

Where we stand

ITALY



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NECPs in Italy

In Italy, the guiding document for defining climate change adaptation strategies is the National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change, which defines the general actions that the State, through its Ministries and Technical Bodies (Institute for Environmental and Research - ISPRA in particular), has for the entire national territory.

The Regions approve their Plans after the National Plan, taking into account the general indications in this document. But cities, generally, approved their Climate Change Adaptation Plans even before the National Plan (published in December 2022) following the European indications of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and those of the Covenant of Mayors.

The National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC), was published in January 2020 and came into force the following year, after about two years of elaboration. The plan, prepared by the Ministries of Economic Development, the Environment and Infrastructure and Transport, incorporated the innovations contained in the Climate Decree Law as well as those on investments for the New Green Deal provided for in the Budget Law 2020. With the Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan, national targets are set for 2030 on energy efficiency, renewables and the reduction of CO2 emissions, as well as targets on energy security, interconnections, the single energy market and competitiveness, development and sustainable mobility, outlining for each of them the measures that will be implemented to ensure their achievement. The implementation of the Plan is delegated to legislative decrees transposing the European directives on energy efficiency, renewable sources and the electricity and gas markets.

The Italian Parliament is currently working on enacting the PNIEC by 30 June 2023, to be followed by negotiation and the final version by 2023. In this review process, the lack of certain essential aspects in the previous plan such as finance was particularly highlighted. It should in fact be considered as an essential element to promote the energy dimension and climate neutrality, as well as a taxation system should be developed at national level, which, through access to finance, allows all actors (even the less wealthy) to access decarbonisation services.

It is also recognised that, due to changing in political scenarios, short-term solutions must be adopted to ensure security of supply in the short term, with an eye to the future in order to make conscious choices that do not jeopardise the path to the end.

The Role of Cities

The mismatch that exists between national policies and the measures/actions that mayors have to implement (e.g. transport service for local mobility) was also highlighted. It was emphasized that cities must contribute to the definition of the new PNIEC because only in this way it can there be an alignment of national policies with local needs so that cities can provide concrete answers to these needs.

Where we're going

ITALY

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Primary Needs

There is a need for stable public policies, whose funding channels must reflect the actual needs of the territories, ensuring that local policies are aligned with local and regional ones.

It is necessary to rethink the structure of the PNIEC by updating its scope, i.e. by including themes and challenges that were not present in the previous version of the plan, such as the role of finance in relation to the investments to be made, the integration of the vision of cities, the security of supply, the integration of energy systems and digitisation.

Opportunities

In Italy, local authorities are currently the subjects that promote and implement energy and climate policies through adhesion to the Covenant of Mayors and the implementation of SECAP (Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan), achieving important results in reducing climate-changing gases, involving local stakeholders, businesses and the financial world in the realisation of actions with important spin-offs in the local territory.

Thanks to the drafting of these plans, a considerable amount of data is available at the local level, which is of great interest for territorial planning at a supra-regulated level. A systematisation and integration of these data with others collected at different levels can contribute to a more up-to-date planning activity in line with the real needs of the territories.

Moreover, networking between the different local realities and higher levels could help to understand the criticalities of the transition process and share the solutions to be adopted or that have been adopted and have enabled results to be achieved.

CED Platform in ITALY



As in France, the Platforms for Climate and Energy Dialogue (CED) in Italy will not focus on influencing the NECP, whose revision has already begun. Instead, the roundtables organised by the NECPlatform will focus on improving the consultation processes in place between the state and local/regional levels on energy and climate issues, focusing in particular on the contribution that can be made by cities, also thanks to the experience of some of them participating in the 100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030 network.



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