

HORIZON 2020 Programme

Contract No.955857



SMAFIN enters the final stretch

The SMAFIN project that accompanied us for the last two and a half years and managed to gather up to now, almost 600 roundtable participants including policy makers from national and local authorities and representatives from the financial, enterprise, construction and academic sector to discuss financing energy efficiency investments in renovation, enters the final stretch. Members of the SMAFIN Community are eagerly expecting the 3rd and final cycle of Roundtables as well as the policy recommendations for each participating country that are going to be presented and polished during them.



National Roundtables, Planning of the 3rd Cycle

Bulgaria

The 3rd SMAFIN Roundtable in Bulgaria titled "The National Decarbonisation Fund: Structuring, Operational Management, Market Deployment" is planned for March 1st, 2023 in a hybrid format, at hotel Astoria, Sofia and online. It will feature an opening (plenary) session, three discussion sessions (one introductory and two in-depth technical ones), and a closing plenary with panel discussion. The event will be held in Bulgarian. The discussion will be held around the following carefully chosen topics:

- Priority areas for the functioning of the National Decarbonisation Fund. Sources of capitalisation and leveraging of private capital.
- Renovation of the residential buildings stock: introduction of financing instruments and responsiveness to the needs of vulnerable groups.
- Renovation of the public building stock.

The event is organised by EnEffect (www.eneffect.bg) and is supported by the Municipal Energy Efficiency Network EcoEnergy (www.ecoenergy-bg.net).

Croatia

SMAFIN next roundtable event in Croatia is on the way and this time the event will take place in physical form. The event will take place in April and will gather representatives of Croatian ministries, industry, commercial banks and building managers to discuss the possibilities of scaling up the energy renovation in the upcoming period. The event is going to follow the SEIF-SMAFIN format and will have a plenary and two to three panel sessions. More information as well as the registration page will be available on the SMAFIN website in the coming weeks, so stick around and join us.

Greece

The 3rd SMAFIN Roundtable discussion in Greece, will be held on May 3rd, 2023 at hotel AMALIA, in Athens. The event will be organised following the typical SEIF-SMAFIN format of a plenary and three parallel sessions. Participants will have the opportunity to be informed on the latest policy developments on financing energy efficiency projects, to discuss, to learn about project results, to comment on policy recommendations that have derived from the project Working Groups. Detailed information will be available soon on the project website <https://www.smafin.eu/>

Romania

The 3rd Round table will take place on April 4th 2023 in a hybrid format with physical presence at Novotel hotel in Bucharest keeping the same structure of the previous roundtables (2 plenary sessions and 3 parallel sessions). The event, focusing on increasing energy efficiency by sustainable financing solutions, is structured according to the following topics of discussion:

- Integrated Energy Renovation Services of Residential and Public Buildings;
- Financing mechanisms for the implementation of energy and climate strategies and action plans;
- Integrated mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of energy efficiency financing programs.

The themes are identified considering the conclusions and recommendations of the previous Round tables and discussions in the working group, addressing the topic of financing energy efficiency in buildings as well as in industry and services sectors. The debates aim to identify and formulate proposals for public policies to support the energy efficiency sector to be further validated with the SMAFIN working group.

The event is organized by the Romanian partners within the project SMAFIN - ENERO - Centre for the Promotion of Clean and Efficient Energy in Romania (www.enero.ro) and Pro-nZEB - Cluster for Promoting nearly Zero Energy Buildings (www.pro-nzeb.ro) and benefits from the support of the Romanian Government through the Department for Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Investments and European Projects, the Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration, the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Finance. More information will be made available soon on the project website <https://www.smafin.eu/>.



SMAFIN Working Group Updates

Bulgaria

The 5th Working Group meeting in Bulgaria one was held online, alongside the 4th Steering Committee meeting of the sister project BeSMART, on 20th of January 2023. Its main goal was to introduce and discuss with the WG members the agenda of the 3rd national roundtable, scheduled for 1st March 2023, finalizing the topics and keynote speakers, as well as to discuss the progress of the policy recommendations.

Croatia

In the upcoming period Croatia will have two WG meetings. The next WG meeting in Croatia will be organized in a physical format in the second half of March. The participants will be representatives of the ministries, building management companies, financial institutions and service providers. Together they will discuss how to use the conclusions of the previous WG meeting in the upcoming Roundtable, as well as the potential of advancing current policy measures and financial programmes. The fourth WG will be organized right after the third National Roundtable where the participants will brief and discuss the results of the Roundtable, along with the preparation of the national policy recommendations.

Greece

The fourth Working Group meeting of the SMAFIN project in Greece was held online on Wednesday, December 14th, 2022. The project team presented in brief the results of the second National Roundtable of Greece, preparing the floor for the main discussion topics, which was the national policy recommendation. The draft proposal for the One Stop Shop, which was presented, was followed by live discussion and proposals for the next steps. Finally, there was a first attempt to define the date and the topics that will be included in the agenda of the third roundtable.

Romania

The fifth Working Group meeting of the SMAFIN project in Romania was held online on February 14th, 2023 with an agenda focused on the preparation of the 3rd national round table and (agenda, speakers, key messages, moderators) and the formulation of relevant recommendations for improving public policies and financial mechanisms for energy efficiency. The active participation of the working group members in the debates gave a strong lead for the subsequent actions taken by the project team for the organization of the national Round table forum as well as guidance in putting forward preliminary formulation of policy recommendations.

SMAFIN was part of the following events:



"Proposals and Solutions for Energy Savings", 12 October 2022, Chamber of Corinth

The Chamber of Commerce of Corinthia region in Greece in cooperation with YDRO CORINTHIA S.A., organised an interesting event on the topic "Proposals and Solutions for Energy Savings" at the premises of the Chamber on Wednesday, October 12, 2022.

At the opening address, the President of the Chamber of Corinthia, Mr. Panagiotis Louziotis mentioned the importance of energy savings and that in the next period, more similar events will be held in order for the Chamber members to be supported efficiently to meet their energy targets. The keynote speech was delivered by the Deputy Minister of Spatial Planning and Environment, Mr. Nikolas Tagaras who presented the new energy-efficiency financial tools for businesses designed by the Ministry. The SMAFIN project was included in the agenda. The aims, objectives, and the so far project achievements were presented by Ms. Alice Corovessi, Managing Director INZEB. In addition, the results of the first and second national roundtables organised in Greece within the frame of the project were also presented and analysed.

ESI Europe 2.0 project: "Driving Investment in energy efficiency through energy savings insurance in Europe 2.0", 26 January 2023

SMAFIN has attended the technical meeting of the Energy Savings Insurance (ESI) Europe 2.0 (ESI Europe 2.0) project in Athens, on 26 January 2023. The project aims to replicate the successful innovative financing scheme ESI, currently being implemented in Italy, Portugal and Spain, in Croatia, Greece & Slovakia, targeting key market stakeholders to help them understand the model and facilitate access to EE finance. During the meeting, the "GoSafe with ESI" model was presented while key stakeholders explored its applicability in Greece. Presentations were followed by an extensive discussion on the contract template that has been prepared for the Greek case based on the ESI model.

Croatia Green Building Council conference: "Energy renovation of multi-apartment buildings: Obstacles, solutions and opportunities", 8 February, 2023

SMAFIN was presented at the Croatia Green Building Council conference: "Energy renovation of Multi-apartment buildings: Obstacles, solutions and opportunities", on the 8th of February, 2023. The conference was carried out as part of the Retrofit HUB project, which aims to provide relevant information about the energy renovation of multi-apartment buildings to the stakeholders in the process - representatives of co-owners, building managers, project developers and contractors. SMAFIN representative from Croatia, Josip Čengija, presented SMAFIN and its sister project, REFINE with the presentation called: "Models of financing and refinancing in construction by using renewable energy sources." The presentations were followed by the discussion on financing the renovation, the different sources and alternatives for grants.



REMARKABLE Climate Leadership Programme, 20 February, 2023

SMAFIN was presented at the REMARKABLE Climate Leadership Programme on the 20th of February 2023, by Josipa Arapović. REMARKABLE Climate Leadership is a European Leadership Programme to achieve Climate Neutrality organised within the Horizon 2020 REMARKABLE Climate Leaders Achieving 2050 Climate Neutrality project. Climate Leadership Programme is an action-orientated capacity-building programme focused on the engagement and capacity-building of leaders from public authorities throughout its activities. SMAFIN was presented within the 2nd pillar and focused on financing models for the public sector, primarily on the topic of financing of energy renovation of public buildings, since the primary stakeholders were public sector representatives from local municipalities.



Join the SMAFIN Community

SMAFIN is encouraging an ongoing dialogue among involved stakeholders. Within the e-Forum, interested parties will find guidance for identifying the opportunities, B2B networking connections and market intelligence support.

Register at the <https://www.smafin.eu/forum/>

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