



## Group 2

# Implementing Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) in rural areas and identifying the needs for support



### Challenges

Engaging with local authorities on climate and energy	Linking up with the regional and national levels	Bringing the local voice to the higher level	Short-term mandate and political differences
Lack of expertise in small local administration	Advice or money?		

All EU countries have similar frameworks

Eastern Europe - lack of connection between local and national



### Practical solutions

Bringing together several small municipalities	Common strategy and Action Plan	OR: separate measures but common goals	Regular meetings
Joint purchases (e.g. PV panels)	Mobilising the political will (mayors)	Mayor talking to private investors	Plan easy to understand - checklist
Multi-level governance	Energy Agency (public-private)	Connection between local and regional	



### Supportive frameworks

Regional funding facility	European City Facility (EU programme TA for municipalities)	Covenant of Mayors	Locally established municipal networks
European Federation of Agencies and Regions for Energy and Environment	LEADER/CLLD?		



### Lessons and recommendations

Ask for help!	Share with your population (to ensure continuity)	Avoid funding projects that are not part of the strategy	
Educate the whole population, including the mayors, staff, stakeholders...	Centralised, top-down	Key role for regional level	Focus on mission and values