

D4.2 - Policy Adoption Measures for the Decarbonization of the H&C Sector

FACTSHEET #1_[Greece]

1. Identification of the measure

Introduce local heating and cooling plans & set up regional and local financial support programmes to implement the plans.

Strategic Policy Priority (SPP)	SPP #3: Actively engage local / decentralised authorities
Sector	Other
Type	Market and capacity building

2. Identification of KPIs (minimum of 3 KPIs)

KPIs

KPI #1	Number of Regions and Municipalities informed about the new National Energy and Climate Plan and the EU legislation on Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy and Energy Performance of Buildings;
KPI #2	Number of Regions and Municipalities informed about the new requirements for drafting Sustainable Local Heating and Cooling Plans (SLHCP)
KPI #3	Number of Energy advisors and planners informed about the new requirement for the development of SLHCP

3. Definition of the operationalization activities (minimum of 3 activities)

OPERATIONALIZATION ACTIVITIES

#1	Information on the new heating and cooling directions, measures and targets for Greece is compiled and communicated
#2	Information on the requirements for the development and drafting process of Sustainable Local Heating and Cooling Plans SLHCP is compiled and communicated
#3	Local authorities and energy planners with experience on drafting of Local Heating and Cooling Plans pass on their knowledge

4. Applicability/focus of the measure¹:

X	Municipality	Thessaloniki, Pella, Kalamaria
X	Region	Region of Central Macedonia
	National	

5. Overview of the expected results

RESULTS		
KPI ID	Assumptions	Estimated results
#1	There is an urgent need for capacity building and general public awareness on the new EU Directives (EED, RED, EPBD) and the NECP. Considering 38 Municipalities in the Region of Central Macedonia, at least 1 training event is needed.	38 Capacity building events held in the Region of Central Macedonia (1 event in each Municipality) to communicate the new requirement to the energy planners, engineers and the general public;
#2	There is an urgent need for capacity building on the new requirement of SLHCPs, targeted at the regional and local authorities across Greece. Considering 38 Municipalities in the Region of Central Macedonia, at least 1 training event is needed.	38 Capacity building events held in the Region of Central Macedonia (1 event in each Municipality), to communicate the new requirement especially to the regional and local authorities (Regional Council, Regional Committee, Municipal Council, Municipal Committee, employees in environmental and energy related Departments);
#3	The background knowledge from the REDI4Heat partners has to be communicated and exploited by the local authorities and energy planners.	200 stakeholders reached in the capacity building events

¹ Each MS is expected to focus on the application to, at least, 3 cities and 1 region.

6. Brief description of the discussion oriented towards a SWOT analysis

The second Capacity Building Event was held during the Forward Green Exposition and Conference², on 14 March 2025, in Thessaloniki.

The title of the event was “Decarbonising Heating & Cooling loads in the Regions of Northern Greece”.

Attendees of this event were employees from regional and local authorities, engineers working in the environmental and technical Department of Municipalities of Central Macedonia, members of the Municipal Council, energy planners and advisors and the general public.

During this event, there were presentations from the

- Regional Fund of Central Macedonia
- Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Savings
- Anatoliki S.A. Energy Planners

This event succeeded to

- Explain the new regulation on heating and cooling (EPBD, EED, RED and NECP) to local /regional authorities.
- Inform the regional/local authorities on the available tools for heating/cooling planning developed in the REDI4Heat project.
- Discuss further decarbonisation potential of the specific Region, through conveying the national Policy Adoption Scenarios.
- Provide the public authorities with the necessary skills and understanding to support the development of renewable heating and cooling policies.
- Increase public awareness on the decarbonisation of heating and cooling.

² <https://www.forwardgreen-expo.gr/en/>

This event revealed the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the Region, as follows:

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abundant Renewable Energy Resources: Central Macedonia benefits from high solar irradiation levels and biomass readiness. - Active Energy Communities: The region leads Greece in the number of energy communities, reflecting strong citizen engagement in energy self-production and a foundation for decentralized energy solutions. - Existing District Heating Infrastructure: Successful district heating projects, such as those in Amyntaio, demonstrate the feasibility and benefits of centralized heating solutions in the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High Energy Poverty Rates: A significant portion of the population struggles with energy affordability. - Logistical Challenges with Biomass: While biomass is abundant, the costs associated with its collection, transportation, and storage remain high.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Engagement: The growing interest and participation in energy communities indicate a societal shift towards sustainability. - Access to Funding: European and national funding programs, such as the Just Transition Fund and Horizon Europe, offer financial support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic Constraints: Economic instability or limited access to capital in the Region can hinder investments in sustainable energy projects. - Regulatory Uncertainties: Changes in policies or delays in regulatory approvals can create uncertainties, deterring investment and slowing project implementation in the Region. - Resource Competition: Limited availability of suitable land for solar thermal or PV installations may restrict their potential use in heating and cooling applications. Competing demands for biomass resources between energy production and other uses (i.e. agriculture or industry), can limit availability for heating and cooling applications.