

BRIDGING THE GAP IN EU HEATING AND COOLING PLANS



EU CONTEXT

The EU's energy transition aims to decarbonise the building sector, the region's largest energy consumer. **Heating and cooling (H&C)** account for up to 80% of this demand, making it a key area for reducing energy consumption. To achieve **climate neutrality by 2050**, improving building efficiency and integrating local renewable energy is essential.

The **Energy Efficiency Directive Recast (EED)** is central to this effort. It requires medium-large cities to implement local H&C plans, impacting over 1,200 municipalities. These plans will help reduce emissions and energy consumption, advancing the EU's climate goals.

However, **southern and eastern European countries**, including Italy, Greece, and Poland, face significant challenges in developing these plans. Many local **authorities lack the financial and technical resources** needed to create effective H&C strategies, risking delays in the transition to clean energy. Bridging this gap is crucial for ensuring that all regions can meet the EU's climate targets.



Photo: Arthur Lambilliotte / Unsplash

FACTS



80% of energy demand in EU buildings comes from heating and cooling, making them key for decarbonisation.



Many EU municipalities lack resources to develop H&C plans and need external support.



Municipalities with over 45,000 inhabitants, accounting for around 40% of the EU population, will have to develop H&C plans.



Southern and Eastern EU countries lag in developing H&C plans due to lack of incentives.

RESOURCES

- > [Energy Efficiency Directive](#)
- > [Decarbonising Heating & Cooling](#)
- > [Energy Efficiency Directive recast](#)
- > [Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan \(SECAP\)](#)

PROJECT OVERVIEW



ABOUT

The ESCALATE Project aims to speed up Europe's shift to clean renewable energy by helping cities across the EU plan for more energy efficient heating and cooling. The project focuses on towns with over 45,000 people, ensuring they have the tools and knowledge to create local heating and cooling plans that reduce energy use and support the environment. ESCALATE empowers local communities to make their buildings sustainable, reduce pollution, and help Europe become climate-neutral by 2050 by providing expert training and a clear, easy-to-follow guide.

escalate-project.eu [in](#)

PARTNERS



**Auvergne
Rhône-Alpes**
Energie Environnement



ENERGYCITIES



IEECP
INSTITUTE FOR
EUROPEAN ENERGY
AND CLIMATE POLICY

IREES
research for future.



REGEA

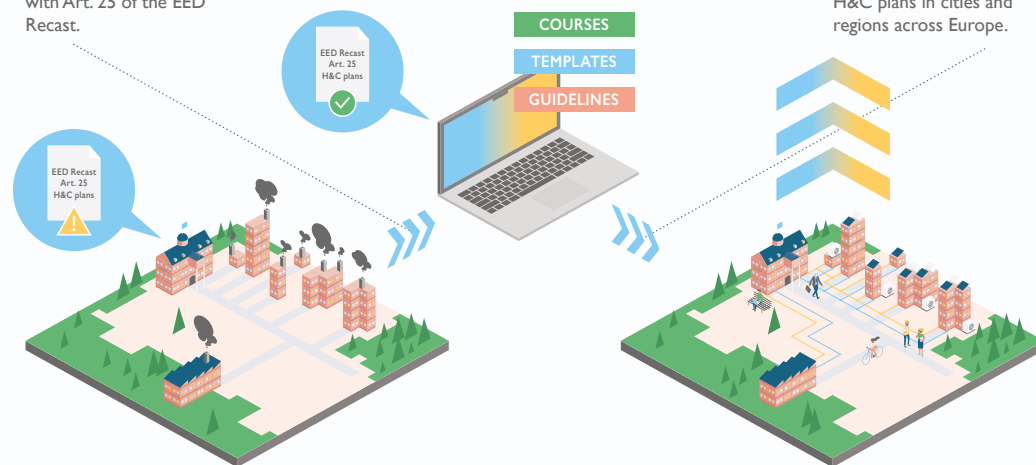
REVOLVE



Co-funded by
the European Union

Co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or CINEA. Neither the European Union nor CINEA can be held responsible for them.

ESCALATE creates a unified methodology and a comprehensive training program to build the capacity of regional energy agencies in developing H&C plans in accordance with Art. 25 of the EED Recast.



KEYWORDS

- > Energy Efficiency Directive
- > Building Energy Efficiency
- > Clean Energy transition
- > Building sector
- > Heating & Cooling planning
- > Regional energy agencies
- > Local Renewable energy

GENERAL INFO

- > € 1,749,231.84 Budget
- > 10 countries
- > 11 partners
- > 36 Duration Months

For more details about the Partners and Budget, please visit the [LIFE Public Database](#)