



EU4 ENERGY TRANSITION: COVENANT OF MAYORS

IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TÜRKİYE

TÜRKİYE MONTHLY BULLETIN

- September 2024 -







EU4 ENERGY TRANSITION: COVENANT OF MAYORS

IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TÜRKİYE "W

"We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children."

-David Brower

September Focus

In September, an important meeting of the MLGP4Climate Working Group 1 on Challenges and Solutions was hosted, providing a platform for members to discuss innovative approaches to climate action. The event aimed to strengthen cooperation among national, local, NGOs, and other partners to enhance collaboration on energy transition and climate actions while sharing successful projects and exploring effective communication models through the MLGP4Climate initiative.

Innovative three levels approach was implemented: firstly, before meeting survey was organized by registered participants and wider audience in Linkedin pool. Finally on the 24th September in WG1 meeting with 85 participants from municipalities, ministries, NGO and business representatives wider discussion was organised.

This approach ensured that the conversations were relevant and aligned with the current needs and priorities in climate action. The event highlighted the importance of collaboration among various stakeholders in addressing the challenges posed by climate change.



Welcome to Diyarbakır Metropolitan Municipality, which is dedicated to enhancing climate actions and facilitating the transition to sustainable energy!

Hevsel Gardens is an 800-hectare area located between Diyarbakır Fortress and the Tigris River valley. With an 8,000-year history of uninterrupted agriculture, Hevsel Gardens has served as both a food source and a place for relaxation in the region.







DİYARBAKIR METROPOLIAN MUNICIPALITY: SECAP KICK-OFF

10 September 2024

EU4ETTR held its first meeting with the new member of the MLG Platform, Diyarbakır Metropolitan Municipality.



During this inspiring meeting. preparation of the SECAP (Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan), alternative financing models, the city's vulnerable points regarding climate change, and the support to be provided to the city under **MLGP** discussed. were Diyarbakır Metropolitan Municipality's dedicated and motivated team will taking a leading role in the steps toward a sustainable future.

The city is committed to starting SECAP preparations and fighting climate change.





Congratulations to Sivas Municipality for its actions toward a sustainable future!

Sivas is a city that awaits discovery as a cultural treasure in the heart of Anatolia, known for its stunning natural beauty and rich historical heritage.





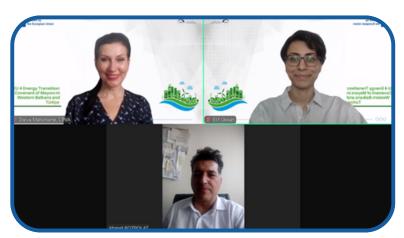


SIVAS MUNICIPALITY: ACTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

17 September 2024

EU4ETTR held a pivotal meeting with Sivas Municipality to support city's commitment to climate action and sustainable urban development. This collaboration aims to support the municipality in signing the Global Covenant of Mayors, empowering local governments to enhance their climate commitments.





Sivas is already engaged in various projects addressing climate change, including the Solar Power Plant Project, the Drinking Water Treatment and Wastewater Treatment Plant Laboratories Accreditation Project, and the Gas Consumption Monitoring Project for the thermal rehabilitation of residential buildings. The municipality views climate action as an opportunity to innovate and improve residents' quality of life.

The EU4ETTR initiative will provide essential resources and expertise, enabling Sivas to implement effective climate strategies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions while promoting sustainable economic growth. By joining the Global Covenant of Mayors, Sivas will connect with a global network of cities committed to meaningful climate action.

Sivas Municipality is making significant strides toward sustainability. With EU4ETTR's support and the ambition to sign the Global Covenant of Mayors, the city is set to impact the fight against climate change, paving the way for a greener future for all its residents.



Congratulations to Safranbolu Municipality for its dedication to building a sustainable future!

Safranbolu is a town known for its historic houses, narrow streets, and traditional handicrafts, and it is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.







SAFRANBOLU MUNICIPALITY: SECAP KICK-OFF

17 September 2024

EU4ETTR held a SECAP preparation kick-off meeting with the Municipality of Safranbolu. The meeting was attended by **the Mayor**, **Ms Elif Köse.** Significant discussions focused on the development of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) for Safranbolu. EU4ETTR will provide essential support through the MLG Platform in the municipality's efforts to prepare the SECAP.





The meeting emphasized the necessity of collaboration among various stakeholders, with plans for workshops and regular follow-up meetings to facilitate comprehensive engagement in the SECAP process. It also highlighted the importance of coordinated efforts in addressing climate challenges. This approach aims to ensure that diverse perspectives are incorporated, thereby enhancing the overall effectiveness of the plan.

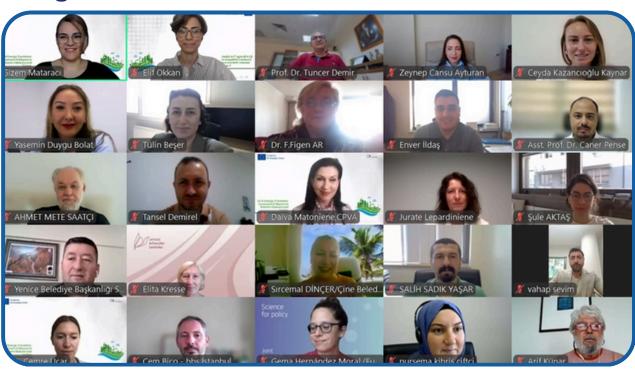
Additionally, the meeting underscored the importance of aligning local initiatives with national and international climate goals. By leveraging the resources and expertise provided by EU4ETTR, Safranbolu aims to develop innovative strategies that not only address immediate environmental concerns but also contribute to long-term sustainability. The commitment to transparency and public involvement will be central to the SECAP process, ensuring that community members are actively engaged and informed throughout the implementation of climate initiatives. As these efforts progress, Safranbolu is poised to become a model for other municipalities seeking to integrate sustainable practices into their governance frameworks.

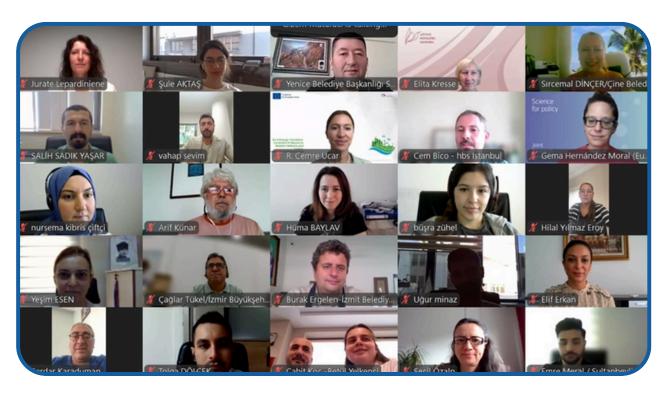




24 September 2024

EU4ETTR hosted an important meeting of the Multi-Level Governance Platform for Climate Action (MLGP4Climate) Challenges and Solutions Working Group 1 (WG-1) on Tuesday, 24 September 2024, with the participation of 85 valued members, focusing on innovative ideas and brainstorming for strong climate actions.









24 September 2024



Collaborate for Sustainable Future

WG-1 meeting started with the opening speech of Ms. Daiva Matoniene, EU4ETTR Türkiye Project Team Leader. Emphasising that the meeting was prepared with an innovative approach, the opinions of the participants were collected through LinkedIn surveys and Google Forms.

These questions, which were addressed in the discussion session, played an important role in bringing different stakeholders together to evaluate cooperation opportunities.

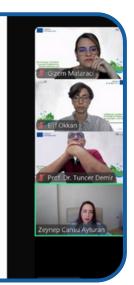
Ms. Zeynep Cansu Ayturan from the Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change of the Republic of Türkiye, provided an overview of Türkiye's climate actions, detailing the country's commitments under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. Ms. Ayturan discussed the establishment of the Directorate of Climate Change, legislative efforts, greenhouse gas mitigation strategies, and the development of national policies related to climate change.



Climate Negotiations and International Relations Activities



- Project on Enhancing National Reporting System for Supporting Global Efforts on Climate Change (IPA 3) (aimed to be TENDERED in 2024)
- Project on Preparation of the 9th National Communication and 1st & 2nd Biennial Transparency Reports (STARTED January 2024)
- Project on Strengthening Türkiye's Reporting Capacity under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (planned to be START in 2024)
- The 8th National Communication (8NC) has been prepared and submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat.
- The preparations for the 9th National Communication (9NC) are currently underway.

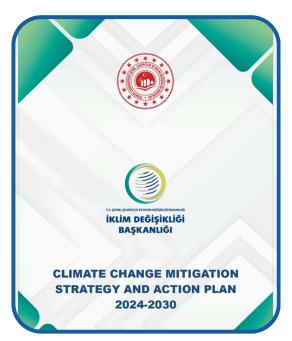






24 September 2024

Ms. Ayturan outlined the Directorate's responsibilities, emphasizing the coordination of national policies, strategies, and actions, the design of carbon pricing instruments and financial support systems for the green transition, and the development of climate modeling.



Valuable information was introduced about the 2024-2030 Change Mitigation Climate Strategy and Action Plan which includes a total of 49 strategies She 260 actions. mentioned that the 2053 Long-Term Climate Change Strategy 2nd Nationally and the Determined Contribution (NDC) are currently being developed.



In its **Updated First Nationally Determined Contribution**, Türkiye confirms to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions **by 41**% by 2030 compared to a business as usual (BAU) scenario. This represents a 20% increase in emission reduction commitment compared to the country's first NDC.





24 September 2024

Carbon Market activities presented, including the Emission Trading System, Voluntary Carbon Markets, the Green Deal Action Plan, and the applications of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.



Türkiye aims to establish a National Emissions Trading System in its Medium Term Programme for 2023-2025 and aims to use carbon pricing as an effective tool for emission reduction.

Climate adaptation and local policy activities, introduced the Climate Portal.



Ms. Ayturan also mentioned the Local Climate Change Action Plans Regulation, which is crucial for SECAP preparation. This Regulation is currently being prepared based on the Draft Climate Law.

Additionally, the Türkiye
Climate Model will assess the
potential impacts of climate
change across 12 NUTS regions
by the end of the century. This
will utilize six global climate
models based on two emission
scenarios, with a resolution of 3
km. Vulnerability and risk
analyses will be conducted
using the outputs from these
models.





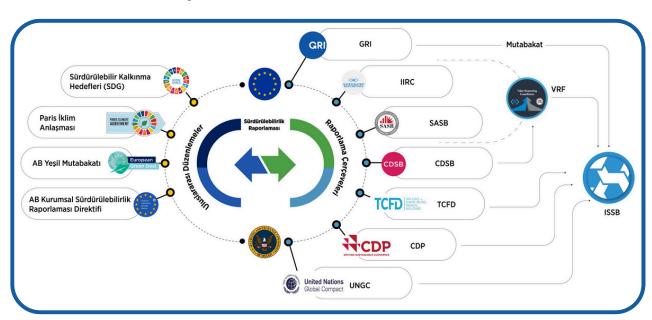


24 September 2024



Public Oversight, Accounting and Auditing Standards Authority (POA) presented by Ms. Gülşah Günay on sustainability standards, emphasizing the importance of traceability reporting and Türkiye's alignment with EU regulations.

Global movement towards making sustainability reports mandatory and highlighted that the POA has now implemented requirement in Türkiye. These reports reflect the environmental, social, and governance (ESG) impacts of an activities. Ms. Günav noted that various organization's standards exist in sustainability reporting, and the POA has adopted the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) framework. She elaborated on significant regulations and reporting frameworks, identifying three basic frameworks: GRI (which includes impact materiality), ISSB (which includes financial materiality), and ESRS (which encompasses both, or double materiality).







24 September 2024

According to the established criteria, approximately 500 enterprises are required to prepare their sustainability reports in accordance with Turkish Sustainability Reporting Standards (TSRS). Ms. Günay explained the reporting process in four steps: data collection and verification by accredited bodies, appropriate reporting with TSRS, assurance audits, and final oversight and review by the POA.



 An independent public oversight structure will support the creation of a high quality and reliable reporting and auditing environment.

- The use of verified data will significantly improve the quality and reliability of reports.
 - Reporting in line with global standards will strengthen verifiability and transparency.
 - Independent assurance auditing of reports will enhance credibility and international validity.







24 September 2024

In the discussion part of the meeting, the participants were divided into 2 groups and **brainstormed on 6 questions:**

- What are the most effective strategies to strengthen cooperation between national and local institutions and civil society organisations (NGOs)?
- What can be solutions to strengthening cooperation between national, local governments and NGOs?
- How could the MLG4Climate platform be beneficial to accelerate the climate targets set by municipalities?
- What kinds of cooperation/communication models can be developed to ensure effective cooperation among different stakeholders in combating climate change?
- What incentives should be provided to encourage the private sector to take a more active role in climate action cooperation?
- What policy tools should be used to ensure that national climate plans are effectively implemented at the local level?







24 September 2024

Key Findings:

How to Strengthen Cooperation for Climate Actions and Energy Transition?



Municipalities →

Prefer collaboration through publicprivate partnerships, community-based projects, and multistakeholder engagement, often involving NGOs, government agencies, and local communities. Emphasis on raising awareness, implementing energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, and leveraging combined

> expertise and resources.

Academia



Private Sector →

Focus on providing strategic solutions, developing financing mechanisms, and promoting renewable energy through collaborative projects, workshops, and awareness programs.



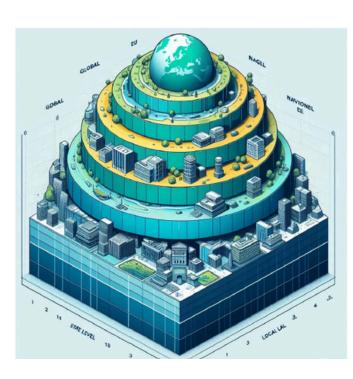
Academia →

Involvement in providing data, developing science-based frameworks, and contributing to policy and roadmap development for renewable energy.



Ministry → Support

through the development of smart city ecosystems and providing training, studies, and financial support for municipal energy initiatives.



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Municipality Establishing energy desks

Implementing energy efficiency programs

Promoting renewable energy solutions

Engaging in community solar programs

Conducting energy audits

Encouraging community participation and education

Association Creating funds for municipalities

Promoting circularity mindset

Coordinating energy efficiency efforts

Engaging with financial institutions

Advocating for policy changes

Conducting energy efficiency projects

Increasing small solar units for public buildings

Creating educational resources

Ministry Integrating energy poverty into local smart city strategies and roadmaps

Private sector Identifying root causes

Implementing tax incentives

Establishing energy efficiency advisory centers

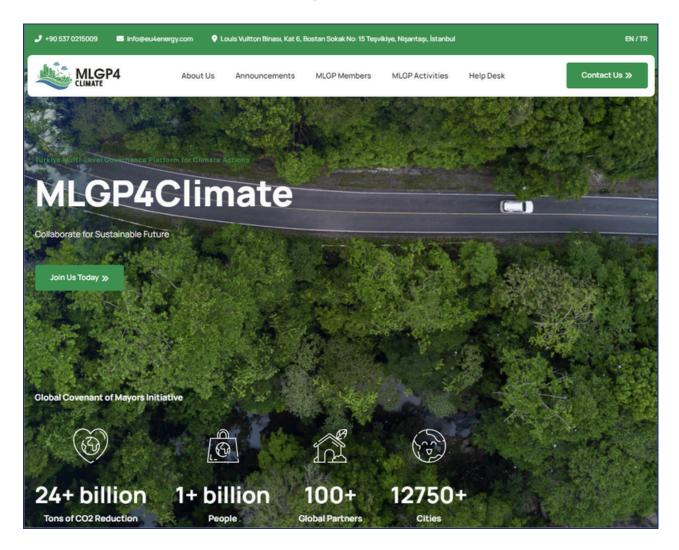
Increasing awareness among decision-makers and enhancing technical capacity

Addressing challenges with enough data and creating roadmaps with stakeholders





Türkiye <u>Multi-Level Governance Platform for Climate Actions</u> (MLGP4Climate) is developed by Lithuanian Central Project Management Agency (CPMA) in cooperation with Union of Municipalities of Türkiye and Marmara Municipalities Union within the scope of EU4 Energy Transition project.

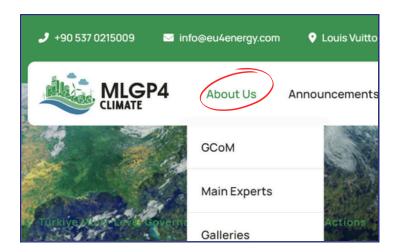


MLGP4Climate is an innovative initiative established to support sustainable energy and climate actions in Türkiye. This platform aims to bring together stakeholders at different levels and promote collaboration in decision-making processes to achieve effective outcomes.



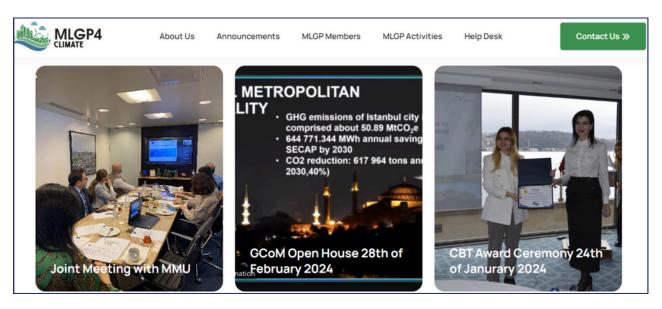


The main purpose of this platform is to facilitate the transition decarbonized, climate resilient and energy through local, municipalities national and international participation, strategic stakeholder partnerships information exchange, thus improving public health, increasing sustainable economic impact and contributing to combat global climate change. The link to the MLGP4Climate website is: https://mlgp4climate.com/. The website can be viewed in both English and Turkish.



The **About Us** section of includes the website information about the Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM). with which the **Platform** cooperates and event photo gallery.

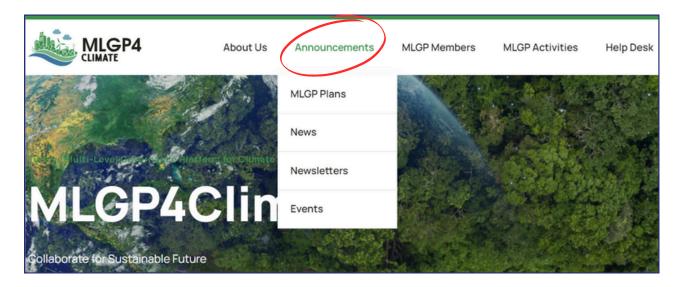
The **Galleries** contains pictures of events organised as part of the EU4ETTR project.







Another section of the website is **Announcements** with several sub-sections.



- The MLGP event timeline is available in the **MLGP Plans** subsection.
- Daily news, reports, event announcements, etc. are shared in the News subsection.
- The **Newsletters** subsection contains pdf versions of the project's monthly bulletins in Turkish and English.
- The **Events** subsection provides detailed information about the events organised within the framework of the project.







The 3rd section of the website is **MLGP Members**. The subsection **MLGP Structure** explains in detail the structure of the platform.



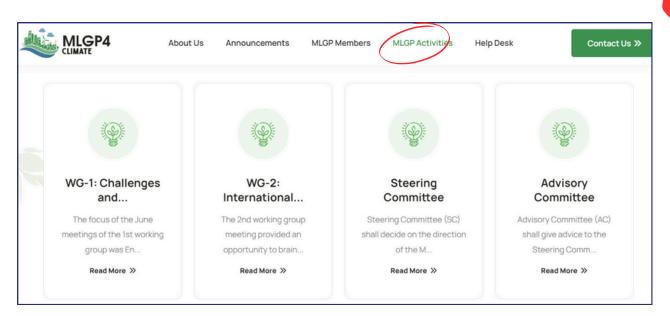
On the other hand, the **MLGP Member Profiles** subsection offers detailed information about municipalities, NGOs, and other institutions and organizations that are part of the MLGP network. MLGP4Climate has more than 100 members, and is proud to showcase their commitment to collaborative efforts in addressing climate change and sustainability.







The **MLGP Activities** section contains information about the Platform's Working Group 1, Working Group 2, Steering Committee and Advisory Committee.



Steering Committee Meeting, 30th Apr 2024

The first meeting of the steering committee in 2024 was held at the kick off meeting on the expansion of the MLGP4Climate. Discussions within the Steering Committee focused on forging partnerships within the platform's domain, evaluating the MLGP structure and 2024 plan, and strategizing ways for committee members to bolster platform sustainability and foster synergy with other climate-focused initiatives. Moderated by Ms. Gülnur Öz from the Union of Municipalities of Türkiye, the session aimed to foster collaboration and innovation in climate financing and sustainability efforts.



Steering Committee Meeting, 28th Aug 2024

The 2nd Steering Committee of the MLGP4Climate held its meeting focusing on energy transition and climate change with the participation of more than 50 representatives from ministries, mayors, municipal unions, municipalities and international organizations. Following the platform's developments and planned future activities, the meeting included presentations on climate work by two municipalities that are strong partners in the project, and continued with an interactive discussion session. In the high-level interactive discussion session, the participating mayors gave speeches on municipal visions and practices in combating climate change. This session also included valuable discussions on how the platform can provide support to attract more financing, increase cooperation between municipalities and international partners, develop joint projects to achieve climate goals and secure additional financing. It also focused on how the MLGP4Climate platform can be more beneficial to municipalities and how it can be developed to better meet their needs.



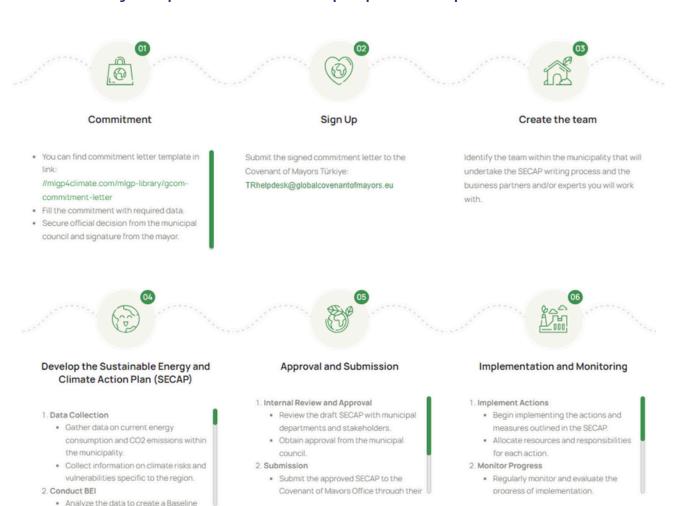


GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR PLATFORM: MLGP4CLIMATE HELP-DESK ACTIVITIES

The **Help Desk** is an important tool that supports the SECAP journey by providing guidance on how to prepare the SECAP and sharing valuable information in both Turkish and English.



The first subsection, **SECAP Journey**, briefly describes the necessary steps in the SECAP preparation process.

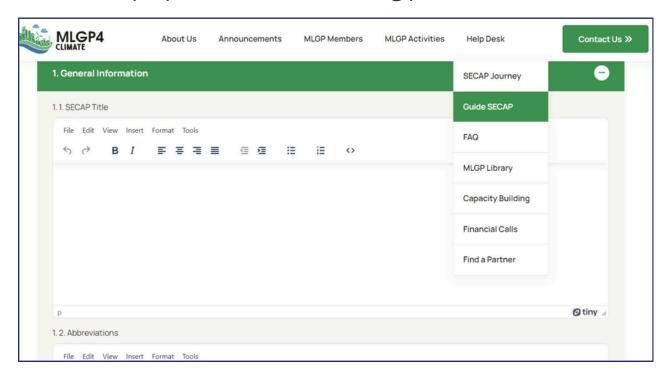




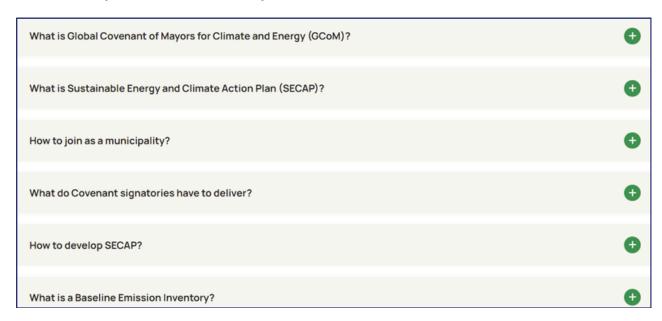


GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR PLATFORM: MLGP4CLIMATE HELP-DESK ACTIVITIES

The Comprehensive **Guide SECAP** subsection provides a useful template to assist municipalities in preparing their SECAP. The SECAP is created when the sections of this form are followed in sequence and completed in full. In addition, MLGP4Climate members benefit from the support provided by the platform in the SECAP preparation and monitoring processes.



Various questions are explained in detail in the FAQ subsection.







One of the most important subsections of the website is the **MLGP Library**. This sub-section contains documents on topics such as energy efficiency, climate legislation and SECAP preparation in Turkish and English. The library also contains training videos and project presentations. Users can use the filters to list the documents they are interested in.

Filters	Total	Total results: 165		
	#id	Resource	Created	
Categories	172	Covenant of Mayors 2023 Assessment	2024-09-30	
Guidelines (30) → Templates (2) → FAQs (7) Legislation (0) → Climate Legislation (23)	171	24 September 2024 MLGP4Climate Working Group - 1 Presentations	2024-09-25	
	170	SECAP Development Guidebook (TURKISH)	2024-09-18	
	169	SECAP Development Guidebook (ENGLISH)	2024-09-18	
	168	GCoM Commitment Letter	2024-09-18	
	167	World Bank: Türkiye Country Climate and Development Report	2024-09-11	
Useful Documents (1)	166	EU4ETTR 2024 August Newsletter	2024-09-04	
	165	EU4ETTR 2024 July Newsletter	2024-09-04	
Useful Documents (TURKISH) (16)	164	Climate Smart Agriculture: Building Resilience to Climate Change	2024-09-02	
Useful Documents (ENGLISH) (5) Capacity Building (52)	163	28 August 2024 MLGP4Climate Steering and Advisory Committee Presentations	2024-08-29	
	162	Video Kayıt_Proje Teklifi Hazırlanması Eğitimi-2_05-03-2024	2024-08-13	

Current grant calls are announced in the **Financial Calls** subsection of the website.



The last subsection, **Find a Partner**, provides a form for the user to search for a partner in the desired area.

Explore our website to make the most of the opportunities offered by the Platform!







Congratulations Küçükçekmece Municipality: SECAP is ready! Time to Act!





Küçükçekmece Municipality has made a remarkable advancement by successfully its Sustainable completing Energy Climate Action Plan (SECAP)!This milestone not iust commitment signifies а sustainability environmental but proactive approach to tackling the pressing challenges posed by climate change.

During the closing meeting, Ms. Daiva Matoniene, the Team Leader of the EU4ETTR Turkey Project, acknowledged this significant achievement and commended the municipality for its dedication to climate action. By completing the SECAP, Küçükçekmece has set ambitious targets: a 40% reduction in emissions by 2030 and a commitment to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

These goals reflect a comprehensive strategy that combines innovative solutions with community engagement, ensuring that local stakeholders are actively involved in the journey toward sustainability. Küçükçekmece's efforts serve as a valuable example for other municipalities, demonstrating how local governments can lead the way in climate initiatives.

Congratulations to Küçükçekmece Municipality for taking this important step and for inspiring others to prioritize climate action in their communities! Together, we can work towards a more sustainable and resilient future.



EU4 ENERGY TRANSITION: COVENANT OF MAYORS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TÜRKIYE



Congratulations Yenice Municipality!





Yenice Municipality has signed the Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM) to combat climate change and support sustainable urban development.

GCoM encourages local governments to strengthen their commitments to climate action and collaborate globally. The agreement will enable Yenice to set its climate goals, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase renewable energy sources. This international initiative aims to assist cities in developing climate-related strategies and sharing best practices in this field.

This signature demonstrates Yenice Municipality's commitment to climate action while highlighting the importance of local community and stakeholder engagement. With the opportunities provided by the agreement, Yenice is expected to take more effective steps in its fight against climate change.

This important step by Yenice Municipality not only contributes to sustainable development goals at the local level but also showcases the significance of international cooperation in the battle against climate change.







Congratulations to the newcomers of the Multi-Level Governance Platform!

#

Welcome Fındıklı Municipality!



Located in Rize, Findikli is a unique gem with its lush landscapes, rich biodiversity, and important agricultural products such as tea and hazelnuts. As a district surrounded by mountains and the Black Sea coastline, it plays a key role in the region's climate resilience and sustainable tourism.

Findikli municipality is strong leader in embracing inclusive governance with its MECI approach, ensuring public participation in decision-making processes, and being a Women-Friendly City.





EU4 ENERGY TRANSITION: COVENANT OF MAYORS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TÜRKIYE



Welcome iZDENiZ!





IZDENIZ A.Ş. was established on November 18, 1992, and adopted its current name in 1999. 1999.

It began passenger and vehicle transportation on the Izmir Gulf Line in 2000 and has since played a significant role in maritime transportation. Today, the company operates with 440 staff and a diverse fleet, conducting 200 daily trips.

Maritime transport is crucial in the fight against climate change, as it offers a more environmentally friendly alternative to road transport with lower carbon emissions. IZDENIZ supports local mobility and contributes to marine tourism, providing a sustainable transportation model.



EU4 ENERGY TRANSITION:
COVENANT OF MAYORS
IN THE WESTERN BALKANS
AND TÜRKIYE

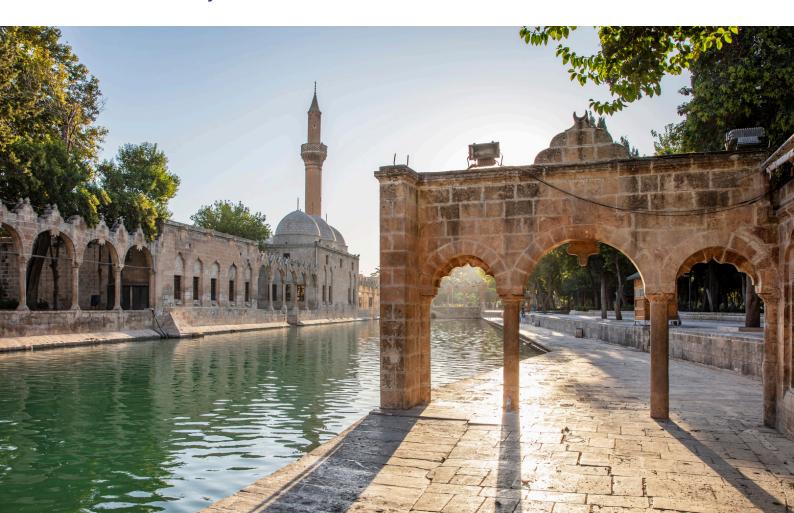


Welcome Şanlıurfa Metropolitan Municipality!



Şanlıurfa, often referred to as the "City of Prophets," is home to Göbekli Tepe, one of the oldest temples in the world. Balıklıgöl is a sacred site where it is believed that Hz. Ibrahim was thrown into the fire. The city also boasts natural beauty, with popular relaxation spots like the Ceylanpınar and Halfeti ponds. Thanks to its fertile lands, Şanlıurfa plays a significant role in agriculture, particularly in wheat and cotton production. The city continues to develop solutions for combating climate change.

Şanlıurfa's climate actions aim to achieve a significant transformation at the local level and contribute to raising climate awareness in the city. In this context, Şanlıurfa Municipality is committed to creating a more sustainable city in the future.





EU4 ENERGY TRANSITION: COVENANT OF MAYORS

IN THE WESTERN BALKANS



Visibility for climate actions:

Climate Change and Climate Action News:



yenice belediyesi

Tebrikler Yenice

Belediyesi!

ce Belediyesi, Küresel Belediye Başkanları ışmesi 'ni (GCoM) imzalayarak iklim çikliğiyle mücadelede anıts<u>al bir adım attı.</u>

Funded by the European Unio







Important Days:



The project has actively disseminated valuable knowledge through various channels, including news, announcements, and guidebooks. With significant contributions from both national and international partners such as the Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM), the Covenant of Mayors (CoM), and other resources, we have successfully shared essential information and updates widely.



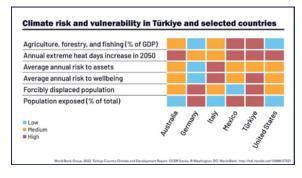


















EU4 ENERGY TRANSITION: COVENANT OF MAYORS

IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TÜRKİYE



Our Note:

As summer transitions into autumn, we take this opportunity to reflect on our achievements and look ahead to expanding our climate action initiatives. This change of season represents a time for renewal and reinforces our commitment to sustainability. We aim to enhance our efforts by engaging more stakeholders and fostering collaboration across various sectors. Together, we can develop innovative solutions to address climate challenges and promote environmental stewardship in our communities. As we enter this new season, let us build on our momentum and integrate our climate actions into everyday practices, inspiring others to join us in creating a healthier planet.

EU4ETTR Project Team 99





Announcements from EU4ETTR Side:

UPCOMING EVENTS





MLGP4Climate Finance attraction WG-2 Meeting

October 2024

Financial mobilization plays a vital role in facilitating the implementation of sustainable energy and climate action plans (SECAPs). Adequate funding is essential for developing innovative projects, enhancing community resilience, and achieving emission reduction targets. By fostering collaboration among stakeholders, including government entities, private sector actors, and nongovernmental organizations, this meeting will address strategies for attracting investment and optimizing financial resources.

Participants will have the opportunity to discuss best practices, share insights, and identify potential funding sources that can support climate initiatives at local and national levels. Together, we can strengthen our financial frameworks and ensure that climate action efforts are effectively backed by the necessary resources.



