

Report on NECP national roundtable in Italy

Background

In Italy, the discussion on the NECP took place through the participation in the events organized in the framework of the NECPlatform project, which served to share and draft the proposals and the objections to the plan. The proposals were then submitted to the competent authorities and discussed during the National Conference in the Energy and Climate Plan held in Rome in March 2024. The municipality of Mantua attended the two events relative to the NECPlatform project and the National Conference. The list of the events is reported in *Table 1*.

Table 1: List of events attended by representatives of the municipality of Mantua

Date	Title	Location	Participants from the Mantua municipality
3 April 2023	Rafforzare la governance multilivello nelle politiche nazionali in materia di energia e clima mediante l'attivazione di piattaforme di dialogo	Bologna	Elisa Parisi
17 October 2023	Il Piano Nazionale Energia Clima: un percorso ambizioso	Rome	Elisa Parisi
21-22 March 2024	National Conference in the Energy and Climate Plan: Proposals and experiences in Italy	Rome	Elisa Parisi Roberta Marchioro

The meetings held in April and October 2023 in the framework of the NECPlatform project aimed at gathering stakeholders from both local and national level to share the experience of the countries that participated in the LIFE project NECPlatform (Italy, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Portugal and Romania). During the meetings, participants could propose and discuss integrations and modifications to the NECP. The municipality of Mantua shared its experience on the EUCityCalc project and proposed a list of recommendations to be integrated into the plan.

On 21 March, the city of Mantua participated to the session of the national conference with the title “Policies and tools for adaptation at local level to support the drafting of SECAPs”. The session was organized by the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) in collaboration with the Covenant of Mayors. The session, that involved both local and regional stakeholders, aimed at discussing policies and tools for adaptation at local level and to support SECAPs’ drafting.

On 22 March, the national conference was focused on proposals and experiences in Italy in relation to the National Climate and Energy Plan. The national conference focused on European, national, regional and municipal policies and initiatives on energy poverty and on the outcomes of the EPAH and the NECPlatform projects. Representatives from the Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security were invited to present the National Energy and Climate Plan. The National Coordination of Italian Local Agendas 21, referent of the NECPlatform project in Italy, illustrated the Position Paper resulting from the meetings with stakeholders, in which the Municipality of Mantua also took part by sharing its experience with the EUCityCalc project and proposing a list of recommendations to be integrated in the NECP.

The Ministry representative claimed that the points highlighted by the NECPlatform project following the April and October 2023 meetings have been dealt with or will be dealt with in the near future.

An additional event was held in April in Padua, after the national conference on the NECP. The event was organized by the Italian Local Agenda 21 Coordination in the framework of the National Forum on Energy and Sustainability (Duecinquezero forum) and proposed a moment of discussion with Italian stakeholders of the LIFE NECPlatform project. The event was useful for continuing the debate on the NECP and proposing a possible path of integration and improvement of the national policy document. Following an initial update on the proposals for integration to the PNIEC collected during the LIFE NECPlatform project, a discussion panel was held to collect ideas and proposals to improve the Plan.

Currently, in Italy, the NECP is subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment. Comments and integrations could be proposed via an online platform. At the same time, NECP is being revised after the observations moved by the European Commission and should be updated and approved in its final version by the end of June 2024.

The Italian NECP

The National Energy and Climate Plan is a ten-year integrated document mandated by the European Union to each of its member states in order for the EU to meet its overall greenhouse gases emissions targets. The Energy and Climate Plan addresses all five dimensions of the EU Energy Union: decarbonization, energy efficiency, energy security, internal energy markets and research, innovation and competitiveness.

The plan establishes key objectives:

- to accelerate the transition from traditional fuels to renewable sources by promoting the gradual phasing out of coal for electricity generation in favour of an electricity mix based on a growing share of renewables;
- to implement policies and measures in order to reduce greenhouse gases (phase-out of coal, higher CO₂ price, acceleration of renewables and energy efficiency in manufacturing process level);
- to use a mix of fiscal, economic, regulatory, and policy instruments to ensure energy efficiency;
- to become less dependent on imports by increasing renewable sources and energy efficiency and to diversify sources of supply through the use of natural gas, including liquefied natural gas (LNG);
- to ensure a greater degree of market integration and the development of processes, products and knowledge for the use of renewables, energy efficiency and network technology.

The targets of the NECP are reported in

Table 2.

Table 2: Targets of the Italian NECP.

		2020 Targets		2030 Targets	
		EU	Italy	EU	Italy
Renewable energy	Share of gross final energy consumption from renewable sources	20%	17%	32%	30%
	Share of gross final energy consumption from renewable sources used in transport	10%	10%	14%	22%
	Share of gross final energy consumption from renewable sources used for heating and cooling			1.3% per year (indicative)	1.3% per year (indicative)
Energy efficiency	Primary energy consumption reduction compared to the PRIMES 2007 projection	-20%	-24%	-32.5% (indicative)	-43% (indicative)
	Savings in final energy consumption through energy efficiency obligation schemes	-1.5% per year (without transport)	-1.5% per year (without transport)	-0.8% per year (with transport)	-0.8% per year (with transport)
Greenhouse gas emissions	Greenhouse gas reduction compared to the 2005 EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU-ETS)	-21%		-43%	
	Greenhouse gas reduction compared to all 2005 non-ETS sectors	-10%	-13%	-30%	-33%
	Overall greenhouse gas reduction compared to 1990 levels	-20%		-40%	
Electricity interconnection	Level of electricity interconnection	10%	8%	15%	10%
	Capacity of electricity interconnection (MW)		9,285		14,375

Consultation processes: the dialogue between local and national authorities

Italy was involved in the NECPlatform project and contributed to the NECP through this project. NECPlatform, which started in 2022, offered support to the six participating Member States to promote participatory processes at multiple levels to update the NECP through decision-making processes that could, in the future, be replicated by other Member States.

During the NECPlatform meetings, representatives of various national entities (such as the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security, authorities in charge of energy management such as RSE, GSE, ENEA and the National Associations of Italian Municipalities) met local authorities, ecological associations, associations working in the field of energy and energy poverty, universities and research centers. The meetings were opportunities for exchange and comparison and to propose topics to improve the NECP.

The participatory process was organized on multiple levels and various tools were used to ensure the widest participation. A specific clarification must be made regarding the need to be able to reach the greatest number of municipal administrations, which have proven to be experts on energy and climate issues or pioneers in carry out innovative interventions. It is suggested to plan a periodic extended meeting directly with the Municipalities that go beyond the current institutional tables to facilitate the sharing of direct experiences.

The approval of the NECP must become the opportunity for defining a unitary mitigation and adaptation strategy that guarantees coordinated and interacting plans, programs and actions at a national level and the continuity of climate planning in the territories. The main objective is to ensure that the theme of "climate" would be central and binding in all strategic documents and policies both in national and local projects through the intervention at multiple levels:

- Integration of Mitigation and Adaptation themes into the Plans
- Capitalize on the experiences of the 100 Carbon Neutral Cities
- Just Ecological Transition also means intervening on Energy Poverty
- Energy efficiency
- Redevelopment of public and private buildings
- Strategic role of Transport
- Increase energy production from renewable sources
- Renewable energy communities
- Financing the energy transition

Outcomes

The Municipality of Mantua is involved in two European projects: [NECPlatform](#) and EUCityCalc. Both of them are coordinated by Energy Cities. The Italian group Coordinamento Nazionale delle Agende 21 is in charge of coordinating a group of stakeholders, among which there is the municipality of Mantua. The group works on the proposal of integrations, modifications and recommendations to the NECP.

In both projects, the multi-level dialogue on climate and energy aims to:

- promote and strengthen dialogue and interaction between national ministries, agencies in charge of developing energy and climate strategies, and municipalities, provinces, regions, research organizations and associations.
- facilitate vertical and horizontal integration of energy and/or climate policies to update national energy and climate policies, including the National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan

Therefore, the group of stakeholders started a discussion on energy and climate to bring opinions views and proposals coming from local and regional authorities to the attention of the national level.

In the meetings held both in-person and online, the Municipality of Mantua shared the experience acquired during the EUCityCalc project.

The output of the meetings held during the NECPlatform project is a series of recommendations to be potentially included in the final version of the NECP. Here below is a list of the topics that municipalities, cities and associations proposed and that were brought to the attention of the Ministry responsible for the drafting of the NECP

Topic 1: Centrality of the climate issue in national and local policies.

The topic of 'climate' should be central and binding in all documents and plans, both at national level and at local level. For these reasons, the NECP should:

- clearly address all the issues of the 'just' ecological transition, in terms of employment, reconciling the needs of today with those of the new generations.
- define an Italian Climate Law that must be a binding instrument to realize what the Plans (NECP and National Climate Change Adaptation Plan) indicate.

Topic 2: Integration of mitigation and adaptation into the Plans.

To achieve an effective integration of mitigation and adaptation issues in local sectoral plans, it is considered appropriate to pursue:

- the integration of objectives and measures of the sectoral plans with those established in the SECAPs, where present.

- the definition of a climate neutrality verification requirement for all those sectoral plans that involve a change in the local emissions balance.
- give continuity to climate transitions and planning.

Topic 3: Role of the Piano Nazionale di Ripresa e Resilienza (PNRR) concerning the objectives of climate neutrality and economic dimension.

How and in what ways can PNRR projects facilitate the achievement of climate neutrality objectives? How to finance the transition? How to finance local projects concerning the real needs of the territories?

- linking investment needs to public financing policies: the PNRR, REPowerEU and European funds as a whole
- define the basic principles for public incentives, to ensure that spending is functional in achieving climate objectives
- stop financing fossil energy; simplify incentives for renewables
- facilitate self-consumption and forms of sharing of renewable energy
- promote innovative financing (e.g. green bonds)


The recommendations of the Municipality of Mantua, together with the ones of the other stakeholders involved in the NECPlatform project, has been brought to the attention of the Ministry by the Italian Coordinamento Italiano Agende 21.

List of the stakeholders involved during the NECPlatform meetings

NECPlatform 			STAKEHOLDERS COINVOLTI		
DENOMINAZIONE ORGANIZZAZIONE	TIPOLOGIA	LIVELLO	DENOMINAZIONE ORGANIZZAZIONE	TIPOLOGIA	LIVELLO
MASE	Ministero	Nazionale	Comune di Roma	Ente Locale	Comunale
MAE	Ministero	Nazionale	Comune di Torino	Ente Locale	Comunale
MIMIT	Ministero	Nazionale	Comune di Milano	Ente Locale	Comunale
Ufficio Patto dei Sindaci	Iniziativa volontaria promossa dalla Commissione Europea	Europeo/Nazionale	Progetto Resilienza Urbana (Comune di Milano*)	Ente Locale	Comunale
Climate Alliance	Associazione di Comuni e Enti territoriali europei	Europeo/Nazionale	Comune di Firenze	Ente Locale	Comunale
GSE	Gestore dei Servizi Energetici	Nazionale	Comune di Mantova	Ente Locale	Comunale
RSE	Ricerca sul Sistema Energetico	Nazionale	Comune di Gorizia	Ente Locale	Comunale
ENEA	Agenzia Nazionale per le nuove tecnologie, l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile	Nazionale	Comune di Este	Ente Locale	Comunale
ISPRA	Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale	Nazionale	Comune di Salerno	Ente Locale	Comunale
Regione Piemonte	Ente Locale	Regionale	Università di Bologna	Ente di formazione e ricerca	
Regione Emilia-Romagna	Ente Locale	Regionale	Università Bocconi	Ente di formazione e ricerca	
ANCI	Associazione Comuni Italiani	Nazionale e Regionale	Università IUAV di Venezia	Ente di formazione e ricerca	
AESS Modena	Agenzia per l'Energia e lo sviluppo sostenibile di Modena	Regionale	Università degli Studi di Palermo - Innovazione Tecnologica	Ente di formazione e ricerca	
ATES	Azienda Territoriale Energia e Servizi	Regionale	Kyoto Club	Organizzazione no profit	Nazionale
Città Metropolitana di Milano	Ente Locale	Provinciale	AISFOR	Agenzia per l'Innovazione, lo Sviluppo e la Formazione	Nazionale
Comune di Padova	Ente Locale	Comunale	Fondazione Fenice	Ente di formazione	Comunale
Comune di Parma	Ente Locale	Comunale	ECCO Think Tank	Think tank no profit	Europeo
Comune di Brescia	Ente Locale	Comunale	A Sud	Associazione ecologista	Internazionale
Comune di Prato	Ente Locale	Comunale	WWF	Organizzazione ambientalista	Internazionale
Comune di Bergamo	Ente Locale	Comunale	Legambiente	Associazione ambientalista	Nazionale
			CRAS (Centro Ricerche Applicate per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile)	Società di ingegneria ambientale	Nazionale
			CapaCITIES	Progetto europeo (Horizon)	Europeo

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Figure 1: List of stakeholders involved in the April 2023 meeting

NECPlatform 			STAKEHOLDERS COINVOLTI		
DENOMINAZIONE ORGANIZZAZIONE	TIPOLOGIA	LIVELLO	DENOMINAZIONE ORGANIZZAZIONE	TIPOLOGIA	LIVELLO
MASE	Ministero	Nazionale	Comune di Roma	Ente Locale	Comunale
MAE	Ministero	Nazionale	Comune di Torino	Ente Locale	Comunale
MIMIT	Ministero	Nazionale	Comune di Milano	Ente Locale	Comunale
Ufficio Patto dei Sindaci	Iniziativa volontaria promossa dalla Commissione Europea	Europeo/Nazionale	Progetto Resilienza Urbana (Comune di Milano*)	Ente Locale	Comunale
Climate Alliance	Associazione di Comuni e Enti territoriali europei	Europeo/Nazionale	Comune di Firenze	Ente Locale	Comunale
GSE	Gestore dei Servizi Energetici	Nazionale	Comune di Mantova	Ente Locale	Comunale
RSE	Ricerca sul Sistema Energetico	Nazionale	Comune di Gorizia	Ente Locale	Comunale
ENEA	Agenzia Nazionale per le nuove tecnologie, l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile	Nazionale	Comune di Este	Ente Locale	Comunale
ISPRA	Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale	Nazionale	Comune di Salerno	Ente Locale	Comunale
Regione Piemonte	Ente Locale	Regionale	Università di Bologna	Ente di formazione e ricerca	
Regione Emilia-Romagna	Ente Locale	Regionale	Università Bocconi	Ente di formazione e ricerca	
ANCI	Associazione Comuni Italiani	Nazionale e Regionale	Università IUAV di Venezia	Ente di formazione e ricerca	
AESS Modena	Agenzia per l'Energia e lo sviluppo sostenibile di Modena	Regionale	Università degli Studi di Palermo - Innovazione Tecnologica	Ente di formazione e ricerca	
ATES	Azienda Territoriale Energia e Servizi	Regionale	Kyoto Club	Organizzazione no profit	Nazionale
Città Metropolitana di Milano	Ente Locale	Provinciale	AISFOR	Agenzia per l'Innovazione, lo Sviluppo e la Formazione	Nazionale
Comune di Padova	Ente Locale	Comunale	Fondazione Fenice	Ente di formazione	Comunale
Comune di Parma	Ente Locale	Comunale	ECCO Think Tank	Think tank no profit	Europeo
Comune di Brescia	Ente Locale	Comunale	A Sud	Associazione ecologista	Internazionale
Comune di Prato	Ente Locale	Comunale	WWF	Organizzazione ambientalista	Internazionale
Comune di Bergamo	Ente Locale	Comunale	Legambiente	Associazione ambientalista	Nazionale
			CRAS (Centro Ricerche Applicate per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile)	Società di ingegneria ambientale	Nazionale
			CapaCITIES	Progetto europeo (Horizon)	Europeo


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Figure 2: List of stakeholders involved in the October 2023 meeting

Table 3: List of stakeholders involved in the National Conference of March 2024

Denominazione organizzazione	Tipologia	Livello
MASE	Ministero	Nazionale
MAE	Ministero	Nazionale
MIMIT	Ministero	Nazionale
Ufficio Patto dei sindaci	Iniziativa volontaria promossa dalla Commissione Europea	Europeo/nazionale
Climate Alliance	Associazione di Comuni e Enti territoriali europei	Europeo/nazionale
GSE	Gestore dei servizi energetici	Nazionale
RSE	Ricerca sul sistema energetico	Nazionale
ENEA	Agenzia Nazionale per le nuove tecnologie, l'energia e lo sviluppo sostenibile	Nazionale
ISPRA	Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale	Nazionale
Regione Piemonte	Ente locale	Regionale
Regione Emilia Romagna	Ente locale	Regionale
ANCI	Associazione Comuni Italiani	Nazionale/Regionale
AESS Modena	Agenzia per l'energia e lo sviluppo sostenibile di Modena	Regionale
ATES	Azienda Territoriale Energia e Servizi	Regionale
Città Metropolitana di Milano	Ente locale	Provinciale
Comune di Roma	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Torino	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Milano	Ente locale	Comunale
Progetto Resilienza Urbana	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Firenze	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Parma	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Padova	Ente locale	Comunale

Comune di Brescia	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Prato	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Bergamo	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Mantova	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Gorizia	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Este	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Borgofranco d'Ivrea	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Lecco	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Udine	Ente locale	Comunale
Comune di Salerno	Ente locale	Comunale
Università di Bologna	Ente di formazione e ricerca	Nazionale
Università Bocconi	Ente di formazione e ricerca	Nazionale
Università IUAV di Venezia	Ente di formazione e ricerca	Nazionale
Università degli Studi di Palermo	Ente di formazione e ricerca	Nazionale
Kyoto Club	Organizzazione no profit	Nazionale
AISFOR	Agenzia per l'innovazione, lo Sviluppo e la Formazione	Nazionale
Fondazione Fenice	Ente di formazione	Comunale
ECCO Think Tank	Organizzazione no profit	Europeo
A Sud	Associazione ecologista	Internazionale
WWF	Organizzazione ambientalista	Internazionale
Legambiente	Associazione ambientalista	Nazionale
ASviS	Rete di organizzazioni no profit	Nazionale
Fondazione per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile	Organizzazione no profit	Nazionale
GHGMI	Organizzazione no profit	Internazionale

CRAS	Ente di formazione e ricerca	Nazionale
Società di Ingegneria Ambientale	Associazione di ingegneri	Nazionale
MACS srl	Start up	Nazionale
CapaCITIES	Progetto europeo H2020	Europeo