C-Track 50, an EU funded project under the Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme, aims to mobilise and support local and regional authorities in energy and climate planning in order to achieve climate resilience and carbon neutrality by 2050.

The project is implemented in 11 EU countries, namely: Austria, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Spain.

European experts & national representatives gathered in Athens for the C-Track 50 EU roundtable

The EU roundtable, held in Athens on 17th September 2019, was organised to give the opportunity to national authorities and experts from the eleven partner countries to exchange their experiences on their path to successful action plans. The discussion focused on EU climate and energy policy; data monitoring and sharing; potential decarbonisation scenarios for 2050; challenges for carbon neutrality and the role of multi-level governance. More

Moreover the 4th C-Track 50 meeting, hosted back to back with the EU Roundtable, on 18th September 2019, aimed at discussing the work progress for the first 18 months of the project, but also exchange on the next steps. To this end, the results of the national roundtables regarding the recommendations on national energy policy priorities for 2050 were presented. More

Webinar – Long term energy planning for carbon neutrality in EU cities and regions

C-Track 50 hosted its first webinar on 18th December 2019. More than 100 participants listened to the presentations and discussed with the speakers. The aim was to inform the public about the recent EU and global energy and climate policy and provide inspiration through exemplar sustainable energy projects, discovering new tools and best practices in energy and climate plans to achieve carbon neutrality. More

C-Track 50 in PlanUp Conference

C-Track 50 participated in the PlanUp conference, sharing experiences on long term policy planning and stressing the role of a bottom up approach for carbon neutrality. The conference was about the progress towards the European Union’s mid-and long-term climate and energy objectives while taking stock of the National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) preparation across the EU Member States. Participants, among which representatives from European Commission and DG Energy discussed the capability of Europe to become the first climate-neutral continent. More
The C-Track 50 at European Week of Regions and Cities promoting multi-level stakeholder involvement for a successful energy transition in cities and regions

The European Week of Regions and Cities took place on 7-10 October 2019 under the headline "Regions and Cities: Pillars of the EU's Future". C-Track 50 co-organised a session on “Implementing the Paris Agreement: EU cities and regions in energy transition” during the event, on 9 October in Brussels.

The session, organised by the European Committee of the Regions, the European Commission’s DG Energy and C-Track 50 project partner ICLEI Europe, underlined the clear ambition of all representatives from local to European level for Europe to raise the bar internationally and to achieve climate neutrality by 2050. Contributions focused on how to decarbonise Europe’s energy supply in and with its regions, cities and citizens. Embracing Europe’s multi-level governance mechanisms and the diverse preconditions, particularly in coal and island regions, participants stressed the need for a holistic, equitable and ambitious strategy considering regional and local perspectives and setting aside concrete measures and instruments.

Among the speakers and contributors of the session were: Jerzy Buzek (European Parliament, ITRE Committee), Witold Stępień (Łódzkie Regional Assembly), Eero Ailio (DG ENER), Yunus Arikan (ICLEI), Sarah Zamoum (Rise for Climate Belgium), Paul Baker (Coal Regions in Transition), Gustaf Landhal (GrowSmarter project), Wioletta Dunin-Majewska (DG ENER), Josh Roberts (Rescoop) and Laura Bazen (Climate Rise Belgium).

C-Track 50 at COP25

C-Track 50’s partner, ICLEI Europe, co-organised a side event at COP25 in Madrid regarding “Accelerating transition: how cities & regions make a difference!". Representatives from cities and institutions discussed the importance of close cooperation among all levels of government and civil society to achieve carbon neutrality and reach the goals of the Paris Agreement. City representatives reported first-hand on the most effective and cost-efficient solutions for emissions reductions they put in place on a local level and whether scaling up existing climate solutions was enough to reach this goal.

C-Track 50 defined local and regional priorities in 11 EU countries

C-Track 50 partners published a report on local and regional priorities in 11 EU countries, which focuses on long term energy policy planning, as derived from in-person meetings and two roundtables with local and regional authorities, held at each national level in the 11 partner countries. Overall, this report outlines the regulatory framework for regional and local energy planning in the C-Track 50 countries, as well as the status quo in the latter. Regional and local priorities for energy planning are described per country, along with key recommendations that aim to facilitate local and regional collaboration and energy planning efforts.

The C–Track 50 project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no. 784974.

Contact details
Dr. Alexandra Papadopoulou (EPU-NTUA)
Email: alexpapa@epu.ntua.gr