
REFOCUS Semester 1 Newsletter

From refocus-project-interreg-europe <refocus.interreg@216894994.mailchimpapp.com>

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To Ben Luoma <BLuoma@polisnetwork.eu>

**Interreg
Europe**



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REFOCUS



Dear readers,

Welcome to the first e-newsletter of the REFOCUS Interreg Europe 2024-2027 project!

Acknowledging that **cities and regions need to transition to zero-carbon urban mobility**, REFOCUS was launched in April 2024 with the aim of **facilitating inclusive and data-driven decision making in mobility planning**.

We are proud to bring together **10 partners** from 6 European countries and 1 candidate country for the purpose of **sharing and combining our experiences** and knowledge around mobility planning and for **facilitating policy transformation** of 2 Regional Operational Programmes and 5 Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans.

Every 6 months you'll get news on the project's progress, project results and interregional and local activities taking place in the cities of **Poznan (PL)**, **Sint-Niklaas (BE)**, **Stockholm (SE)**, **Vilnius (LT)**, the **Region of Emilia Romagna (IT)**, the **Region of Central Macedonia (GR)** and the city of **Lviv (UA)**.

In this newsletter you will get introduced to our project and have an insight into the activities of the consortium.

We wish you pleasant reading!

Sincerely,
Project Coordinator
Dr. Maria Morfoulaki (CERTH/HIT)



Get familiar with REFOCUS

Decision-making in mobility planning is not easy. It requires a clear **vision**, sustained **political commitment**, continuous efforts to ensure that all voices are heard and **data** to evidence the success (or failure) of the decisions. Despite numerous European efforts to support **inclusive and data-driven sustainable mobility planning** (with the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan – SUMP - guidelines being a key milestone of these efforts), challenges persist, while the pressure to reach the EU's ambitious climate, environmental, digital, health and societal objectives continues to grow.

Read full article

News from the consortium



The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting slide. At the top right, it says 'SLIDE 11'. On the left, there are logos for 'Interreg Europe' and the 'European Union', with the text 'Co-funded by the European Union'. Below these is a green bar with the word 'REFOCUS' in white. The main title of the slide is 'Methodology for GP reporting: selection criteria and process' in bold black text, followed by '2nd project meeting' in green. Below the title, it lists 'Anna Giarandoni - Angelica Mazzina' and 'ITL', along with their email addresses: 'Anna.Giarandoni@fondazioneitl.org' and 'Angelica.Mazzina@fondazioneitl.org'. At the bottom left, it says '16 September 2024 | online'. On the right side of the slide, there is a vertical grid of 10 small video thumbnails showing participants in the meeting, with names like 'Yurii Polianskyi (MI City In...', 'Anna Giarandoni', 'Maria Morfoulaki', 'Maria Cha...', 'K.Mpessa', 'Jan Kosme...', 'Birute Jata...', 'Iljana Ana...', and 'Ben Luoma'.

The **second partner meeting**, on 16 September, brought the consortium together to outline next steps and discuss the achievements so far.

Particular emphasis was placed on finalizing the selection of the **Good Practices** (GPs), so that each “donor” city/region can move on with their description. The next step will be to match the regional/local needs with the existing knowledge and expertise and concretize the content of the interregional exchange of experience.

The “**Methodology for GP reporting: selection criteria and process**” produced and presented by ITL provides a methodology to support each project partner in selecting, describing and sharing their GPs, in accordance with Interreg Europe (IR-E) well-established processes and templates.

It offers a comprehensive set of topics to serve as a **reference framework for the selection of the GPs**, outlining the primary steps and parameters that are essential for conducting a thorough GP investigation.

The methodology provides **practical advice** to the partners on **how to share** their GPs with the IR-E community based on the IR-E template for GP description. But, as far as the latter is concerned, it goes a step further by integrating a transferability analysis to the GP description template, in order to facilitate the adoption of the GP by the interested partner(s).

This analysis will be picked up by the **REFOCUS matchmaking analysis** that follows, so that “pairs of donors-receivers” of experience are formed within the

partnership.

Access the Methodology for GP Reporting



Partner in the spotlight:

City of Stockholm and the Climate Action Plan for Stockholm

With a regional population of around 2.35 million inhabitants, Stockholm faces a range of mobility and transport challenges that the City is actively working to address by enabling sustainable mobility.

Use of **private cars will be reduced by 30%** by 2030 and a **zero emission zone is being introduced**. The City of Stockholm is focused on delivering its commitments as an **EU Climate Mission City** and has adopted an ambitious climate action plan with the aim to be **climate positive by 2030**. Fossil fuels will be phased out from the City organization by 2030 and the entire city by 2040.

REFOCUS will therefore contribute to the achievement of these ambitious plans by enabling exchange of good practices with other cities, learning and capacity-building for local stakeholders, and **identification of methods and measures for data-**

driven decision support to further assist improvement of the climate action plan during its mid-term review.

Stay tuned for the publication of Stockholm's identified Good Practices including their **innovative Traffic barometer**, part of the wider Environment barometer for the City, and their monitoring efforts of **the state of EV-charging throughout the city!**

Coming up in REFOCUS

2025

January

First Regional Snapshot (Stockholm) published ([website](#))

February

First REFOCUS Webinar hosted by [POLIS](#) (public)

First Study Visit and Interregional Peer-learning session in Stockholm (partners)



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