

About the project

REGIO1st aims to raise awareness about the Energy Efficiency First Principle (EE1st) among regional authorities and their agencies, as well as support them to incorporate this in decisions related to energy planning. It does so through the provision of appropriate guidance to regional authorities to embed the EE1st principle in their decisions and in the implementation of their energy plans. It starts from six participant regions and expands its reach to over 100 regions in the EU. The specific objectives of the REGIO1st project are to:

- Provide support to regional authorities to apply the EE1st principle in their energy-related planning practices.
- Establish a community of practice for EE1st to ensure political commitment and societal acceptance through the co-development of energy related scenarios.
- Support the incorporation of the EE1st principle in the revision of National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP), Regional Operational Programs and foster the enforcement of Multilevel Climate and Energy Dialogue.

Partners:



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planning framework



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REGIO1ST

Planning Framework



Incorporating the EE1st principle into regional energy planning



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The REGIO1st Planning Framework provides a comprehensive, structured approach for regional energy planners in Europe to **develop and implement sustainable, cost-effective energy strategies while prioritizing energy savings in buildings, system flexibility and other energy efficiency solutions** in line with the Energy Efficiency First (EE1st) principle.

The framework is designed to facilitate collaboration among stakeholders, align with broader national goals, and address the unique challenges and opportunities of each region.

By following the REGIO1st Planning Framework, planners can systematically address the complex challenges of energy planning, develop strategies that maximize the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy, and create a sustainable, resilient, and economically viable energy future for their communities.



- 1 Roles and responsibilities matrix
- 2 Stakeholder identification and analysis template
- 3 Stakeholder engagement plan template
- 4 National and regional targets mapping template
- 5 Energy inventory data collection template
- 6 Participatory priorities ranking tool
- 7 Technology catalogue
- 8 Cost-benefit analysis
- 9 Multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA)
- 10 Monitoring template

Download each of these tools here:



Planning framework tools



Planning framework stages



1. Preparation

Define the geographical scope, establish roles and responsibilities, identify existing regional energy plans, and commission the creation of a new regional energy plan.



2. Engaging stakeholders

Identify key stakeholders and their priorities and develop a stakeholder engagement plan to foster collaboration.



3. Reviewing energy objectives & targets

Examine national and regional visions and targets, discussing them with stakeholders to ensure alignment.



4. Exploring the regional energy system

Collect and analyse data on energy consumption patterns, infrastructure and emissions to create a baseline assessment.



5. Cost-benefit analysis

Assess the potential of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency solutions, model future scenarios, and identify least-cost combinations of solutions.



6. Assessing the practical feasibility of least-cost energy solutions

Evaluate distributional impacts, supply chain readiness, workforce capacity, and gather feedback through public consultations.



7. Defining actions and developing the regional energy plan

Rank proposed initiatives based on their potential impact, cost-effectiveness, and stakeholder alignment, and secure funding and resources.



8. Implementation, monitoring & review

Execute detailed implementation plans, establish monitoring & evaluation systems, communicate progress, and periodically update the regional energy plan.