waste management services provided
- Promoted to stakeholders at more than 25 events

### Context & Rationale

The Bulgarian municipalities participating in the Covenant of Mayors initiative are 26 and those of them having air quality monitoring and management plans to improve -9. The need for concise data on energy, environment and climate to develop and monitor the SEAPs and other strategic municipal documents is pressing; still, the data exchange approaches are limited and a new form of data exchange between the local authorities and the data providers needs to be established.

### Description

The Energy Agency of Plovdiv (EAP) has established the Regional Observatory for Energy, Environment and Climate (ROEEC) in the South Central and South East Region with the aim of supporting local authorities in their development, monitoring and evaluation of local actions dedicated to the European 20-20-20 target and other national targets.

The ROEEC will address the barriers to the data needed for the priority municipal plans and strategies, i.e. EE and RES plans (SEAP), air quality plans and waste management plans. It will focus on defining the data sets and data formats, methodologies and approaches to data collection, methods and practices in analysing data.

The ROEEC will operate in two aspects – the one being a virtual ROEEC – i.e. tool for data collection and structuring; and, second, as a “living” observatory with experts to process and analyse data. The ROEEC as a virtual tool will serve the municipalities to structure and store their data related to energy, environment and climate.



The living ROEEC will be comprised of the EAP experts – the Integrated office for air quality monitoring and modelling, the Laboratory for research and certification of solid biomass and compost, Energy Monitoring and Management, Development of strategies and plans.

The activities of both aspects of the ROEEC will be supported by promotion and dissemination activities to the various stakeholders – local authorities, institutions, municipal experts, wide public etc.

## Main Results

The Regional Observatory for Energy, Environment and Climate (ROEEC) was established in 2015 with the mission to support local authorities in preparing, developing, monitoring and evaluating actions related to energy, environment and climate. Since its start, the ROEEC has prepared 2 Monitoring Emission Inventories for two Bulgarian Municipalities and 1 to be monitored in 2016, two air quality action plans, and waste management analysis services. The ROEEC envisages that the Virtual Observatory will increase the knowledge and awareness of the local authorities and they will seek more support in the data acquisition and analysis.

## Lessons Learned & Success Factor

The first Bulgarian Observatory for energy, Environment and Climate (ROEEC) is established to support the local authorities in their annual duties for monitoring and reporting of actions. The Observatory has come to understand the role of all

stakeholders in the process of data acquisition and management. It is essential to keep live contacts with data providers (energy data, statistical data, environmental and climate information) not only formal communication through letters and working meetings. It is also important to support actively the local authorities through organisation of meetings, workshops, seminars etc.



The Observatory has signed collaboration agreements with the local energy provider (EVN Bulgaria), Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Energy, Executive Agency for Sustainable Energy Development, Executive Agency for Environment, Association of the Bulgarian Municipal Ecologists, three Bulgarian municipalities, an energy agency and an energy research centre.

## Implementing Structure & Partners - Governance

Energy Agency of Plovdiv is a hosting structure for the Regional Observatory for Energy, Environment and Climate (ROEEC). The ROEEC teams are formed based on on-demand tasks and services out of the EAP staff capacity.

## Financing and Costs / Time Frame

- 1 managing person and 1 IT specialist for technical support.
- Established in 2015.

## Contacts & Links

Energy Agency of Plovdiv  
Contact: Ina Karova

Mail: [eap@eap-save.eu](mailto:eap@eap-save.eu)

Observatory website: [www.observatory.eap-save.eu](http://www.observatory.eap-save.eu)

ENERGee Watch website: <http://www.energee-watch.eu/>