

Output factsheet: Strategies and action plans

Version 1

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 - Poland
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	Nofer Institute of Occupational Medicine / NIOM - PP3 Marshal Office of Łodz Region, / MOL -PP4
Project website	http://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/InAirQ/InAirQ.html
Delivery date	March 2019

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

The action plan is aimed to improve the poor IAQ caused by inappropriate ventilation in classrooms and as a result to build up the children's health. Due to the limited funds in municipality budgets, the action plan contains only low-cost or no cost actions. It recommends continuing the meetings of the EQF to motivate the authorities to activity in the field of indoor air quality in schools. There is also important to train the school heads/teachers/technical personnel to raise their indoor air quality awareness and increase their involvement in this topic.

The action plan is divided on two parts: background and essential activities. First part contains a sound checklist to indicate if the indoor air quality problem is valid or no, and the second part includes the list of detailed activities that can improve the healthiness of school environment. The necessary activities are organized in a logical sequence: first technical improvement of ventilation, next organizational (avoiding certain products, changing behavior and work methods, proper cleaning and airing procedures) and supervising upon practical implementation of the recommendations by school management.

There are developed also the economical justification for the action plan, including key information for local authorities and other stakeholders that however some activities (e.g. installation of mechanical or hybrid ventilation) are associated with expenditures but the profits outweigh the cost (decreasing of number of children with upper respiratory tract symptoms and allergies and better concentration and learning process). The immeasurable profit is the higher effectiveness of student education because of better learning conditions related to the IAQ improvement (lower levels of CO₂ and volatile organic compounds-VOCs). The last part of the document deals with the feasibility assessment.

The target groups: local/regional/national authorities, architects, building engineers, building supervisors, school directors, teachers, technical staff, students/pupils and their families.

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

PL7 MAKROREGION CENTRALNY
PL71 Łódzkie
PL711 Miasto Łódź
PL712 Łódzki
PL713 Piotrkowski
PL714 Sieradzki
PL715 Skierniewicki

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

An important impact, result of the action plan is the raised awareness of the indoor air quality among the local authorities, schools management, teachers and technical staff but also students and their families. The proper activities are determined by the level of awareness and knowledge, thus there are expected that the indoor air quality in the school environment will be improved. The action plan is prepared in easy to use and understand context and contains practical recommendations of low- or no-cost activities directed for municipalities, school managements, teachers and technical staff.

Lodz region belongs to area with a high incidence of allergies in children, due to the developed action plan is valuable in the field of public health. There is expected the higher effectiveness of student education, decrease of student absence and rise of healthiness of school environment.

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

The action plan is developed with rules of sustainability, the document contains the recommendations for activities, which have not negative effects on other issues related to the school environment and comply local/regional law and take into account the limited financial sources. The document is adapted to the Polish conditions and can be implemented in all other Polish regions. The Ministry of Health is among the stakeholders involved in InAirQ project, the Department of Public Health has received the action plan and it will disseminate the document among local authorities in whole territory of Poland.

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

The topic of the IAQ is not new, from more than twenty years are in force the ordinance related to the permissible levels of VOC in the indoor air but this regulation is not active, there is no institution responsible for supervising of the IAQ problems. The processes of the development and implementation of the AP involved the stakeholders including Ministry of Health what resulted in working on the draft project of changes in national law related to the IAQ topic. Lessons learned from the action plan preparation has led to conclusion that from the legal regulation impacts that are more practical has the awareness of the indoor air quality problem among schools staff and available practical recommendations.

The benefit is the enrichment of the AP on knowledge about the indoor air quality and its health impacts providing by PPs in frame of transnational cooperation. The action plan has been developed with maximizing of knowledge transfer in transnational cooperation and the pooling of experience and ideas at the transnational level.

References to relevant deliverables and web-links

If applicable, pictures or images to be provided as annex

The action plan is prepared in in English and in Polish. Brochure with practical recommendation for teachers is available in Polish.

These documents were disseminated among stakeholders on regional and national level: Department of Education in the Lodz City Office, the Board of Education in Lodz, Lodzkie Region (the Marshall Office) and the Ministry of Health.

The Polish action plan and other INAIRO related materials are available

on the project official website: <https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/InAirQ.html>

on the lead partners website: <https://www.nnk.gov.hu/index.php/transnational-environment-quality-forum> and

on the Lodzkie Region website: <https://si.lodzkie.pl/projekty-si/perspektywa-2014-2020/inairq/plikownia/>