



CO – MAY PROJECT

“Supporting local authorities to adopt measures to properly commit with the Covenant of Mayors”

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Version 1.0



Municipality of Mesagne



Municipality of Pietracatella



Municipality of Labin

Memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the continuation of cooperation after the completion of CO-MAY project financed under Interreg Italy-Croatia Programme 2021 - 2027

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION:

- CO – MAY project *“Supporting local authorities to adopt measures to properly commit with the Covenant of Mayors”* is a Small – scale project financed by Interreg Italy – Croatia 2021-2027 Programme (Priority Axis 5 *“Integrated governance for stronger cooperation”* – Specific Objective 5.1 *“Other actions to support a better cooperation governance”*);
- Project partners of CO-MAY are: Municipality of Mesagne (Lead Partner), Municipality of and Municipality of Labin (Partner n.2) and Municipality of Pietracatella (Partner n.3);
- The CO-MAY project addresses the common challenge of the territories involved in the Programme area of Interreg Italy-Croatia: the shortage of actions at local and regional level to face climate change and promote sustainable energy;
- The main objective of CO-MAY project is to develop joint cooperation between project partners to strengthen and improve skills and competences on sustainability governance policies, in line with the directives envisaged by the Covenant of Mayors and with the themes of the circular economy. This objective will be achieved through the exchange of good practices, the support of project partners with more experience in this sense (who have already signed the Covenant of Mayors) and the increase in the sustainable governance capabilities of the bodies involved.



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- In the CO-MAY project, the MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) corresponds to **Output 1.1**, which "*will enhance and promote the added value of cooperation in the Italy-Croatia area to establish collaboration in the key areas of energy efficiency, emission reduction, and the environment.*" Moreover, this MoU contributes to the project **Result** "*Organizations cooperating across borders after project completion.*" The implementation of the project's activities and outputs has facilitated the involvement of the three municipalities in cross-border cooperation. This involvement was realized through the development of the MoU, which represents one of the project's main outputs, and secondly, through the organization of a transnational cross-border workshop among the partners to exchange best practices related to the revision of the Covenant of Mayors' plans and the implementation of the SECAP.

AND ALSO:

- The uniformity of this MoU with the principles of the following EU strategies and policies:
 - **Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy**, as mainstream European voluntary movement involving local authorities in the development and implementation of sustainable energy and climate policies;
 - **EU Agenda 2030**, as the Agenda for Sustainable Development is a program of action for people, the planet and prosperity with 17 Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved in the environmental, economic, social and institutional fields by 2030;
 - **European Green Deal**, as a package of strategic initiatives that set the EU on the path to a green transition, with the ultimate goal of achieving climate neutrality by 2050.



- Recognizing the successful implementation of the CO-MAY project
- Taking into account the results achieved;
- Stressing the importance of cross-border cooperation;
- Promoting future cooperation in capacity building and joint projects;

GIVEN THE ABOVE

The project partners of the CO-MAY project (hereinafter referred to as *Partners*) voluntarily sign this:

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE FUTURE COOPERATION TO COMBAT THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE ENERGY SECTOR

Article 1: Purpose and scope

The objective of the MoU is to formalize the continuation of exchange of good practices and promote a shared cross-border vision to establish cooperation in the key areas of energy efficiency, emission reduction and environment within the framework of future European funding opportunities. The *Partners* intend to undertake cooperation and collaboration based on equality, reciprocity, and mutual benefit.

Article 2: Content of the Memorandum of Understanding

The mutual goals to be achieved by signing this MoU are:

1. To continue developing events and meetings to raise awareness about the project's themes among regional networks



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2. To continue producing revision and the upgrade of the three project partners' Covenant of Mayors action plans, including their SECAPs
3. To favor further exchanging of data and methodologies useful for the application of the principles of good governance related to the sustainable environmental measures
4. To continue promoting at local and national level the objectives and the interests of the Partnership cooperation with relevant associations and networks in the partner regions
5. To continue identifying and encourage potential users and stakeholders who have interest in the principles of CoM and best practices identified during CO-MAY project
6. To foster further communication system among Parties
7. To collaborate in sharing ideas, expertise and skills to implement further projects in Interreg Italy- Croatia Programme and other Interreg and EU Programmes
8. To Encourage the signing of the MoU by other stakeholders interested in the themes of the CoM and SECAP matters

Article 3: Framework for Cooperation and Joint Development

The partners will cooperate using the technical and administrative capacities and good practices developed under the CO-MAY project. The partners will promote the joint development and implementation of EU Programmes and projects related to the energy and environment sector or any other sector of common interest, in the framework of the Interreg Italy-Croatia Programme and other Interreg and/or EU financing Programmes. Regarding the cooperation activities under this MoU, the partners may also encourage the participation of associated partners and/or may allow, as appropriate, the participation of other relevant government institutions, public undertakings, other organizations and the private sector. This document can therefore be subscribed by all potential public and private stakeholders who support the principles of the Memorandum.



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Article 4: Institutional Framework

To coordinate cooperation activities, each partner may designate a representative to determine the directions of cooperation and to ensure the effectiveness of the exchange. Representatives of the partners or their designated coordinators should consult each other, by correspondence, and define cooperation activities and other related matters.

Article 5: Financial aspects

Cooperation activities are subject to the availability of funds and personnel. In any case, this protocol does not constitute or imply a financial commitment for any of the entities involved.

Article 6: Dispute settlement

Differences that may arise between the Partners due to the interpretation or implementation of the provisions of this MoU shall be resolved amicably through consultations between the Partners.

Article 7: Termination of the Agreement

Activities under this MoU may commence on the date of signature below and shall last for a minimum of 3 years. Partners may terminate their cooperation under this MoU at any time by giving sixty (60) days written notice to the other Partners.

NOTE

This Memorandum of Understanding is made in 1 (one) original copy, stored at the LP (Municipality of Mesagne) as responsible for the Development of the MoU. Each partner has a scanned copy of the agreement. This Memorandum of Understanding is subject to any approvals and/or ratifications of competence, in order to proceed with the signing and at a later time to provide for the decisions of the individual entities involved.



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Municipality of Pietrascatella



Municipality of Labin



SIGNATURES PART



Municipality of Mesagne



Municipality of Pietracatella



Municipality of Labin



NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION: MUNICIPALITY OF LABIN

Valter Glavičić

Labin, 17/12/2024

Name of the Signatory

Place and date

Mayor

Position of the Signatory

Signature





NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION: Municipality of Mesagne

Antonio Matarrelli

Labin, 17/12/2024

Name of the Signatory

Place and date

Mayor

Position of the Signatory

Signature





NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION: MUNICIPALITY OF PIETRACATELLA

Antonio Tomassone

Pietracatella, 17/12/2024

Name of the Signatory

Place and date

Mayor

Position of the Signatory

Signature





NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION:

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Name of the Signatory

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Place and date

.....

Position of the Signatory

.....

Signature



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Municipality of Pietracatella



Municipality of Labin