



# EU4 ENERGY TRANSITION:



COVENANT OF MAYORS

IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TÜRKIYE

### TÜRKİYE **MONTHLY BULLETIN** - February 2024 -





COVENANT OF MAYORS
IN THE WESTERN BALKANS
AND TÜRKIYE



### Lithuania Independence Day:

# Celebrating Lithuania's Independence: A Story of Strength and Unity

Lithuanian Independence Day on
February 16 is undoubtedly a
special time to honor the resilience
of the Lithuanian nation. In 1918,
the Lithuanian Council declared
independence, preparing the birth of
modern Lithuania.



Today, Lithuania remains a democratic and culturally diverse nation.

This isn't just a look back; it is a celebration of a nation's values: freedom, democracy, and unity. Happy Independence Day of Lithuania to the past, present and future!









#### EU4 ENERGY TRANSITION: COVENANT OF MAYORS

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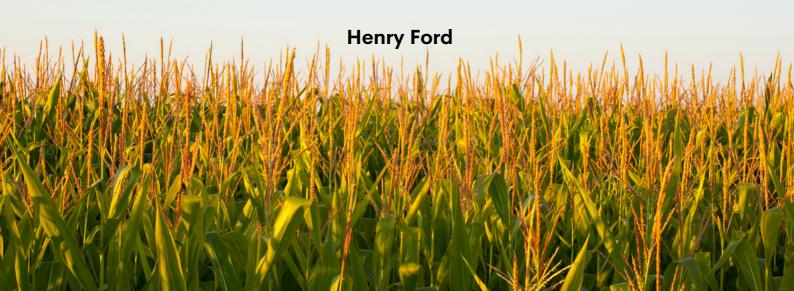
### **February Focus**

#### MLGP 2024: Scaling Up!

The Multi-Level Governance Platform (MLGP) is initiating a significant scaling-up endeavor to broaden its impact from the regional to the national level. This expansion is crucial to ensure a more extensive reach and increased effectiveness in addressing climate-related challenges.

Aligning the scaling process with the existing national structure will facilitate seamless communication between different levels and create mechanisms to support municipalities in developing and implementing Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs).

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success."









#### **MLGP 2024: SCALING UP** PAVING THE WAY FOR SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE IN TÜRKİYE

#### THE EVOLUTION OF MLGP

During its testing phase, MLGP engaged various municipalities as test and observer partners, each contributing to the platform's development.

As the lessons learned unfolded, the need for a more comprehensive and inclusive approach became evident. This led to the inclusion of several municipalities as "Advanced Municipalities" in the MLGP framework.

Turkish Municipalities are among the pioneers set to embrace MLGP at a more advanced level.

The scaling up of MLGP is not merely an expansion but a testament to Türkiye's commitment to sustainable governance. As MLGP prepares to go nationwide, it stands as a beacon of collaborative, transparent, and innovative governance, setting the stage for a sustainable future for Türkiye and beyond.



#### **Strategic Value of Scaling Up: Foreseen Function**

The main drivers for this strategic scaling-up include the need for enhanced interactions with ministries, the establishment of a project development component, and the augmentation of the pool of experts to strengthen educational tasks. Ultimately, the MLGP 2024 program aims to enhance the MLGP's capacity, enabling it to play a more integral role in achieving genuine multi-level governance and fostering sustainable climate actions across the nation.

One of the key improvements in the MLGP scaling-up process is the issuance of new collaborations with new partners. A commitment from the participating municipalities, associations, governance channels to actively contribute to and benefit from the MLGP framework. The transition from test and observer municipalities to Advanced Municipalities highlights a tangible step forward in the platform's maturation.









### MLGP 2024: SCALING UP PAVING THE WAY FOR SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE IN TÜRKİYE

#### **BENEFITS OF COLLABORATION:**

The collaboration with MLGP is poised to yield a myriad of benefits, significantly influencing Türkiye's journey towards climate and sustainability goals:





**Accelerated Progress:** By joining forces, municipalities aim to expedite progress towards Türkiye's climate and sustainability targets, aligning their efforts with international frameworks such as the Paris Agreement.



International Best Practices: MLGP's scaling up involves the integration of national and international best practices, allowing Türkiye to benchmark its sustainability initiatives against global standards. This ensures that the nation remains at the forefront of innovative and impactful climate action.



**External Expertise:** The inclusion of new partners brings diverse perspectives and external expertise, fostering an environment of knowledge exchange. This amalgamation of ideas enhances the effectiveness of climate action plans.



**Innovative Solutions:** Collaborative efforts enable the sharing of innovative solutions to common challenges faced by municipalities. MLGP becomes a hub for creativity and adaptability, fostering an environment where novel ideas can flourish.



**Finance Attraction:** The involvement of Advanced Municipalities in MLGP opens up avenues for attracting finance. The platform becomes an attractive proposition for investors, both domestic and international, who are keen to support sustainable initiatives.



International Projects Development: The collaboration enhances Türkiye's potential for participating in and developing international projects. MLGP serves as a conduit for partnerships that extend beyond national borders, fostering global cooperation in the pursuit of shared sustainability goals.









#### **MLGP 2024: SCALING UP**

### PAVING THE WAY FOR SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE IN TÜRKİYE WITH UNION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF TURKIYE

In a groundbreaking move toward sustainable governance, the Multi-Level Governance Platform (MLGP) underwent successful testing in the Marmara Region in 2023. As a testament to its efficacy, the Union of Municipalities of Türkiye (UMT) is gearing up to launch MLGP nationwide. This platform, designed for collaborative climate action and sustainability, not only proved its mettle during testing but also garnered support from new partners, marking a significant leap in its evolution.

On the 14th of February, EU4ETTR Project Team had meetings with UMT in both project office and virtually.



In the project office, Mr. Ertuğrul Şafak and Mr. Uğur Karahan from UMT, joined the discussions upon MLGP activities in 2024 and future innovative approaches for climate actions.









### Türkiye's Multi-Level Governance Platform Gains Momentum with Strategic Partnerships

### Kent-Lab and ÇEDBİK Officially Joined Forces with EU4ETTR in MLGP

In an exciting development for the realm of urban planning and sustainable practices, the Urban Strategies and Local Practices Association, Kent-Lab, has officially partnered with EU4ETTR. The partnership aligns seamlessly with the commitment to promoting energy transition and sustainable practices, making Kent-Lab a key player in shaping the future of urban development.





MLGP Meeting: EU4ETTR Project Team and Kent-Lab Representatives



#### **Key Areas of Focus:**

- **Public-Civil Society Collaboration**: Kent-Lab emphasizes the importance of collaboration between the public and civil society, recognizing that inclusive decision-making is vital for effective urban development.
- Strategic Planning and Action Plans: The association is dedicated to strategic planning and action plans within local governments, with a keen focus on crafting policies and strategies that address climate challenges and align with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- **Nature-Based Urban Solutions**: Kent-Lab recognizes the significance of nature-based solutions in creating sustainable urban environments, promoting green spaces, and mitigating the impact of climate change.
- Good Governance and Participation: Promoting good governance and participation, Kent-Lab advocates for transparent and inclusive practices, ensuring that local communities have a voice in the decisions that shape their urban landscape.







### Türkiye's Multi-Level Governance Platform Gains Momentum with Strategic Partnerships

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### Çevre Dostu Yeşil Binalar Derneği (ÇEDBİK) Joined MLGP Advisory Board:

ÇEDBİK, a trailblazer in green initiatives since 2007, joins forces with the MLGP, aligning their expertise to advance energy efficiency and sustainable building practices. As an advisory board member, ÇEDBİK will play a pivotal role in shaping the platform's strategies and initiatives.

The collaboration between the MLGP and ÇEDBİK is a testament to their shared vision for Türkiye—a future where structures prioritize energy efficiency.



MLGP Meeting: EU4ETTR Project Team and ÇEDBİK Representatives 06.02.2024



#### **Key areas of focus:**

#### **Green Buildings and Energy Efficiency:**

ÇEDBİK's longstanding commitment to green building practices aligns seamlessly with the MLGP's mission to promote sustainable structures.

#### **Energy Transition Advocacy:**

The partnership emphasizes a collective effort to advance energy transition in Türkiye. By leveraging their combined expertise, the MLGP and ÇEDBİK intend to advocate for policies and practices that enhance energy efficiency and contribute to a cleaner, more resilient future.







#### PROJECT PROPOSAL WRITING TRAINING

How to Write and Craft Effective Project Proposals?

In the project proposal training which was held on the 22nd of February, Ms. Aušra Albrechtaitė, Financial Expert, presented the Finding Grants, explaining how to search for grants, know if you qualify, and find funding. Ms. İlknur Şahin, Expert from CPMA, helped participants with Creating Project Ideas, clarifying goals and making compelling stories.

The session also covered important parts of a grant proposal, stressing how they make proposals strong. They discussed Writing Tips for Grant Proposals, focusing on clear writing, common mistakes, and persuasive strategies.





### Tips from Ms. İlknur Şahin for effective project writing:



- Clear Objectives: Define a clear general and specific project objective.
- Identify Target and Beneficiary Groups: Clearly separate those directly impacted (target) and indirectly impacted (final beneficiaries).
- Follow the Financial Guide: Use the fund document as a guide for your proposal. Stick to the instructions and focus on the main theme.
- Align with Donor's Strategy: Ensure your project aligns with their priorities. Include cross-cutting subjects for added advantage.
- **Tell a Compelling Story:** Use concrete figures and references to back up your proposal, making it more convincing.
- Measurable Language: Use measurable and concrete language in presentations.
- Positive Focus: Emphasize the positive impact and outcomes of the project.
- **Detailed Budget:** Develop a detailed and justified budget plan.
- Continuous Improvement: Seek feedback and continuously improve proposals.
- **Strategic Collaboration**: Consider long-term benefits for both the project and the funding organization.
- Early Start: Begin the application process early and explore collaboration opportunities.
- Adaptation of Proposals: Adapt unsuccessful proposals for future calls, leveraging lessons learned.







#### **CLIMAAX OPEN CALL: INFORMATORY MEETING**

27.02.2024

CLIMAAX Open Call recipients stand to gain substantial benefits, including a **lump sum funding of up to 300,000 EUR per project**. They will also receive access to the multi-risk assessment **Toolbox**, coupled with comprehensive support, including methodological guidance on tools and technical aspects of multi-risk assessment methodologies. **Technical advice and assistance** will be provided through the CLIMAAX helpdesk. Additionally, beneficiaries will have access to outreach and engagement **events organized by CLIMAAX**.



Ms. Daiva Matonienė, the Project Team Leader in Turkey for the EU4ETTR Project, shared valuable insights, tips, and updates for the winning proposals.

#### What is CLIMAAX?

The CLIMAAX project, under Horizon Europe, aims to enhance regional climate and emergency risk management plans over a 4-year period.

The consortium, comprising climate risk and emergency response experts, will provide financial and practical support. In alignment with the EU Adaptation Strategy and Mission on Climate Adaptation, CLIMAAX will develop a tailored framework and toolbox for climate risk assessment at local and regional scales. The project is launching an open call for regions and communities to implement its methodology, offering funding, tool support, and guidance for multi-risk assessments and adaptation planning in three phases.



The deadline for CLIMAAX applications is March 8th.

- Application documents are now available in Turkish in EU4ETTR Library!
- All applications must be submitted in ENGLISH.



https://climaax-call4regions.fundingbox.com/? utm\_campaign=1stoc&utm\_medium=social&utm\_source=commtoolkit





#### **GCoM Open House 2024:**

28 February - 1 March 2024

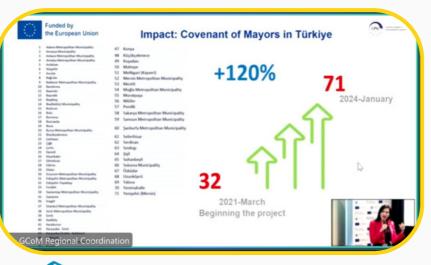
# **Success of Turkish Municipalities Presented**



Brussels, Belgium

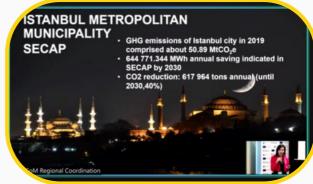


Turkish municipalities showcased notable achievements in climate action and innovation at the GCoM Open House 2024, marking Türkiye's debut representation. Ms. Daiva Matoniene, Project Team Leader for the EU4ETTR Project in Türkiye, highlighted the progress, with Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Bağcılar, and Melikgazi Municipalities taking the lead.









The increased number of GCoM signatories, 20
Observer Municipalities, and a focus on SECAP
development underscore a strong commitment
to climate goals. Ms. Matoniene emphasized the
importance of the Multi-Level Governance
Platform (MLGP) as a communication tool
connecting national and local governments for
impactful climate actions in Türkiye.



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# **EU4ETTR LIBRARY UPDATES:**

#### **Future Energy Unveiled:**

Explore the future of energy with the Clean Energy Technology Observatory's latest report, available in Turkish on EU4ETTR.

Uncovering 77 emerging technologies, this concise guide provides key insights into each innovation's potential impact, involvement of entities, patenting activity, and global performance. From advanced solar solutions to groundbreaking energy storage, this report is your shortcut to the forefront of energy innovation. Whether you're a researcher, policymaker, or just curious, dive into the limitless possibilities of tomorrow's energy landscape. Access the report now for a glimpse into the future on EU4ETTR in Turkish.

Access: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Co9758wrdQaRoH45wySdKBao\_DjyyfLA/view?usp=sharing



#### **GCoM Impact Report:**



Inside, you'll discover:

- Overview of 2023
- Useful figures about pillars of climate actions
- Co-benefits of City Climate Action
- Success Stories
- Climate Initiative Suggestions

Access: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xDANhfBurgv2YtwwQ2CdJWdL4DsRoLYp/view?usp=sharing

#### **Integrity Matters for Cities, States, and Regions**



Inside, you'll discover:

- Five principles for integrity in climate actions for subnational bodies
- Suggestions
- Case Studies

 ${\tt Access:} \ \textbf{https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xmaESrgKlaZ2if8zDwGGBHd5G2rkURSK/view?usp=sharing} \\$ 











#### **LOCAL SUCCESS:**

#### **Congratulations to**

Tekirdağ
Metropolitan
Municipality for
completing the
SECAP!





We express our sincere gratitude for the active engagement of Tekirdağ Metropolitan Municipality in both MLGP and capacity-building initiatives. Their valuable experience and expertise will undoubtedly play a crucial role in the successful implementation of the SECAP.



#### **MLGP 2024:**

Kuşadası Municipality is becoming a

member of MLGP!

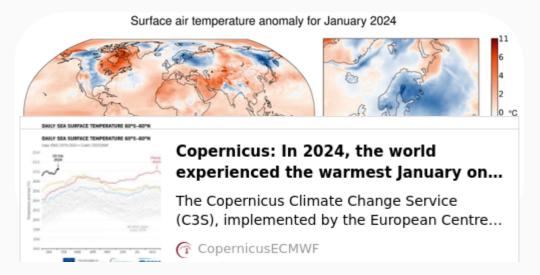




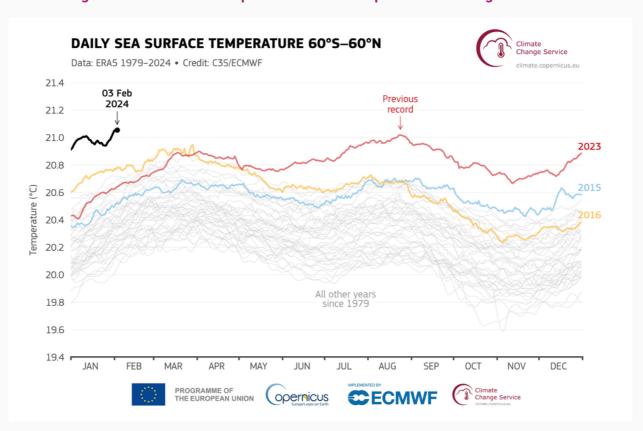


# **EU's Bold Climate Roadmap: Accelerating Towards 2050 Neutrality Amidst Record-Breaking Global Temperatures**

In the wake of January 2024 setting unprecedented global temperature records, the urgency for climate action is underscored by Copernicus data revealing a 13.14°C average surface air temperature. In response to this critical scenario, the European Commission outlines a comprehensive strategy to achieve climate neutrality by 2050.



The concerning trend of the last 8 consecutive hottest months, contributing to a 1.5-degree surge from preindustrial levels over the past year, necessitates decisive measures. Addressing regional disparities witnessed in Southern Europe's struggles and Scandinavia's cold extremes, the Earth grapples not only with rising temperatures but also heightened sea surface temperatures and the impact of both drought and excess rainfall.

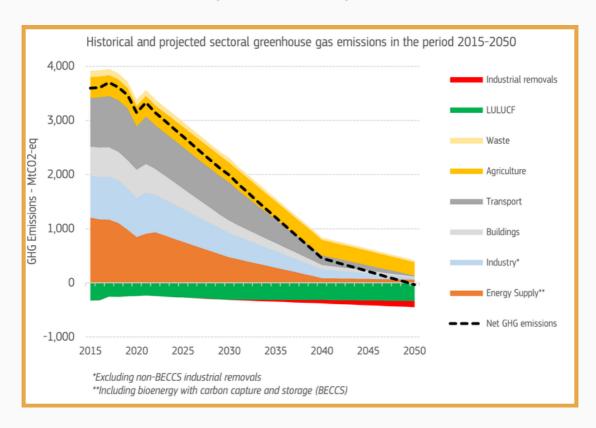


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The European Commission proposed a 2040 climate target for the EU in February 2024, suggesting a 90% reduction in the bloc's net greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 levels. This target follows the EU's 2030 goal of achieving a minimum 55% reduction in net greenhouse gas emissions relative to 1990 levels and serves as the next intermediate milestone toward reaching climate neutrality.

#### The proposed 2040 target involves:

- 90% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions,
- Focusing on implementing existing EU laws,
- Decarbonizing industries through wind energy, hydroelectricity
- Boosting domestic manufacturing in vital sectors like electric vehicles and solar cells,
- Ensuring a just transition with support from tools such as the Social Climate Fund and the Just Transformation Fund,
- · Fostering open dialogue with stakeholders.



# 10 REASONS TO JOIN THE COVENANT OF MAYORS FOR CLIMATE AND ENERGY



TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE, CLIMATE-RESILIENT AND VIBRANT CITIES

A COMMON VISION FOR 2050

#### Mitigating climate change

- · Adapting to its unavoidable effects
- Providing access to secure, sustainable and affordable energy

### Gain high international recognition and visibility

for your local authority's climate and energy action

- > Enjoy worldwide visibility through the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy
- > Showcase your Covenant commitments on the United Nations' Non-State Actor Zone for Climate Action (NAZCA) data platform

#### Strengthen the credibility of your commitments

through progress review and monitoring

> Ensure that your action plan is coherent by submitting it to third-party evaluation (European Commission's Joint Research Centre)

#### Boost access to financing

for your local climate and energy projects

- > Gain access to financial facilities specifically targeting - or even reserved for - Covenant of Mayors signatories, such as the European Local ENergy Assistance (ELENA) or the European Energy Efficiency Fund (EEEF)
- > Stay informed on EU funding opportunities online and by attending dedicated events

#### Receive tailored guidance Expert helpdesk, methodologies and

Expert helpdesk, methodologies and tools guide you through effective energy and climate action

- > Benefit from step-by-step support in assessment, planning, implementation, and monitoring
- > Explore new ways of involving citizens and local stakeholders

#### Benefit from facilitated selfassessment and benchmarking

through a common monitoring and reporting template

- > Evaluate your progress using the adaptation scoreboard
- > Compare your projects against the signatories' Benchmarks of Excellence

#### AMBITIOUS COMMITMENTS FOR 2030

As a signatory, you commit to developing a local action plan and reporting on your progress to meet two main objectives:

- Reduce CO2 emissions by at least 40% by 2030
- Increase resilience to climate change

#### Contribute to shaping the EU's climate and energy policy

Be part of a key initiative relevant to the EU's climate and energy policy (Energy Union, Urban Agenda for the EU)

- > Seize the opportunity to inform the EU's decision makers
- > Showcase your good practices
- > Receive feedback on your experiences

### Secure long-term support for your climate and energy actions

through your municipality's voluntary commitment to the Covenant of Mayors initiative and its mandatory approval by your city council

- > Gather political support in your city council
- > Set-up a stable framework for implementation

### Participate in networking events, capacity building sessions and discussions

within a dynamic community of over 7,000 signatories

- > Attend regular events
- > Join the Covenant of Mayors webinars and discussion forums
- > Participate in city twinning programmes

#### Enjoy easy access to 'excellence know-how'

and find ways to successfully implement your projects

- > Get inspired by good practices and case studies
- > Use the Covenant Capacity-Sharing Corner

### Get connected to national and subnational authorities

Cooperate with and receive tailored assistance from Covenant of Mayors Coordinators and Supporters

> Enjoy ongoing support from regions, provinces, national ministries, and energy agencies



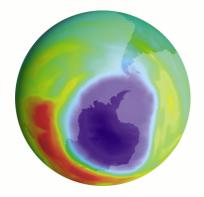




### IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHALLENGES WHY YOUR ACTIONS MATTER MORE THAN YOU THINK?

#### **Ever wonder if your efforts to save the planet really make a difference?**

In a world grappling with the urgency of climate action, it's easy to feel small in the face of colossal challenges. However, the narrative of environmental triumphs proves that **individual** and collective efforts are not only noticed but are catalysts for transformative change.



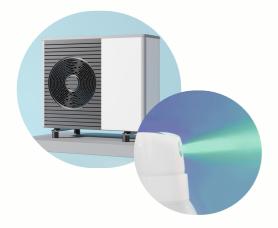
#### Look at the incredible comeback of the ozone layer.

Thanks to people worldwide saying no to harmful stuff, our protective layer is healing. Imagine, each person's choice contributing to this big win for our planet - that's you included!



After the Chernobyl mess, the Earth bounced back. Now, the once no-go zone is a paradise buzzing with life. It's like our planet saying, "I can do this – watch me!"





### Now, the European Union has set its sights on smashing greenhouse gas targets by 2030.

The EU has introduced new rules to tackle harmful gases, aiming to cut emissions by 500 million tonnes by 2050, equivalent to what France and Belgium emit annually.

The challenges might seem huge, but guess what? The more we stick together, the stronger we become. Your steps, whether taken solo or with your climate crew, add up to a bigger story of awesome change.





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### **Visibility:**

#### **Climate Change and Climate Action News:**



News, announcements, guidebooks from both national and international sides. The national and international partners of the project, including GCoM, CoM and other resources contributed greatly spreading the knowledge!



#### **Updates from:**

Tekirdağ Metropolitan Municipality Congratulations to Tekirdağ for the SECAP completion!

#### GCoM Open House 2024:



#### Webinar and Call Announcements:



https://climaax.eu



**EU4 ENERGY TRANSITION:** COVENANT OF MAYORS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

### **Visibility:** Social Media Updates

**EU4ETTR Project** Türkiye'de iklim değişikliğiyle mücadele eden belediyelere Belediye Başkanları Sözleşmesi inisiyatifi kapsamında destek sağlayan AB projesi.

https://www.youtube.com/@eu4energytransitiontr



After Award Ceremony, exclusive interviews have been shared on the YouTube account of the **EU4ETTR Project.** 



ENERJİ DÖNÜŞÜMÜ İÇİN AB: BATI BALKANLAR VE an Union TÜRKİYE'DEKİ BELEDİYE BAŞKANLARI SÖZLEŞMESİ SECAP 2023 KAPASİTE GELİSTİRME EĞİTİMİ ÖDÜL TÖRENİ





KAPASİTE GELİSTİRME EĞİTİMİ BAŞARI ÖDÜLLERİ: HÜMA BAYLAV SAKARYA BÜYÜKŞEHİR BELEDİYESİ **Interview with Hüma Baylav** from Sakarya Metropolitan Municipality

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcGZEOjwIZI





**Collaboration in Action: Marshmallow Tower** 



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XDC642AJgXw

Let's applaud and celebrate the remarkable municipalities that graced the Capacity Building Award Ceremony in January 2024, turning these moments into unforgettable milestones.



The joyous occasion, highlighted in our Instagram post, has resonated with over 23,000 accounts, amplifying the shared success. It was indeed a magnificent day of collaboration, learning, and shared accomplishments, making it a testament to the collective efforts towards fostering growth and excellence.

https://www.instagram.com/p/C2hRteCvlwf/?hl=en

### Follow us







@eu4energytransitiontr







# Announcements from EU4ETTR Side: March 2024 UPCOMING EVENTS

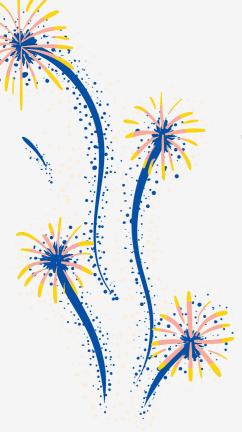




#### **Project Proposal Preparation Training - II**

5 March 2024 10:00 - 12:00 (GMT+3) Online





#### Bağcılar Municipality:

**PV Grant Project Completion Ceremony** 

07 March 2024 Istanbul





### Follow us















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#### **Our Note:**



Facing immense challenges may appear daunting, but here's the twist – the more united we stand, the more resilient we grow. Whether you stride forward independently or alongside your climate allies, every step contributes to a grand narrative of remarkable transformation.

Armed with our superhero tools, teamwork, and a common goal, every action counts. Your daily choices - like saying no to waste and giving a thumbs-up to ecofriendly habits – make you a climate superhero. So, chin up, hero! Let the success stories inspire you to keep going. The world needs you, and your actions today are like a superpower creating ripples of positive change.

Don't give up. Because changing the world? It's not just a dream – it's happening, and you're a part of it!



#### **EU4ETTR Project Team**



### Follow us







