

## **Batumi Action for Cleaner Air (BACA)**

### **Actions by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)**

**Organization:** The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)

*Note: The commitments submitted by the REC are based on the REC Strategy 2016-2020 and reflect ongoing activities of the REC. The implementation of further actions is contingent upon mobilised resources by the REC and continued support by resource partners of the REC.*

<p><b>Title: Citizen Led Air Pollution Reduction in Cities (CLAiR-City)</b> (BACA Actions 4, 5, 22, 24, 25, 29, 33)</p>
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**Description:** CLAiR-City, supported in 2016-2019 by the European Commission, Horizon 2020, RIA - Research and Innovation Action, will apportion air pollution emissions and concentrations, carbon footprints and health outcomes by city citizens' behaviour and day-to-day activities in order to make these challenges relevant to how people chose to live, behave and interact within their city environment. Through an innovative engagement and quantification toolkit, CLAiR-City will stimulate the public engagement necessary to allow citizens to define a range of future city scenarios for reducing their emissions to be used for supporting and informing the development of bespoke city policy packages out to 2050. Further information: <http://www.claircity.eu/>.

**Expected outcome:** Implementation of the recommendations of the project will lead to better supported, more effective and more cost-effective air quality policies from now until 2050. Within the six pilot cities, CLAiR-City will illustrate and quantify how EU Air Quality Directives can be achieved through low-cost high-gain behaviour changes bringing significant benefits to citizens through a number of different health outcome pathways, and demonstrate how this is adaptable across any city.

**Partners:** Research institutes, universities, SMEs, and international institutes from Belgium, Denmark, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal and UK, and pilot cities of Bristol (UK); Amsterdam (NL); Aveiro region (PT); Ljubljana (SI); Sosnowiec (PL) and the Liguria region (IT).

**Contact point:**

Ms. Eva Csobod

Senior Expert and Topic Area Leader (Health and Environment)

REC - Ady Endre ut 9-11, 2000 Szentendre, Hungary

Email: [ECsobod@rec.org](mailto:ECsobod@rec.org)

Tel: +36 26 504 000.

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**Actions by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)**

**Organization:** The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)

**Title: Services to technically assess compliance and monitor the implementation of the EU Air Quality Policy**  
(BACA Actions 4, 8, 10, 11)

**Description:** Technical assessments of replies from EU Member States to the European Commission pertaining to infringements under the Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) and the National Emission Ceiling Directive (2001/81/EC) are carried out for the Directorate-General for Environment of the European Commission.

**Expected outcome:** More effective implementation of EU air quality directives through support provided to: (1) the assessment of air quality plans and programs, as well as compliance trajectories submitted by the Member States relating to the principal objectives and obligations covered by the Ambient Air Quality Directive, (2) the European Commission's monitoring efforts.

**Partners:** Ricardo-AEA (EC Framework Contract Consortium Member)

**Contact point:**

Mr. Tamas Kallay, Topic Area Leader (Sustainable Resource Use)

REC - Ady Endre ut 9-11, 2000 Szentendre, Hungary

Email: TKallay@rec.org

Tel: +36 26 504 000

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**Actions by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)**

**Organization:** The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)

**Title: Air quality and emissions: preparation for 2016/17 country dialogues and guidance for improved planning**  
(BACA Actions 4, 8, 10, 11)

**Description:** The overall objectives are to (1) identify practices in establishing and publishing National Air Pollution Control Programmes and National Air Quality Plans based on the experience in Europe and internationally; (2) define the basic data and analytical input requirements underpinning a National Air Pollution Control Programme; (3) propose guidance for compiling and quality-checking the information; (4) develop a template for a National Air Pollution Control Programme; (5) develop guidance for the conduct of country dialogues between the European Commission and EU Member States and support testing.

**Expected outcome:** More effective implementation of EU air quality directives through assisting the European Commission and EU Member States in establishing practical examples and guidance for developing enhanced National Air Pollution Control Programmes and associated reports.

**Partners:** Ricardo-AEA, Aether (EC Framework Contract Consortium Members)

**Contact points:**

Mr. Tamas Kallay, Topic Area Leader (Sustainable Resource Use)

REC - Ady Endre ut 9-11, 2000 Szentendre, Hungary

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**Actions by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)**

**Organization:** The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)

**Title: Support Establishment and Advancement of Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs) in Western Balkan Countries and in Moldova**  
(BACA Actions 4, 28, 37)

**Description:** The project, supported in 2015-2017 by the Advisory Assistance Programme (AAP) of the German Ministry for Environment Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, aims at strengthening the transparency of decision-making on PRTR development and operation, by increasing public awareness and knowledge on PRTR to use PRTR data and to be involved in the implementation of PRTR Protocol. Further information: <http://aarhus.rec.org/prtr/>.

**Expected outcome:** Strengthened transparency of decision making on PRTRs by raising public awareness and knowledge about PRTRs, and strengthened capacities of Civil Society Organisations to use PRTR data and be better involved in the implementation of the PRTR Protocol; supported the development of functioning PRTRs in line with the UNECE PRTR Protocol and the E-PRTR; improved efficiency of PRTR reporting; built capacities of authorities and operators; shared experience and practical knowledge and assisted parties and signatories to the protocol to improve their practices in operating their PRTRs.

**Partners:** Aarhus Convention and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers Secretariat, ministries of environment and environmental agencies, operators and CSOs in the Western Balkans and in Moldova.

**Contact points:**

Ms. Tsvetelina Borissova Filipova  
Senior Expert and Topic Area Leader (Participatory Governance),  
REC - Ady Endre ut 9-11, 2000 Szentendre, Hungary  
Email: TFilipova@rec.org  
Tel.: +36 26 504 000.