



Interreg Europe – Peer to peer review

Hauts-de-France Region – Nord Pas de Calais OP

Energy efficiency policy – Executive summary

Hauts-de-France Region in a few words

The Hauts-de-France region is the third most populated region in France with nearly six million inhabitants (5,960,170) representing 9,4% of the population of metropolitan France. With a population of 188 inhabitants per square kilometre, the Hauts-de-France region has an overall density above the national average and is the youngest region in France with 1,3 million young people.

The region is integrated in the world economy with a share of 10,7% of French exports representing EUR 47 billion. It is the 5th largest exporting region in France. It counts 78 million consumers and EUR 1,5 billion in purchasing power within 300 km of Lille—reachable in less than half a day. The businesses form a tightly woven economic fabric and represent a broad range of sectors (France's top region for rail, first automotive and agri-food region, second logistics region, third life science region...). It is the fourth region for the production of economic wealth with a GDP representing 7,5% of the national wealth. It enjoys a high level of labour productivity, ranking it fifth among the French regions.

Sustainable growth and energy transition are at the heart of the region's action. The Hauts-de-France region is a major producer and consumer of energy and emitter of greenhouse gases (emissions there are above average). The share of fossil and nuclear energies is significant. The energy transition is therefore a real challenge for the region. The region is taking up the challenge of the third industrial revolution in order to carry out a profound transformation of its energy system along three axes: sobriety, energy efficiency and the development of renewable energies. Its objectives are to encourage the production of renewable energies, to accompany the economic fabric in the evolution of means of production, to encourage research and innovation in low-carbon technologies, to massively renovate public housing and buildings, to encourage eco-mobility and to experiment with a new "low-carbon" urban model.

In order to be a leader of energy efficiency, Hauts-de-France decided to experiment the new Interreg Europe peer to peer review scheme.



Peer to peer review on two and three October 2018 in Lille

On two and three October 2018, seven experts from six European cities and regions gathered in Lille, the meeting was organised by the host region of Hauts-de-France and moderated by the thematic expert for low-carbon economy from Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform, Katharina Krell.

Local stakeholders were invited and presented their insight on the energy efficiency measures supported by the regional operation programme. They represented different views and positions: selected beneficiaries, non-selected applicants and an intermediary body.

After two brainstorming sessions within the managing authority of the host region on 25 and 26 October, the main conclusions for Hauts-de-France can be summarised in the following points, bearing in mind that the proposed actions will need to be confirmed by the monitoring committee of the regional operational programme and the relevant political bodies.

- Developing benchmark: the peer experience could be used to draft the post 2020 programme
- Enhancing communication: a more targeted communication strategy could be explored
- Simplifying administrative rules: a more comprehensive use of simplified cost options could be a priority for the post 2020
- Developing new ways of selecting projects namely through considering energy gain monitoring as a key issue