



# **ENERGY POLICIES IN EUROPEAN REGIONS**

**Outcomes of a survey among 67 regions**

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## SURVEY METHODOLOGY

- **First major initiative** to gather regional energy data and to describe factors that mould regional energy policies
- Survey among **67 regions** from 25 countries
- Good **geographical diversity**
- 48 regions from the EU, 19 from outside the EU area



# ENERGY PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

- Territorial factors
- Regional innovation in terms of renewable energy
- Lack of regional energy data
- Outdated energy infrastructure



# TERRITORIAL FEATURES

- Long distance travelling and increased heating needs in **Northern regions**
- Heavy reliance on transport in **urban areas**
- Ground elevation in the **mountain regions**
- Reliance on maritime and air traffic in the **islands**



# REGIONAL ENERGY PORTFOLIOS

Turn local assets into opportunities

- Still strong presence of fossil fuels
- Regional creativity in terms of renewable energy
  - **Municipal waste** in urban regions
  - **Hydropower** in mountainous regions
  - **Farm animal** manure and straw in rural regions
  - **Black liquor** in regions with a paper production
  - **Stored snow** in Northern regions
  - **Motion of waves** in island regions



## LACK OF REGIONAL ENERGY DATA

- Energy data as a **crucial tool for a good energy management**
- Lack of energy data may affect **the quality of regional energy strategies**
- Need for harmonisation to **make regional energy statistics more comparable**



# OUTDATED ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE

- **Energy networks** to be overhauled in the **next 30 years**
- 40% of the regions **ready to introduce new energy technologies**
- 38% of the respondents have **already smart grids in use**



# REGIONAL ENERGY POLICIES AND MEASURES

- Energy as a **top regional priority**
- Stimulation of energy markets through **sectoral policies**
- Interregional cooperation as a way to overcome a **lack of direct competence**



## ENERGY AS A TOP REGIONAL PRIORITY

- 97% of respondents: « Regions have a positive impact on fighting the climate change »
- For 92% respondent regions energy is one of the top political priority
- 77% of the respondent regions have already an energy strategy in place



# REGIONAL COMPETENCE ON ENERGY

## Some examples:

- Renovation of public buildings
- Transport policies
- Public lightening
- Public procurement
- Awareness-raising campaigns
- Investment in R&D sector



# INTERREGIONAL COOPERATION AT EU LEVEL

- Interreg IVC as a most commonly European initiative among the respondent regions
- Energy still not considered as a cross-cutting issue
- A better use of the EU's financial instruments may improve energy policies and potentials



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