

HORIZON 2020 Programme

Contract No.955857



Highlights from the 2nd cycle of SMAFIN Roundtables

In spring 2022, each and every one of the four SMAFIN project countries, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece and Romania organised their second SMAFIN Roundtable, during the same period, both online and in hybrid format. The events were held providing the opportunity for a total of 400 stakeholders, from important bodies of the political, financial, business, construction and academic sector to learn, discuss, comment, propose and contribute to the national policy and financial measures for energy efficiency.

Discover all the highlights, the key takeaways, and the conclusions that have been gathered in the Factsheets of the 2nd SMAFIN Roundtables:

- **Bulgaria**, "Municipal energy management and sustainable energy investments" 16-17 March 2022
<https://www.smafin.eu/project/results-of-the-2nd-bulgarian-round-table/>
- **Croatia**, "Financing green transition in multi apartment buildings and industry" 13-14 April 2022
<https://www.smafin.eu/project/results-of-the-2nd-croatian-round-table/>
- **Greece**, "Support for the implementation of smart financing for energy efficient buildings in Greece.2022", 14 April 2022
<https://www.smafin.eu/project/results-of-the-2nd-greek-round-table/>
- **Romania**, "Financing solutions for a sustainable increase of energy efficiency in buildings and industry", 12 April 2022
<https://www.smafin.eu/project/results-of-the-2nd-romanian-round-table/>



New Releases

Following the latest developments in energy efficiency policy at European and national level and in view of the 2nd cycle of the SMAFIN Roundtables, the consortium updated the market analysis report for the period June 2021- April 2022. As the National Recovery and Resilience Plans (NRRP) remain the most relevant strategic plans, intervening in the energy efficiency market in all SMAFIN countries, the document brings into focus information related to them.

More information on <https://www.smafin.eu/>



SMAFIN Working Group Updates

Bulgaria

The fourth WG in Bulgaria was held online on July 15, 2022. Its aim was to gather feedback from the latest SMAFIN RT, as well as impressions from the consequential BeSMART event on EE and RES projects financing, held on 3-4 of June in Burgas. In addition, the WG members discussed the current political status quo following a no confidence vote for the current parliament and the potential drawbacks that would instill for the successful start and implementation of the national support programme for building renovation. Next off, the agenda also featured the project for the creation of the European Green Deal Advisory Board and its envisioned subdivisions and roles, among which the Committee to support the legislative initiatives related to EC's "Fit-for-55" package. The participants in the meeting also discussed next steps regarding the development of policy recommendations and agreed to participate and support upcoming BeSMART events scheduled in the autumn.

The new SMAFIN season starts with a new round of national Working Group meetings in the other three partner countries:

Croatia

With the 2nd roundtable behind us, Croatian WG members will gather in the coming months to discuss the previous roundtable conclusions, how it reflects on the current energy crisis, and to which extent it will affect energy efficiency investments. Outcomes of the discussion will be used to draw up session topics on which the final roundtable, planned for spring 2023, will be built.

Greece

SMAFIN next virtual WG meeting in Greece will be organised in mid November 2022, and this time members representing ministries, banks, ESCOs, relative projects and building managers, will discuss the draft policy recommendations produced by the national project team. They will also follow up on the results of the second RT organised in April and connect them with the third and final season of the project, setting up the final priority topics.

Romania

The next SMAFIN WG meeting in Romania will take place mid November 2022, as in Greece. The main objective of the meeting will be the analysis of the results of 2nd RT and the new developments since then. Besides, the organization of the 3rd RT and other project activities will be planned. Emphasis will be put on ensuring the continuity of the discussion subjects, such as the implementation stage of the LTRS and the NRRP milestones achievements in the field of energy efficiency, mainly the legal framework for energy performance contracts (EPC) and the set-up of the National Fund for Energy Efficiency.



SMAFIN was part of the following events:

"ETU Initiative conference: how can the ETU support your energy transition?", March 2022

Back in March, REGEA presented SMAFIN results and the project objectives at the "ETU Initiative conference: how can the ETU support your energy transition?" held in Barcelona. The conference brought together local and regional decision-makers, energy experts, and researchers. During the two days of expert panels and interactive sessions, they exchanged experiences on topics such as green energy transition financing methods, the potential of renewable energy communities towards energy poverty alleviation and plenty more.

SMAFIN results were presented and discussed during the panel discussion on financing and funding of the energy transition. In the discussion that followed, the panelists reiterated the importance of combining public funds and private capital for investments in energy efficiency to achieve better value for money and significant savings and results.

More information about the conference is available here <https://etuinitiative.eu/news/the-etu-initiative-conference-brought-together-communities-for-a-more-sustainable-mediterranean-region/>

Financing Energy Renovation Projects, 1 July 2022

A satellite SMAFIN event has been organised by the national project team, in Iasi Romania on July 1, 2022 within the frame of the nZEB Roadshow project. The "Financing Energy Renovation Projects" workshop was addressed to financial institutions and local authorities and aimed to identify ways to overcome barriers and minimise risks for increasing the investment rates for energy efficiency projects in Romania. In addition, national policies and available private and public funding schemes were examined and proposals for improvement were assessed and discussed.

Joint Event in Sustainable Places 2022, (SP2022), 7 September 2022

Sustainable Places is a platform for the dissemination of research, the conduct of workshops, EU project clustering and networking between stakeholders of all types. SP2022 will be held over four days in a hybrid (digital and in-person) event format. SMAFIN will be present together with EUROPA, outPHit, SAVE THE HOMES and re-MODULEES projects in a joint online workshop, aiming to highlight the common and complementary insights and solutions contributed by the five projects, effectively and reliably leading to high performance, deep building renovations.

More information about the event is available on <https://www.sustainableplaces.eu/sp20-deep-renovation-of-eu-building-stock/>



Join the SMAFIN Community

SMAFIN is encouraging an ongoing dialogue among involved stakeholders. Within the e-Forum, interested parties will find guidance for identifying financial opportunities, B2B networking connections and market intelligence support.

Register at the <https://www.smafin.eu/forum/>

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