



D.3.2 The First CommitClimate National Workshop Report

Timeframe: October – December 2023

Countries Covered: Latvia, Estonia, Sweden, Poland

Participants: 200+ municipality representatives, climate and engineering experts

The first CommitClimate National Workshops were organized between October and December 2023, bringing together more than 200 municipality representatives, climate experts, and stakeholders in total. These workshops served as a platform for presenting the CommitClimate project, introducing the CommitClimate Simulator, and fostering dialogue on its development and application in municipal contexts.

Across four countries – Latvia, Estonia, Sweden, and Poland – the workshops combined presentations, interactive discussions, and practical sessions, allowing participants to explore key topics such as energy planning, greenhouse gas modelling, policy integration, and emerging technological solutions. The events also provided an opportunity to gather valuable feedback on the Simulator’s functionality, data structure, usability, and training needs, as well as to exchange experiences and best practices among municipalities.

The insights collected during these workshops contributed significantly to the further development of CommitClimate tools and approach, highlighting both common challenges and country-specific priorities. The following report presents a structured overview of the workshops, summarizing their content, feedback from participants, and recommendations for future improvements.

1st National Workshop in Latvia

Technical information:

Date: 20th December, 2023

Organizers: Riga Technical University Institute of Energy Systems and Environment

Workshop type: Online

Participants: 34 participants from various Latvian municipalities

Event description:

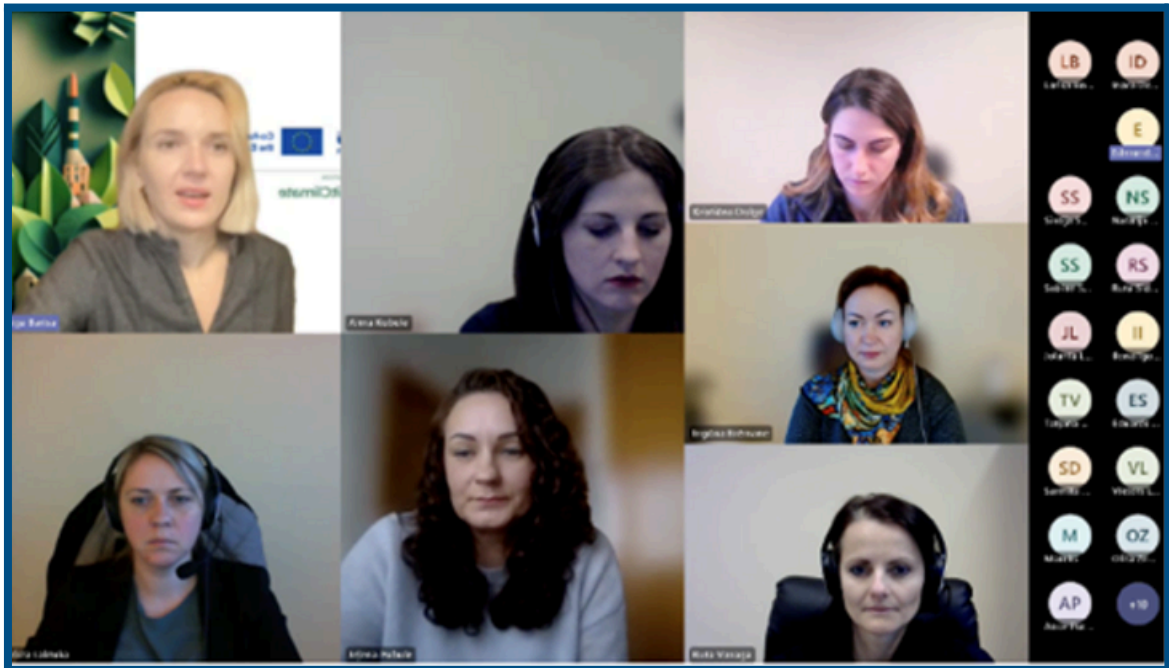
The 1st CommitClimate workshop in Latvia consisted of 8 presentations on topics, which are studied by RTU IESE academic and scientific staff in connection with the transition towards climate neutrality in municipalities. Lecturer and CommitClimate project coordinator Aiga Barisa spoke about the CommitClimate project and the main result of the project – the climate neutrality online platform, along with results of the survey of Latvian municipalities that was conducted recently.

Lecturer Ieva Pakere talked about the results of the modelling of climate neutrality scenarios on the Latvian scale and how national-level policies are related to the development of municipalities. Lecturer Ruta Vanaga presented the results of a 3-year research project on the case study of a positive energy balance quarter in the historical center of Riga.

IESE researcher Kristiāna Dolge introduced the CommitClimate sister project EnergyEquilibrium to the participants. Participants showed great interest in the project. Lecturer Ingēna Brēmane showed the project results on the implementation of energy management in Latvian municipalities, with an emphasis on building cooperation between stakeholders, as well as an energy certificate for which it is possible to apply.

Lecturer Krista Laktuka presented a case study on the calculation of GHG emissions for the University according to the GHG Protocol approach, which provided a broader climate impact assessment than the traditional SECAP approach. Anna Kubule informed participants about the possibilities of using satellite data in environmental engineering, which in the near and distant future could prove to be very relevant for municipalities in climate monitoring, planning of GHG reduction measures and adaptation to climate change. Professor Jeļena Pubule talked about the CO₂ valorisation concept and the possibilities for regions to develop new businesses using CO₂ as a valuable raw material.

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1st National Workshop in Estonia

Technical information:

Date: 27th November, 2023

Organizers: Tallin University of Technology (TalTECH), Enerhack, Estonian Association of Thermal Engineers (ESTIS)

Workshop type: In-person & Online

Participants: 58 participants from various Estonian municipalities and associations

Event description:

The 1st CommitClimate workshop in Estonia took place on 27th November in hybrid form in Mektory HUB room and in MS Teams.

Anna Volkova and Janika Laht from TalTECH presented the CommitClimate project, informed participants about the Interreg Baltic Sea Region program and presented an overview. Igor Krupenski from Enerhack presented a potential model prototype during the workshop. It was planned to present the model, divide the participants into groups and assign a task to each group, however, during the presentation of the interactive model, participants started an active discussion; therefore, the organizers decided to cut the tasks and gave participants the chance to discuss their points. At the end of the workshop, the participants were asked to provide feedback about the model and training modules.

Key takeaways:

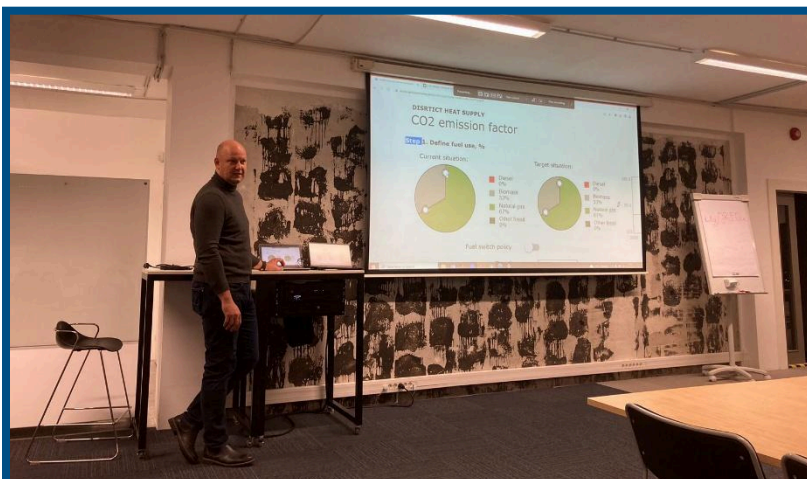
The main feedback points regarding the Simulator were:

- It should be possible to adjust the biomass emissions factor to be greater than 0, especially, in the case of local heating
- District heating and electricity data should be separated for municipal and residential buildings, instead of the entire building stock
- Electricity consumption in agriculture and vehicle lifetime seem unclear
- Additional fuel types should be implemented for municipal transport (LPG, other fuels) and public transport (Biogas, Electricity, Other renewables)
- It should be possible to display several scenarios simultaneously
- Two versions of the tool should be made: a simplified tool for municipality workers and a more in-depth tool for energy auditors

The main feedback points regarding training modules were:

- Further training courses/workshops for the Simulator should be at least 4 – 6 hours long, with a 1 – 2 hour introduction and a user manual
- For discussions, both online and face-to-face meetings are appropriate, however, group work should be organized in person

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1st National Workshop in Sweden

Technical information:

Date: 12th December, 2023

Organizers: Sustainable Business Hub

Workshop type: Online

Participants: 24 participants from Kronoberg, Kalmar, Blekinge and Skåne counties

Event description:

On December 12th, Sustainable Business Hub organized its' first national workshop for the CommitClimate project. The event, titled "Introduction to Carbon Simulator: A Path to Climate Action," targeted municipalities in South Sweden and received support from Energikontor Syd – Energy Agency Southern Sweden, who are one of the project's Associated Partners. Participants included municipalities from four regions of South Sweden: Kronoberg, Kalmar, Blekinge, and Skåne. Additionally, energy consultant and project leader from Lappland Municipal Association, Silva Herrmann has also been invited to the event.

The workshop was comprised of two parts. The first part involved a network meeting for all advisors, where they exchanged information, ideas, and existing plans related to efficient energy planning. In the second part, Sustainable Business Hub presented information on the CommitClimate project and Simulator Deepshikha Singhanian started by providing a brief background about the project, its purpose, objectives, and vision, along with strategies for effective energy planning and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Later in the event energy expert Per-Johan Wik from Sustainable Business Hub demonstrated how the tool would operate in reality-based scenarios across various sectors such as buildings, transportation, heating and others. Towards the event's conclusion, during the interactive session, feedback was proactively addressed by Per-Johan and Silva Herrmann, facilitating a comprehensive understanding for participants. This enabled attendees to apply their recently acquired knowledge.

Key takeaways:

The main feedback point regarding the Simulator was:

- Construction, maintenance and decommissioning phases of policy measures can have a significant carbon footprint, which should also be taken in account when modelling scenarios

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exchangeiseesystems.com/public/aiga/secap-model/index.html#page1

SECTOR: MUNICIPALITY BUILDINGS

INPUT:

1.1. Municipal building stock: 20000.0 m² of which renovated: 50.0 % (50.0 / 100.0 %)

1.2. Planned investment in new buildings: 2.0 M.EUR

1.3. Average heat energy consumption of the existing building stock: 144.0 kWh/m²/year

1.4. Average electricity consumption of the existing building stock: 40.0 kWh/m²/year

EE policy ON/OFF: 2.0 (0.0 / 5.0 / 10.0)

Electricity conservation policy: 2.0 (0.0 / 5.0 / 10.0)

YEAR: 2050

Heat: 223.3 CO2 tons per year
 Electricity: 71.3 CO2 tons per year
 Total: 294.6 CO2 tons per year

Emission factors: Heat Electricity

RESULTS

Energy consumption

Summary Export

Powered by see systems, inc.

Per-Johan Wik

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23

Chat People Raise React View Notes More Camera Mic Share Leave

Matilda Gradin Per-Johan Wik Heléne Fransson Heidi Olsson evelina.c.nordstrom

ENERGI- OCH KLIMATSTYRELSEN

Emil Lind Silva Herrmann (External) Benny Andersson Lindahl, Marlin - Mil Ann-Kristine Nilsson

Hultfeldt Rydberg, Linn (...) Sara Östberg (External) Valle Fotiadis Sylvegård Iwa - SLF Simon Svendler (External)

Jörgen Andersson (Ext... Jarmung Carola - SLF Karin Lindholm (External) Malin Segerblad Nilsgart, Anna-Karin (Ext...)

CD
Christine Dahlgren

NL
Neckmar Lovisa - SLF

1st National Workshop in Poland

Technical information:

Date: 24th October, 26th October, 2023

Organizers: Association of Municipalities Polish Network „Energie Cités” (PNEC), Frank Bold Foundation

Workshop type: In-person & Online

Participants: 108 participants from various Polish municipalities

Event description:

On 24th and 26th October PNEC organized a workshop entitled “Training on energy communities for local authorities and administration”. The event consisted of two parts: an online lecture introducing participants to the topic of energy communities (24.10.) and a stationary workshop in Kraków (26.10.). Our expert was Ms. Agnieszka Stupkiewicz – legal adviser from the Frank Bold Foundation – who shared her knowledge during the training. She is an expert in the field of energy law – her specialty is the regulations governing the production of energy from renewable sources and the creation and operation of energy cooperatives.

During the first part of the meeting, i.e. the online lecture, the speaker presented the legal aspects of decentralised energy and its position in strategic documents, and then familiarised the audience with the types of energy communities available under current Polish legislation. In the second part of the lecture, the amendment of the Law on Renewable Energy Sources was discussed, in particular the changes concerning the energy cluster, virtual prosumer, collective prosumer and tenant prosumer. After the lecture, there was also time for questions and discussion.

During the stationary workshop, the process of setting up an energy cooperative and an energy cluster was presented in more detail. The meeting was an excellent opportunity to compare different forms of energy communities, but also to exchange relevant experience and discuss it with experts from other cities and municipalities in Poland. Participants had the opportunity to put the newly acquired knowledge into practice in small group exercises session.

Lessons learned from the local level were also presented. A representative from the City of Kraków spoke about the possibilities for creating civic energy communities in the city and about the first prosumer installations in Kraków’s housing associations. Anna Fijas from the PNEC presented a free interactive online course entitled "Espresso Training" to participants, enabling them to expand their knowledge of energy communities and the possibilities of creating them.

Images:

