



## Innovative Financial Instruments for industry low carbon energy transition in Central Europe

### WPT2:

WP T2 is divided in two main activities. According to the Guidelines on Financial Instruments and the FIRECE Action Plan, the first activity has aim to support regional authorities to develop Ex-Ante Assessment Analysis and Innovative Financial Instruments to support industry's low carbon energy transition. The second activity consists of testing the Tool to assess public investments to industry on energy efficiency and renewable energy sources.

### Ongoing Activities:

#### Pilot Action 1

##### STRIA

In Hungary, in the frame of the WPT2 South Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency (STRIA) started to work on the Pilot Action 1, elaboration of an innovative financial instrument (IFI).

STRIA involved an external expert company (Ex Ante Ltd.) in order to find the best solution to support the energy efficiency investments of SMEs. After a detailed market analysis Ex Ante Ltd. and STRIA organized a stakeholder meeting on 18th November 2019 where the results were presented and feedback were collected.

During the elaboration of the financial instrument there were a continuous contact with the Ministry of Finance who is responsible for the hungarian Operational Programmes. The next stakeholder meeting will be on 5th December, after that Ex Ante Ltd will finalize the IFI.

##### IRENA

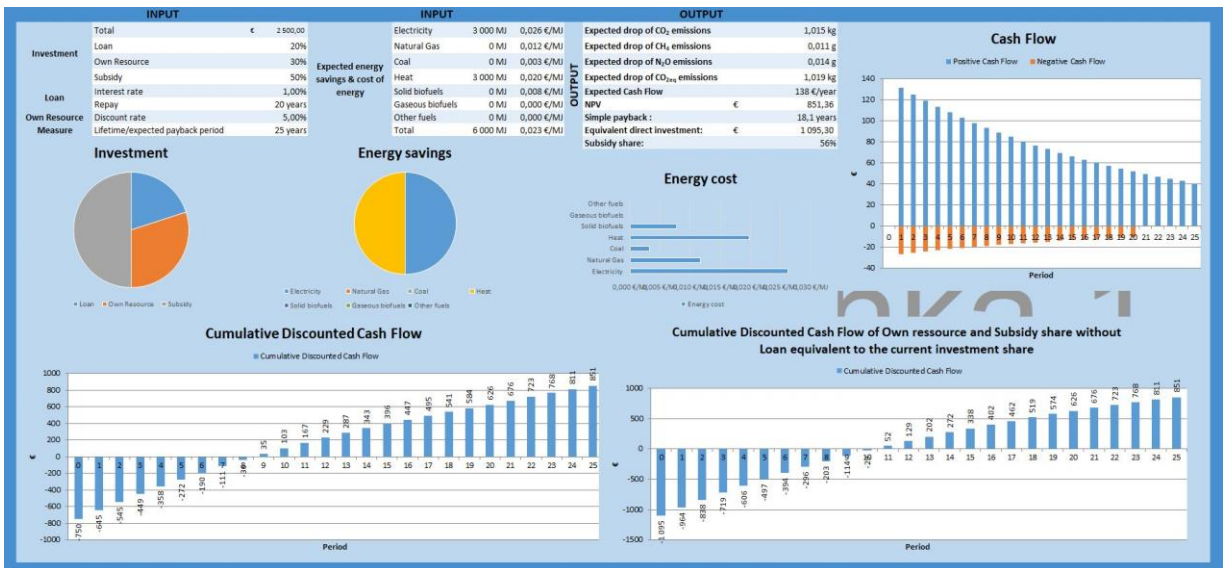
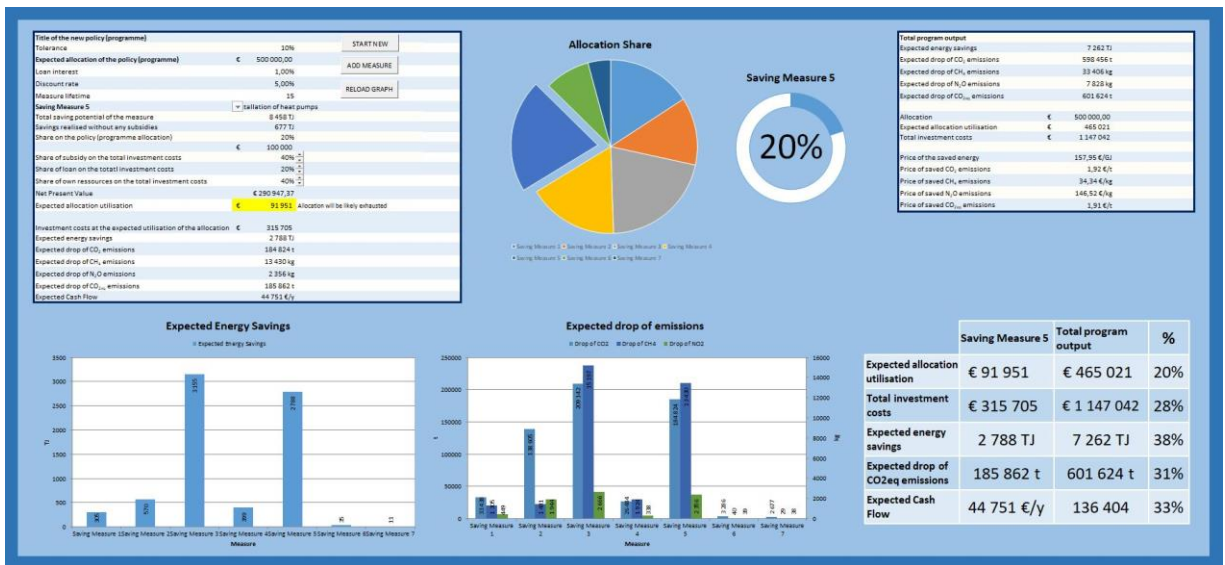
In September, IRENA started with activities related to the elaboration of the Ex-Ante assessment analysis, a market analysis aimed at exploring and analyzing market gaps and failures in the financing of energy savings investments in the industrial and small and medium-sized enterprises in the Istrian Region. The aim of the analysis is to gather relevant data based on which the second block of the Ex-Ante assessment will be prepared, which aims to propose a model of financial instrument that best enables financing of energy savings investments in the industry and SME sector.

The Ex-Ante assessment and the feasibility study that will follow the assessment will, as a pilot activity, have the potential to apply the methodology to other counties and regions in the Republic of Croatia in the future as an example of good practice. In accordance with the project activities, Ex-Ante assessment and feasibility study will be proposed to the Managing Authority of the Operational Program for adoption in the 2014-2020 programming period or for the 2021-2027 programming period in order to take into account the proposed financial instrument when creating new or to improve existing models of financing through financial instruments.



**ENVIROS**

Based on the Tool to assess public investments for industry's low carbon transition developed in WP T1, **ENVIROS** has prepared the testing methodology for practical application of the Tool in pilot activities addressed to public authorities (PA1) and industry sector (PA2). The methodology includes two versions of the Tool (one for each pilot activity) with improved graphic design, regional adaptations (where regional data is available), and a short guide how to use the tools.





**Lubelskie**

Recently, work on the document Questionnaire on Market failures analysis WP T2: Action T2.1 Preparation of PA 1: CE ex-ante assessment analysis report has been completed. At the same time, based on the action plan and project guidelines, an evaluation analysis (Ex-Ante) is created, focusing on market failures, added value of financial instruments and resources. In addition, on November 5, 2019, local thematic workshops were organized as part of A.T2.4 activity in the Marshal's Office of the Lubelskie Voivodeship. The purpose of the meeting was: involvement of stakeholders to discuss past experience in the implementation of financial instruments.

**Fraunhofer IMW**

Fraunhofer IMW (Germany, region Saxony) was one of the organizer of the workshop on 25th May 2019 to introduce the Tool to assess public investments for industry low carbon transition to local stakeholders. Currently, Fraunhofer IMW finalize an overview of existing regional financial instruments for resource efficiency investments suitable for SMEs and check what are the regional market failure, investment situation and investments needs. This will be used as basis for the development of innovative financial instrument as the focus will be the combination of crowdfunding with other financial instrument

**First Video pill**

Fraunhofer IMW has just finalized the first short project video, which can be watched on the official project website (<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/FIRECE.html>). The video was introduced for the first time at the international conference e-nova in Pinkafeld, Austria, where several project results were also presented by the representatives of the project partners. This first video gives a brief impression about the project, its goals and the expected results as well as the project partners behind the project. It also briefly explains the approach for developing innovative financial instruments in the project regions. More detail information about the project progress and the reached results could be found in the following videos, which will be also uploaded on our website until the end of the project.

Link to video pill...<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/FIRECE--First-Video-Pill.html>





## Multiplier Conference

### RDA ARLEG

Project partner RDA ARLEG took part at the conference „NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR SME’s in Letia Business Center in Legnica, Poland, on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019.

The conference was organized by the Legnica Special Economic Zone. The participants of the event - small and medium enterprises - received information on available forms of support and possibilities of financing investment projects.

It was also be an opportunity to present the objectives of the FIRECE project concerning the implementation of financial instruments designed for investments related to energy saving in SMEs.



## Transnational Event

From 21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> November the FIRECE project partners attended the e-nova conference in Pinkafeld, Austria. During the event a separate FIRECE session was organized to present key outputs and discuss IFIs. The Project Partner Enviro presented the tool to assess public investments and training modules to support low carbon transition. Guidelines on financial instruments to support the regional implementation of energy plans and sustainable solutions of FIRECE action plan was explained by the Project Partner Emilia-Romagna Region. At the end of the FIRECE session a representative of the Czech Ministry of Industry & Trade did one additional presentation about Czech national programs on energy savings support including financial instruments.

