



S3UNICA
Interreg Europe



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Alba Local Energy Agency - ALEA Case study S3UNICA Action Plan Romania

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Action Plan elaboration-Organisational Capacity

- Main supporter of the sustainable energy policies` implementation in Alba County
- Promoter of sustainable development in the Centru Development Region through consistent collaboration with the Regional Development Agency Centru
 - technical advisory body in the working group for the elaboration of the PI.
 - member in 2 working groups: "Environment, EE, RES, climate change "Sustainable urban development“ of The Centru Regional Analysis Committee for The Regional Development Plan of Centru Development Region for 2021-2027 - the main planning and programming document that also proposes the directions of action necessary to attain the objectives of the programming period, thus supporting the ROP.
- Consistent cooperation with Romanian Universities in several EU funded projects

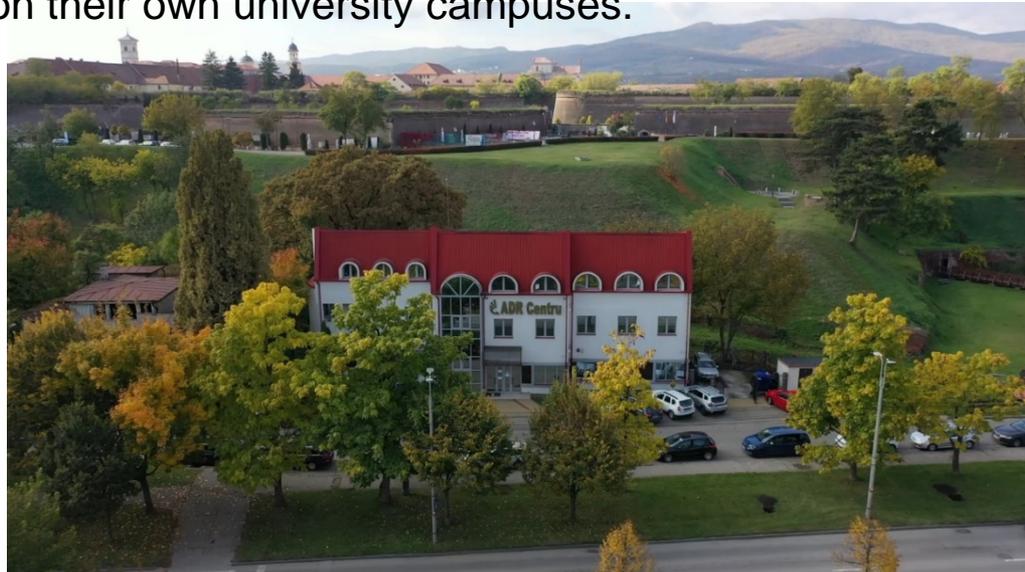


Policy instrument addressed: **The Regional Operation Programme of Centru Development Region for 2021-2027 (Programul Regiunea Centru 2021-2027)**

- The Managing Authority – The Regional Development Agency Centru
- The ROP was approved by the EC on the 28th October 2022

Elaboration of AP: ALEA with technical support of the Technical university of Cluj Napoca

- ✍ **The ROP 2021-2027 Centru has already been improved:** Universities are included as eligible entities for energy efficiency (EE) works in public buildings; thus, the ROP 2021-2027 represents the first program of its kind that they participate in as applicants with EE projects targeting buildings on their own university campuses.

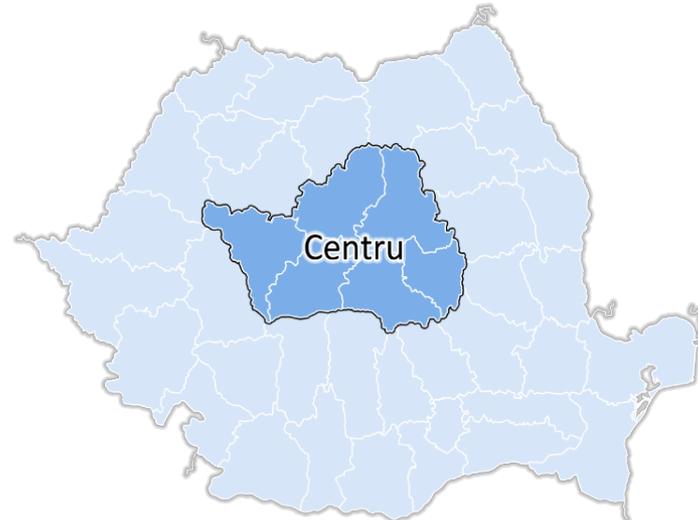


S3UNICA Romanian Action Plan

Structure

The S3UNICA Action Plan - 2 main parts:

- The introduction and analyses (the status quo of the domain and underlines the necessity and the motivation of the measures proposed)
 - the EU and national context,
 - energy planning in the Centru Development Region of Romania,
 - the description of the policy instrument
- The action.
 - inspired by the S3UNICA interregional exchange of experience events



S3UNICA regional STK meetings in Romania, revealed:

- Universities do not possess the necessary expertise to elaborate consistent EE project proposals targeting their own university buildings within ROPs **as applicants**
- University applicants lack the experience of using proven tools to identify main directions of actions and to prioritise EE measures
- Support instruments are needed to build their capacity in elaborating good proposals according to the programme requirements.



The action was influenced by the best practices offered by Finnish and Italian partners.

- LUT Green Campus - to establish the priorities related to the energy infrastructure investments, the decision-makers of LUT used the SAT as assessment methodology.
 - It showed the possibility of applying the SAT on a large scale. it gave insight on how to apply it for complex energy infrastructures with different technologies.
- The Greenreality Network - thematic network operating in South Karelia.
 - It showed how an expert network accelerates the energy development process by offering tailored advice on project related issues; it showed that the evaluation feedback of an expert panel raises the capacity of an organisation to use the given realities and tailor the development plans.
- University of Udine – application of the SRI on one of their campus buildings.
 - The implementation of the SRI tool In UNID campus buildings proved to be efficient in showing the state of the energy infrastructure leading to the right investments in the energy infrastructure.



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The Action

Creation of an online support instrument (OSI) for university applicants for energy efficiency projects within the ROP 2021-2027 Centru

Type : Implementation of new projects

Implementation period: June 2022 – July 2023

OSI main functionality 1

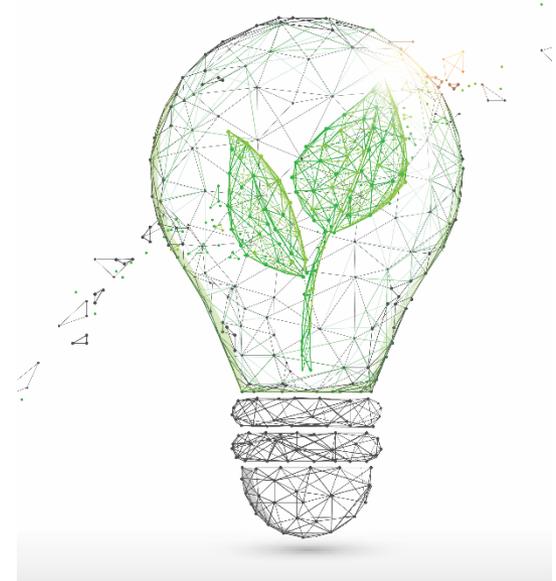
Provision of the self-assessment tool (SAT) with support package for university applicants within *ROP 2021-2027 Centru*

OSI main functionality 2

Provision of an expert evaluation support for university applicants for EE project proposals

OSI main functionality 3

Monitorisation of the project proposals submitted by university applicants for energy efficient works in their university campus buildings



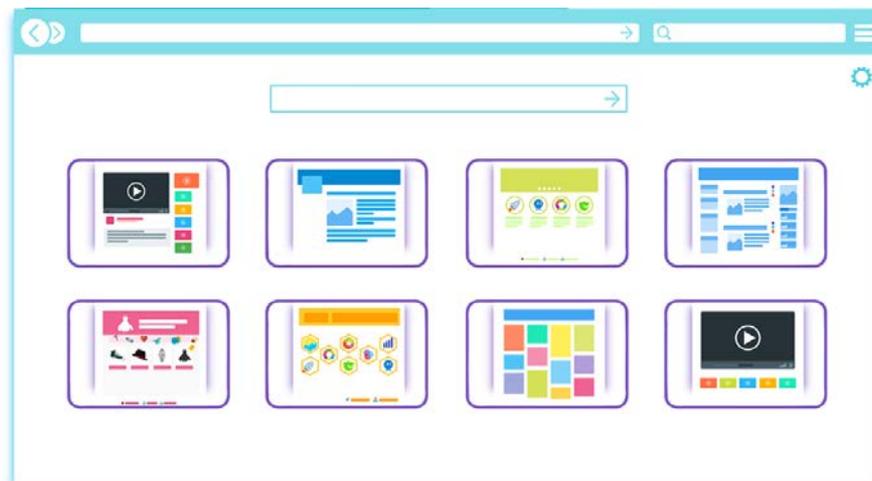
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Online support tool - Functionality 1

Provision of the self-assessment tool (SAT) with support package for university applicants within *ROP 2021-2027 Centru*

Main results:

- Provision of the SAT together with its methodological guidelines (in English and in Romanian)
- Creation of a database of other documentation related to the smart readiness indicator (SRI).
- Creation of FAQ section and advice section on the use of the self-assessment tool to obtain the SRI in the elaboration of the project proposal elaboration"
- Creation of a database of practice cases involving the use of SAT
- Repository of examples of actual SRIs obtained by Romanian universities by applying the SAT"



Online support tool - Functionality 2

Provision of an expert evaluation support

- specific to the energy related issues that raise difficulties for the elaboration of the proposals.

Main results:

- Elaboration of the collaborative support protocol between the expert group and the RDA Centru.
- Set up of the expert panel. Members in the group (5: 3 University, 1 RDA Centru + 1 ALEA)
- Creation of a knowledge repository (case studies, energy data, tools that applicants can use for improving the quality of their proposals. The database is used by the expert group directly linking information with required support.)
- Online form used by applicants as a means to directly connect the applicant with the expert group based on the issues raised.



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Online support tool - Functionality 3

Monitorisation of the project proposals submitted by university applicants for energy efficient works in their university campus buildings

Key steps:

Set up of a monitoring instrument set up within the online support tool with access for both parties

**ongoing*

- NOTE> The 1st EE call will be launched in May 2023

Main impact and result indicators for Action

Universities involved: 6

Number of successfully elaborated SRI (through the adoption of SAT): 5

Envisaged number of people involved in the expert evaluation panel: 5

Number of submitted projects within ROP2021-2027 EE call: 5

Number of successfully evaluated projects within ROP2021-2027 EE call: 3



Online support tool main outputs and outcomes

Main **outputs**:

- Acquisition of:
 - necessary IT equipment (ALEA own funds)
 - s3unica.ro domain as the gateway to the support tool for universities and work is underway to publish the access page of the s3unica support tool based on username and password.
- Creation of
 - the online structure of the tool (with visual elements):
 - the section with free resources
 - the restricted access resources for the registered universities
- Getting official engagement of main STKs to be involved:
 - RDA Centru representative, experts in the energy domain

Main **outcomes** until now:

- **5 Centru Development Region universities** are involved in knowledge exchange related to SAT.
- **3 registered universities** are provided ongoing assistance as applicants through the online support tool





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Thank you!

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