

PRESS RELEASE

AUGUST 2024

ePLANET: Capacity Building activities in Zlín Region

As part of the ePLANET project, a Capacity Building Programme has been designed and implemented within the Zlín region, to address the key specific requirements from local authorities in the region. This press release summarizes the extensive activities conducted in that pilot region.



The ePLANET project - funded under the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Commission - aims to develop and promote new tools and strategies to **enhance the governance of the energy transition in the public sector**.



Capacity Building activities

The capacity-building program for Zlín Region comprises a set of 8 activities, including technical trainings and content-focused sessions on governance, innovative financing for solar energy communities, and buildings. Additionally, two extra internal training sessions were organized to train EAZK to provide technical sessions in the pilot territory. All activities were conducted in Czech and in person, involving 340 participants from various backgrounds. In various cases, sessions were organized within the framework of larger events to increase participation.

The image below summarizes the activities deployed:

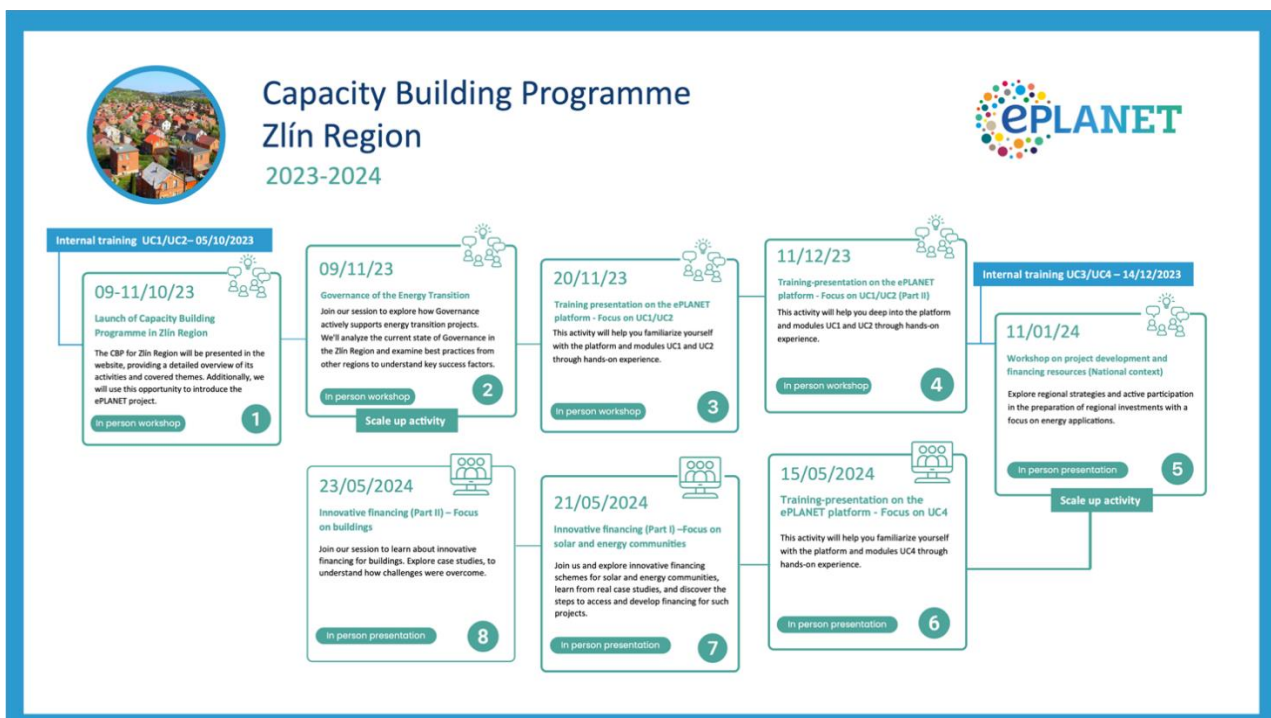


Figure 1: ePLANET Capacity Building Programme Activities deployed in Zlín Region

Trainings on the ePLANET Platform - Focus on UC1, UC2 and UC4

When & Where? 20/11/2023, 11/12/2023, 15/05/2024 @Zlín

Three capacity-building sessions were held in Zlín in 2023 and 2024, focusing on different modules of the ePLANET platform. These in-person trainings targeted technical staff and provided hands-on experience with the platform, specifically:

- **Use Case 1:** Digitization and management of Energy Transition plans.
- **Use Case 2:** Analysis of the energy performance of public buildings.
- **Use Case 4:** Analysis of photovoltaic (PV) potential.

Participants had the opportunity to explore the fully deployed ePLANET tool, testing it with data from the Zlín region. The sessions emphasized understanding the platform's functionalities and benefits, the importance of mutual cooperation, and the need for regular data updates related to energy consumption. Additional topics included fire safety requirements for PV installations and best practices for using the Local Energy Concept and the community energy potential calculation tool.



Figure 2: ePLANET Technical trainings with municipalities from Zlín Region

Governance of the Energy transition

When & Where? 09/11/2023 @Brno

On November 9, 2023, Brno hosted the inaugural meeting of the newly established “Interregional Energy Platform of Regions of the Czech Republic.” This platform was created to address the most pressing energy issues shared across all regions of the Czech Republic. The Energy Agency of the Zlín Region (EAZK) actively participated in this meeting, introducing a clustering governance concept developed by the ePLANET project. This innovative concept highlights the opportunities for regions to take a more active role in the ongoing energy transition, especially in governance facilitation and data management.

A key example of addressing regional challenges was demonstrated through the newly developed ePLANET platform, which offers practical solutions for enhancing regional governance in energy matters. The meeting saw the participation of 29 stakeholders, including representatives from all 14 NUTS regions of the Czech Republic, regional authorities, and energy agencies, as well as five other energy facilities from various parts of the country.

The activity aimed to understand the goals of the newly established Interregional Energy Platform, learn about the ePLANET project's clustering governance concept, explore the ePLANET platform's functionality, particularly in public building performance (UC2), and share best practices in governance facilitation and data management for energy transition.

This meeting marked a significant step towards enhanced collaboration among regions in the Czech Republic, promoting a more unified and effective approach to the challenges of energy transition.





Figure 3: Discussion on ePLANET clustering governance concept

Two sessions on Innovative Financing including National Stakeholders

Part I – Focus on solar and energy communities

When & Where? 21/05/2024 @Zlín

On May 21, 2024, the first of two sessions focusing on innovative financing mechanisms for solar energy and energy communities took place in Zlín. This session addressed one of the critical capacity-building needs identified by the project: financing mechanisms for solar and energy communities. The event was conducted in a hybrid format, featuring an online presentation from the State Environmental Fund in Prague.

Mayors and representatives of municipalities within the Zlín Region were invited to participate and were introduced to the ePLANET platform, which provides essential tools for financing energy efficiency projects and establishing energy communities. The session also covered various topics related to the energy transition, including fire safety requirements for photovoltaic (PV) installations and best practices for implementing Local Energy Concepts.

The event drew 55 participants, including mayors and other representatives of municipalities from the Zlín Region, energy facilities, energy consultancy companies, and the State Environmental Fund.

The session aimed to equip regional stakeholders with the knowledge and tools to advance sustainable energy initiatives by exploring innovative financing for solar energy and communities, understanding fire safety for photovoltaic (PV) installations, reviewing best practices for Local Energy Concepts, and grasping current and future energy legislation for public buildings.

Part II – Focus on energy measures in public buildings

When & Where? 23/05/2024 @Zlín

The second session, held on May 23, 2024, in Zlín, centered on innovative financing options for implementing energy measures in public buildings. The session aimed to familiarize participants with available support opportunities for energy-saving measures in enterprises, particularly through the



Modernization Fund and the Operational Program (OP) Technology and Applications for Competitiveness. Additionally, the session highlighted examples of potential collaboration on community electricity sharing.

The event was attended by 24 participants, including representatives from enterprises, energy companies, and consultancy firms from the Zlín Region and surrounding areas.



Figure 4: Sessions on Innovative Financing

The capacity building activities on Zlín have significantly contributed to raising awareness, enhancing skills, and promoting proactive measures towards the energy transition and climate action in the region. A big thanks to all participants and experts that have contributed to this success!

ePLANET project

The project started in September 2021 and will last for 3 years. The consortium is composed of 10 partners from 6 countries (Catalonia, Czech Republic, Greece, Germany, Belgium and France).



ePLANET Joint Agreement

If you are interested in the ePLANET developments, don't forget to read and sign our Joint Agreement. You can find more information in our website www.eplaneth2020.eu

[Sign the Joint Agreement](#)

More information

www.eplaneth2020.eu

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/eplaneth2020>

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You can access all the resources through the Zenodo ePLANET community:

<https://zenodo.org/communities/eplanet>

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