

**Template for the submission of
examples of good practices with regard to air pollution
related policies, strategies and measures**

**Template to facilitate the submission of examples/good practices of strategies,
policies and measures employed to implement obligations under any of the
protocols to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution**

<p>Country: Italy, Slovenia</p>	<p>Pollutant(s): <i>particulate matter (PM) including black carbon (BC) and unintentionally released persistent organic pollutants (uPOPs), such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH)</i> <i>NM VOC, NO_x, NH₃</i> <i>O₃</i></p>
<p>Protocol(s): Gothenburg Protocol POP Protocol</p>	<p>Sector: <i>transport, domestic heating, industry and energy, agriculture</i></p>
<p>Type of strategy, policy or measure and the level of implementation: Project</p>	<p>Method used for the current analysis:</p>
<p>What is the main objective of the strategy, policy or measure? When has it been implemented/or will be implemented?</p> <p>PREPAIR (Po Regions Engaged to Policies of AIR) - (LIFE15 IPE/IT/000013)</p> <p><i>The PREPAIR LIFE Integrated project aims to implement actions in the territory of the Po Valley (Italy) and Slovenia in order to improve air quality and comply with EU Directive 2008/50/EC and the European strategy ‘Clean Air for Europe’.</i></p> <p><i>PREPAIR will also contribute to achieving compliance with the National Emission Ceilings Reduction Commitment (under Gothenburg Protocol and EU Directive 2016/2284 on the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants).</i></p> <p><i>The general objectives are to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Implement measures included in the Air Quality Plans (AQPs) and in the Po Valley Agreement, creating the information needed for a preliminary assessment of their impact on air quality;</i> • <i>Increase know-how and reinforce capacity building within public authorities and private operators;</i> • <i>Strengthen coordination among Po Basin authorities in the field of air quality;</i> • <i>Establish a permanent networking structure that involves the environmental agencies of the Po Valley and of the eastern border regions and Northern Adriatic basin, such as Slovenia;</i> 	

- *Produce homogeneous assessment reports on the effectiveness of PREPAIR concrete actions on air quality in the Po Valley and the Northern Adriatic basin;*
- *Assess the effectiveness and resources needed for measures to improve air quality;*
- *Create a community that recognises the risks for human health and for the environment posed by air pollution; and*
- *Create a network of national, regional and local governments, socioeconomic actors, research centres and other stakeholders.*

The project will last for **7 years** (from 1 February 2017 to 31 January 2024).

Background and driving forces:

Ozone pollution is predominantly a regional issue. In Slovenia ozone pollution is characterized by pronounced influence of the transboundary pollution. The highest concentrations were measured in Primorska region, which is significantly influenced by transboundary pollution.

The Po Valley of northern Italy represents an important non attaining zone for PM, NO₂ and O₃. This zone covers the territory of Italian northern Regions and includes several urban agglomerates such as Milan, Turin and Bologna. The area is densely populated and heavily industrialized. Tons of NO_x, PM and NH₃ are emitted in the atmosphere by a wide variety of pollution sources mainly related to traffic, domestic heating, industry and energy production sectors. Another important pollution source is related to the nitrogen and ammonia cycle, coming mainly from fertilizers, breeding and farming activities. Meteorological conditions and the transport and dispersion of pollutants are strongly influenced by the morphological characteristics of the Po Valley and the northern Adriatic Basin. Due both to the meteorological conditions and the morphologic characteristics of the Po valley, the rural background concentration of pollutants are often high, while a large part of the PM is due to secondary production.

In order to further reduce the levels of background air pollution, all regions have clustered in the so-called Po Basin Board and planned actions to be taken with the aim of reducing emissions over the next years. The need of coordinated actions led the National and Regional governments to sign an agreement aimed at developing and coordinating short and long term actions for improving the air quality of the Po valley. The Po Valley Agreement identifies the main sectors where actions will be taken: biomass burning, transportation of goods and passengers, domestic heating, industry and energy, agriculture. All the regional governments involved in the agreement have their own Plans for the improvement of air quality.

Description of the strategy, policy or measure:

The PREPAIR LIFE project focuses on four main areas – biomass burning, energy efficiency, transport and agriculture – in line with the Po Basin Agreement and the AQPs.

Specific goals are to:

- *Create a network of bike stations of the main cities of the Po Basin and develop cycling infrastructure;*
- *Establish permanent infrastructure for sharing air quality and emissions data, including an accessible common database of observed and modelling air quality data;*
- *Train public officers and advisors, with the aim of raising awareness and providing technical information to the local authorities to ensure that their plans take into account all types of sustainable transports;*
- *Carry out at least one demonstration project to improve quality and usability of the cycle paths and at least one electric vehicle public transport initiative;*
- *Promote electric mobility and sustainable driving;*
- *Carry out at least three demonstration actions aimed at improving short-*

range freight transport;

- *Create a common App to promote public transport use at the Po Basin level;*
- *Develop innovative processes for the optimisation of freight transport;*
- *Increase awareness on the correct use of biomass;*
- *Encourage the substitution of domestic heating biomass stoves with*
- *Encourage the substitution of domestic heating biomass stoves with high-efficiency and low-emission ones;*
- *Carry out training initiatives for the correct maintenance of biomass heating plants;*
- *Study wood biomass consumption in order to improve the logistics of its supply in northern Italy;*
- *Disseminate best-practices and increase know-how of the installation and maintenance of domestic heating devices, and on energy efficiency;*
- *Produce at least one set of guidelines for the use of fertilisers with a high content of urea (reducing ammonia emissions by up to 18%) and at least one tool for the adoption of the best available technologies applicable to livestock rearing (reducing emissions by up to 40%);*
- *Provide training on the efficient use of energy in industrial systems;*
- *Address operators at the basin level on energy savings in the civil sector; and*
- *Produce operative tools and initiatives for increasing the capacity of local administrations on GPP and energy efficiency in public buildings.*

[Air Quality and Agriculture](#)(responsible partner Emilia-Romagna Region)

[Air Quality and Biomass](#)(responsible partner Lombardia Region)

[Air Quality and Transports](#)(responsible partner Piemonte Region)

[Air Quality and Energy Efficiency](#)(responsible partner Autonomous Province of Trento)

[Air Quality and Emission Evaluation](#)(responsible partner Arpae Emilia-Romagna)

[Communication and Capacity Building](#)(responsible partner Art-ER)

Costs, Funding and Revenue allocation:

DURATION:

The project will last for **7 years** (from 1 February 2017 to 31 January 2024).

TOTAL BUDGET:

17 million euros available to invest in 7 years: 10 million of which coming from the European Life Program.

COMPLEMENTARY FUNDS:

PREPAIR is an “integrated” project: over 850 million euros coming from structural funds and from regional and national resources of all partners for complementary actions related to air quality.

Effect and impacts on air pollution abatement:

Expected results: The actions proposed will contribute to the improvement of air quality on a wide scale. Other European regions with similar geographical and environmental characteristics will be able to replicate them in their territories.

References/Further information:

LIFE Prepair website:

<https://www.lifeprepare.eu/?lang=en>

LIFE Prepair - a video introduction to the project:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4AZORvKCH3o>

LEAFLET:

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.showFile&rep=file&fil=PREPAIR_Leaflet_EN.pdf

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Additional comments: *Please include any additional information you may wish to provide here.*