

ENCORE Newsletter – JUNE 2022

ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE OF THE REGIONS OF EUROPE



ENCORE AND IFAT IN MUNICH, BAVARIA

From 30 May to 1 June, the ENCORE Steering Group took place in Munich, Bavaria. The topic of discussion during these days was **climate action** and **climate adaptation and mitigation**, especially focusing on water management. The meeting also included a meeting of experts, organized through the TAIEX programme of the European Commission.

As part of the programme in Munich, a visit was made to the IFAT congress, one of the world's largest trade fairs on sustainability in water management and waste processing.

If one thing became clear after the Munich meeting, it is that all regions in Europe have a huge task to adapt to the changing climate. We need each other's expertise and knowledge to meet these challenges.

During this ENCORE/TAIEX meeting, the DG CLIMA (European Commission) called for sharing knowledge and experiences. The major challenges we face no longer call for pilots, but for upscaling to (large-scale) financially viable projects. ENCORE is happy to respond to this call, partly by drawing up position papers and continuing to discuss with relevant organisations how this can be achieved.

In addition, the Steering Group has expressed the desire to involve other ENCORE members more actively in the network. It is up to all of us to make this happen.

In this overview, we would like to share with you the main outcomes of the three-day meeting. In addition, we will share some other developments in the ENCORE network.



TAIEX

Through the European TAIEX fund, **ENCORE members were invited to bring experts** with them to Munich in order to exchange knowledge. The experts presented regional problems and solutions within the theme of climate action, and specifically water management. The regional approach to climate adaptation and mitigation; reacting and anticipating to the changes in our climate, was discussed. The ENCORE members were positive about the link between the TAIEX programme and the Steering Group meeting. By involving experts in the meeting, a strong programme was created in which regions challenged each other to think critically about their own policies and to learn from each other's experiences.

The **Steering Group expressed the wish to organise ENCORE meetings and TAIEX expert meetings together more often.**

IFAT

The IFAT trade fair took place in Munich, at the same time as the ENCORE meeting. IFAT is the World's Leading Trade Fair for Water, Sewage, Waste and Raw Materials Management. During this fair we, as ENCORE members, were **welcomed by the Bavarian Minister** for the Environment and Consumer Protection, and a number of experts also had the opportunity to explain their topics in **flashlight presentations**.

The attendees were impressed by the enormous size of the fair, and emphasised that visiting the next edition of this fair could be of great value to the executive departments of the individual regions.

