



The EU launch event of the project Regio1st gathers multi-level stakeholders

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 24 February 2023 – On 23 February 2023, the project Regio1st, funded by the LIFE programme of the European Union (EU) gathered more than 90 participants from different sectors and levels of governance for its online launch event, co-organized with the Covenant of Mayors-Europe (CoM-Europe). The event shed light on the project activities and objectives and informed about the EE1st principle and its state of play at regional level.

The event, which gathered more than 90 participants from all corners of Europe and close neighborhood countries, aimed to promote the activities of Regio1st and to raise awareness about energy efficiency and the Energy Efficiency First (EE1st) principle to a large and diverse audience.

The first session was introduced by **Nathalie Cliquot** (Project Adviser at CINEA) who introduced the projects funded by the LIFE programme and the different areas of focus of the programme, with particular attention paid for energy efficiency-related projects. Then, **Vlasis Oikonomou** (Coordinator of the project and Managing Director of IEECP) provided an overview of the project's aims and activities in the six pilot regions. To conclude this first segment, **Nadège Seguel** (Project Officer in charge of activities of the CoM-Europe) the Cities Energy Saving Sprint, an initiative taken in the framework of the REPowerEU plan to help and encourage cities to save energy.

The second session focused on the EE1st principle, the project's main area of focus, in the context of the recast of the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED) of the EU. **Veronika Jirickova** (Policy Officer at DG ENER of the European Commission) provided insights on the advance of negotiations, with the final trilogues planned for early March 2023. She



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explained more in detail the requirements set by the Article 3 of the recast EED with regards to the EE1st principle application.

The event ended with a roundtable which allowed representatives of four of the six pilot regions to provide information about the implementation of energy efficiency measures and programmes in their respective regions. The speakers also shared their point of view on the perspectives in their regions with regards to the EE1st principle. The roundtable was chaired by **Michael Doran** (SEEA). The speakers were **Maria Belarmina Diaz Agudo** (Government of Asturias), **Alen Visjnic** (MENEAA) and **Sofia-Natalia Boemi** (CluBE).

The event was met with many positive reactions and participants manifested interest in following the development of the project activities in the future.



Website: <https://fedarene.org/project/regio1st/>

Social Media: #Regio1st



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