

## **TOWARDS ENERGY AUTONOMY OF RURAL REGIONS**

### **International cooperation to build a basis for intelligent energy**

**Time schedule:** April 2013 – May 2014

**Project leader:** Friends of the Earth-CEPA

**Partners:** National society of conservationists (FoE Hungary), Czech Union for Nature Conservation - Basic Organization Veronica, Polish Green Network

#### **Project summary**

The project focuses on building conceptual basis for strengthening sustainable energy sectors in rural regions as a necessary precondition for their social and economic stability.

The project results will include:

- a) a methodology for intelligent energy strategy for small rural regions including development of a software for future updates of strategies on local levels
- b) a pilot municipal forestry adaptation strategy on climate change
- c) a pilot draft model regulation for the use of local biomass for sustainable production of energy on municipal level
- d) development of useful internet applications for municipalities to assess carbon footprint and local financial effects of local energy projects
- e) dissemination of information and promotion of outputs

The project builds on past energy initiatives of the project partners. In Slovakia, it focuses on the target region of Polana in Central Slovakia (1 132 km<sup>2</sup>, 43 municipalities, 62 000 inhabitants). Despite excellent conditions for sustainable development, this region is economically marginalized. The import of fossil fuels and electricity leads to annual outflow of 380-820 € per capita. Yet as much as 50 % of the heat and a substantial amount of electricity can be saved and replaced by renewable energy sources (RES), particularly by biomass and sun. This would mobilize the region's financial resources for its own development, creates new jobs, ensure its energy security and will also help stabilize the environment and climate.

The use of project outputs will be tested in the target region in Slovakia and then disseminated to other rural regions in Slovakia, Hungary, Czech Republic and Poland through partners. The results will become an input for the programming of public incentives in energy sector including programming of EU funds for 2014 - 2020.

#### **Project outputs in Hungarian and English:**

[Methodology for preparation of analysis of local biomass potential](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Methodology_Adaptation_strategy_EN.pdf) (EN)-

[http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Methodology\\_Adaptation\\_strategy\\_EN.pdf](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Methodology_Adaptation_strategy_EN.pdf)

[Methodology for preparation of strategy of adaptation of forests on climate change](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Methodology_Biomass_potential_analysis_EN.pdf) (EN)

[http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Methodology\\_Biomass\\_potential\\_analysis\\_EN.pdf](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Methodology_Biomass_potential_analysis_EN.pdf)

[The summary of the pilot analysis of local biomass potential in Polana region](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Biomass_potential_analysis_HU.pdf) (HU)

[http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Biomass\\_potential\\_analysis\\_HU.pdf](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Biomass_potential_analysis_HU.pdf)

[The summary of the pilot strategy of climate change adaptation of forests in Poniky cadastral area](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Adaptation_strategy_HU.pdf) (HU)

[http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Adaptation\\_strategy\\_HU.pdf](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Adaptation_strategy_HU.pdf)

[Online calculator of CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of buildings](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Adaptation_strategy_HU.pdf) (HU)

<http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/uhlikova-kalkulacka>

[Online calculator of impact of the investments on local economy - local multiplier 3](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/uhlikova-kalkulacka) (HU)

<http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/lm3-kalkulacka>

[Online tool for preparation of local energy strategies - methodology](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/lm3-kalkulacka) (HU)

[http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Regional\\_energy\\_strategies\\_HU.pdf](http://www.priateliazeme.sk/cepa/eportal/images/publikacie/Regional_energy_strategies_HU.pdf)