

Name of the project	LIFE-IP SK Air Quality Improvement		 	
Website	https://populair.sk/en https://dnesdycham.populair.sk/	E-mail	info@populair.sk	
Project Leader	Gabriel Adamek			
Starting year	2020	Closing year	2027	
Budget	15 000 000 EUR	Programme	LIFE	
Main objective	Enhancing the implementation of Air Quality Management Plans in Slovakia by strengthening capacities and competencies of regional and local authorities and implementation of specific air quality improvement measures while also supporting educational, communication and monitoring activities in the field of air quality and air protection.			
Project Partners	Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic Slovak Environment Agency Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute PEDAL Consulting s.r.o. Technical University of Ostrava Banská Bystrica Region Bratislava Region Trenčín Region Trnava Region Žilina Region Prešov Region Košice Region NGO CEPTA – Centre for sustainable alternatives			
Project Description	<p>The main purpose of the project is to support effective air quality management in order to improve air quality and reduce the exposure of the population to the harmful effects of air pollutants. Two main areas of interest of the projects are domestic heating and transport/sustainable mobility.</p> <p>Specific objectives of the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving the effectiveness of air quality management and implementation of Air Quality Management Plans - Promoting air quality measures and raising awareness of the importance of air quality and air protection 			

- Accelerate the implementation of measures to minimize the negative effects of domestic heating and transport on air quality
- Support for the exchange of heat sources (boilers) in households
- Improving monitoring and reporting on air quality at regional and local level

In order to achieve the project's objectives, various **project activities** are taking place. Among others:

- The "**national air quality managers network**" and "Air Quality Coordination Unit" were established, whose main task is to help regional and local authorities with air quality management. 15 Air Quality Managers (AQMs) are currently working in 7 out of 8 Slovak regions. They help provide information, propose measures and ensure their implementation to improve local air quality.
- **Awareness raising campaigns** and **educational programmes** increase the awareness of local officials and public about the issue of air pollution. Information activities reach a wide audience through communication campaigns and project web platforms. Educational programs are primarily intended for representatives of local authorities, teachers, students and pupils.
- **Demonstration projects** focused on **domestic heating** are also taking place. A comprehensive approach to the implementation of various air quality measures is presented in selected municipalities, including educational activities (proper combustion techniques, environmental impact), subsidy measures (replacement of old boilers, use of renewable resources) and monitoring progress in improving air quality.
- Pilot projects aimed at developing a feasibility study for **transport solutions** to improve air quality in selected cities will be prepared. Feasibility studies will be focused on selected cities located in air quality management areas, where the main air quality problems are caused by traffic. The results of these studies should be incorporated into sustainable mobility plans.
- Among **monitoring activities**, local data collection, emission inventory assessment and air quality modeling are carried out. The main goal of this activity is to create a detailed database of household heating, which is needed for effective targeting of measures, as well as for the evaluation of their impacts using air quality modeling.

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