

## SMAFIN Expanded Roundtables

During the first semester of 2024, SMAFIN Expanded Roundtables (RTs) were held in Croatia, Greece, Romania, and Slovenia, with the roundtable in Bulgaria scheduled for November 2024.

Discover all the key highlights, takeaways, and conclusions from these events, which have been compiled and presented in the SMAFIN Expanded Roundtables factsheets:

- ▶ **Croatia**, “Sustainable financing strategies and effective implementation of energy efficiency projects”,

Wednesday, 15 May 2024, Esplanade Hotel, Zagreb,



organized by REGEA and Croatia Green Building Council <https://www.smafin.eu/1st-smafin-expanded-national-roundtable-in-croatia/>

- ▶ **Romania**, “Operationalising Energy Efficiency Strategies and Action Plans”, Tuesday, 21 May 2024, Noblesse Palace, Bucharest, organized by RoGBC and Cluster PronZEB in partnership with the Romanian Government - Department for Sustainable Development, Ministry of European Investment and Projects, Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration, Ministry of Energy and Ministry of Finance.

<https://www.smafin.eu/1st-smafin-expanded-national-roundtable-in-romania/>



- ▶ **Greece**, “Supporting the implementation of smart financing for energy efficiency in Greece.2024”, Thursday, 30 May 2024, Royal Olympic Hotel, Athens, organized by CRES and INZEB



<https://www.smafin.eu/1st-smafin-expanded-national-roundtable-in-greece/>

- ▶ **Slovenia**, “National Roundtable on financing energy renovations of buildings in Slovenia”, Wednesday, June 12 2024, Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel, Ljubljana organized by the "Jožef Stefan" Institute, Center for Energy Efficiency (IJS CEU) in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment, Climate and Energy (MOPE).



<https://www.smafin.eu/1st-smafin-expanded-national-roundtable-in-slovenia/>

## First results - New reports!

Continuing the dialogue is crucial for the holistic design of new policy and financial instruments, as well as for the upgrade of existing ones. In recent months, the SMAFIN Expanded consortium has conducted extensive research, interviews, and stakeholder engagement to gain a deeper understanding of the current landscape of energy efficiency investments in each SMAFIN Expanded country. These efforts have provided valuable input for a comprehensive mapping of current and planned policies, strategies, and the market situation in the energy sector across participating countries. The findings are presented in four technical reports, which will soon be available on the project platform.

**D2.1 Assessment of relevant projects and initiatives** in partner countries report includes outcomes and results of energy efficiency initiatives, executive summaries of Roundtables organized under SMAFIN and sister projects, key actions for enhancing energy efficiency financing and country initiatives and projects supporting energy efficiency.

**D2.2** The second report identifies and presents **best practices for financing energy efficiency projects**, highlighting financing schemes and models that have significantly contributed to sustainable investments in the building and SME sectors. National initiatives are systematically reviewed, presenting an overview of the most effective financial instruments and their replication potential across different countries.

**D2.3** Collection of information on **financing models and incentives** applicable to energy efficiency in public and private buildings, SMEs, and tertiary sector buildings. The report builds upon the legacy of the previous inventories performed under the SMAFIN project for Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, and Romania, updating the information to reflect the current situation in those countries. Additionally, the report includes data for Slovenia, the new member of the SMAFIN Expanded project.

**D2.4** National energy efficiency policies report including **review of national policies**, national recovery and resilience plans and national energy and climate plans overviews and summary of the policy measures in the field for the next period.

## SMAFIN Expanded Working Groups

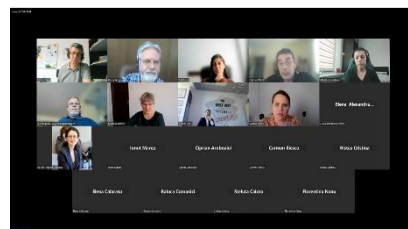
- ▶ The first Working Group (WG) meeting in **Bulgaria** was held on April 24, 2024, immediately following the final public event of the BeSMART project. The meeting focused on discussing the continuation of Round Tables (RTs) in Bulgaria under the SMAFIN Expanded project and establishing the parameters for the first RT. A total of 11 stakeholders from 8 different organizations participated in the meeting.



The project is co-funded by the European Union's Programme for Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) under Grant Agreement No. 101120412

▶ The first WG meeting in **Slovenia** was held on March 13, 2024. The group convened to discuss the strategic aspects of organizing the first Round Table. Key areas covered included an overview of the project's objectives, an in-depth analysis of the issues and topics to be addressed at the Round Table, and the identification of key stakeholders to target for participation.

▶ The second WG meeting in **Romania** was held online on April 10, 2024, with 21 participants from 11 institutions in attendance. The meeting focused on discussing relevant complementary initiatives, best practices, and active financial instruments. Additionally, WG members identified key discussion topics for both the plenary and thematic sessions, proposed suitable speakers for these sessions, and pinpointed the appropriate audience for fostering dialogue and constructive actions.



▶ The second WG meeting in **Croatia** took place on September 12, 2024. Its primary objective was to promote national discussions on policies and initiatives aimed at improving energy efficiency in public buildings, multi-apartment residences, family homes, and the entrepreneurial tertiary sector. The meeting also provided updates on the timeline and implementation plan for EU directives, including the Energy Efficiency Directive (EED), the revised Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), and upcoming financial models to support the country's energy efficiency efforts.



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