



LIFE-IP SK AQ Improvement - Enhancing the implementation of Air Quality Management Plans in Slovakia by strengthening capacities and competencies of regional and local authorities and promoting air quality measures

LIFE18 IPE/SK/000010

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Project description:

Background

The Slovak Republic and its neighbouring countries, especially Czechia and Poland, are EU Member States facing problems with air quality, which has negative impacts on public health and environment. They are subject to the infringement procedure due to non-compliance with Ambient Air Quality Directive (AAQD) requirements. The main air quality problems in Slovakia are caused by excessive concentrations of suspended Particulate Matter (PM10 and PM2.5) coming mainly from burning solid fuels for household heating, benzo(a)pyrene (80% of BaP is comes from household heating), and nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) emissions coming mainly from transport. The contribution of agricultural activities (main source of ammonia emission) on the creation of secondary PMs has to be considered as well. In some areas, the air pollution is still caused by local industrial sources.

Objectives

The main objective of the LIFE-IP SK AQ Improvement project is to support effective air quality management, with the aim to improve air quality and reduce exposure of the Slovakian population to the harmful impacts of air pollutants.

Specific project objectives are:

- enhancing effective air quality management and implementation of Air Quality Management Plans (AQMPs);
- promoting air quality measures and raising awareness of the importance of good air quality;
- accelerating the implementation of measures to minimise negative impacts of household heating and transport on air quality;
- supporting the exchange of inefficient heating sources (boilers) in

- households; and
- improving air quality monitoring and reporting at regional and local level.

The project directly contributes to implementing the Ambient Air Quality Directive (AAQD) and the national air pollution control programme relating to the National Emission Ceilings (NEC) Directive. It contributes to the preparation of the national Air Quality Strategy and strengthens the enforcement of measures included in Air Quality Management Plans. The project is also relevant to EU policy on promoting renewable energy.

In addition to the IP budget itself, the project will facilitate the coordinated use of over 1 000 million of complementary funding from the EU and domestic funds and programmes, mainly from the Operational Programme Quality of Environment (OP QE), the Integrated Regional Operational Programme (IROP), the Operational Programme Integrated Infrastructure (OP II), and the Cross Border Programmes (AT-SK).

## Results

Expected results:

Linked to direct actions of LIFE IP:

- enhanced capacities and competences of self-governing regions and municipalities for effective implementation of tasks related to AQMP measures through the creation of new Air Quality Manager positions in 6 self-governing regions, and 8 more by the MoE and the Slovak Environment Agency, in order to improve management of regional and local air quality authorities and coordination from national level (AQ Coordination Unit);
- increased awareness of decision makers (at the level of self-governing regions and municipalities) about the importance of measures to improve air quality, air quality planning and reporting;
- increased public awareness about air quality and its health impacts, and behavioural changes of citizens to improve air quality (household heating, green transport);
- promotion of air quality issues through information campaigns and education programmes;
- introduction of regional and local air quality monitoring and reporting;
- collection of statistical data at regional level related to household heating;
- improved air quality modelling and reporting at regional and local level (analytical part of the AQMPs), including the assessment of impacts of measures on the air quality;
- an air quality analysis of local air pollution impacts directly linked to health effects and implied costs; and
- update, revision and development of new AQMPs.

Linked to complementary actions:

- replacement of old/solid-fuel boilers;
- lowered energy need in households after realisation of the project by 10% (17.7 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year);
- increased energy efficiency;

- increased use of renewable energy sources;
- improvement of transport systems and traffic situation in cities;
- increased use of public transport and sustainable (green) transport (cycling routes etc.);
- reduced emissions of PM2.5 in households after realisation of the project based on National Air Pollutants Inventory by 3 515 tons/year (25%); and
- increased amount of funds (both EU and national) allocated for air quality measures.

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Environmental issues addressed:

Themes

Air & Noise - Air quality monitoring

Information - Governance - Environmental training - Capacity building

Keywords

air quality management, air quality monitoring, energy efficiency, environmental awareness, emission reduction

Target EU Legislation

- Climate Change & Energy efficiency
- Directive 2009/28 - Promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (23.04.2009)
- Air
- Directive 2008/50/EC - Ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe (21.05.2008)
- Directive 2001/81- National emissions ceilings for certain atmospheric pollutants (23.10.2001)

Natura 2000 sites

Not applicable

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Beneficiaries:

Coordinator

Ministry of Environment

## Partners

Slovak Environment Agency Trencin  
Region-Slovakia Slovak Hydrometeorological  
Institute Presov Region-Slovakia Presov  
Region-Slovakia Energy Research Center of the  
Technical University of Ostrava-Czechia PEDAL  
Consulting-Slovakia Zilina Region-Slovakia  
Trnava Region-Slovakia Banska Bystrica  
Region-Slovakia Kocise Region-Slovakia

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## Administrative data:

Project reference	LIFE18 IPE/SK/000010
Duration	01-JAN-2020 to 31-DEC -2027
Total budget	15,000,000.00 €
EU contribution	9,000,000.00 €
Project location	

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## Read more:

Leaflet	Title: "LIFE IP – Zlepšenie kvality ovzdušia: Zlepšujeme kvalitu ovzdušia na Slovensku" (9.51 MB) Editor: LIFE-IP SK AQ Improvement No of pages: 2
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