

Secretariat OER

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1. About ORAȘE ENERGIE ÎN ROMÂNIA, acronym OER

OER (Energy Cities Romania) is a non-governmental organization, gathering 36 members, important municipalities and metropolitan area associations interested in improving the energy efficiency in public services, in promoting the renewable energy sources and supporting the sustainable mobility planning.

OER Association was founded in 1995 at Sibiu, by a group of Mayors. In 2007, the General Assembly decided to move the headquarters of OER from Sibiu to Braşov.

OER is a member of the European Network of Municipalities – «Energy Cities» – since the beginning of its activity.

Main activities:

- Support to local authorities in defining and implementing a local effective energy policy
- National Supporting Structure for the Covenant of Mayors and Sustainable Energy Action Plan developer
- National Coordinator of the ENDURANCE Platform, the first Sustainable Urban Mobility Network in Romania
- Technical events/conferences organizer (seminars, training courses, workshops)
- Legislation consultancy and recommendations provider
- Experience exchange facilitator, between members and other similar bodies
- Members' interests representation in relation to national institutions and energy operators
- Energy management system implementer, for the improvement of energy performance of municipal properties
- Funding opportunities and financial schemes for concrete investments consultancy
- Communication initiatives like the Display® Campaign, Municipal Intelligent Energy Days, European Mobility Week etc. towards civil society.

OER Members gather once a year for the General Assembly, but they also participate in important Conferences and Workshops the Technical Bureau of OER organizes, on different subjects of interest.

2. OER members in 2018

All members of OER are represented by Mayors and assign as well other contact persons / departments for the key fields in which OER has projects.

| 1 | AIUD | 13 | GIURGIU | 25 | SATU MARE |
|----|--------------------------------------|----|-------------------|----|-----------------------------|
| 2 | ALBA IULIA | 14 | IAŞI | 27 | SĂCELE |
| 3 | ARAD | 15 | MEDIAŞ | 28 | SIBIU |
| 4 | BAIA MARE | 16 | MIERCUREA -CIUC | 29 | SIGHIŞOARA |
| 5 | BISTRIŢA | 17 | MIZIL | 30 | SLATINA |
| 6 | BRAŞOV | 18 | MOINEŞTI | 31 | TÂRGOVIŞTE |
| 7 | BUCUREŞTI – 4 th District | 19 | ODORHEIU SECUIESC | 32 | TÂRGU MUREŞ |
| 8 | BUZĂU | 20 | OŢELU ROŞU | 33 | TIMIŞOARA |
| 9 | CĂLĂRAȘI | 21 | PIATRA NEAMŢ | 34 | ZALĂU |
| 10 | DEVA | 22 | PLOIEŞTI | 35 | BRAŞOV METROPOLITAN AREA |
| 11 | FĂGĂRAŞ | 23 | RÂMNICU VÂLCEA | 36 | SATU MARE METROPOLITAN AREA |
| 12 | GHEORGHENI | 24 | RUPEA | | |



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Currently, OER is run by the Management Board designated in 2017, chosen in accordance with OER Statute every two years. OER Management Board:

| 1 | BRAŞOV - President | 4 | DEVA - Secretar |
|---|----------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 2 | ALBA IULIA - Vicepresident | 5 | BACĂU - Member |
| 3 | FĂGĂRAȘ- Vicepresident | 6 | MOINEȘTI - Member |
| | | 7 | PLOIEȘTI - Member |

3. OER «Covenant of Mayors» Signatories

The Covenant of Mayors is the mainstream European movement involving local and regional authorities, voluntarily committing to increase energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources on their territories. By their commitment, Covenant Signatories aim to meet and exceed the European Union 20% CO2 reduction objective by 2020.

http://www.covenantofmayors.eu/about/covenant-community/signatories.html

A Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) is the key document in which the Covenant Signatory outlines how it intends to reach its CO2 reduction target by 2020. It defines the activities and measures set up to achieve the targets, together with time frames and assigned responsibilities. One year after becoming a Covenant Signatory, each municipality has to submit its SEAP to the European Commission.

4. OER involvement in European Projects

1) TRAFFIC SNAKE GAME NETWORK (2014-2017) is an ongoing European project, financed by the Intelligent Energy Europe programme. The Traffic Snake Game (TSG) is a campaign developed to encourage walking and cycling to school, with primary school children, and parents and teachers being the main target group. To spread this good practice across Europe, the Traffic Snake Game Network was established, which currently consists of national focal points (NFP) from eighteen European countries.

The **TSG Networks** foremost purpose is to implement the campaign, extend its impact and share results and experiences among participants. In 18 EU countries, **TSG** is being implemented by a national focal point (NFP). The NFPs are organisations that champion the project, disseminate information about the campaign and steer the implementation of the **Traffic Snake Game** in each country. **OER is the NFP for the TSG campaign in Romania.**

2) ENDURANCE (2013-2015) is an ongoing European project, financed by the Intelligent Energy Europe programme. **ENDURANCE** aims to assist cities and regions with developing Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs) by facilitating networking, mutual learning and sharing of experience and best practise across countries.

ENDURANCE builds 25 national networks within the participating countries and an overarching European network making use of the existing EPOMM (European Platform on Mobility Management) structure.

ENDURANCE aims to establish an enduring and integrated European SUMP audit, training and policy transfer network, to activate 250 European cities to engage in Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning and raise awareness about SUMPs and their benefits at national and European level institutions.

3) <u>NET-COM</u> (2011-2013) was a European project, financed by the Intelligent Energy Europe programme. **NET-COM** aimed at empowering Local Authorities (at both political and administrative levels) to implement successfully their «Covenant of Mayors» commitments, through the significant reinforcement of the networking and communication dimension of Local Authorities' activities at national/regional and European levels.



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During **NET-COM** project, **OER** created the Romanian Covenant Club, meant as a platform to sustain the Covenant Signatories with technical, financial and legislative expertise, national and European representation, for ensuring:

- Better communication and exchanges among local authorities (Covenant Signatories or not) which would improve their own capacities and effectiveness to achieve the Covenant goals
- Synergies between local authorities and key actors such as public institutions (ministries, national or regional agencies, associations of local authorities) and any other stakeholders (businesses, NGOs, associations etc.) willing to support local authorities in their efforts to achieve the Covenant objectives.
- 4) MODEL (2007-2010) was a European project financed by the Intelligent Energy Europe programme and supported by ADEME, the French Agency for the Environment and Energy Management. MODEL stands for "Management of Domains Related to Energy in Local Authorities". It encouraged municipalities to become models for their citizens and local stakeholders in the field of rational use of energy.

Decision makers of 43 pilot cities from 11 Member States decided to join the project and change their city's image. The cities took concrete steps to improve their citizens' quality of life through energy savings, in particular by:

- Appointing municipal energy managers
- Organizing an energy unit within their administration
- Developing a local energy action plan
- Looking for **financing** for concrete investments
- Improving the **communication** of energy issues towards citizens.

OER was the Romanian national coordinator for MODEL.