



# Let'sGOv

## GOverning the Transition through Pilot Actions

BERGAMO, BOLOGNA, FLORENCE, MILAN, PADUA,  
PARMA, PRATO, ROME & TORINO

### Emissions domains addressed by the Pilot Activity



Consumption of non-electricity energy for thermal uses in buildings & facilities



Consumption of electricity generated for buildings, facilities & infrastructure



All vehicles & transport (mobile energy)

### Key Focus Areas

Energy communities | Governance | Data sharing | Multi-city collaboration | One-stop shops | Financial innovation | Capacity building

### Levers of Change

Democracy and participation | Financing and funding | Governance and policy | Learning and capabilities | Social innovation | Technology/infrastructure

### Description of the Pilot Activity

Nine Italian cities united to tackle what they identified as the central bottleneck in urban decarbonisation: fragmented governance. Rather than running nine separate pilots, Let'sGOv created a shared framework for testing new collaboration models, stakeholder engagement approaches, and financial innovations across the 9 Italian Mission cities, supported by three scientific partners. The results included a toolkit of tested solutions to overcome local barriers and an improved capacity to engage as a network of cities in multilevel dialogue with national stakeholders.

### Impact & Results

Let'sGOv estimated a reduction of about 1.500.000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per year by 2030---a 7% annual reduction across the 9 cities attributed to pilot activities---through test bed implementation, the multi-level governance Hub of Competencies, and new collaborations.

But the more significant achievement was governance transformation. Cities shifted from isolated action to functioning as a cohesive network with regular exchanges on Mission priorities. As one participant noted: "Acting as a network gave the cities political weight they never had individually." This collective voice produced joint policy briefs presented to the Italian government and EU, culminating in a national event in Rome (June 2025) bringing together ministries and dozens of Italian cities. The Bench-Learning Programme trained 139 public officers across nine cities. Test beds delivered across three clusters: engagement (enhanced One-Stop Shops, improved data protocols for Climate City Contract monitoring), finance (collaborations with banks to unlock citizen financing, innovative funding mechanisms tested), and data (improved collection systems, strengthened access to energy consumption data).

The project engaged 4,282 citizens and beneficiaries in energy and climate transition initiatives across all nine cities over two years. An Observatory of Follower Cities extends impact beyond the original nine.

### Innovation Highlights

The Ready-to-Use Toolkit organises practical resources around three challenges: data, finance, and stakeholder engagement. It includes actionable recommendations, tested procedures, and replicable examples---such as public calls to banks to support citizens and organisations in the energy transition.

The three-cluster approach (Engagement, Finance, Data) created specialisation without fragmentation. Cities could focus on their strengths while benefiting from others' work. The Network of Follower Cities launched a platform for peer learning, expanding outreach and consolidating pressure for national reforms.

