

Output factsheet: Strategies and Action plans

Project index number and acronym	CE69 INAIRO
Lead partner	National Public Health Center
Output number and title	O.T3.3 Indoor Air Quality Action Plan - Italy
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	Fondazione LINKS (former-SiTI) / LINKS- PP8
Project website	http://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/InAirQ/InAirQ.html
Delivery date	April 2019

Summary description of the strategy/action plan (developed and/or implemented)

The main objective of InAirQ project is to develop policies and practical action plans and initiate capacity building processes to reduce the negative health effects of indoor air quality in Central European countries. These policies and practical actions must lead to the mitigation of risks to human health deriving from exposure to indoor air pollution, especially pupils in schools.

The Action Plan is a tool for preventing, identifying and solving indoor air quality problems in school buildings. It helps integrate activities that affect the IAQ into the system's normal use, management and maintenance. The aim is to provide a high-quality indoor air by improving or maintaining the situation, by solving problems and by setting rules and preventive measures. The preparation of the Action Plan was based on the Joint Transnational Strategy for Indoor Air Quality Action Plans developed by project partners during the three-years' work.

The preparation was also based on some previous activities: vulnerability and risks assessment, SWOT Analysis, Feasibility study and Monitoring field campaigns in classrooms. The last ones were the most important because they lead to some results used for developing correct and contextualized protocols and action, different among countries.

Fondazione per la Scuola e Fondazione LINKS conducted the monitoring campaigns in 12 pilot schools, located in the Municipalities of Turin and Chieri, primary and secondary schools, during the 2017-2018 winter season (from January to March). The main atmospheric pollutants detected were benzene, particulate matter (PM), and some aldehydes. It should be noted that the external value of the concentrations of benzene and particulate matter is also high, so the inappropriate quality of the indoor air is mainly caused by external air pollution. Furthermore, some of the recorded comfort parameters were often in the unhealthy range: low relative humidity, out-of-range temperature (too high or too low) and quite high CO₂ levels.

From those results and the Feasibility study results, the two Italian partners came out with an Action Plan containing important set of measures and actions suggested for school managers and teachers in order to tackle the pollutants detected. They prepared a complete Action Plan, an Abstract and a poster for schools.

NUTS region(s) concerned by the strategy/action plan (relevant NUTS level)

In Italy, the activities were carried out in Piemonte Region, mainly in Turin.
NUTS 1 level: ITC, North West
NUTS 2 level: ITC1, Piemonte
NUTS 3 level: ITC11, Torino

Expected impact and benefits of the strategy/action plan for the concerned territories and target groups

In Italy the Action Plan was structured in very simple and easy to understand way: each paragraph tackles the different pollutants identifying why this one is the air that we breath, what are the limits imposed or considered safe, what are my school levels and how to reduce those concentration in my school. Following this pattern, in Fondazione LINKS and Fondazione per la Scuola opinion, the plan is very comprehensible and efficient. Also for non-expert people, this tool (with all the suggested measures) can be implemented easily.

In Turin pilot cases, it has been presented and delivered to schools. Italian project partner will expect important benefits from the implementation.

Sustainability of the developed or implemented strategy/action plan and its transferability to other territories and stakeholders

Fondazione LINKS and Fondazione per la Scuola presented this Action Plan in various occasions such as conferences, EQFs and capacity building trainings. Specific meetings were organized with schools' staff, teachers and pupils.

In our opinion, the results of the Action Plan and the methodology used can be very useful for all Italian schools and local decision makers in order to improve indoor air quality. All materials are easily accessible and available online (official webpage of the project, national Facebook webpages) and must be spread.

Lessons learned from the development/implementation process of the strategy/action plan and added value of transnational cooperation

The development of the methodology on Action Plans for IAQ improvement has been drafted together among all project partners and the results obtained were very optimistic. The added value of the cooperation was a key aspect for optimal results.

The most important lesson learnt from the implementation of the pilot action is that each country acts in a different context, but often the problems related to this issue are identical and the solutions to be adopted to deal with them are convergent, even if not identical. We have learnt from each other how to act in every context, so the outcomes of the project were great and useful for every country partner.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

The Italian National Action Plan for Indoor Air Quality is available on the official website of the InAirQ project (<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/InAirQ/InAirQ.html>) and on the lead partner's project website (<https://www.nnk.gov.hu/index.php/transnational-environment-quality-forum>). The reports contain detailed information on the main activities, the achieved result as well as some explanatory graphs and tables. The language is Italian, with an English summary, to guarantee a better dissemination through schools and teachers. Italian partners decided also to draft a light version of the Action Plan, a so-called abstract, in order to facilitate the comprehension and have a quick look of the entire document in few pages, and a Poster to hang in classrooms for pupils.

Here is an example of poster.

